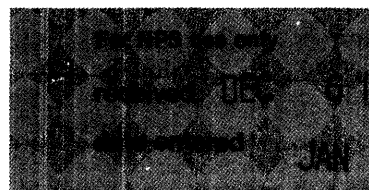


ONE COPY
EXC. 10/1/77

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



1984
3 1985

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

1. Name

historic Imlaystown Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Imlaystown-Davis Station Rd., Imlaystown-Red Valley Rd ^{NA} not for publication

city, town Upper Freehold Twp. vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state ^{New Jersey} ~~Upper Freehold Twp.~~ code 034 county Monmouth code 025

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the clerk, Monmouth County Hall of Records/West Main Street
Monmouth County Recorder of Deeds

street & number Monmouth County Courthouse

city, town Freehold state NJ 07748

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Monmouth County Historic Sites Inventory #1351-2/
title National Register (Salter's Mill) has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 01-82/09-29-80 federal state county local

depository for survey records Office of New Jersey Heritage/
National Register of Historic Places

city, town Trenton/Washington state NJ 08625/DC 20240

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Imlaystown Historic District, located in southwestern Monmouth County, New Jersey, is a rural village comprised of 34 structures. Surrounded by farmland, the village stands in distinctive contrast, due to the surprisingly dense concentration of buildings. The district includes the mix of building types (including churches, hotel mill, school, store, and houses) common to a village arranged in a more or less linear fashion along the road. Most of the houses (which numerically dominate the district) are believed to date from the mid-19th century or before, but several non-residential buildings at the district's core were built following a large fire in 1897. Of the 34 buildings in the district, seven are Key, 23 Contributing, and four are Harmonizing. There is no intrusion. The district's major non-architectural feature is Imlaystown Lake, the pond associated with the mill. Architecturally, the frame, 1 1/2 story house is the principal building type.

The village is located near the centre of rural Upper Freehold Township. Surrounding land is gently rolling and has traditionally been agricultural. That use continues, joined today by horse farms and scattered residences. The recent construction of Interstate 195 from Trenton to the coast has made the area more accessible by car; the Interstate passes about a mile to the north of the district.

Prior to the construction of the Interstate the major access to Imlaystown was by Route 526 which connects Allentown (to the west) with the shore in Ocean County. However, what is now Route 526 terminated, at least as late as 1861, at Imlaystown-Davis Station Road, at the north end of the district.

The focus of the district is the intersection of Imlaystown-Davis Road with Imlaystown-Red Valley Road. Both widen at this point, forming a triangle bordered by the hotel and former municipal building, the mill and its associated house, and an open space containing the major residence of the district (the Imlay house). South of the intersection, Imlaystown-Davis road is carried across Doctor's Creek by the mill dam, east of which is the mill pond (Imlaystown Lake).

The district today extends from the Methodist Church at the north (at the corner of Route 526 and Imlaystown-Davis Station Road) generally south, crossing the mill pond, to the former school just beyond the Baptist Church. Thus, it can be capsulized as a group of commercial buildings (centered on the mill) extended north and south by a string of houses, terminated at each end by a church.

Imlaystown's growth virtually stopped following the rebuilding from the 1897 fire. Since 1898, the only construction has been the Baptist Church (1903), (following another fire) and the present public school (1930). Thus, the village looks much as it did c. 1898.

Imlaystown-Davis Station Road is frequently referred to as a former cowpath; it has gradually been upgraded to its present status as the district's main street. Entering the district from Route 526 (at the north), the landscape changes abruptly from a wide open, 50 mile per hour country road to a closely built street where 20 miles per hour seems excessive. One is faced by houses on both sides which can only be described as

(see continuation sheet)

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cheek by jowl, none of which are over five bays in width; two to four is more common.

The road makes an abrupt curve to the left (east) at the Imlaystown-Red Valley Road intersection. The effect of this curve is to terminate the Davis Station Road streetscape. In fact, because the intersection is triangular, all three of its arms present closed views when approaching the village center. Most of the major buildings of the district are grouped here, and their (originally) non-residential use, as well as their generally larger scale, distinguish them from the remainder of the district. They are related to the surrounding building by materials, age, and style, however. Unlike a standard four-way crossing, there is no view "straight through". This sense of a village square enhances the district's identity.

