

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

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

received **AUG 7 1985**
date entered **SEP 5 1985**

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

1. Name

historic Reformed Dutch Church of Blawenburg

and/or common Blawenburg Reformed Church

2. Location

street & number 424 Somerset County Route 518 NA not for publication

city, town Montgomery Twp., Blawenburg vicinity of

state New Jersey code 034 county Somerset code 035

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<u>NA</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Blawenburg Reformed Church

street & number Box 33, Route 518

city, town Blawenburg vicinity of New Jersey state 08504

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds, Somerset County Administration Bldg.

street & number Box 300, Bridge and High Streets

city, town Somerville state New Jersey 08876

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Blawenburg Reformed Church, built in 1830 and completed in May of 1831, is a two story, white classical church built in the late Georgian tradition. It is situated on 1.996 acres which front on Somerset County Route 518 in the village of Blawenburg in Montgomery Township, New Jersey. Other buildings on the property include an 1850 schoolhouse, now used as a private school, and a Christian Education Building which was built in 1959. The grounds are landscaped with many large oak, maple and pine trees.

The church is a simple rectangle measuring approximately 46½ feet by 70½ feet. Two main entrances face south. The two story structure has a gable style roof of slate. A bell tower rises on a square base on the same plane as the front wall. This base is pierced in the front by an oculus. The bell tower or cupola consists of this square base, approximately seven feet high, above which rises a hexagonally shaped section with shutters, topped by a rounded dome in the style descended from Christopher Wren. A feather-shaped weathervane tops the cupola.

The handsome facade in the gable end below the tower repeats the motif with a slightly larger oculus near the peak of the roof. It is flanked by a pair of pie-shaped lights. All the fenestration is multi-paned. Three double-sash windows mark the second floor, and at ground level a central rectangular window is flanked by a pair of paneled doors topped by fan-lights in a key-stoned arch. This, in turn, is crowned by a small pediment supported by fluted pilasters.

The long sides of the building present five bays of rectangular double-sash windows, many of which include original panes. The exterior walls are hung with cedar shingles, which may be the originals. A thorough examination of the Consistory Minutes shows no reference made to replacement shingles. The foundation is made of local field stone, ventilated by openings between stones.

The two entrance doors open into separate rectangular vestibules, with wood stairs climbing along the outside (south) walls, then turning and continuing along the inside walls to landings which give access to the galleries. The stairs have wood balusters and hand rails and follow a graceful curve along their inside face. Large windows on the landings, directly over the entrance doors on the south facade, light the stairs and vestibules.

Inner doors, aligned with and identical to the entrance doors, open to the church proper. Aisles on the axis of the doors divide the main floor into three blocks of pews, the central block being further divided down the center by a solid railing. The pew floors are of wide board and are raised slightly above the aisles. The pew walls are paneled and painted white and carry curly maple top rails which are stained. There are short transverse aisles which are aligned with the northernmost windows and which give access to pews facing into the church at right angles to the others. The pew doors have small convex oval plates of zinc painted gold with black numerals from one through 74.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Reformed Dutch Church of Blawenburg,
Montgomery Township, Somerset
County, NJ

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1

The galleries are supported on 9 Tuscan columns raised on plinths so that their bases are level with the pew rails. The east and west galleries have a solid paneled railing painted white, the panels relating to the columns below. The central section of railing at the south gallery is lower than the paneled railings and is an open gothic revival fret. The south gallery is now partly occupied by pipe organ works in such a way that the central south window is obscured. The east and west galleries contain three rows of unpainted seats in ascending levels. The pews in the gallery remain in their simple pine natural state.

The ceiling of the main floor under these galleries is of plaster and slopes up towards the outside wall, reflecting the stepped floor of the galleries. The ceiling under the central part of the south gallery is flat, and in part of wood planks which cut across the upper part of the central south window of the main floor. There are numerous indications of alterations to the interior of the church in this south central area. This took place when an organ was installed in the south gallery in 1872 replacing the Consistory Room.

The north central end of the church contains a raised pulpit and decorative, painted organ pipes in a rectangular apse. A pedimented surround rises nearly to the main ceiling. All this post-dates the original work, and necessitated the removal of several rows of pews from the front of the central block. All of this work was done in 1860 when fourteen feet were added to the church to expand the building for the additional worshippers attending church.

The bell of cast bronze is 36 inches in diameter and weighs 1000 pounds. It was cast in 1860 by the Menelly Bell Company of West Troy, New York and hangs in the shuttered part of the bell tower.

The original main ceiling is thought to have been made of plaster. No references have been found as to the material of the ceiling; however, a similar area church in Millstone had plaster which was replaced in the late 1800's by pressed metal. There is no indication of the earlier ceiling under our present wooden one. The present ceiling was installed in 1892 by John Van Horn Reid, a resident of Blawenburg, and is of stained oak planks and molded strips in a large fret pattern suggesting Gothic vaulting.

Five large windows light each level along the east and west sides of the church. Each window is five lights wide (which is unusual) and has operable louvered interior shutters which fold back against the walls. Artificial light was provided by kerosene sometime after its invention in 1857. The large crystal

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

Reformed Dutch Church of Blawenburg,
Montgomery Township, Somerset
County, NJ

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 2

For NPS use only

received

date entered

and bronze chandelier hung low in order to make refilling it simpler. There are eight lights on the chandelier and six matching sconces of two lights each on the side walls. These fixtures consist of glass globes and prisms on bronze brackets. In 1926 these fixtures were electrified, and the main chandelier was then raised several feet. There are no references to the acquisition of these fine lights anywhere in the Blawenburg Consistory Minutes.

