

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Mercer	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
14 SEP 1972	

1. NAME

COMMON:
Lawrence Township Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Lawrenceville (Maidenhead)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Lawrenceville & Unity
See continuation sheet for verbal description of location (sheet 9) etc.

CITY OR TOWN: Lawrenceville

STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34 COUNTY: Mercer CODE: 021

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" 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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

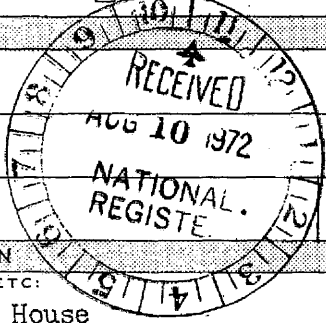
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Multiple

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Lawrenceville

STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Mercer County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER: Broad Street

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

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey: N.J.-52

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress (See continuation sheet)

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

HB 524880 E 524920 E 522440 E 522390
 2-19 N4462360 N44596220 N4459500 N4462300

STATE: New Jersey	COUNTY: Mercer	FOR NPS USE ONLY
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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The main street of Lawrenceville from Baker's Basin Road (Franklin Corner Road) to just north of Carter Road comprises a historic district that is distinguished for many reasons.

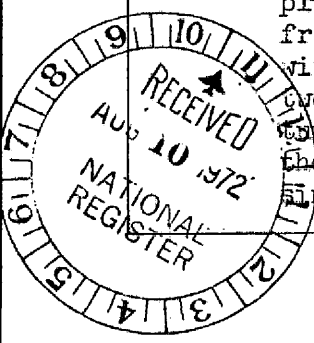
Most importantly, the town along the two lanes of its main street remains distinctly residential, as it always has been. With the exception of one three-story commercial building, the town is populated with 18th and 19th century two and three-story houses. It is difficult to find another town of this size so well preserved from the threats of commercialism and development. The steady agriculture prosperity of the town is reflected in many large impressive houses such as Cherry Grove, the Theophilus Phillips House and the Richard Montgomery Green House. The large tracts of farm land that trace back to late 17th century transactions and the 1703 Coxe dispute have survived intact into the hands of modern residents who have refused to sell off development lots. The houses demonstrate the conservative nature of their builders architectural taste and the slow progress of design innovation in this backwater area. Unusual combinations of Federal and Greek Revival details and the late appearances of some architectural motifs document a valuable history. Furthermore, local features such as nearby quarried stone, usually laid up in handsome random masonry, cherry wood pole bannisters and elegantly panelled doors, and reeded Federal details extend through most of the homes with regularity and occasional variation. The local masons, carpenters and joiners produced excellent quality work. And finally, the community's rural peaceful atmosphere has persisted deep into the twentieth century because of its orientation along the long, narrow tree shaded main street.

With the addition of the Lawrenceville School's Peabody and Stearns campus buildings and Frederick Law Olmsted's Arboretum of the 1880's the town acquires a unique spectrum of 19th century domestic architecture. For, the Queen Anne Revival residence houses represent the efforts of architects of the time, primarily under the influence of H.H. Richardson, to recapture the qualities of domesticity, tranquility and intimacy, forgotten in the stylistic exoticism of the mid-century revivals yet retrievable from eighteenth century models of living. Although this movement sought its precedents in English dwellings, there is a parallelism of spirit between the late 18th century and early 19th century masonry houses of the town and the home-like brick residences such as Clave, Griswold, Woodhull and Dickenson. This shrewd comprehension of the values of the town and the need of the adolescent boarding school students accounts for the stability and close integration of Lawrenceville, New Jersey.

INDIVIDUAL BUILDINGS WITHIN THE HISTORIC DISTRICT

1. The William Phillips Tavern

The three masonry bays served as the original tavern as the pre-1744 Dalley map documents. Although the early two room double fire-place arrangement and the old staircase are gone, the original front door frame and large panelled door and the second 9/6 sash with rusticated wood lintels remind us of the old appearance. The two right bays were probably added in the second half of the century. A conscious attempt was made to harmonize the two parts with the replication of the wood lintels and the binding effect of the simple modillion cornice with its mitred corner pieces. (Continued)



8. Significance

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

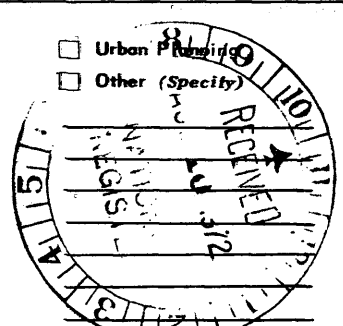
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1697, 1698, 1714, 1810

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"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation		

Urban Planning
 Other (Specify)



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The area of Lawrenceville was first occupied by white farmers in 1680. In 1697 the town lot was deeded to a group of the inhabitants by the West Jersey Society and the town was incorporated. One year later the Maidenhead Presbyterian Church was founded and the small community began to grow rapidly afterwards as the First Hunterdon County Court met in Maidenhead in 1714.

