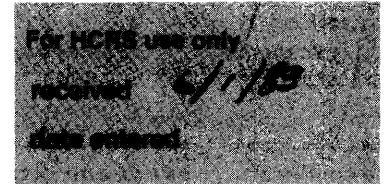


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**



**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic German Valley Historic District

and/or common Long Valley

2. Location

street & number New Jersey Route 24 (Mill Rd), Fairmount Rd. ___ not for publication

and Fairview Road

city, town Washington Township ___ vicinity of congressional district 5

state New Jersey code 34 county Morris code 027

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number

city, town ___ vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Hall of Records

street & number Court Street

city, town Morristown state New Jersey

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ___ no
(#1825.1)

date 1963 ___ federal state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Historic Presv. Office Department of Environmental Protection

city, town Trenton state New Jersey

7. Description

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

DESCRIPTION

Thomas Gordon in A Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey describes German Valley in 1834 as a general geographic region and not as the small village within the area. The valley he wrote, "is about 10 miles long, varying in width, from one to two miles. The soil is grey limestone throughout, and is well cultivated, and highly productive. The inhabitants are of German descent, and retain the industrious and thrifty habits of their ancestors. The valley is drained by the south branch of the Raritan and is crossed by the turnpike road from Morristown to Easton".

Located in the township of Washington in Morris County, New Jersey, Barber and Howe in Historical Collections of New Jersey recorded that the entire township had 12 stores, 1 lumber yard, 1 forge, 1 tannery, 4 flouring, 6 grist, 8 saw, and 4 oil mills in 1844. "The land", Barber and Howe further related, "there is very rich and was early settled upon by Germans. German Valley, Springtown, and Pleasant Grove are small localities in this township". (Historical Collections of New Jersey, p. 402).

Beers Atlas of Morris County, compiled in the 1860's, shortly after the Civil War, delineates a German Valley concentrated along the South Branch of the Raritan River at the intersection of the road to Schooley's Mountain, a nationally renowned vacation resort area in the first half of the 19th century. The map shows some thirty houses, ten businesses, and two churches which produces an estimated population of 150.

A later atlas (1887) indicates that the number of houses nearly doubled, but Munsell's History of Morris County, New Jersey (1882) produces a population figure of 130 for German Valley. As the High Bridge Branch of the Central Railroad of New Jersey was built in the 1870's just north of the river it seems unlikely that the small population figure is accurate as the rail traffic generated settlement in this fertile valley and village.

The early industrial age further increased population in German Valley although every indication suggests that the people drawn by the iron production regions throughout Morris County were not directly connected with mining or iron manufacturing. They were generally farmers and small businessmen ready to provide the foodstuffs and products necessary for living in and around the villages. Because of their indirect dependence on iron, however, German Valley suffered when, in the 1890's, the iron business collapsed when new technological methods were developed and huge lodes of ore were discovered west of Pennsylvania. As a result German Valley regressed to its agricultural-based economy and developed very slowly in the first half of the 20th century.

The most significant event occurred during World War I, when in response to the National fervor against anything German, the village changed its name to Long Valley, a title it still possesses.

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DESCRIPTION

Today Long Valley (nee German Valley) continues to project the character and integrity of a community dating back to the late 19th-early 20th century, save an occasional lapse into the present via service stations and post offices.

Architecture

The German Valley Historic District is a document of changing architectural styles of Northwest New Jersey from its earliest settlement to the first decade of the 20th century. Early Pennsylvania-German house forms; the Federal and Greek Revival styles; the Gothic Revival and the Italianate styles; and the later Victorian Queen Anne/Shingle styles are all in evidence in this primarily residential crossroads village. The district is a microcosm of vernacular architectural styles found in New Jersey. The district has very few modern intrusions (less than 10% of the total properties) and continues to present a strong sense of the 19th century in its architecture and its physical environment.

The structures in German Valley range from the 18th century to the early 20th century with the majority of the buildings falling within the period of the early to the last quarter of the 19th century.

The earliest buildings reflect the Germanic background of German Valley's founders. Simple two to two and one-half story, three bay random fieldstone buildings often with corner quoining, these Pennsylvania-German form edifices firmly establish the cultural origins of German Valley. Examples of this early 19th century building are the Jesse Weisse House (#76), the Old German Valley School (#59), the Wise Store (#6), the Hager Farm Outbuildings (#3), and the Philip Weisse House (#12).

The main unit of the Philip Weisse House also manifests simple Greek Revival details. Constructed of random fieldstone with corner quoining and trapezoidal window arches, this is the finest early house in German Valley and reflects a change from the traditional severe lines of the Pennsylvania-German dwelling to a more dignified and decorative building influenced by architectural pattern books.

Despite the Germanic origins of its initial populous, the mid-19th century buildings in German Valley do not differ noticeably from those found throughout New Jersey and the rest of the country. While the earliest structures were often stone, later buildings were predominantly frame.

The buildings constructed in German Valley during the second and third quarters of the 19th century are a varied collection of simple traditional and architecturally stylish (albeit vernacular) dwellings. Often, however, designating a single style to any particular building is inappropriate as numerous features of several styles were frequently incorporated into a building.

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DESCRIPTION

The Federal/Greek Revival style is represented by building such as the L. Hagar House (#5), Hagan House (#47), the Tunis Trimmer House (#2), the main unit of the German Valley Inn: (#4), the O. Latourette House (#16), houses #19 and #22, and the J. Schoeheit House (#17).

The later Greek Revival form in German Valley is visually Victorian, but with many earlier aspects such as the 3-bay gable end front, and the rectangular transom/fanlight entranceway. Examples are the Wise House (#33), building #34, the General Store (#53) and building #54.

The Gothic Revival style is represented by the stucco Hager House (#3) and the frame Lutheran Parsonage (#49). The Parsonage has some Greek features such as the rectangular transom over the doorway and a frieze and dentil coursing beneath the eave, but its overall appearance is Carpenter Gothic. The Hagar House, meanwhile, appears to be from an architectural pattern book of the third quarter of the 19th century. The Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church is another Gothic Revival style building in the district.

Later dwellings in German Valley are Italianate--the L. Kise House (#15); pattern book Victorian--Bartley Homestead (#28), Jo Hoffman House (#44) and house #14; and Queen Anne/Stick Style--buildings numbers 39, 45, and the Dr. E.C. Willet House (#51).