Continuing around the mill (one corner of the first story of which is truncated to accommodate the road), one crosses the mill dam. Development immediately becomes more sparse; houses are larger, as are their lots, creating more distance between structures. Although the visual character changes, however, this side of the pond is just as firmly related historically to the village as is the northern section (see Significance). At the top of a small rise, the 1903 Baptist Church and 1930 Colonial Revival school visually close the district (see Boundary section), although it extends beyond the church to include the former school.

While Salter's Mill is today one of the pivotal structures at the center of the district,* it has not always been the only mill in town; in fact, the village historically had two sets of mills and ponds. Buckhole Brook flows into Doctors Creek just below the present dam, and it is the latter which powered Salter's Mill. Buckhole Brook, on the other hand, flows down from the north; after passing under the present Route 526 at the Imlaystown-Davis Station Road intersection (at the north edge of the district) it parallels the latter road, passing behind the structures on the west side within the district.

Maps made in 1851 and 1861 show that the present Route 526 did not continue to the east beyond Imlaystown-Davis Station Road; rather, the two roads were one, joined by a broad curve at the site of the present intersection. This curve was atop the dam on Buckhole Brook, and the mill pond stretched out to the northeast, north of the "new" section of Route 526 and east of Palmer Avenue (outside the district). A sawmill, now gone, straddled the brook immediately adjacent to the dam, within the district. Today the pond too is gone, its site marked only by a low wet area.

In addition, Salter's grist mill was not alone on Doctors Creek. In 1861 according to a map, a "Bark House & Mill" and a "Tan Yard" stood southeast of the grist mill, between it and the bridge over the spillway. Both are now gone.

* Salter's Mill was entered in the National Register as an individual building on September 21, 1980.

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Route 526 now continues to the east, passing to the north of the district and no doubt relieving it of the burden of through traffic. Imlaystown-Red Valley Road runs along the north edge of the extant mill pond and intersects Route 526 less than a mile east of the village center; thus, the new road is the hypotenuse of a triangle whose legs are the two old roads which meet at the village center.

The integrity of the district, as distinct from the integrity of the buildings which comprise it, is remarkably intact. Its street plan is unchanged and the principal non-residential buildings remain in their original locations. Surrounding land remains more or less in traditional use, reinforcing the district's role as a local trading center.

Individual buildings have not been as fortunate. A significant number have had their clapboard siding covered with asphalt shingles, most likely several years or decades ago. More recently, efforts have been made at rehabilitating individual structures, some with a high degree of historical accuracy and others through the use of modern sidings simulating clapboard. However, in these cases the net effect on the streetscape has been neutral to positive, with the return to the horizontality of siding which asphalt shingle had in some cases obscured.

This nomination was prepared on the basis of a pedestrian architectural survey, in the course of which each district building was placed in one of the following categories:

Key: buildings which, by their location, design, materials, feeling and/or association are of overriding importance to the district. Most commonly they are at visual foci and serve to define a center or an edge.

Contributing: buildings dating from the period of the district's significance which create the sense of time and place against which the Key structures stand out. Since these buildings generally do not call attention to themselves, integrity of overall form and setting are more important than that of individual features or materials.

Harmonizing: two types of buildings comprise this category. The first is those which are of sufficient age (i.e., date from the period of the district's significance) to be otherwise classified as Contributing but which have been seriously altered in their essential form. The second is buildings which were constructed following the period of the district's significance but which are sympathetic in their design to the Contributing structures.

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Intrusions: buildings, which date from after the period of the district's significance, and whose design is out of character with the tone established by the Pivotal and Contributing structures. None are included in the district.

The components of the Imlaystown Historic District are as follows (numbers refer to attached sketch map):

1. Methodist Church
Key

An architectural anchor for the district and acts as a village gatepost at its northern end. Frame, 1½ stories, predominantly clapboard siding with patterned wood shingle in gable peaks. Three bays wide, two deep, with projecting cross-gable forming L-plan; entry in base of square tower in angle of L. Art-glass and boarded windows, including a neo-Palladian window in peak of cross-gable. Surprisingly, the date of the church is not known, but stylistically it appears to date from c. 1890.