A century later, in 1816, the name of the town was changed from Maidenhead to Lawrenceville in honor of Captain John Lawrence who, in the War of 1812 was quoted as having said, "Don't give up the ship".

Architecture. The main street in Lawrenceville represents diversity and continuity of American architecture. Lawrenceville contains over 15 18th century buildings and twice that many 19th century homes. Several styles and combinations of styles such as: Colonial, Federal, Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italiante, Queen Anne Revival and Victorian combine to make Lawrenceville an architecturally historic town. Examples of buildings from almost every decade from 1800 to the present can be located in the district.

Most of the early houses are built of clapboard or stone (which came from the local quarry), but some of them are of brick. The Victorian buildings on the Lawrenceville School Campus, constructed by the Peabody & Stearns architectural firm, are done with brick and red stone.

Religion. Religious communities were at one time represented by the presence of Quakers, French Huguenots and Presbyterians. However, today only the Maidenhead Presbyterian Church, founded in 1698, is still extant and it, unfortunately, has been extensively altered.

Military. Maidenhead was the scene of considerable troop movement between Princeton and Trenton during the Revolution. Lord Cornwallis occupied the Cock and Bull Tavern in 1776. Washington passed by Maidenhead in 1775 enroute to take command of the Continental Army. In 1781 Generals Lafayette and St. Claire passed through the village on the way to reconcile a contingent of Pennsylvania troops who mutinied in Princeton. Down the road toward Trenton is the site of a skirmish of January 3, 1777 between Colonel Edward Hand and the British troops.

Transportation. Through the center of Lawrenceville was an old Indian trail which later became a King's Highway (today known as Route 206) and the mainstream of traffic between New York and Philadelphia, with Lawrenceville a resting area for weary travelers. A stagecoach route traversed these two cities by way of Lawrenceville from 1738-1899.

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lawrentian. Vol. 30, No. 1 Autumn, 1965.
 Mershon, Grace L.O. Who, When and Where in Early Maidenhead. The Princeton Herald, Princeton, 1947.
 Mills, W.J. Historic Houses of New Jersey. J.P.Lippincott, 1902.
 Podmore, Harry J. The Presbyterian Church of Maidenhead, N.J. 1698-1948. Publications Committee of the 250th Anniversary Celebration: Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville, 1948.
 Rice, Howard C. Jr., ed. New Jersey Road Maps of the 18th Century. Princeton, 1964.
 Tyler, Donald, H. Old Lawrenceville (Formerly Maidenhead) Early Houses & People. Lawrenceville, 1965.

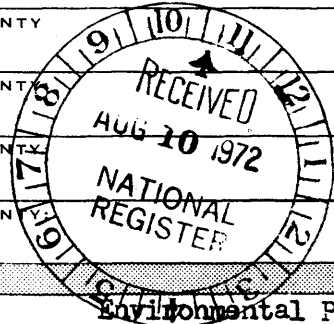
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	18	48	74° 44' 10"
NE	° ' "	° ' "	40	18	48	74 42 24
SE	° ' "	° ' "	40	17	18	74 44 10
SW	° ' "	° ' "	40	17	18	74 42 24

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 550

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: C. Greiff and Channing Blake: Technical review by Historic Sites, Dept. of Environmental Protection
 ORGANIZATION: Heritage Studies DATE: 9/8/71
5/15/72
 STREET AND NUMBER: 17 Clover Lane
 CITY OR TOWN: Princeton 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: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
 Date: July 31, 1972

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

Robert M. Zetty
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date: 9/14/72

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: 9/13/72

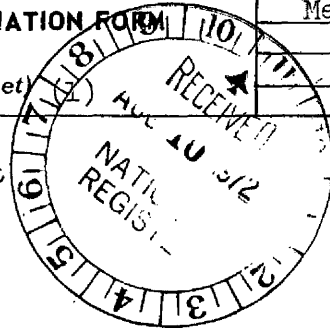
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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(Continuation Sheet)

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Section 7: Continued

The porch dates from around 1900, and the masonry was repainted in 1964.