A portable pump organ was the original musical instrument, which was replaced in 1872 by a new pipe organ, the first in the area. It was made in France. The external pipes are some of the grandest objects in the church. The original zinc is blue and has never been re-treated. Only a gold leaf painted design adorns them. These pipes adorned the front of the rectangular apse, although the organ was in the south gallery at the time. In 1911 the organ was moved to the rear-pulpit area on the north end. It was rebuilt in 1954. In 1973 the present pipe organ was purchased and installed in the rear gallery. It is presently valued at \$90,000.00.

The sanctuary is surrounded by large trees and numerous plantings making the ground particularly pretty in the springtime. While the old horse sheds are no longer standing, a low stone wall marks the property line. Driveways now circle in front of the Christian Education Building and Rock Brook School and around the rear of the church.

To the east of the church is the old School House. Built in 1850, the school is a two-story, brick, stucco-covered building. The gable and entrance areas are of board and batten design. A small belfry where the school bell was housed rises above the entrance door. An addition was constructed in the 1950's. The School House has been in continuous use since it was built. Presently it is leased from the church by Rock Brook School, a private school for children with communication handicaps.

To the northeast of the church is the Christian Education Building. Built in 1959, it consists of a basement floor containing a kitchen and large fellowship hall and a main floor containing offices, classrooms, a lounge, and a small chapel area. It is shingled to blend with the church. The windows are shuttered. This building is not included in the nomination.

Across Route 518 is the original parsonage. Built in 1833 with pledges of \$1608.00, the house is a large two-story structure in the Federal style with a large foyer. It is now privately owned.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Reformed Dutch Church of Blawenburg,

Continuation sheet

Montgomery Twp., Somerset
County, NJ

Item number 7

Page 3

The present parsonage is immediately south of the church ediface across Route 518. It is a two-story clapboard house built in the 1920's and purchased by the church when the original parsonage was sold in 1950.

The church cemetery is one-quarter mile west of the church on land, part of which was donated by John Van Zandt in 1859. This gift enlarged the burying grounds. No record can be found of its beginnings. (Blawenburg Consistory Minutes). An early stone bears the date of 1805. There is a handsome wrought iron fence surrounding the cemetery and the two entrances are defined by posts and small curved walls of local field stone.

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 type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1830-1831; 1860 **Builder/Architect** Chief Carpenter: Richard Brown
(addition)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Blawenburg Reformed Church is a well preserved example of late Georgian Architecture which has been in continuous use as a house of worship since its construction in 1831. It is typical of Dutch Reformed churches built in Central New Jersey in the first half of the nineteenth century. It is preserved in a setting little changed from its origin. Blawenburg is still a small country village at the crossroads of Georgetown-Franklin Turnpike (now Route 518) and the Great Road (Route 601). The church edifice still stands in a grove of oak and maple trees less than 1000 feet east of this intersection.

The Dutch Reformed Church (now called the Reformed Church of America) was the first organized Christian denomination in Somerset County. Fearing political and religious oppression from supporters of the Church of England, many Dutch came by boat from New York City and Long Island up the Raritan River to settle in Somerset County. As the Dutch expanded into the rich Somerset farmlands, they built new churches to serve the spiritual needs of their people.

An unusually large number of churches were built in Central New Jersey during the period between 1825 and 1840. Two factors account for this. There was a new wave of Dutch immigrants in the 1820-30 period as the Dutch fled Holland seeking improved economic conditions and a more evangelical form of religion. Many Dutch-Americans also joined churches at this time as a surge of evangelical fervor swept the region. (Slincy, p. 41) These factors are born out by looking at the membership registers of local Dutch Reformed Churches at that time. (Harlingen Consistory Minutes)

Early Blawenburg worshippers attended "The Church-over-the-River", a church established in 1727. It was later moved to its present location on Route 206 and renamed the Reformed Dutch Church at Harlingen in memory of its beloved Dominie, Reverend Johannes M. Van Harlingen. (Snell, p. 844)

As the population grew, James Lake, a resident of Blawenburg, approached the Consistory at Harlingen in 1802 to seek permission to establish a church in Blawenburg. No action was taken on the request. (Harlingen Consistory Minutes)

In 1817 members in Blawenburg began Saturday evening prayer meetings. Sunday School began meeting in the 1820's in Blawenburg homes. When another group approached the Harlingen Consistory in 1829 with a petition to build and a list of 50 subscribers pledging \$2791.25, the Consistory approved. It is presumed that the increased population and the difficulty of travel to Harlingen were the convincing factors in establishing this sister church. (Harlingen Consistory Minutes, Oct./Nov. 1829)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(see continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.996

Quadrangle name Rocky Hill, N.J.

Quadrangle scale 1: 24.000

UTM References

A

1	8	5	2	5	1	2	0	4	4	7	2	9	4	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Block 26002, Lot 10 - Montgomery Township Tax Map - See Appendix
Deed descriptions - see following page

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mrs. Grace A. Terhune (assisted by Dr. David W. Cochran)

organization members - congregation

date February 15, 1985

street & number 494, Rt. 518, Box 34

telephone 609-466-3223

city or town Blawenburg

state New Jersey 08504

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 National Park Service.

Deputy

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Acting Director, Division of Parks & Forestry

date 7/22/85

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 9/5/85

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Reformed Dutch Church of Blawenburg,
Montgomery Twp., Somerset
County, NJ

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

By April 7, 1830 a choice acre of ground along the Georgetown-Franklin Turnpike was selected for the church. By September of the same year a crew of local men was assembled to construct the church. Richard Brown was appointed as the head carpenter. Little is known of Brown other than the fact that he was not a member of the Harlingen or Blawenburg Churches.