Vacant lot to south is former site of parsonage.

2. Kirby House
Contributing

Frame, 2½ stories, 5 bays wide, 2 bays deep (main block) with rear ell. Gabled roof with asphalt shingles. Center entry, within 3-bay porch on turned posts with sawn brackets, has rectangular transom and sidelights. Windows are 2/2 with paneled shutters on the first floor, louvered on the second. Siding is presently asphalt shingle.

The mass and detail of the house suggest a construction date no later than the mid-19th century, although the porch is undoubtedly later.

3. Cubberly House
Contributing

Frame, 2½ stories, 4 bays wide, 2 deep with rear ell. Entry, in second bay from left (north), is topped by 4-light transom. Right (south) gable end has small porch with turned posts and sawn brackets. Siding is presently vinyl clapboard, with new louvered shutters; recent (pre-siding) photos show wood clapboards, possibly beaded, of variable dimensions on front (main) section. For this reason, front section may date from early 19th century.

4. Simbo House
Contributing

Frame gable-end duplex, 2½ stories, 4 bays wide (2 bays each side). Full width porch, with turned Doric columns at outside corners only, shelters entries in the two inner bays. Windows are 2/2 and 6/6, with evidence of shutters.

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Siding is presently asphalt shingle. Date unknown, but may be the building identified as "T. Powell" on 1861 map. Later the home of Warner Simbo, local barber. Yard to north is former site of town's oldest house.

5. Williams-Hendrickson House
Key

Although its location and design are not of overriding importance, the house derives increased significance from its integrity. It is frame, 2½ stories, 3 bays wide and 2 deep, with a gabled roof and box cornice. Windows are 6/6 with molded frames; some louvered shutters remain. The entry, in the left (north) bay, has a 3-light transom and is within a full-width porch on battered square chamfered posts, whose fascia is gracefully arched. The porch, which appears to be much later than the house, is nearly identical to that on #20 (see below).

6. Garage
Contributing

Although the building currently displays little overtly historic exterior fabric, a structure of unknown height and use appears at or near this location on an 1861 map. The building is frame, 1½ stories, with a corrugated metal gabled roof. Siding is asphalt shingle, clapboard, and vertical corrugated metal. Openings on the front facade include two 10-pane metal windows, 20th century in character; an overhead garage door; and a panelled pedestrian door which could date from the 19th century. The rear slope of the roof is very shallow, sheltering a surprisingly deep rear section. A reconstructed map published in 1972 labels this "Wheelwright, Blacksmith".

7. Former Millhouse
Harmonizing

The building possibly consists of three separate buildings attached end to end. The sequence of construction is unknown. The two-story section nearest the corner may be two three-bay buildings, the left (west) most of which has a truncated southwest corner due to the shape of the site. Each of these three-bay sections has a center door flanked by two 1/1 windows. Siding is clapboard on the first floor, asbestos shingle on the second. Second floor fenestration is modern. To the east (right) is a one-story gable ell. Believed to have traditionally been the home of the mill operator.¹

1. Ethelyn Higgins, "The Mill of Parthole" in the Messenger Press, December 7 and 14, 1972.

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8. George Imlay House
Key

Because of its integrity of design, setting, location and materials this house is one of the outstanding components of the district. It is frame, 2½ stories, 6 bays wide and two deep, the product of at least two construction phases. Siding is clapboard and the roof is standing seam metal. A major crossgable near the middle of the front (south) facade includes a mitred-arch window in the peak.

Windows are 2/2 with louvered shutters, but the irregular fenestration gives no clue as to which portion of the house is earlier. The present appearance strongly suggests a major remodelling c. 1875, resulting in the 2/2 sash, paired brackets at the eaves, and the house's most outstanding feature, a one-story porch spanning the western 2/3 of the front facade and which continues on the west (left) facade. The oversize brackets, posts and fascia are all sawn from dimension lumber, giving a pierced, light effect.

To the right (east) of the house is a modern one-story cement block barn.

The house is set back from the village proper, but is rightfully part of the district because of its historical associations and because it is a strong element of the village visually.

9. Happy Apple Inn
Key
1898

A tavern is known to have been on this site by 1820; presumably that is the same building that burned in the fire that swept this part of the village in 1897. The present structure, built to replace it, was completed in March of 1898.