As in most historic towns, German Valley has a number of key structures and sites. These properties are herein described in detail, followed by a complete inventory of all major buildings and sites in the district and are coded to a map of the district:

- #60 Old Union Church Ruins, Fairview Avenue (1774). The central focal point of German Valley, this church was originally a three bay by two bay rectangular coursed fieldstone building with a hipped roof. The interior was apparently a simple meeting house plan with galleries on three walls. Presently the church is a foundation, stabilized by the citizens of the township. The church foundation is surrounded by a cemetery.
- #59 German Valley School, Fairview Avenue (1830). Next to the Old Union Church is a two story random fieldstone building which was erected in 1830 for the express purpose of functioning as the schoolhouse for the children of the valley. The building, now a public library, has three front bays and an entrance door on either side of the center window. The windows are all 4/4 double hung sash. A one story front porch protects all three bays of the entrance facade. The building has an offset center brick chimney and also a modern incompatible exterior chimney.

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DESCRIPTION

- #27 Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Route 24 at the South Branch of the Raritan River (1832, 1862). In 1832 the Old Union Church was abandoned for the new more impressive edifice on the highway. This stone church building with stucco wing probably dates to its early construction date but also exhibits numerous Gothic characteristics as reflected in the Gothic arch windows and doorways and the octagonal spire. Even with a projected center vestibule tower, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, maintains a basic rectangular form. The front facade of the edifice has a tower which extends to a point just above the roof peak of the main building. The vestibule has a double door capped by a Gothic arched transom. In the transom is a stained glass circular highlighted brownstone. The tower has a wooden hiproofed capping and is topped by a full one story towered belfry and a reaching octagonal spire. Flanking the tower are Gothic tracery windows with stained glass. The long facade of the church has five bays; all Gothic arch tracery stained glass windows. To the south facade has been appended a modern one story flat roofed stone and concrete multi-purpose facility.
- #76 Jesse Weise House, Route 24, north of South Branch of the Raritan River (1830). This 2 1/2 story fieldstone dwelling is characteristic of stone buildings erected in the valley under the influence of the German or Pennsylvania-German culture in the 18th-early 19th century. The front facade has three bays with a center and side entrance. The windows are all 9/9 wooden pegged double hung sash save the two smaller 6 pane windows in the attic. Over the windows are stone lintels with keystones. The corner stones are roughly coursed and larger than those of the central construction thereby producing a quoin-like effect. The roof is gable with asbestos shingles and has end chimneys on each gable end. Both long facades have a two bay protective porch. The gable end faces Route 24.
- #21 Obediah Latourette Grist and Saw Mill, Route 24 (2nd half 19th century). This grist and saw mill operation was owned and operated by the Latourette family for upwards of fifty years. As the building stands today, nearly abutting the highway, it is actually two large frame commercial buildings. What appears to be the earliest unit is the gable end front, three bay, three story clapboard building with central loading doors and block and tackle apparatus at the roof peak. The first and second floor windows are 6/6 sash, but currently protected from vandalism by plyboards. The top floor windows are 6/4 sash. Appended to this unit with perpendicular roof lines is a 2 1/2 story frame 4 bay wing. The roof is gable and has a gable end return. The windows are 6/6 sash. The exterior is covered by asbestos siding and the roof is slate contrasting with the tar paper roof of the main unit. It was impossible to obtain admission to the interior (the building has been vacant for years) and, consequently, no machinery or floor plans were recorded. According to historical reports, however, a saw mill was probably attached to the rear of the early grist mill.

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DESCRIPTION

- #5 German Valley Hotel, Fairmount Road and West Mill Road, (mid-19th century). Although the village had an inn or tavern as early as the last quarter of the 18th century, this hotel appears mid-19th century. The main unit is a 2 1/2 story frame and clapboard building with four bays on the front facade. The windows are all Victorian 2/2 sash. To the rear and the west gable end are added late 19th century two story flat-roofed wings. On the end of the western addition is another wing, circa 1910, which is also a two story flat roofed unit. The hotel is surrounded by a one story raised porch. The foundation of all portions is stone. Currently still operating as a tavern and restaurant.
- #18 "Old Fort" Phillip J. Weisse/J. Schoenheit Farm, Route 24, (1774, 1876). As with many historic structures the reports on the Old Fort are contradictory. Said to be one of the oldest houses in the township (c. 1774) other structures are known to precede this building. Further, it is recorded that, "it was rebuilt in 1876 by Mr. Shonheit" (Munsell, History of Morris County, New Jersey p. 374). An exterior inspection of the house gives some evidence to its reputed 18th century erection date. The house is a 2 1/2 story rectangular random fieldstone building with gable roof and exterior end brick chimneys. The proportions present an 18th century origin, but the overall appearance is Victorian. The house is currently stucco covered, has 2/2 Victorian windows with Italianate framing, a late 19th or early 20th century one story porch, an overhanging gable roof with returns and bracketing, two round head dormers separated by a large somewhat Eastlake appearing center dormer, and slate roof with alternating scalloped and rectangular rows of shingles. While all these characteristics are 19th century, the 18th century erection date should not be disregarded.
- #12 Phillip Weise House, 1 East Mill Road (c. 1800). Architecturally, this is the best constructed and maintained early 19th century dwelling in the district. The house, at the intersection of Route 24 (E. Mill Road) and Fairmount Road is constructed of random and cut stone. The main unit is a 2 1/2 story nearly square, gambrel roofed, 3 bay house with center entrance. The windows are 6/6 on the second floor and 9/6 on the first floor, all with louvered shutters. The stone lintels over the apertures have keystones. The roof has asphalt shingles, paired gable end chimneys, and a slight overhanging and returning cornice with plain frieze. On the north, or front, facade the stonework is rough, but in the west gable end it is carefully coursed. Characteristic of the German-type structures built in New Jersey and Pennsylvania is the one and one-half story kitchen projecting out from the east gable end facade. This wing is also dressed stone, has a gable roof, and an interior end chimney.

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DESCRIPTION

- #0 Quadruple Arch Stone Bridge, Route 24, over South Branch of the Raritan River (1870). One of the few stone arch bridges left in the county. The four segmental arches make this an exceptionally long span across the river. The road-bed is a narrow two lanes. Of random fieldstone construction the sidewalks are topped by flat-stone. Until the summer of 1976 there was a walkway across the bridge on the east side. This iron frame walkway was probably early 20th century, but has been destroyed.
- #3 J.M. Hagar Farm, West Mill Road (late 18th to mid-19th century). The Hagar Farm is an impressive grouping of buildings. The farmhouse is a mid-19th century T-form 2 1/2 story stone dwelling covered with stucco. The front facade has 5 bays with a double door center entrance. The windows are all 4/4 sash. The roof is gable and has a front intersecting dormer. A one story porch projects over the center three bays. At least three outbuildings of note are on the property: a smokehouse, a storage barn, and a Pennsylvania-German fore-bay bank barn. The smokehouse is a small square stone one story structure with a hip roof. The roof is wood shingles and beginning to deteriorate. Its estimated date of erection is late 18th-early 19th century. The storage barn is a long rectangular stone structure which has the narrow vertical splayed ventilation slits in the walls. While this characteristic is common in Pennsylvania, it is unusual in New Jersey. The final outbuilding is a two story stone gambrel roofed Pennsylvania-German fore-bay bank barn. While this form barn is somewhat rare in itself, the unusual gambrel roof makes it doubly important.