Two-foot thick masonry walls, a twelve-inch lateral beam in the basement and pit-sawn pegged rafters with old lath characterize the older construction. A huge beehive brick oven sits in the cellar of the newer section. Although most of the room details have been extensively altered, the battered base-board of one of the tavern rooms, one original door and many late 18th century panelled cherry doors still exist. A sturdy 1860 stairway and newel post occupy the main hall.

There is an old masonry smokehouse to the rear of the house.

2. The Hicks Mansion

In 1900 Senator Reeves Hicks reproduced a specific South Carolina Greek Revival mansion at the top of his property on Main Street. He had moved a common 18th century house off the lot in order to recreate this impressive mansion, the original of which we must remember was also a retarditaire showpiece. We recognize this same interest in establishment architecture in the stained glass coat-of-arms in the main staircase and the English panelled beam ceiling and booklined walls of the library. The house's sociological interest is perhaps greater than its architectural value. It does possess, however, a striking columned facade and a wide handsome center staircase that divides at the landing and is lit by a large Palladian window. In all, it sums up conservative residential architecture at the beginning of this century.

✓ 3. The Cranstoun House

Probably built near the end of the 18th century, this five bay 2½ story center hall masonry house has undergone many changes of the interior, although some fascinating details remain. Greek Revival moldings and fireplaces decorate the downstairs rooms. Yet sections of old panelling of living room (now dining room) cabinets and old closets behind the present kitchen fireplace remain. The old kitchen, in the right rear corner, contains a reproduction of the original fireplace, to which an outside oven was once connected. The panelling under the main staircase is revealed in reverse on the way down to the cellar, where one also sees what was mistakenly called the newel post tightener in the floorboards. The device is excellent carpentry, not ingenious invention. In accord with local practices the first floor interior walls are masonry.

Of the eight fireplaces in the house, an original Federal example remains in the right front bedroom. Old panelling and molding seems to have survived in the rear left bedroom.

The dormers of the attic and the oversized center stairway window are modern restorations.

This house may have been built by John White, whose homestead on Cold Soil Road is a separate nomination.

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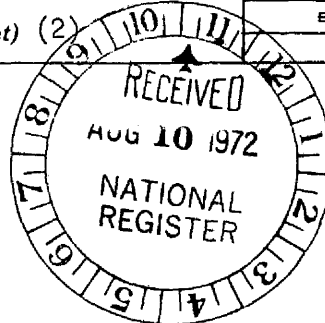
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(Number all entries)

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4. The Old Davis House

This house, built in 1834 by James Porter for the Lawrenceville Female Seminary which he started with his wife, attracts our attention because of its incorporation of old forms and details. For it is the basic five bay, three-story center hall type, at a time when the Greek Revival was presenting viable alternative house plans. The doorway is an amusing anachronism. Federal in configuration, it replaced Ionic capiteled columns for the delicate inner pair of doorway colonnettes of earlier period. The fireplace in the right front living room repeats the same Greek Revival Ionic capitals, languidly stretched out into almost mannerist forms. A stylized Federal arch divides the center hall.

Several fireplaces in the multi-bedroomed house exhibits a curious mantle form. Grooved panels and moldings veneer the projecting trabeations which cry out for supporting columns or consoles at their ends. A lack of drill or nail holes on the underside of the horizontal member tells us that this was the original conception.

5. Theophilus Phillips Homestead

Theophilus II Phillips, son of one of the pioneer settlers of Lawrenceville, probably built the center two bay section about 1750, where he operated an inn starting in 1753. This section was probably extended a few years later with increased patronage. It was not until 1790 that his legatee, His grandson Theophilus III, because of increased prosperity as a farmer, erected the large main house where some of the most distinguished Federal decorative detail in town is to be found. The excellent high style, fan inset fireplace in the front living room, the multi-tube cornices, the vertical finned elliptical arch in the center hall and the numerous panelled cherry doors with old hardware testify to the importance of this house.

Probably around 1900 the main doorway and fenestration was restored, around the original cherry door. For instance, the leading repeats the old style, but in oversized proportions.