It is frame, 2½ stories, 7 bays wide and 2 large bays deep. Siding is clapboard (with patterned wood shingle in the peak of the right or west gable). A one-story porch with turned posts and balusters and sawn brackets extends the full width of the front (north) facade.

There are two entrances on the front facade. The third bay from the left (east) contains a single door, and there is a double-leaf entry with transom in the third from the right (west). At the roof, the rafter tails are shaped and the purlins are exposed. The fascia boards on the gable ends are also shaped.

The louvered shutters are replacements.

10. Former Municipal Building
Contributing
Possibly 1921

This site was involved in the 1899 fire but seems to have been vacant. A 1972 account discloses that the Township purchased the property in 1921 from the owner of the hotel, suggesting that the present structure may date from that year or after. However, a few days after the 1897 fire "an old grocery store

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which stood on Reuben's Hendrickson property [#19 below] was moved down town where the present township hall now stands for use as a hotel while the new property [#9] was being rebuilt. Later it was used for a barber shop, but never as a township hall."² Stylistically it seems more likely that the present building was built prior to 1897 than after 1921, and that it was designed as a store rather than as a municipal office.

It is frame, 2 stories, 2 bays wide with gable end to the road, and 2 bays deep. Siding is asbestos shingle, windows are generally 2/2 except those flanking the central entry, which are large 2-light shop windows. The entry is protected by a broadly overhanging second story, supported on four steel posts.

11. Lawrence-Malsbury House
Contributing

A building labelled "J.S. Lawrence" is shown at this location in 1851, and there is no reason to doubt that it is the present structure. It is frame, 2½ stories (with exposed basement on the front or north facade, allowing three full stories plus attic), and 4 bays wide. The basement story is fronted by a full-width porch on chamfered posts. Windows are 2/2. Siding is presently asphalt shingle.

12. Robbins House
Contributing
mid-19th century

Frame, 5 bays wide, 2 deep; 2 stories, flat or shallow hipped roof with broad cornice, single brackets. The central entrance, south side, has 3-light side-lights and a four-light transom, framed by major and minor pilasters, above which is a triangular pediment. Windows are 6/6, some with louvered shutters. Siding is presently asbestos shingle.

13. Upper Freehold Baptist Church
Key
1903

Although one of the later buildings in the district, the church is significant visually; it marks the southern entrance to the village as does the Methodist Church (#1) on the north. It is frame with wood shingle and clapboard siding, although it cannot rightly be described as Shingle Style. The main central section is oriented with its gable end to the street; this facade contains a central 3-part pointed-arch stained glass window. To the left (north) is a projecting 3-level square entry tower with a double-leaf door on the ground floor, date tablet in the second level and louvered belfry in the third. The roof is pyramidal, sheathed in slate.

To the right of the central section is a smaller projecting entry tower, also

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square, but with no belfry.

The floor level serves as a belt course to divide the siding: it is clapboard below and wood shingle above. Entries are in ogee-arch surrounds, with art glass transoms. According to the date tablet the church was organized in 1766.

A predecessor on this site burned, resulting in the construction of this building in 1903.

14. House
Contributing
c. 1890

Does not appear on 1861 map. Frame, 2½ stories, 2 bays wide. Superficially altered (asbestos siding, porch extension, metal awnings) but basic gable-front form intact. Gable peak has attic window and Stick ornament, and break in siding suggests two original siding types (such as clapboard below, wood shingle in peak). Original full-width porch has been extended toward street.

15. Former School
Harmonizing (due to nature and extent of alterations)
Turn of the century

Documents relating to pre-1908 history are unclear, but this building has been on this site since that date. Served as local school 1908-1930, at which time it was superseded by #16. Now altered for residential use. Frame, 2½ stories, L-plan, asbestos siding. Main (right) section is 3 bays with central entry, gable end to street, with patterned wood shingle in gable peak surrounding Palladian window. Ell to left (north) is at right angles to main block, also with central entry. Comparison with old photo shows building originally had clapboard siding, two gabled entry shelters, tall 6/6 windows (one floor only), and cupola on main block. None remain, and new windows installed at second floor level. Original form, mass and some details survive, however.