An inventory of the major structures in the district follows:

0. Quadruple Arch Stone Bridge. See earlier description.

West Mill Road

1. M.T. Welsh Farm. Late 19th century. 2 1/2 story Victorian middle class residence. Three bays with projecting center cross gable. Windows are one over one double windows with center mullion. Interior corbelled brick chimney.
2. Tunis Trimmer/P.W. Swackhammer Farm. Early 19th century. Rectangular form 2 1/2 story stone and stucco dwelling. Wide single gable end chimneys. Gable roof with cross gable (added mid-19th century). Four bays originally. 6/6 sash on second floor, 9/6 sash on first floor. Outbuildings include an English form 19th century frame barn, an early 20th century dairy barn, an early or mid-19th century barn, and a shed/corn crib combination structure.
3. Hagar Property. See earlier description.

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4. L. Hagar Houses. Early 19th century. Actually two houses joined. Each unit is a two story, 3 bay frame dwelling with chimneys on the west gable ends. The west portion is stucco and stone and has a salt-box form, although this is probably not original. The second floor windows are modern sash, but the first floor is 6/6 sash. A one story enclosed porch is on the west gable end. The second house is a two story frame dwelling with asbestos shingles. The windows are 6/6, on the 2nd floor and 2/2 on the first.
5. German Valley Inn. See earlier description.
6. E. Wise Store. Late 18th-early 19th century. This structure is a 1 1/2 story 4 bay dwelling with store with an offset door. The building is stone covered with stucco. On top of the street, the building is currently in jeopardy because of neglect. The low pitch gable roof is covered with corrugated sheathing and has interior gable end chimneys. The second floor has 4 pane knee-wall windows. The first story windows are modern. A one story modern porch covers the three eastern bays.
7. Commercial Building. Late 19th century-early 20th century. 2 1/2 story frame and clapboard building. Altered.
- x 8. Modern Service Station.
9. Frone Store. Late 19th century frame structure. Altered.

Fairmount Road

10. Farmhouse, 16 Fairmount Road. Late 19th century. 2 1/2 story rectangular dwelling with gable roof and barge-board trim. Property has four outbuildings - mostly late 19th-early 20th century. One is a modern structure built out of the foundation of an old building.
- x 11. United Telephone System Building. Modern one story brick commercial building.

East Mill Road (Route 24)

- x 12. Philip Weise House, 1 East Mill Road. See earlier description.
13. House. 3 East Mill Road. Late 19th century. 2 1/2 story frame and clapboard dwelling with a projecting central tower above the one story front porch. Three bays. Windows are 2/2 sash.
14. House. 5 East Mill Road. Early 20th century clapboard dwelling.

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DESCRIPTION

15. L. Kise House. 7 East Mill Road. Early 19th century. This house is a 2 1/2 story square frame and clapboard dwelling with stone basement. The roof is gable with small interior end brick chimneys. The front facade has four bays with two entrances. Some windows are 6/6 sash, although several are modern. The top floor windows are knee-wall. The house has a two story porch across the entire front.
16. O. Latourette Farm. 9 East Mill Road. Early 19th century. This house appears to have been constructed in two segments. The first unit is most similar to #15 having a four bay front facade with knee-wall windows on the top floor. The basement floor is fully exposed in the front. A porch projects out over the first two floors. The west gable end has a chimney. While most windows are broken the framing indicates that they were 9/6 sash. The second section, although only one bay, is quite similar in construction and probably was added only shortly after the original. The building is in extremely poor condition as it is totally open to the elements and vandals. A 19th century barn/carriage house is also on this property. This structure is ready to fall.
17. J. Schoenheit House. East Mill Road. Mid-19th century. This dwelling is 3 bays by 2 bays, and is a 2 1/2 story frame building with a stone foundation. The roof is gable with a return. Some windows have 6/6 sash.
18. "Old Fort". East Mill Road. 1774, 1876. See earlier description.
19. House. East Mill Road. Mid to late 19th century. 2 1/2 story rectangular clapboard dwelling. Gable roof with gable end chimney. Windows are 6/6 sash. Stone foundation.
20. Garage. Early 20th century. 1 1/2 story frame garage.
21. Grist Mill and Saw Mill. East Mill Road. Mid and late 19th century. See earlier description.
22. House. 10 East Mill Road. Mid-19th century. 2 1/2 story frame and clapboard house with Greek Revival doorway. Windows are 6/6 sash. The slate roof is gable. The first floor has been extensively altered to facilitate commercial usage.
23. House. 8 East Mill Road. Early 19th century. This house is a 1 1/2 story stone and stucco dwelling with knee-wall windows on the top floor. The roof is gable, has interior end chimneys and is covered with asphalt shingles.

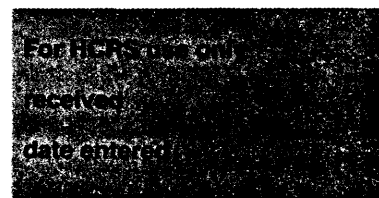
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24. Hoffman Feed Store. East Mill Road. Early 20th century. This large 2 1/2 story frame mill building is now sheathed with aluminum siding and has 2/2 windows. To the rear is a flatroofed one story addition.
25. Valley Auto Center. East Mill Road. Second quarter 20th century. Two story stucco and brick structure with flatroof.
26. Store and Post Office. Early 19th century. This building, a stucco-covered stone edifice with warehouse entrance doors, once served as the post office for German Valley.