The present owner, Mr. Glen Hudler, commissioned a documentation study in 1951 and has made well-considered renovations in the house. In addition, he has preserved the original extensive farm land holdings to the rear of the house. A mirror image house, Rose Hill, stands directly across the street.

6. The Van Dyck House

Built in 1849 and moved from its original location to the north of the Presbyterian Church meeting ground, this five bay, two and one half story house reports the slow to change nature of Lawrenceville house design. Although the attic story with its latticed openings, scalloped molding and flat board cornice hints at Italianate design, the back elevation boasts a Doric Palladian window with fan-inset-center arch that lights (Continued)

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(Continuation Sheet) (3)

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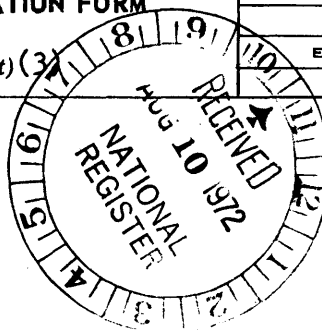
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the main staircase. Double pilasters that flank the side lighted back door, Greek revival moldings and frames, interior panels under the windows and a center hall elliptical arch reinforce the surprisingly backward nature of the house. The Federal Revival porch with its almost Art Nouveau cut-out suggest another antique minded effort.

The house has had a varied and busy life, and has undergone many changes in interior detail. The side additions, with their carefully gauged clapboard, date from this century.

7. The Green Cottage

Gothic Revival gathered the cachet of nouveau riche in nineteenth century house construction. Jagged profiles, assymetry and unusual detail disturbed the tranquility of the 18th century house type. This is the only full blown example of this style in Lawrenceville. It reminds one of Downing's more elaborate house plates, yet probably does not date before the 1850's.

We understand why this could be called Carpenter Gothic when we examine the flush, grooved clapboarding, the thick molding squared window tops and the scalloped and "icicle" gingerbread woodwork. The use of mechanical jigsaws, which endows the elements with a sharp geometric outline, for example, in the peaked window in the center gable, explains the origin of this generally vernacular Gothic phase.

Inside, most of the original detail has survived almost intact. Slightly pedimented door frames flaunt plaster floral sprays. A well-carved pink marble Gothic fireplace graces the right front parlor, which also has a three sided projecting window with inside folding shutters.

This house has just undergone an extensive and considered restoration throughout. The new owners are to be commended.

8. The Brown Cottage - 2810 Main Street

This T-shaped board and batten Gothic cottage manifested the simplest version of country living propounded by A. J. Downing. Built between 1849 and 1860, it served as a tenant house in its early years. During the construction of the new 1883-1885 campus of the Lawrenceville School, Headmaster Reverend James C. MacKensie resided here. Basic in plan and spare in detail, it contrasts with the more conservative mansion houses that the agricultural kingpins of the town chose to reside in. Later side and back additions have not spoiled its charm.

9. The William C. Rouse Homestead - 2923 Main Street - Circa 1750

This simple three bay, two story house displays many interesting changes over the years. Of 18th century masonry construction, it was updated in the 1850's with round headed windows on the first floor. (Continued)

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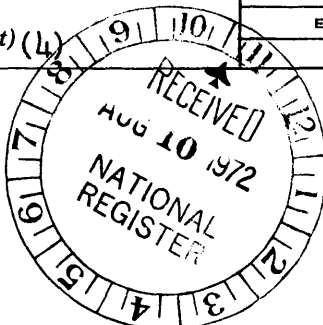
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The segmental arch bulbous molding front door probably was installed in the 1870's. During the Queen Anne Revival in the 1880's the house gained a new stairway with small square panelling underneath and elaborately turned balusters. Most recently the architect-owner has modernized the kitchen and dining facility to the rear with a glass and stucco extension that harmonizes well with the whole house. The interior has been greatly changed, although two-foot thick reveals at the windows and wide board in the second floor remind us of the original character.

10. The Presbyterian Church

The church is the product of three building programs - the delicate linear brick facade and front two bays of 1764, the two bay extension in 1833, and the final bay and chancel in 1853. The decorative scheme inside dates from the last period, as seen in the horizontally panelled balcony with extended side arms, the cast iron columns with stylized Egyptian caps that support it, the tabernacle flanked by double pilasters and the late Greek Revival composition plaster ceiling motif. An elaborate brass double ring, reflector-laden tubular fixture hangs from the center. It has been carefully converted for electricity. The original 18th century door survives on the front of this simple, handsome building.

