

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE: **New Jersey**
 COUNTY: **Morris**
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: **OCT 15 1973**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

#12
 218
 N 4517120
 E 539560

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

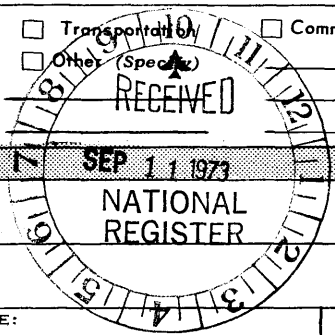
COMMON: **Little Red Schoolhouse**
Washington Valley
 AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **Washington Valley Road and Schoolhouse Lane**
 CITY OR TOWN: **Washington Valley** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
 STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34** COUNTY: **Morris** CODE: **027**

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| PUBLIC ACQUISITION: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | | | |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |



4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **Morris School District**
 STREET AND NUMBER: **40 Mills Street**
 CITY OR TOWN: **Morristown** STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Hall of Records**
 STREET AND NUMBER: **Court Street**
 CITY OR TOWN: **Morristown** STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (3230.1)**
 DATE OF SURVEY: **1969** Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **D.E.P., Historic Sites Section**
 STREET AND NUMBER: **P.O. Box 1420**
 CITY OR TOWN: **Trenton** STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34**

STATE: **New Jersey**
 COUNTY: **Morris**
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7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Exterior.

The Washington Valley Schoolhouse is a 1½ story building constructed of common bond brick. The roof of the school is gable and there is a box-like cupola perched atop the roof. Student raised the money for the bell within the cupola which was purchased in the 1880's. The gable end facade, which is the entranceway, has two separate doorways. The door arches are segmental. A flagstone platform makes the step up into the school less of a burden. The dimensions of the front and rear facades are 28 feet and the side facades, with four seven foot high windows on the side, are 38 feet long.

Immediately behind the Schoolhouse is an outdoor privy for the convenience of past pupils. This outhouse still exists and is in good condition.

Interior.

The front and only doors open onto what is now a kitchen, was originally a vestibule and cloakroom for students.

There is a double entrance from the cloakroom to the one room school. This schoolroom is furnished with old desks, a pot-bellied stove, an organ, and a teacher's desk and chair. The interior of the school has blackboards to the front, wooden shutters on all the windows to limit the amount of sun, and wide board vertical weinscoating around the room.

This one room Little Red Schoolhouse has been altered very little throughout the years.

A State Roadmarker marks the school with this caption:

Symbol of a bygone era in Education. A one room school From 1869 until 1913. Replaced Former school built on this Site in 1813. Served the Area as a community center.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1869-1913

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Education.

The first school in Washington Valley, also at the corner of Washington Valley Road and Schoolhouse Lane, was built in 1813. Built by local people, the school was open to nearly every youngster. Tuition was paid in either currency, firewood, or repair work to the schoolhouse.

Fifty years later this small school was inadequate and, in 1868, a committee was "appointed to examine school with reference to building a new one". This red brick school, built in 1869 at a cost of \$2,025, was constructed on the site of the old schoolhouse.

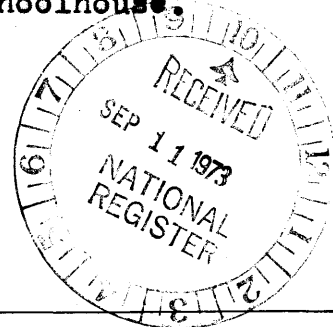
Records of the school indicate that teachers at the time were miserably paid and were also often employed to do custodial work in the school.

The school term lasted nine months. Few youngsters, however, attended classes the entire time. For example, in the year 1877, out of a total enrollment in the school of 39, merely 4 students were in class for the nine month period and only 14 more attended for at least 6 months. The daily attendance averaged around twenty. This was in fact quite fortunate for the instructor since the school would comfortably seat only thirty pupils.

One room schoolhouses were on the decline in Morris County by early 20th century. The May, 1913 school minutes of the valley schoolhouse read: "Resolved that Washington Valley School children be transported to the Hillside School ..."

Local citizens protested vehemently, but to no avail. When the Little Red School closed that fateful summer the doors were to never again open as a schoolhouse.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Washington Valley Schoolhouse: 1869-1969. Booklet published by Washington Valley Community Association for the Centennial program. Authors were Mrs. Barbara Hoskins and Ms Becky Hoskins. 1969.

Other information was supplied by Caroline Foster, Dorteaa Roberts, and Gladys Foster.

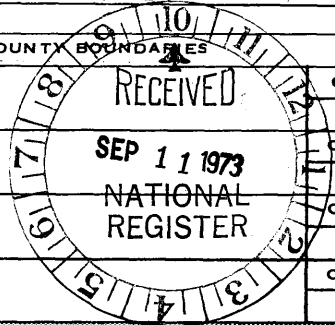
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | 40° 48' 23" | 74° 31' 52" | |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1 acre**

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Historic Sites Section Staff (Terry Karschner, Historian)**

ORGANIZATION: **Department of Environmental Protection** DATE: **July 12, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **P.O. Box 1420**

CITY OR TOWN: **Trenton** STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Richard J. Sullivan*
 Title: **Richard J. Sullivan, Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection**
 Date: **September 6, 1973**

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

Ernest A. Connolly
~~Associate Director~~
 Professional Services
 Date: **OCT 15 1973**

ATTEST:
Wm. M. ...
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: **10-9-73**