Main Street (Route 24, north of River)

27. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. 1832, 1861. See earlier description.
28. Bartley Homestead. 11 Main Street. Late 19th century. This is a 2 1/2 story clapboard residence with an L-form. The main portion has 3 bays and a side hall. The roof is slate. Windows are 2/2 sash. The foundation is concrete.
29. Wise House. 13 Main Street. Late 19th century. Simple rectangular 2 1/2 story frame and shingle dwelling with one story front porch. Bargeboard under the eaves. Concrete foundation.
30. Gray House. 15 Main Street. Mid-19th century. This house is a 2 1/2 story frame and wood shingle building with 5 bays and a center hall. There is a center cross gable. The windows are 2/2 with an occasional 6/6. The foundation is stone and stucco.
31. I. Horton House. 17 Main Street. Late 19th century. This house is a L-form 2 1/2 story Victorian building with 2/2 windows, a stone foundation, and small bargeboard. Modern addition.
32. O'Neil House. 19 Main Street. Late 19th century. This is a 2 1/2 story simple rectangular clapboard dwelling with concrete foundation.
33. Wise House. 23 Main Street. Mid-19th century. This clapboard dwelling is a 2 story, 3 bay unit. The roof has a low pitch with return and an intersecting cross gable. The doorway is typical Greek Revival. The front facade first floor has a full length porch. The foundation is stucco covered stone.
34. House. 25 Main Street. Mid-19th century. This building is a 2 1/2 story clapboard, 3 bay, center hall unit. The roof has a low pitch with return and an intersecting cross gable and chimney pots. Alterations.

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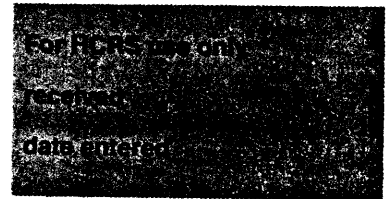
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DESCRIPTION

35. House. 27 Main Street. Late 19th century, 2 1/2 story rectangular structure with 3 bays and a double door center hall. The roof is gable and has a cross gable. The foundation is stone.
36. House. 29 Main Street. Early 19th century, 1 1/2 story, 5 bay, center entrance, stone with stucco dwelling. T-form. Windows are 2/2 sash with the top floor having knee-wall openings.
37. House. 31 Main Street. Modern. Square hip-roofed, 2 1/2 story frame building.
38. House. 33 Main Street. Early 20th century. 2 1/2 story cruciform frame dwelling. Slate roof. Stone foundation. Carriage barn.
39. House. 37 Main Street, at the corner of West Maple Avenue. Late 19th century. 2 1/2 story rectangular frame dwelling with a projecting full 2 1/2 story side bay. Gable end front has 3 bays and a side entrance. The gable ends have scalloped shingles and the roof is slate. An original porch engulfs the front first floor.
40. Hagan House. Main Street, at bend in road. Mid-19th century. 2 1/2 story frame dwelling. Windows are 6/6 sash. Center hall. Greek Revival doorway.
41. German Valley School (now Washington Township municipal building). 43 Main Street (19th century, early 20th century). This schoolhouse is outwardly a characteristic early 20th century frame structure with novelty clapboarding, but upon closer inspection appears built in two sections; the front is a 1 1/2 story hip-roofed unit with classrooms flanking the center entrance and the rear is a 2nd half 19th century two story rectangular gable roofed structure with stone foundation. The rear unit is probably the earlier school.
42. Van Ness House. Mid-19th century frame dwelling.
43. House. Early 20th century frame dwelling.
44. J. Hoffman House, Main Street. Late 19th century. 2 1/2 story T-form dwelling with full length first floor windows. Roof is gable with no return. Exposed stone basement. Outbuildings.
45. House. 48 Main Street. Late 19th century. This building is an irregular form Queen Anne style frame building which is 2 1/2 stories. The roof is a combination hip and gable while the gable ends have scalloped shingles.

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DESCRIPTION

46. House. 46 Main Street. Early 20th century, 2 1/2 story dwelling with asbestos shingles.
47. Hagan House. 42 Main Street. Mid-19th century. Two story frame dwelling. 3 bay, side entrance with Greek Revival doorway. Windows are 6/6 sash on the second floor and 9/6 on the first. The roof is gable, but has no return. Gable end interior chimney. Stone and stucco foundation. Rear wing creates L-form.
48. Modern dwelling at Main and East Maple Avenue.
49. Lutheran Parsonage. Main Street and East Maple Avenue. c. 1840, 2 1/2 story, 5 bay, center hall, rectangular frame structure with small two story appendage on the gable end. Main unit has a gable roof with returns and a large intersecting cross gable. The windows are all modern.
50. House. 36 Main Street. Modern dwelling.
51. 32 Main Street. Early 20th century. Queen Anne, 2 1/2 story, irregular frame dwelling.
52. Dr. E.C. Willet House. 30 Main Street. c. 1820. This is a 2 1/2 story frame dwelling with a center hall. The roof is gable with brackets below the eaves and a large center cross gable. The windows are 6/6 sash. The doorway is Greek Revival. Stone foundation. One story front porch has Eastlake characteristics.
53. General Store. 28 Main Street. Early 20th century. 2 1/2 story rectangular building. Frame with aluminum siding.
54. House. 26 Main Street. Mid-19th century, 2 1/2 story L-form dwelling, 3 bay, double door entrance. Windows are 2/2 sash. Frame with aluminum siding.
55. Post Office. 24 Main Street. Modern (1940's) hip-roofed masonry structure.
56. Ballantine Lumber Company Store. 20 Main Street. Late 19th century. 2 1/2 story frame building with aluminum siding. 3 bay, center entrance. Modern store windows, gable roof with cross gable. Stone foundation. Rear wing.
57. V. Streicher House. 18 Main Street, late 19th century.
58. House. 16 Main Street.

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DESCRIPTION

59. Old German Valley School (Library). Fairview Avenue. 1830. See earlier description.
60. Old Union Church Ruins. Fairview Avenue. 1774. See earlier description.
61. Smith House. 28 Fairview Avenue. Early 19th century. 2 1/2 story four bay frame duplex with modern wood shingles. Modern windows.
62. Smith House. 30 Fairview Avenue. Early 19th century. 2 1/2 story four bay frame duplex with modern wood shingles. Modern windows.
63. House. 32 Fairview Avenue. Late 19th century. 2 1/2 story frame and novelty clapboard dwelling. L-form 2/2 sash. One story front porch probably original to house.
64. House. 36 Fairview Avenue. Late 19th century. 2 1/2 story frame dwelling with asbestos shingles. 3 bay, center entrance. Windows are 2/2 sash. Stone and concrete foundation. Small center chimney.
65. House. 38 Fairview Avenue. Late 19th century. 2 1/2 story frame dwelling with aluminum siding. 3 bay, center entrance. Small central chimney. Windows are 2/2 sash with louvered shutters. The foundation is stone and concrete.
66. Single Arch Stone Bridge over Springtown Brook. Mid-19th century. This bridge is a simple stone arch bridge over a small stream. The stone is random with a rough-dressed segmental arch.
- X P. Parking lot covered with asphalt.
67. L.V. Auto Body and Fender Works. Early 20th century. This building is a 2 1/2 story frame structure which may have been the store for the lumber yard. There is a small mid to late 19th century shed on the property.
68. House. 17 Fairview Avenue. Late 19th century. This simple rectangular frame house has its 3 bay 2 1/2 story gable end facing the street. The siding is modern asbestos shingles. Stone foundation.
69. House. 13 Fairview Avenue. Late 19th century. 2 1/2 story frame and clapboard dwelling with gable end facing street. 3 bay, side entrance. One story front porch original. Windows are 2/2 sash.