The origin of the plans of the church are unknown; however, an examination of area Dutch Reformed Churches reveals strong similarities to Blawenburg Church. We know that the Hillsborough Church (1827) looks very similar architecturally to Blawenburg. Hillsborough Church (see Appendix A) records reveal that it was patterned after the Six Mile Run Reformed Church (1817). (See Appendix B) (Corwin, p. 77) Similarly, Readington Reformed Church (built in 1833 and destroyed by fire in 1864) looked exactly like Blawenburg's exterior including the rounded cupola and feather weather vane. (see Appendix C) It is an old Dutch tradition to top a church with a weather vane. Most Dutch churches in Holland used a rooster as a symbol, but the churches in Central New Jersey used the feather. (Derry) A significant feature of Blawenburg is the rounded dome on the cupola. This appears to be characteristic of churches built about 1830 in the Central Jersey area. It was seen in the Readington Reformed Church (1833-1864) (Vincent, p. 122), the first church building of the Second Reformed Church of Somerville (1834-1894) (History of the Second Reformed Church of Somerville, forepage), and the original cupola of the North Branch Reformed Church (1825 to present). The Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church was rebuilt and enlarged in 1833 and its bell tower is similar to the church at Blawenburg. Of these churches only the Lawrenceville and Blawenburg Churches now have rounded cupolas. The size and architectural appearance of these structures suggest that a generic set of plans were available at that time. Unfortunately, the archives at the New Brunswick (Reformed Church) Seminary contain no plans for early Dutch Churches in New Jersey. (Gasero interview)

Work proceeded rapidly on the church in "barn-raising" fashion. The main beam was secured from the swamp in Rocky Hill and the lumber was hauled from New Hope, Pennsylvania. The church was raised between September 23 and 25, 1830. (Feind, p. 17)

To raise money for the maintenance of the church, pews were sold to individual families. Each pew was privately owned and maintained. Owners would add footrests and bookshelves to customize their pews. The pews in the gallery, which remain unpainted today, were provided for slaves and non-pew owners. A directory of the original pew owners can be found in the Blawenburg Church archives.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

Reformed Dutch Church of Blawenburg,

Montgomery Twp. Somerset County,

NJ

Item number 8

Continuation sheet

Page 2

For NPS use only

received

date entered

The new church was dedicated Saturday May 14, 1831 as the Second Reformed Dutch at Harlingen. On March 2, 1832 the new church separated from Harlingen and became the Reformed Dutch Church of Blawenburg. (see Appendix D)

Within thirty years, the congregation had grown to the point that a 14 foot addition was added to the sanctuary. The original architectural style was duplicated in the addition with great care being taken to match the new interior and exterior walls precisely to the style and structure of the existing ones. The Consistory instructed that the "relative position of each pew holder be the same to the pulpit after the addition is made as it is now." (Blawenburg Consistory Minutes January 23, 1860) A cellar was added and the first furnace installed in 1860. At the same time the original tar roof on the sanctuary was replaced with slate. It is believed that a brick chimney used for the old wood stove was removed at this time. (Feind, p. 17)

The beautiful bell, which still hangs in the belfry today, was donated by Princeton attorney, Paul Tulane in 1860. Constructed of solid brass, the bell was cast by Menelly Bell Co. in West Troy, NY. This bell is still rung before every service and at other special occasions today. Another gift in commemoration of the new addition was the pulpit Bible donated by Mrs. Joanna Romeyn, wife of the pastor.

Music was provided in the early years by means of a small pump organ located in the rear of the church. In 1872 a pipe organ, one of the first in the area, was installed in the church balcony where it remained until it was moved to the front of the church in 1911. The organ was pumped by the boys of the church for a few pennies each Sunday. The original pump handle is still in the church's possession. The same organ was electrified in 1926 and eventually replaced by a Gress-Miles organ in 1974.

Another major alteration to the church was the replacement of the ceiling, which was thought to have been made of plaster, with a tongue and groove white oak ceiling. This was done by J. Van Horn Reid, a skilled carpenter who was a member of the congregation, in memory of Rev. William B. Voorhees, the longest serving minister at Blawenburg Reformed Church in 1892.

Blawenburg Church has taken great care to preserve its edifice in as close to original condition as practical. The care taken when the addition was put on, the original siding, the old pews, the blue zinc organ pipes, the shutters, and even the present use of the original offering boxes bear witness to the church's intentions over the years. Even in recent years, this conscious attempt at

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

Reformed Dutch Church of Blawenburg,
Montgomery Twp. Somerset County, NJ

Continuation sheet

Item number

8

Page 3

For NPS use only

received

date entered

preservation exists. In the 1960's when many of the original windows needed to be restored, the church hired a person who removed and reset many of the original panes.

The early church played a significant role in the life of the residents of Blawenburg. Virtually every early resident attended the church and members of the community came under close scrutiny to be certain that they were living in a Christian-like manner. The church minutes are replete with examples of how the church cared for and visited its residents.

In 1850 Blawenburg built its second schoolhouse on property adjacent to the church. (Skillman) This served as a public school until 1927 when a new, larger school was built on the west side of the church. When the old school was abandoned, the Blawenburg Church took a lease on the building to use as a community social hall. It was eventually deeded over to the church in 1959. In the same year, the church built a Christian Education Building to accommodate its expanding programs. This is still in active use today.

The church has served as a center for community social events throughout its history. Prayer meetings, Harvest Homes, dinners, community dances, youth clubs, and countless other activities have been sponsored by and held in the facilities of Blawenburg Church.