11. The Stone Cottage - 2627 Main Street

The original three bay, two and one half story masonry block house dates from the Federal period as the doorway and hall arch suggest. Dr. Samuel Hamill, principal of the Lawrenceville School from 1837-1879, owned the house, and his widow recalled that the clapboard section, also late 18th century, was moved from the George White House in 1880. A lacy Victorian porch joins the two over the front doors, and a passageway was cut through the eighteen inch masonry wall in the early 1900's. The scale of these houses suggests the intimate atmosphere of the central part of the town that the narrowness of the Main Street at this point admirably protects.

12. The Lawrence Lodge

Built in 1892 by Peter Kafer as a guest house and dormitory for the School represents the Queen Anne Shingle Style on Main Street. The School did not buy it until the 1940's. Three stories high, populated with several prominent gables and dressed with numerous spindled porches, this building exudes the atmosphere of a seaside resort hotel. Its lightness, its gaiety and its fragility separate it from the rest of domestic buildings in town, and make it all the more precious within this history of 19th century architecture.

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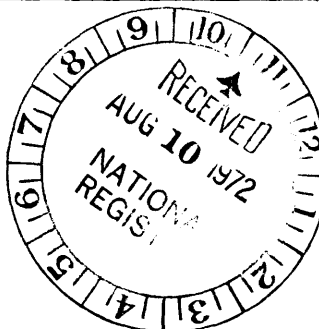
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Section 7: Continued



13. Romney House - 2579 Main Street

Reputed to have been built by Charles Steadman though probably not by him, this clapboard Greek Revival house unites pretentious appearance with vernacular carpentry. The impressive Ionic pilastered doorway and the raised roof with triglyph and metope frieze, the most stylish evidence of Greek Revival taste in Lawrenceville, imply a well appointed town house of the 1830's or 1840's. Yet examination of the simple room plan and the carpentry-cut details betrays this as a delightfully unsophisticated vernacular concept. The builder defied the town's architectural heaviness and produced a charming result.

The simple plan has the living room and stairway in the front section, followed by a dining room and then a back kitchen on the first level and two bedrooms upstairs. Fireplace openings never existed on the second floor. Originally reached by an in-wall stairway from the dining room, the back bedroom is now connected with a diagonal hall to the front stairs. Original six over six fixed upper member sash, a Gothic arched fireplace in the dining room, Greek revival details in the living room and numerous old doors and cabinets bespeak thoughtful preservation over the years.

14. The Lawrenceville School Campus

A. The Lawrenceville School, founded by Dr. Isaac Brown in 1810, moved into Hamill House in 1814. This direct, three story masonry structure of locally quarried stone fronts on Main Street. The facade is still characterized by small window openings, thin stone lintels and a thick block belt course above the second level. The four left most bays probably constitute the 1827 wing that Tyler mentions, and an old lithograph of 1848 shows another doorway that balanced the present one. The exquisite high style Federal doorway must have come from some other house, as it is difficult to accept a school building originally pampered in this way. The roof and dormers are of this century.

B. In 1834, the school built the slightly more progressive masonry Haskell House. The center pediment along the long front facade, publicized by Downing, was a popular type in Central New Jersey in this century. Dr. Samuel Hammill was the principal from 1837-1879.

The School was bought from Hamill at the end of his career by the John C. Green Foundation, which set out to establish a first rate boarding school with a legacy of over \$1,000,000 left by a member of the School's first class and a Lawrenceville resident, John Green. The Trustees hired Dr. James MacKenzie and sent him to England for a year to study schools and educational systems. His report of 1882 laid down the guidelines and the spiritual values of the new campus. He advocated several (Continued)

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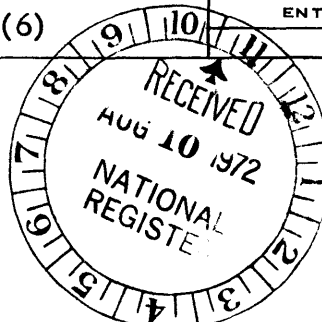
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Section 7: Continued



residences housing no more than 24 boys and a master with his family, a larger dormitory for more mature boys, a classroom building and a chapel all strung around a central green area. The trustees called in Peabody & Stearns to design all of these buildings and Frederick Law Olmsted to create the Arboreteum campus setting. The famous landscape creator made his influence felt in the architecture as his letters in the library show. Not only did he lay out the campus planting, but he counseled on the siting and exposure of buildings, demanded the most progressive sanitary systems and insisted on atheletic facilities. He considered each structure "as a public building in a park with a north front and a south front". In general the progressive nature of the educational and social system advocated by Mackensie matched the forward-looking aesthetic manipulations of basic forms in the Richardsonian and Domestic Revival idioms and the implementation of a substantial botanical compendium. The central buildings in this scheme were erected in 1884-1885, and the landscaping followed shortly.