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DESCRIPTION

70. House. 13 Fairview Avenue. Late 19th century. Simple 2 1/2 story clapboard dwelling with asbestos shingles, 3 bays, center entrance. Windows are 2/2 sash. Intesecting cross gable.
71. House. 11 Fairview Avenue. Early 20th century. 2 1/2 story frame dwelling.
72. House. 9 Fairview Avenue. Mid or late 19th century. 2 1/2 story clapboard dwelling. L-form, 3 bay. 2/2 sash.
73. Firehouse. 5 Fairview Avenue. Modern.
74. Getty Gas. Fairview and Main Street. Modern.

Main Street

75. Store. Main Street. Late 19th century. Rectangular mansard roofed frame commercial building. Paired brackets under the eaves.
76. Jesse Weisse House. 8 Main Street. 1863. See earlier description.
77. House. 6 Main Street. 2 1/2 story mansard roof rectangular frame dwelling.
78. Wise House & Tannery Yard. The house is a 1 1/2 story small frame dwelling with a stone foundation. Appears to have an early 19th century form. This property is in the vicinity of the tannery as located in the 1868 atlas. No effort was made, however, to positively identify its exact location although the land is still quite undeveloped.

Broken down by periods the German Valley Historic District contains 16 late 18th-Early 19th century, 17 mid-19th century, 24 late-19th century, 10 early-20th century, and 9 modern structures.

The tabulation took into consideration only the major buildings and seldom were the outbuildings totalled although these numerous structures contribute significantly to the overall character of German Valley and its historical patrimony.

8. Significance

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | |

Specific dates _____ **Builder/Architect** _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SIGNIFICANCE

Agriculture

Two highly significant New Jersey buildings within German Valley are directly associated with the agricultural pursuits of their Germanic builders.

The first structure is a simple English-type 1 1/2 story stone barn with a gable end oriented opening, but with vertical splayed embrasures on the longitudinal facades. These ventilation slits are most unusual in New Jersey as the ventilators on barns in Hunterdon, Morris, Sussex, and Warren Counties where Pennsylvania-German traits are most predominant are characteristically small round ventilators encircled by brick. This storage barn is the last known extant structure in Morris County with vertical embrasures and one of the few in the entire state of New Jersey although numerous other examples are known to exist across the Delaware River in Pennsylvania.

The other important outbuilding facility is a stone Pennsylvania-German forebay bank barn. The gambrel roof on this barn makes it an exceptionally unusual structure; most barns of its type having gable roofs. Within Morris County this is the only known surviving gambrel roofed Pennsylvania bank barn and is a rare find - only a handful of similar structures are known to be extant in New Jersey.

A final outbuilding is directly associated with both barns and is a small square stone hip-roofed structure, perhaps erected as a smokehouse. While not of exceptional importance as a freestanding structure, this smokehouse nicely complements the farm complex.

Education

The first school in German Valley, built in 1830, still exists and is presently used as a Public Library. This school is a simple 2 1/2 story stone building which is nearly identical to the dwellings in the village of the same date.

In contrast, the early 20th century frame school in German Valley is clearly recognizable as an educational facility. The rear portion, also a school, probably of the second half of the 19th century, although restrained and simple is nonetheless of proportions which prevent one from misidentifying the building as a private house.

These three schools provide an insight into the evolution of New Jersey's educational practice and philosophy throughout the 19th century until the first half of the 20th century (the last school operated until 1956).

9. Major Bibliographical References

(See Attached)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 69 acres

Quadrangle name Hackettstown

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 0 |
| Zone | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | | |

B

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|------|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 0 |
| Zone | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | | |

C

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 0 |
| Zone | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | | |

D

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|------|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 0 |
| Zone | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | | |

E

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 0 |
| Zone | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | | |

F

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| Zone | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | | |

G

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---------|--|--|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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| Zone | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | | |

H

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Zone | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification

(See Attached)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Terry Karschner, Historian-Curator

organization Office of Historic Preservation

date August 1976

street & number 109 West State Street

telephone 609-292-2028

city or town Trenton

state New Jersey

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

Deputy (Originally signed by DSHPO Betty Wilson - 12/19/77)
State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Nathan C. Decker

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

date 5/9/83

For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

[Signature]

date 7/19/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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SIGNIFICANCE

Transportation

Being in a strategically located geographic valley German Valley was an early important highway route from Easton to Morristown. Consequently, some early transportation modes and technology still exist in the town.

The present bridge over the South Branch of the Raritan River is stone and replaced an earlier wooden facility in 1870. The current bridge, however, is a four-arch stone crossing. The stone is random with rough-dressed segmental arches. Spanning across the river this is the longest extant 19th century stone arch highway bridge in the county and one of the longest in the State of New Jersey. Its stone construction at a time when iron and steel bridges were coming into common usage attests to the traditional or conservative character of the early Germans and their subsequent descendants.

Over the Springbeaver Brook is another stone bridge. This bridge, although it is only one span arch, compares favorably to the quadruple arch bridge over the river. It is doubtful that any village in New Jersey has two similar extant stone bridges from the 19th century.

Industry

There were several 19th century industrial pursuits located in German Valley. Among these were a tannery, grist and saw mill, blacksmith shop, and lumber yard.

Tannery. Although none of the buildings which were associated with the tanning business were identified in the survey, it is well documented that a tanning operation existed on the land on the east side of the old graveyard (or church site) between that and the river. These sites are presently undeveloped and offer good potential excavations for industrial archeology. This industry was not a pleasant one which might explain its relatively isolated location, but provided an important marketing outlet for farmers who supplemented their incomes as trappers and hunters. These farmers provided the tanner with animal hides in exchange for money or merchandise. The tanner would then cure the hides into leather and supply the clothing and hatting industry of Newark.