While today Blawenburg is a less homogeneous community, the role of the church is still similar. Its facilities are still used by community groups (Boy Scouts, Rock Brook School, a private pre-school play group, two caterers, Family Counseling Service of Somerset County, etc.). Its mission of community care makes its well preserved ediface as alive today as it was in 1832.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Reformed Dutch Church of Blawenburg,
Montgomery Twp., Somerset County, Item number 9
NJ

Page 1

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Reformed Dutch Church of Blawenburg,
Montgomery Twnp., Somerset County, NJ

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 2

For NPS use only

received

date entered

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Reformed Dutch Church of Blawenburg,
Montgomery Twp., Somerset County, NJ

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

10

Page 1

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Deeds for Block 26002, Lot 10, Montgomery Township - Recorded Registry of Deeds, Somerset County Administration Building.

Deed 1830 - Recorded Book 0, page 154-155.

John Stout and wife to Ralph Johnson and others

Exerpt - "Beginning at a stake standing at the north side of the George Town and Franklin Turnpike road in William Griggs line, thence by his lot north five degrees and twenty minutes east two chains and twenty-six links to a stake corner of land belonging to the said party of the first part thence by their land north eighty-seven degrees east four chains and forty-eight links to a stake for a corner, thence by their land south five degrees and twenty minutes west two chains and twenty-six links to a stake for a corner, thence along the north side of the said Turnpike road south eighty-seven degrees west four chains and forty-eight links to the place of beginning containing one acre."

Deed - Recorded May 20, 1876, Book A5, page 501

John S. Griggs and wife to the Reformed Church at Blawenburg.

Deed - Recorded June 5, 1959, Book 943, page 378.

Board of Education of the Township of Montgomery to the Minister, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Dutch Church at Blawenburg.

Deed - Recorded December 18, 1959, Book 958, page 11.

Svend Miller, single, to the Minister, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Dutch Church at Blawenburg.

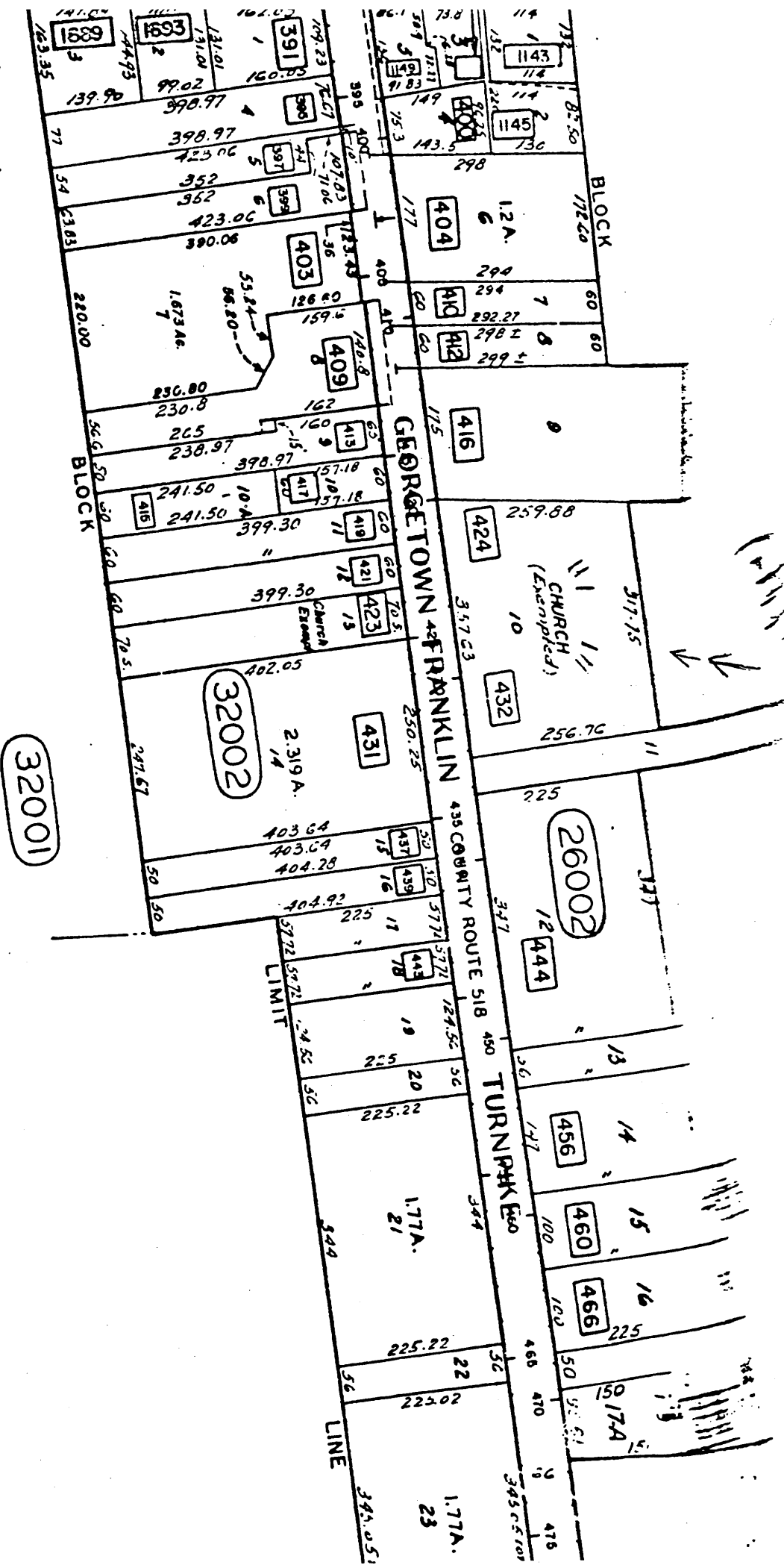
Deed - Recorded January 10, 1960, Book 959, page 354.