C. Memorial Hall proudly stands out as the most forceful, most important building on campus. Its heavy rustication, its clear arrangement of masses, its simple elevations and its well considered details elevate it into the ranks of the best work inspired by H. H. Richardson. Rather than exaggerate the superficial earmarks of this mode, Peabody & Stearns successfully grasped his architectural principles in order to create their own distinctive composition. In general, they tried to simplify the appearance as much as possible. They arranged a long rectangular body terminated by smaller perpendicular pavillions. They emphasized the upper of the two levels with a massive front stair and entry porch and the broad, steeply pitched roof. They banded the window openings with serpentine floral sprays over a rugged basket weave. And they repeated the semi-circular aperture shape across the pavillion ends. The carved stone details, the grotesques under the windows, the twisting lions under the entrance porch pediment and the arches, jamb columns and capitals wittily revive the Medieval mason's tradition.

D. The Chapel of 1895, originally intended to sit to the right of Memorial Hall, and later by the donor at the main entrance of the campus is a simple Latin cross with a tower set at the right front between two arms. The two units, well matched and subtly balanced, are blanketed by the heavy ashlar, which extends even to the tip of the tower roof. The central rose window bordered by the signs of the Evangelists and the round headed transept openings relieve the surface texture in correct proportions. The small, intimate interior is lined with a thin, buff colored brick. The English-style vault beams tied together with decorated diagonal bars dominate the central space. The transept windows by L.C. Tiffany dazzle with much abstract decoration. The sanctuary was extended several years ago for an elaborate organ. According to MacKensie's wishes, the chapel was (Continued)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) (7)

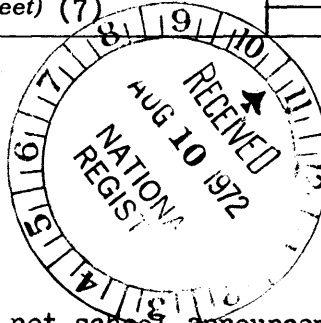
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
14 SEP	1972

(Number all entries)

Lawrence Township Historic District

New Jersey Code: 34
Mercer Code: 021

Section 7: Continued



designed for meditation and prayer, not school announcements.

E. The four residential houses - Cleve, Griswold, Dickinson and Woodhull - partake in the Domestic revival which sought its forms and details in the "Queen Anne" style. As combinations of basic shapes, they are defined by crisply cut edges, asymmetrical arrangements, a skin tight wall surface, special window patterns and groupings and oppositions of masses with dark voids. Their decorative details consist of ashlar lintels, copper sheathed dormers, Romanesque style colonnettes and caps, and wood timbered, beamed or panelled areas. Each has its own rhythmic, almost random appearance. Yet we recognize the organizational superiority of these four when we turn to

F. Kennedy House of 1889, an assemblage of parts from the other four, an experiment in thrift suggested by Caleb Green.

A master and his family reside in each and enhance the home-like atmosphere that the headmaster and architects considered necessary for adolescents living away from home. This endeavor echoed the qualities of the stone houses along the Main Street of Lawrenceville, but borrowed from English precedent. It represented one phase of the progressive educational movement of the late 19th century that stressed rationality and the needs of the human spirit.

Olmsted's landscape encompassed the same qualities. With the 371 varieties of trees and bushes, he offered a botanical library and laboratory that has served as such to this day. His elaborate systems of sewage and drainage represented the most advanced concepts for public health. And the general random, "natural" plan and the beauty of the individual trees inspire tranquility and joy in any who walk there. Although a 1939 census found that over half of the species had succumbed over the decades, the general outlining and arrangements of the Olmsted plan persist. There has been a traditional reverence for the campus, and school officials have sought to plant new trees only where old ones stood.