Mills. The German Valley grist mill was the village's most prosperous business. Farmers depended on the mill to dispose of or grind their grain. At harvest time, in the 3rd quarter of the 19th century the German Valley grist mill began operation at 1:30 a.m. on Monday and continued straight through until 11:30 p.m. Saturday evening without stopping. This continuous milling process attests to the relative prosperity of the miller and farmers in this fertile valley. Most of the finished product which was not kept by the farmers went to Newark, but a good deal also went to Dover and points north.

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SIGNIFICANCE

The saw mill ideally complemented the grist mill in both its clientele and its operation. The customers were again the same farmers who brought in grain, but during the slower non-harvesting and non-planting seasons would cut timber off their farms and bring it to the saw mill for finishing. As this was usually done during the off seasons the sawing did not adversely interfere with the milling process. The finished lumber product generally was returned to the farmer with his wood for farm improvements, instead of marketing. The saw mill was located in the rear of the grist mill.

Lumber Yard. On the 1887 Robinson's Atlas of Morris County a lumber yard is indicated south of the railroad tracks and east of what is now Fairview Avenue. Only a small 19th century outbuilding is currently on this site, possibly a lumber drying facility. The present day Ballantine Lumber Company, however, is on the west side of the road, still south of the railroad. This lumber yard appears to date from the early 20th century with its long openside structures which facilitate the aging of green lumber. Another evidence of the earlier lumber yard is the elevated railroad siding up to the property.

Religion

One of America's most influential ministers in the 18th century, Henry M. Muhlenberg, Jr., who helped found the Lutheran Church in America, frequently preached at the Old Stone Church in German Valley.

Muhlenberg's name is recorded in an agreement prepared jointly by the Evangelic (German) Reformed and Evangelic Lutheran Congregations of the region in which the cost of building the meeting house was shared by both religious groups.

The agreement stipulates:

"Whereas, we the members of the Evangelic Reformed congregation, who by reason of the preachers which we have with Germantown, and by reason of the money expended for the church and parsonage house are members of Zions Lutheran Church living in the Dutch Valley, Roxbury Township, Morris County, are willing to build a meeting house jointly;

Be it hereby known to all men that the following conditions were agreed to by the subscribers, representing both congregation, viz:

I. Both parties have agreed to build the meeting house at their united expenses, so that none of the parties may throw up anything to the other.

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II. As the church is built jointly, so it shall be kept up by our posterity jointly, the friendship of both congregations giving us hope that in case of the necessary repairs of the meeting house, the weaker party will be supported by the stronger.

III. Both parties, with respect to Public Worship, shall have an equal right; in case both preachers should meet together, then alternately, the one must wait till twelve o'clock upon the service of the other.

IV. For the good of both congregations, none shall be admitted to preach but such as are under a regular church government.

V. Whereas, we do not only concern ourselves, but for our posterity also, it is our will and opinion that none of the parties shall or can sell their right in any way or manner.

Acted this 4th day of February 1774, which is testified. Frederick Dellicker, V.D.M. Henry Muhlenberg, Jr., Deputy Rector of Zions Corporation"

In 1832 both congregations abandoned the Old Union Church for new edifices. The Presbyterian (see German Reformed) Church was an attractive Greek Revival structure with pedimented roof which was destroyed by fire in 1954. The Lutheran Church, however, still stands just north of the river and projects a Gothic Revival influence.

Settlement

German Valley is one of the few villages settled by Germans in Morris County which still exhibits German or Pennsylvania-German characteristics.

Migrating across the Delaware River from Pennsylvania, this village was one of the eastern-most settlements established in this manner in New Jersey.

The settlement of Germans in New Jersey was one of the latest and poorest groups to arrive in the colonies.

The Palatines who came to New Jersey were part of a general exodus from the Rhineland and many of them had resided elsewhere in Europe and America before reaching New Jersey. The earliest arrivals came among the late Dutch settlers, and in many cases they were Dutch citizens. The first sizeable group migration occurred after 1708. Other small groups of Germans settled among the Dutch at Hackensack and New Brunswick; the English at Elizabeth and Piscataway; and the Scotch-Irish at Perth Amboy.

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SIGNIFICANCE

The vanguard of the early pioneering German immigrants made much easier the adjustment of those who arrived later.

Examples of individual family migrations indicate that many Germans first arrived at the head of navigation of the Raritan River and then gradually followed its course and that of its two branches dispersing throughout the fertile valleys.

While the earliest settlements by Germans in German Valley may have been initiated via the Raritan River, in all likelihood, shortly after, most of the Germans coming into the valley were an overflow of the Germans migrating into Pennsylvania.

The most logical migratory path began at Easton, Pennsylvania and followed the Washington Turnpike (current -day Route 24), formally established in the early 19th century, but in actuality an earlier transportation route, to German Valley along the South Branch of the Raritan River.

As most German immigrants were farmers, the regions which they populated were of considerable acreage.

As a group New Jersey's Germans were this colony's most poverty-stricken immigrants, but soon raised themselves economically and culturally as a result of industrious and economically sound pursuit of their professions. The Germans in New Jersey eventually lost their cultural identity as evidenced by Anglicized surnames, elimination of the Germanic languages, and the amalgamation of their villages into the main stream of American architecture and tradition.

German Valley is evidence of this cultural absorption. Many of the earliest structures are clearly of the Pennsylvania-German form while later buildings are typical Americana - frame construction of the mid to late 19th century incorporating numerous elements from building design texts often in a manner uncomprehending of the various styles.

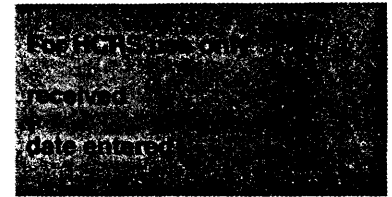
The German population in Morris County in 1790 was estimated to be about twenty percent; only Sussex, Hunterdon, and Bergen Counties having a large percentage of persons of German descent.

German Valley was probably the largest German settlement in Morris County being settled in the second quarter of the 18th century by Fredrich Welsh and Samuel Schwackhammer. They wrote their friends extolling the virtues of this fertile valley. Soon after others joined - Weise, Neighbor, Tessiberry, Dufford, Schenckle, Neitzer, Hager, Welsh, Schoenheit, and the like.

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SIGNIFICANCE

Called Dutch (Deutsch?) Valley until the turn of the 19th century and German Valley into the 20th century the village grew slowly in the 20th century because of the decreased economic base surrounding the community (directly related to the decline of the iron manufacturing in the state and later the railroads) and virtually stood still until the second half of the 20th century when the automotive mode of transportation developed rapidly.