Hillmont Company to the Minister, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Dutch Church at Blawenburg.

Blawenburg Reformed Church
 Blawenburg, Somerset
 County, New Jersey

BLAWENBURG
FROM SHEET NUMBER 9.04

PORTION OF MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP TAX MAP



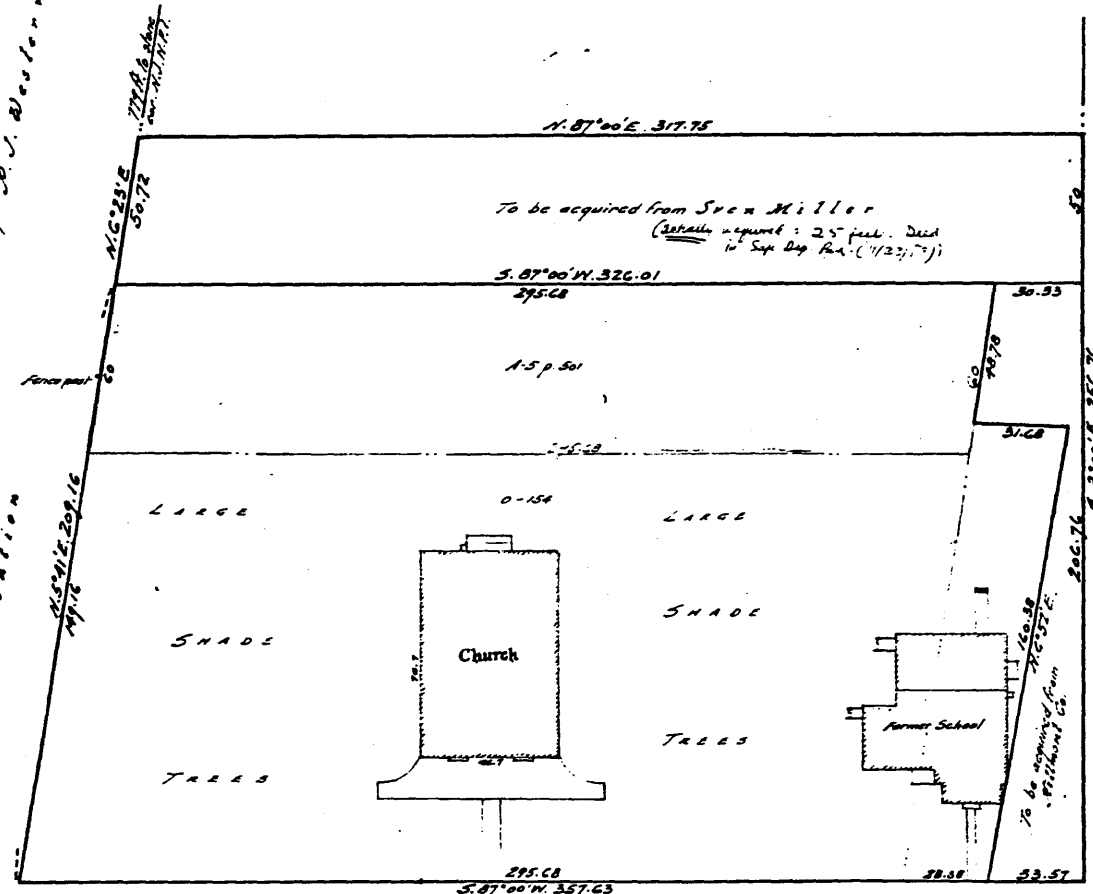


Formerly W. J. Deckerwell

Co. of Education



Sven Miller



W. J. Deckerwell

RIGHT OF WAY

E. Samms

GEORGETOWN FRANKLIN TURNPIKE

PROPERTY OF
BLATTENBURG REFORMED CHURCH

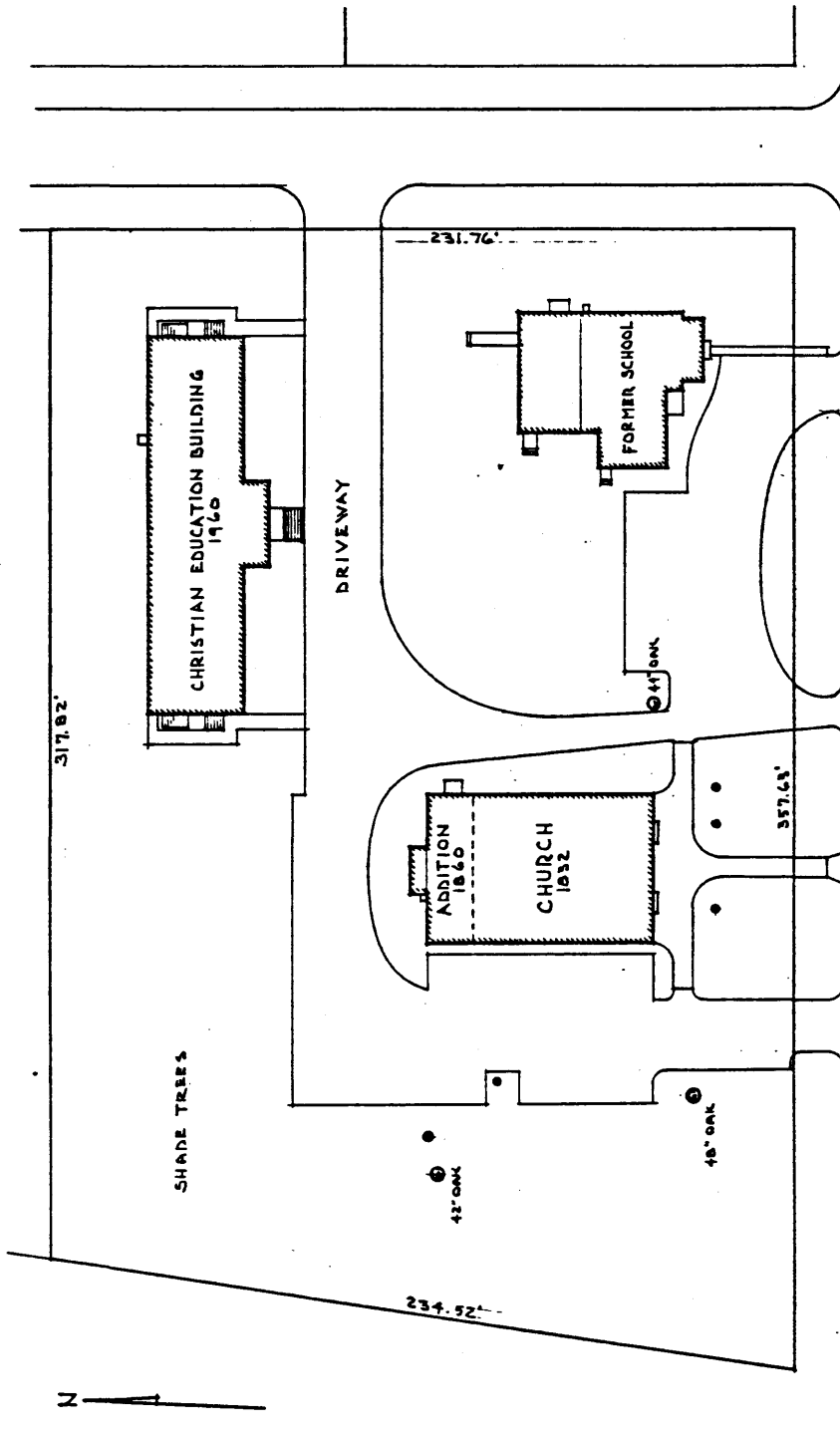
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP N. J.

JUNE 1959

1 IN. = 30 FT.

Somerset County

William Bush
SURVEYOR
2016 Wood N.J.