G. Since 1920, a new campus has expanded behind Memorial Hall under the guidance of Delano and Aldrich. Adopting an axial, symmetrical plan for brick buildings garnished with white Federal Revival detail, the architects reverted to an ornament-conscious eclecticism and formalism that denied the progressive program of the 1880's. They stepped backward. Reminiscent of Jefferson's University of Virginia, the new campus sports porticos, miniature rotundas, broken scroll doorways and a sunken, walled center lawn. Its pretentiousness is mocked by the intellectual values of the Peabody & Stearns and Olmsted work and by the structural directness of the earliest school buildings such as Hamill Hall.

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) (8)

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Lawrence Township Historic District

New Jersey Code: 34
Mercer Code: 021

Section 8: Continued

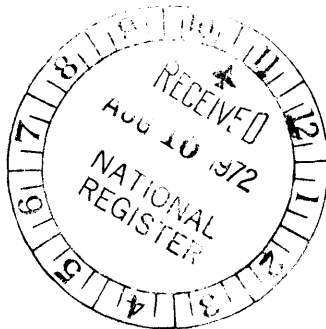
Education. Most of the area south of the road is occupied by the Lawrenceville School. The School was founded in 1810 by the pastor of the Maidenhead Church, Reverend Isaac Brown, with the purpose of educating the parish youth in Christian principles. When John MacKensie was employed in 1880 to run the school he traveled to England to study their schools and based his findings on the British system of private education with students living in dormitory-like residences.

MacKensie also expanded the academy with several Victorian buildings.

Landscape Architecture. When the Lawrenceville School employed the firm of Peabody & Stearns to enlarge school facilities they also encouraged Frederick Law Olmstead to landscape the campus upon which he incorporated over 300 species of trees and shrubs. Today, the basic landscaping plan remains intact even though over half of the original plants have died.

Literature. Thornton Wilder resided at the Lawrenceville Female Seminary when he wrote The Bridge of San Luis Rey.

Since its inception Lawrenceville has provided a continuous view of the American scene. The village contains many fine buildings, spanning the history and life of one nation and it reflects the solidarity and unique atmosphere once evident throughout America, but now a vanishing relic. This quaint community should be preserved not only for what it can tell us about our past, but for what it can give us in the future.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) (9)

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Lawrence Township Historic District

New Jersey Code: 34

Mercer Code: 021

Section 2: Location (Continued)

Verbal Description of District Boundaries

Beginning at a point on Franklin Road 500' west of the center of U.S. Route 206, proceeding NNE parallel along Route 206, across Monroe Street, Hendrickson Road, Green Avenue, Titus Avenue, Craven Avenue, Phillips Avenue, Gorden Avenue, Manning Lane, Cold Soil Road and Greenwood Avenue, at a distance of 500' from the center of Route 206, and thence along Maple Avenue (which runs parallel 500' from Route 206), across Edgewood Avenue to the property line of the Lawrenceville Cemetery. Thence proceeding NW about 175' to the end of the cemetery property line, thence NE 250' following that line, thence SE 100', thence NE 25', and thence SE another 25' to a distance 500' from the center of Route 206. Proceeding parallel along Route 206 to the center of Carter Road, thence proceeding SE along Carter Road about 100' to the NW property line of the second lot from Route 206 (about 400' from Route 206). Thence proceeding to the NE corner of that lot which is the Shipetaukin Creek, following the creek about 25' S to the next property line. Following that property line 375' NE to the Perot property (historically, the Dyke House). Thence, following the Perot property line NW 225' to the NW corner of the line, thence NE 150' to the other northern corner and thence SE along the Perot property to the center of Route 206. Thence NE along Route 206 approximately 150' to the present Carvarius property line (historically, the Wm. Phillips Tavern) and thence SE following that property line about 750' until it turns SW and then in that direction 375' to the center of Fackler Road. Thence, following Fackler Road a distance of 625' to the Shipetaukin Creek, continuing SE along the creek to a point 500' from the center of U.S. Route 206. Thence proceeding SW on a line parallel to Route 206 approximately 0.8 of a mile to the property line of the Old Davis House on 2868 Main Street (now owned by Strassenburgh). Thence, proceeding SE 4000' along the Lawrenceville School property line, thence proceeding WSW along the school property line 750', thence SE 550' along the school line, thence 25' SWW, thence 225' SE to the center of the Lewisville Road. Thence proceeding SW along the Lewisville Road to the center of Franklin Road, thence along Franklin Road across U.S. Route 206, to the point of beginning.