16. School
Key Visual landmark, Village delimiter
1930

Although the style, age and materials of the school are not those typical of the rest of the district, its bulk and function mark the village edge clearly. It is brick, Flemish checker, 2 stories, with gabled roof and central crossgable. It is 6 bays wide. To each side of the central entry are 3 basement windows and, above them, 3 sets of paired 9/9's. The projecting entry pavilion includes a double-leaf door topped by a large semi-circular fanlight; the door is flanked by engaged Doric columns. The strict Colonial Revival design of the building is rounded out by a louvered cupola on the ridge.

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17. Reading House
Contributing
c. 1870

In many ways very similar to the next house north (#18), this house is frame, 2½ stories, 5 bays wide and 2 deep, with clapboard siding and slate roof. The central entry (double-leaf with 2-light transom) is within a full-width porch supported by Doric columns. The most unusual feature of the design is the fenestration: first floor windows opening onto the porch are very tall 2/4's (1½ times the height of a normal 2/2). Shutter hardware is present. Second floor windows are more typical 2/2's.

There are single brackets along the raking cornice and eaves.

18. Dr. Stinton/Dr. Heisen House
Contributing
c. 1860

For many years the home of the village doctor; oral histories recall Dr. John Y. Stinton and his successor, Dr. Aaron Heisen. The house is similar in some ways to the next house south (#17).

It is frame, 5 bays wide and 2 deep, and 2½ stories high with hipped roof. Siding is clapboard. The full-width porch is supported on square chamfered posts, and contains the central entry with transom, and full-height windows. Other windows are 2/2. Below the hipped roof is a broad flush-board frieze pierced by small openings. All windows have louvered shutters.

19. Reuben Hendrickson House
Harmonizing
Probably mid-19th century or earlier; remodelled mid-20th century

Although it has undergone a major remodelling, the house retains its 2½ story, gable-roof massing. It is oriented with its end to the street, facing south. Siding is stained clapboards, and the most noticeable features today are the four tall single-pane windows on the street facade.

20. Deitz-Booth House
Contributing
possibly 18th century, with 19th century revisions

The small scale of the front (east) section, which has some beaded clapboards, suggests an early construction date.

The front section is 2½ stories with gabled roof and box cornice, 3 irregular bays wide and two deep. Windows are 2/2, with molded frames and louvered shutters. The entry is in the right (north) bay, and is sheltered by a full-width porch on battered chamfered posts and an arched fascia. The porch is nearly identical to that on the Williams-Hendrickson House (#5).

To the rear is a 2-story ell, also clapboard (unbeaded) and also with 2/2 sash. South of this is a 1-story section which appears to be even later.

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21. Salter's Mill (Zion and Breen Associates)
Key
17th century foundations, 1891 building

Entered on the National Register individually on September 21, 1980, the mill will not be discussed in detail here. It has been, and continues to be, an economic force in the village, and its site provided the focus for village development. With the nearby hotel (#9) it defines the center of the district.

22. Former Barclay P. Malsbury Store
Contributing
1898

Now used as apartments, this frame structure was built after its predecessor was destroyed in the 1897 fire. It is oriented with its 3-story gable end to the street, and is 3 bays wide. The second and third floors have 6/6 windows, although the former have been shortened. First floor openings contain modern windows and doors; old photos show a full-width porch spanning the facade. This is suggested by a pent roof. Siding is clapboard, rafter tails and purlins are exposed.

23. Barclay P. Malsbury House
Contributing
1898

Like the adjacent store (#22), the previous house on this site was destroyed in the fire of 1897. The present structure is frame, 2½ stories high, 5 bays wide and 2 deep. There is a major (3-bay) central crossgable; siding is clapboard below the eaves and patterned wood shingle above (including the crossgable). Windows are 1/1, and the central entry is double-leaf with transom, within a 3-bay porch on turned posts with sawn brackets. In the crossgable peak is a full-size 1/1 attic window.

Ells extend the house to the rear (west) and sides. An old photo shows the house with shutters, no longer in place.