Presently German Valley projects essentially a feeling of a small New Jersey village of the late 18th-mid 19th century which is important when associated culturally and aesthetically with the German settlement factor.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description
(Revised 6/1980)

Beginning at the Northwest corner of Block 34, Lot 50 and the south curb of West Mill Road proceed south along said property line to a point 800 feet Southeast of West Mill Road. Thence, proceed NE to the SW corner of Block 34, Lot 53. Thence, proceed along said property to Fairmount Road. Thence, proceed to the SW corner of Block 35, Lot 12: to the SE corner; and to the NE corner. Thence, proceed along the property line of Block 35, Lot 19 to East Mill Road. Thence, proceed north to the south bank of the South Branch of the Raritan River. Thence, proceed north along the river bank to the small creek emptying into the River. Thence, proceed northwest along the east bank of the creek to the north curb of Fairview Avenue. Thence, proceed to the SE corner of Block 27, Lot 10. Thence, proceed north of the NE corner. Thence, proceed to the NW corner of Block 27, Lot 12 at the east bank of Springtown Brook. Thence, proceed north along said brook to the SW corner Block 25, Lot 53-3. Thence, proceed north along said property 85 feet. Thence, proceed to the NE corner of Block 25, Lot 48. Thence, proceed along the back property lines of those properties fronting Route 24 to the NW corner of Block 25, Lot 52. Thence, proceed across Route 24 to the NW corner of Block 26, Lot 2. Thence, proceed SE along said property to its SW corner; and NE to its SE corner. Thence, proceed to cross North Maple Avenue to the NW corner of Block 33, Lot 32. Thence, proceed to said property's SW corner. Thence, proceed SW to the NW corner of Block 32, Lot 33. Thence, proceed SE along the rear property line of those properties facing Route 24 across the CRR of NJ to the South Branch of the Raritan River. Thence, proceed to a point 85 feet NE of the SW corner of Block 33, Lot 5. Thence, proceed SE to the SW corner of Block 33, Lot 51. Thence, proceed across West Mill Road to the point of beginning.

UTM REFERENCES:

HACKETTSTOWN QUADRANGLE

A-18/518310/4515260
B-18/518630/4514830
C-18/518790/4514570
D-18/518360/4514340
E-18/518200/4514660
F-18/518190/4515230

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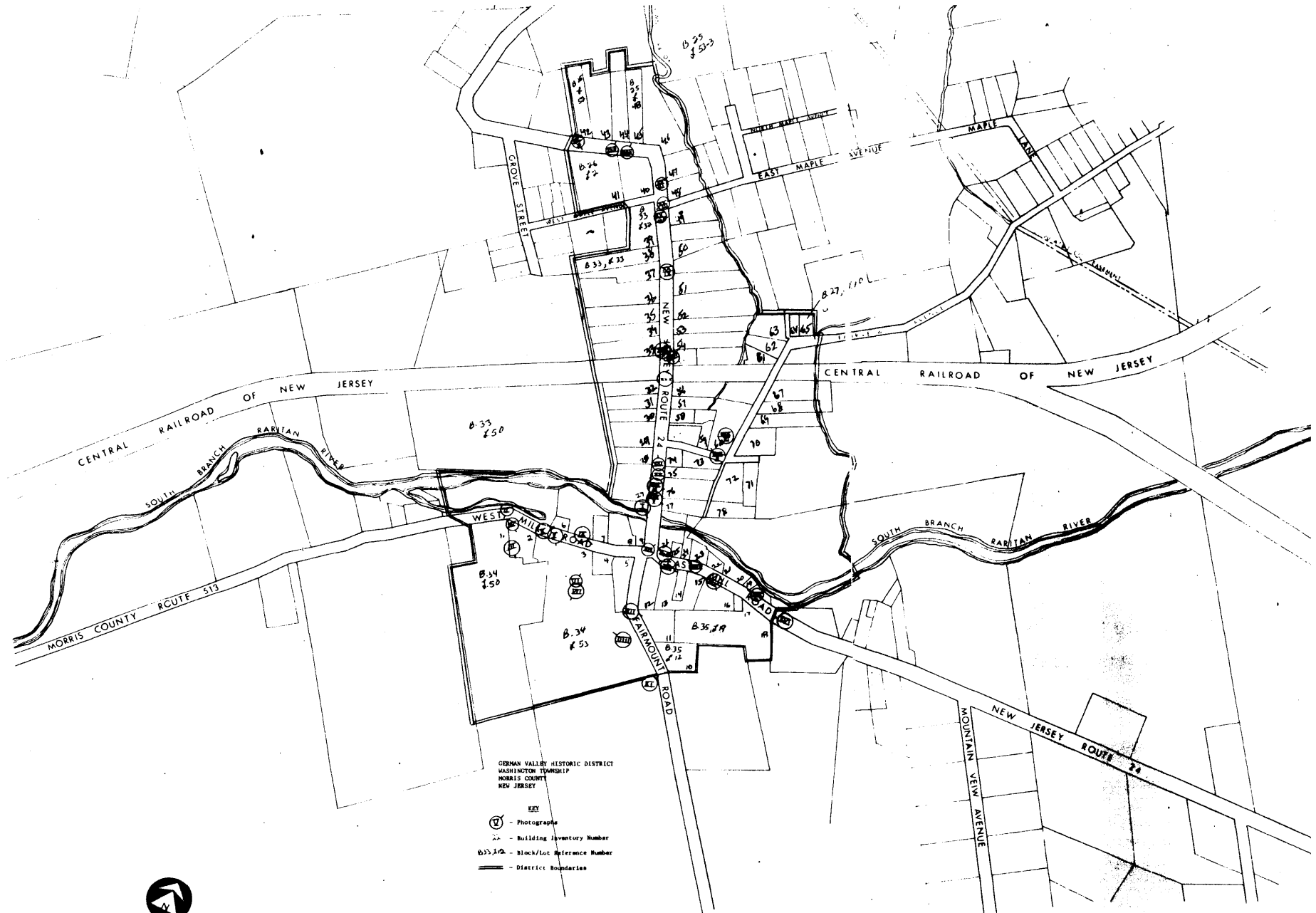
Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the German Valley District were drawn to include most of the buildings within the physical confines of the village. The line to the south was drawn to also include a minimal amount of farmland because of the out-buildings associated with the main houses fronting Mill Street.

To the east on Mill Street the district ends when the buildings beyond are either modern or farmbuildings associated with agriculture and not the village. The rest of the easterly boundary basically follows a small stream.

The western boundary along Mill Street ends just before the modern township school buildings as the village discontinues. The rest of the western district boundary is the back property line of the houses on Fairmount Road.