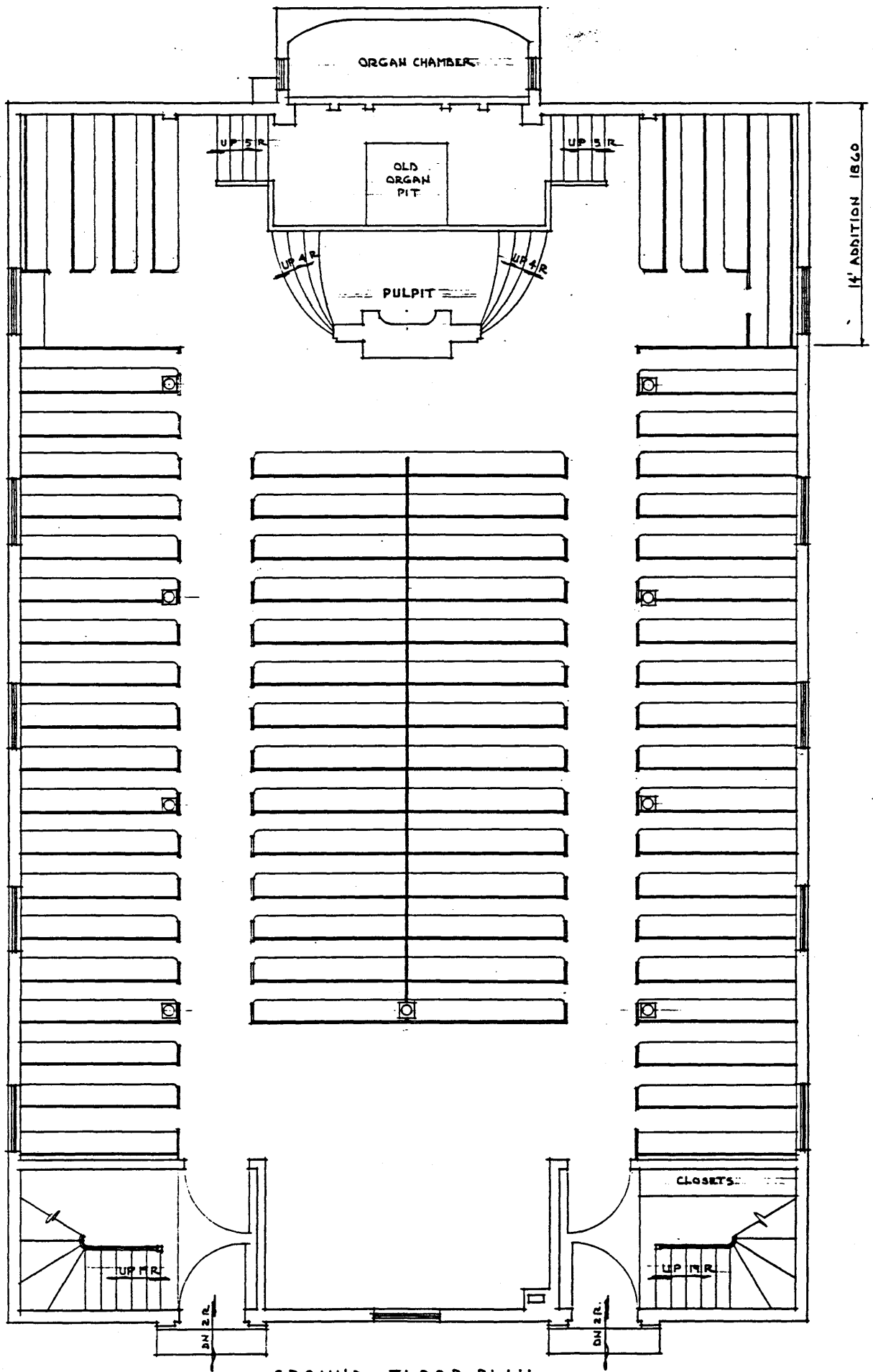


GEORGETOWN FRANKLIN TURNPIKE

SITE PLAN

SCALE 10' 20' 30' 40'
 MEASURED DRAWINGS 1985
 CHARLES J. HUNT JR., ARCHITECT

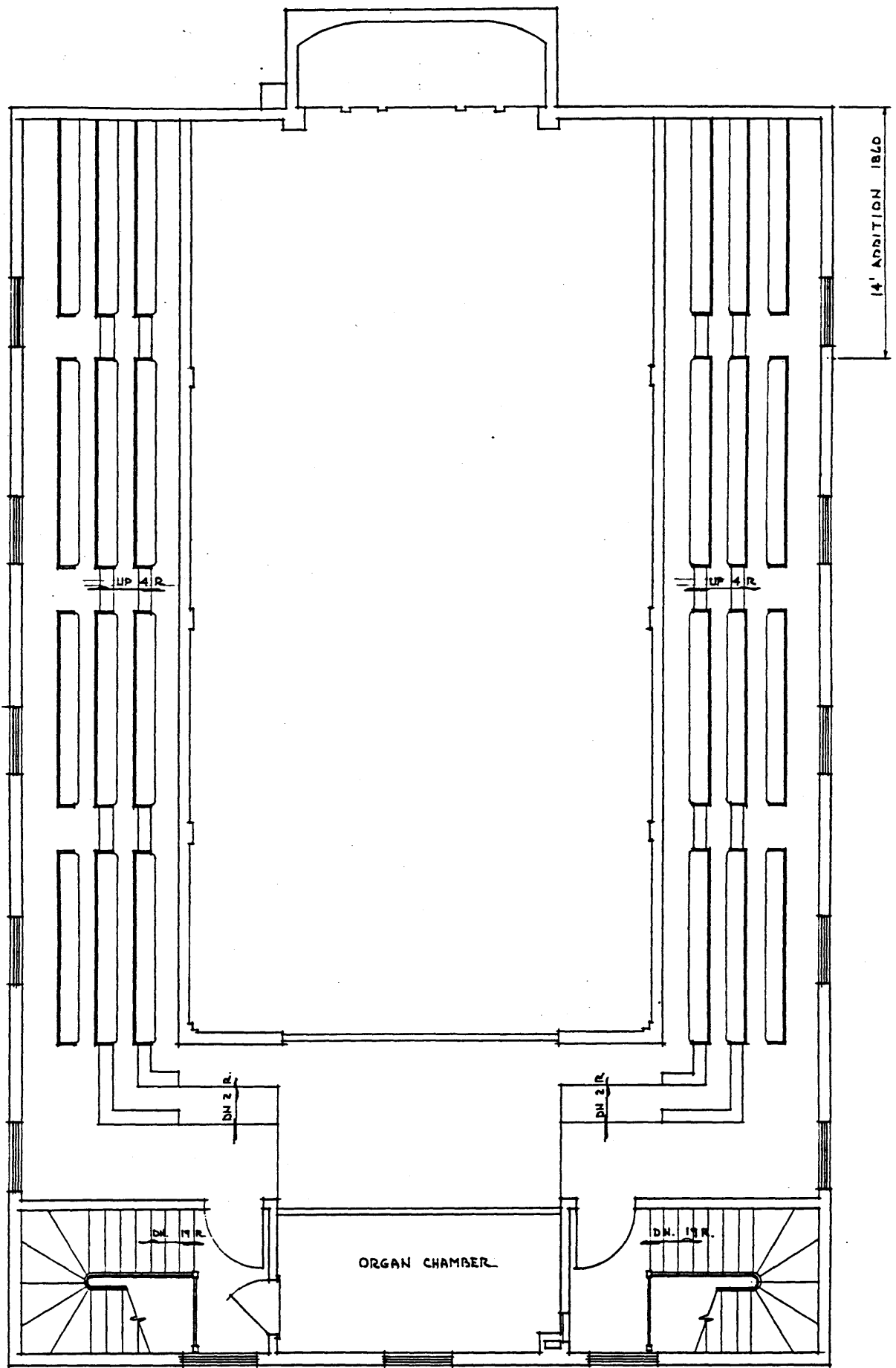
BLAWENBURG REFORMED CHURCH
 BUILT 1832 ENLARGED 1860
 Montgomery Township
 Somerset County, New Jersey



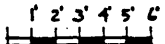
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 1 2' 3' 4' 5' 6'
 MEASURED DRAWINGS 1985
 CHARLES J. HUNT JR, ARCHITECT

BLAWENBURG REFORMED CHURCH
 BUILT 1832 ENLARGED 1860
 Montgomery Township,
 Somerset County, New Jersey



BALCONY PLAN

SCALE 
 MEASURED DRAWINGS 1985
 CHARLES J. HUNT JR., ARCHITECT

BLAWENBURG REFORMED CHURCH
 BUILT 1832 ENLARGED 1870
 Montgomery Township, Somerset County, N.