24. Former Butcher Shop
Harmonizing/Contributing
possibly mid-19th century or earlier; recently remodelled.

The southernmost building to escape the fire of 1897; the house (and the entire northern section of the village) was saved when a tree immediately south which had caught fire was felled into the road. The house is frame, 2½ stories, 4 bays wide and two deep. The entry, in the second bay from the right (north) is within a modern porch. Although the siding (vinyl clapboards and staggered butt wood shingle), windows, shutters, and roof are new, the massing and fenestration remain. The butcher shop was apparently attached to the main house.

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25. Post Office
Intrusion
appears to be 20th century

This domestic-scale building harmonizes with the district in its overall size and materials, although its gable end (to the street) is shorter and broader than the others nearby. The building is frame, 1½ stories, and 3 bays wide. The central entry is in a projecting gabled element, on either side of which are paired windows. Siding is modern wood shingle.

26. Young House
Contributing
possibly third quarter of 19th century, based on ornament.

The 2½ story, 3-bay, gable-end orientation of the house distinguishes it from others in the district and suggests a former use as a lodge hall, although there is no record of this. It is frame, now with asbestos shingle siding. Windows, in shouldered surrounds, are 6/6; those on the first floor are obscured by an infilled full-width porch whose Doric columns remain. In the gable peak is a blind semi-lunette, above which is billet molding on the raking cornice.

27. Vacant building
Contributing
possibly 3rd quarter of 19th century

Nearly devoid of ornament, the form of the building suggests it may have been a shop of some kind. It is frame, 2 very narrow bays wide and 2½ stories high with its gable end to the street. The first floor contains the entry and one window, both under a full-width porch with chamfered posts and single brackets. On the second floor is a single 6/6 window. Siding is clapboard, the roof is asphalt shingle. The building is 2 bays deep.

28. Havens House
Contributing
possibly mid-19th century or earlier

Apparently built in 2 stages, both of which are frame with gabled roofs. The smaller, 1½ story section to the left (south) may be earlier. It is 2 bays wide and has a single eyebrow window in the half story. The ridge runs parallel to the street.

At right angles to this is the 2-bay, 2½ story main block, with a mitre-arch attic window in the gable peak. A full-width porch unifies the two sections (the entry is in the left bay of the right section, i.e. at the center of the facade), as does the 2/2 sash (except in the eyebrow). Siding is asphalt shingle.

29. False-front House
Contributing
possibly early 19th century

Originally, this house... were probably not greatly dissimilar... later changes have altered its integrity. It is frame, 3 bays wide and 2½ stories

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high. The spacing of the bays is irregular. The entry is in the right (north) bay, and is plain, although the door is Victorian. Windows are 2/2 with louvered shutters. There are 2 interior end chimneys, although one may relate to the right ell (see below).

To the right of the main section is a 1½-story shed-roof ell, with a false parapet to the height of the main block's eaves. The ell contains an entry and window on the first floor and a window in the half story. However, floor levels are lower than those of the main block, creating an additive appearance.

Siding on both sections is presently asphalt shingle, beneath which is or was clapboard (shown in old photo).

30. Double House
Contributing
probably 19th century

Now in serious condition, the building appears to be threatened by deterioration. It is a double house, but was probably not designed as such, as the gabled roofs of the two sections are of varying heights. The taller left (south) section is 2 bays wide and 2½ stories high with full width porch. Panelled shutters obscure the sash, including two eyebrow windows on the top story. The right section is 3 bays with center entry, also under a full porch (with turned posts). Old photos show clapboard siding, both sections, although at present it is a mix of plywood, asphalt roofing shingles, asphalt siding and asbestos shingle.

31. House
Contributing
possibly first half of 19th century, based on massing

Because of its location on a bank, this 2-story house gains an extra floor at the rear. The front section is 2 bays wide (3 on the first floor) with 2/2 sash. The entry is within a full width porch with chamfered posts and curving fascia, as on #5 above. The gabled roof has a box cornice but virtually no overhang on the gable ends. Siding is presently asphalt shingle.

32. House
Contributing
possibly first half of 19th century

In some ways (primarily massing and fenestration) this building is similar to #27 above. It is frame, 1½ stories, with its gable end to the street. The first floor is 2 bays wide; the upper floor contains a single 6/6 window, centered. A full width shed porch was formerly carried on turned posts, now replaced with modern wrought iron. Asbestos shingle siding covers the building, obscuring gable end cornice returns.