In the northwest corner, the sense of a village ends, and now primarily isolated buildings exist - probably more associated with Schooleys Mountain than German Valley.

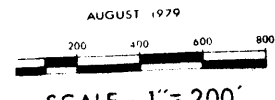


GERMAN VALLEY HISTORIC DISTRICT
 WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
 MORRIS COUNTY
 NEW JERSEY

- KEY
- (V) - Photographs
 - 22 - Building Inventory Number
 - B33, 12 - Block/Lot Reference Number
 - District Boundaries



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 Washington Township
 Morris County
 New Jersey

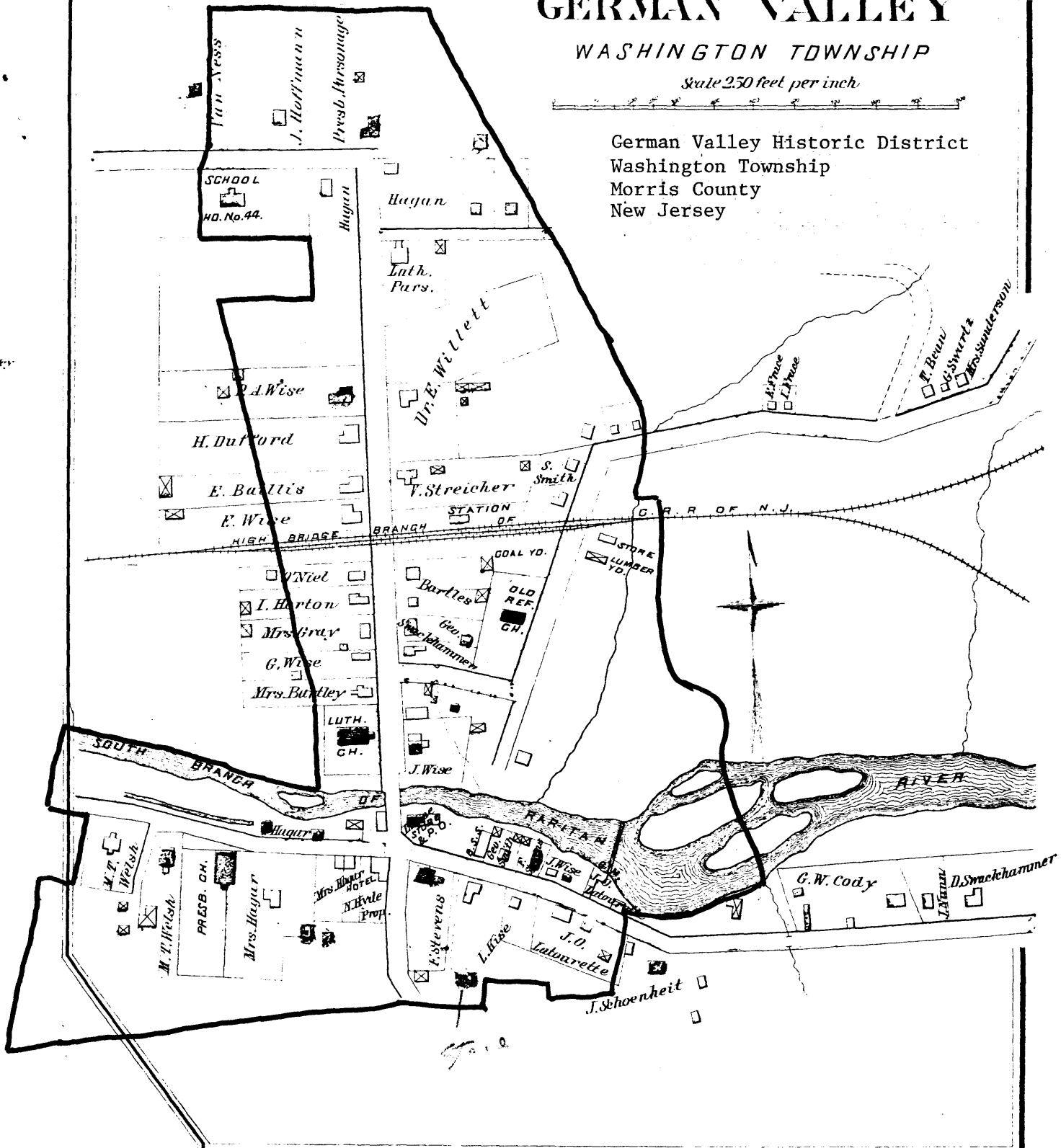
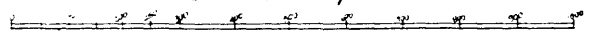


GERMAN VALLEY

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

Scale 250 feet per inch

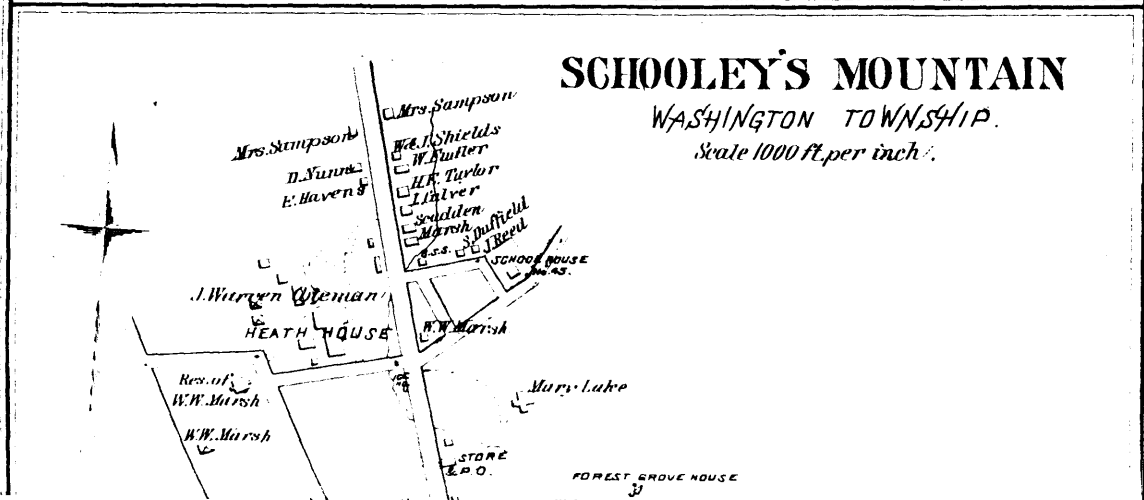
German Valley Historic District
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New Jersey



SCHOOLEY'S MOUNTAIN

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

Scale 1000 ft. per inch.



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