THE HILLSBOROUGH REFORMED CHURCH IS LOCATED IN MILLSTONE. It is surrounded by a cemetery whose tombstones tell of those loved ones who have passed through our Township and left their mark.

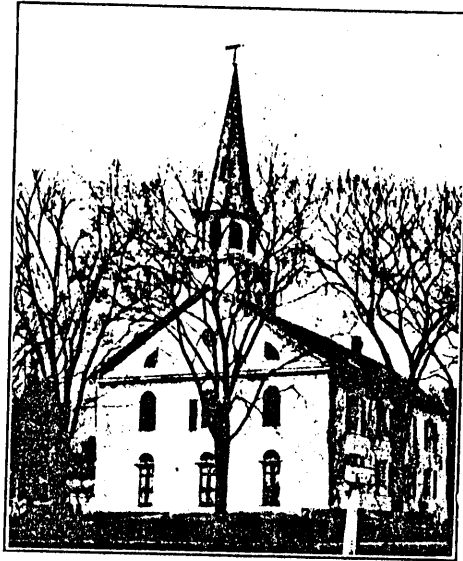
was becoming too large for one man, and each of the churches began to feel themselves able to support a pastor alone. So in the early part of 1807, after ten years of labor, Dr. Cannon resigned his charge at Millstone, from thence Six Mile Run enjoyed the whole of his services during the remainder of his stay. With the increase of the population came also the imperative necessity of greater religious facilities. The little church of 1766 no longer afforded comfortable accommodations to its enlarged audiences. Wonderful changes have transpired. A century before the ground which is now covered with enterprising farmers and artisans was almost an unbroken wilder-



ES S. CANNON



ME AT PLEASANT
J. SUYDAM)

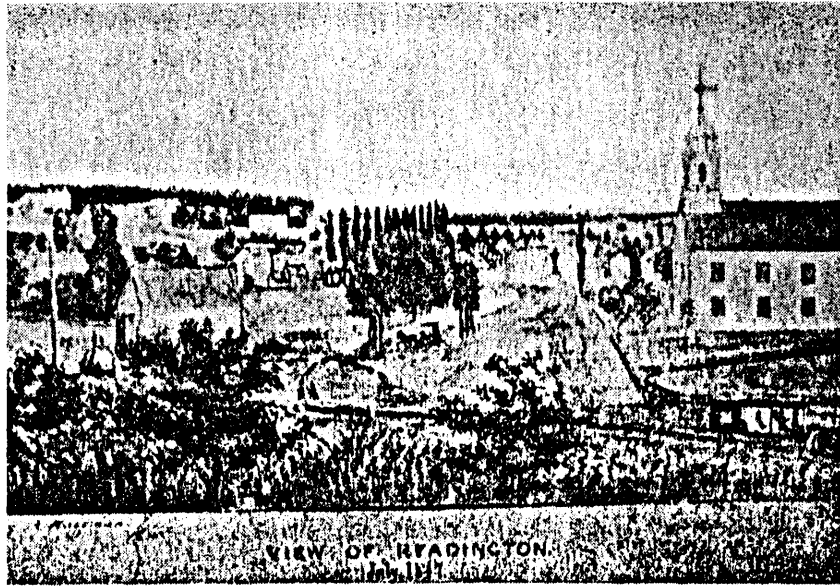


FAC-SIMILE OF CHURCH ERECTED IN 1817

DESTROYED BY FIRE JANUARY 7, 1879

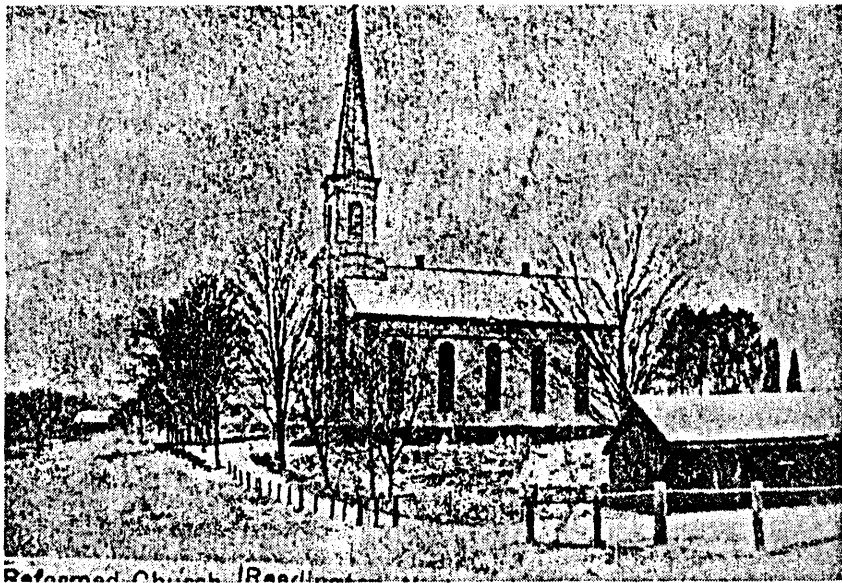
Facsmile of Six Mile Run Reformed Church, Franklin Park, N.J. 1817-1879

ness, while a little more than a half century ago there was but one ambassador of Christ to cultivate this vast field; but now there are nine churches with seven settled ministers in a circumference of twenty miles diameter. Something must be done to meet these growing demands. So in 1816 the walls which had for fifty years resounded with the Gospel of our Lord were



Third church built in 1833 and burned in 1864.

Readington Reformed Church, Readington, New Jersey 1833-1864



Fourth and present church dedicated in 1865. Steeple blown off in 1913.



Gown brought 1750 by Dinah huysen. Still in gers University.