33. Vacant Building
Contributing
Late 19th century

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Inventory—Nomination Form**

Imlaystown Historic District Continuation sheet 7-12

Frame, 2½ stories, gable end to street; full-width porch on turned posts with sawn brackets. Two bays wide, two deep. Mitre-arch window in gable peak. Asphalt shingle siding. Windows are 6/6.

34. House
Contributing
probably mid-19th century, remodelled 1980's

As the northernmost house on this side of the street, the house is important in setting the tone of the streetscape to the south, and of the village in general. It is frame, 2½ stories, 3 bays wide, with gabled roof. A flat-roofed full-width porch (now wrought-iron piers) spans the facade. Windows are 2/2 (first floor) and 6/6. Vinyl siding and new shutters have recently been applied.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates NA **Builder/Architect** NA

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SIGNIFICANCE

The Imlaystown Historic District is a mill village, founded no later than the opening of the 18th century, which had achieved nearly its present size by 1897 when a fire destroyed seven buildings (nearly all of the commercial section). The rebuilding following the fire was the last major period of construction. Since the principal buildings were rebuilt on their original locations and in a traditional style, Imlaystown has retained the appearance of a nineteenth-century rural village. The village's early role in local commerce, spawned by the mill, undoubtedly encouraged the establishment of an inn, blacksmith shop, wheelwright shop, and two stores, as well as construction of the houses of those associated with each. The result is a village which is not typical of 19th century New Jersey mill villages, where the mill and pond are the visual and physical foci. Unlike many villages, however, the mill and pond are still in existence, fulfilling their traditional roles at least visually. With other nearby commercial buildings, this is the village nucleus; extending in both directions is the remainder of the village.

Salter's Mill, predecessor of the mill now standing at the center of the district, is traditionally reported to have been built before 1700. Richard Salter Sr. owned land in the area after 1698, and his son Richard Jr. (who inherited from his father) sold the mill and pond in 1727. This is the earliest known primary reference to the mill.* Meanwhile, Patrick Imlay purchased 480 acres from Richard Sr. and lived here from 1710 to c. 1730. It was from this family that Imlaystown took its name.

Little is known about events in Imlaystown later in the 18th century, although it has been contended that the first funds raised in Monmouth County for the Revolution came from a meeting held here.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Beck, Henry C. More Forgotten Towns of Southern New Jersey (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1963).

"Big Fire at Imlaystown," Freehold Transcript, September 24, 1897.

(See continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property +51

Quadrangle name Allentown, NJ

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UMT References

A

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

B

1	8	5	4	2	2	4	0	4	4	4	5	6	9	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

1	8	5	4	1	1	8	0	4	4	4	5	5	6	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

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

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary of the nominated district is shown on the enclosed sketch map. The basemap was traced from the municipal tax map.

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

state	code	county	code
			-NA
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles H. Ashton

organization Heritage Studies, Inc. date 2-83

street & number RD 4, Box 864, Mapletown Road telephone (609)-452-1754

city or town Princeton state New Jersey 08540

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 Russell W. McGraw

title Director, Division of Parks & Forestry date Nov. 13, 1984

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Michael Byers</u>	Entered in the National Register date <u>1-3-85</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Form 100-10-10-10

National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

Section of

Date of Submission

JAN 3 1974

Imlaystown Historic District

Continuation Sheet 8-1

The village grew slowly for its first hundred years. By 1834, the town had "12 to 15 dwellings, a grist and saw mill, a tannery, 1 tavern, 1 store, a wheelwright, and a smith shop."¹ The tavern had been in existence in 1820, according to a county history.²

The fact that the 1834 reference cites "a grist and saw mill" illustrates part of the reason for the town's growth. As noted in Description, Imlaystown was located between two mill seats, connected by the short stretch of Imlaystown-Davis Station Road running from Salter's Mill to the present Route 526. Construction would naturally be expected to concentrate in this area, and this is now the most densely built part of the district. The physical shape of the district (with the principal street paralleling Buckhole Brook) still testifies to the impact on the town of the two mills.

By 1851 the town could boast, besides the industries already mentioned, two stores, a wheelwright and a blacksmith, although the locations shown on a map published that year are not fully in accord with later documents.

A detailed map published in 1861 reveals a great deal about the village's development up to that time. The east side of Imlaystown-Davis Station Road, below the Buckhole Millpond, was lined with eleven buildings, so closely spaced that there was scarcely room for another. One of these is

1. Thomas F. Gordon, Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey, 1834 (reprinted by Rutgers University, 1973).

2. Ellis Franklin, History of Monmouth County, Philadelphia, 1885.

*Hannah Salter, daughter of one of the Richards (probably Junior) married an ancestor of Abraham Lincoln. The Lincolns were living in Monmouth County at the time, in the course of their extended migration from Massachusetts to Kentucky.

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Imlaystown Historic District

Continuation Sheet 8-2

labelled "B. Church", suggesting to some that Baptists met here; elsewhere on the map, however, "Baptist Church" is clearly seen at the site of the present Baptist Church. It seems more plausible that "B. Church" was the name of a person.

On the west side of the street there were eleven more buildings between the sawmill and the grist mill. Dr. William D. Newell, brother and partner of Dr. William A. Newell, owned a three-or four-lot parcel which included his office, two other buildings and room for one or two more. He also owned land on the west side of Buckhole Brook (or Creek, as it is labelled). Immediately south of the doctor was the blacksmith shop.

On the south side of Imlaystown-Red Valley Road are shown J. Smith's Hotel and a Store and Post Office. Next to the gristmill was another store.

South of Doctors Creek there were two houses north of the Baptist Church; on the opposite (west) side of the road were two more.

Isolated but for its outbuildings, the G. Imlay house stood slightly north and east of the village, just as it does today.

The conclusion drawn from this map is that in 1861 Imlaystown was not substantially different from today in terms of numbers, density, and uses of buildings. Changes that would work both for and against preservation of the 1861 appearance were, however, yet to come.

An event which turned out to have significance for the future of Imlaystown occurred shortly after the Civil War, although it may not have seemed important at the time. This was the construction of the Pemberton to Highstown railroad line, which provided connection with the Pennsylvania. Severely damaged by the Blizzard of 1888, the line reappeared as the Union Transportation Company. A 1909 map labels this line as

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Imlaystown Historic District

Continuation Sheet 8-3

part of the Amboy Division of the PRR, serving the back country between Pemberton and Hightstown.

In any event, its significance to Imlaystown is not where it went, but where it didn't go. It crossed Route 526 at Nelsonville, a mile or so west of the district. Had the line come through the village it is plausible to assume that later growth would have occurred, as was the case in dozens of other New Jersey communities. Because it did not, Imlaystown remained something of a backwater, its development frozen in the mid-nineteenth century.

The railroad did improve transportation. It allowed local scholars, for instance, to walk to Nelsonville and then ride to Trenton (via Hightstown and Bordentown) in order to attend Trenton High School. However, service of this level probably did not encourage Imlaystown's industries to any great extent.

The other major event was more instantly recognizable as such. On the night of September 19, 1897 a fire broke out in Waldon's Store which stood next to Salter's Mill. Eventually the mill, the other store, an abutting former shoe shop, the hotel, and the homes of both storekeepers were also consumed. A bucket brigade fought the blaze in the absence of the Allentown fire company, which stayed at its post in the event fire should break out there. Imlaystown had no fire company of its own.

The fire was prevented from possibly overrunning the entire town when a blazing tree between the Waldon home (next to the store and north of it) and the butcher shop (#24) was felled into the street. The butcher shop and all buildings north of it were saved, as were all buildings on the east side of Davis Station Road and the north side of Red Valley Road.

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Imlaystown Historic District

Continuation Sheet 8-4

Damage was estimated at \$25,000 to \$40,000. Although no lives were lost (except possibly "the rodents who may have munched the matches that made the mischief"³), the major businesses of the town were levelled. Rebuilding got underway shortly; the new hotel (#9) opened the following March, and work began on the new mill (#21) that summer. The former store (#18), and storekeeper's house (#23) all date from immediately after the fire.

The former Municipal Building (#10), is an enigma. Contemporary sources mention a vacant former grocery store which was moved from the Hendrickson property (#19) to a site near the hotel to serve as a temporary replacement (in the process of moving it, one workman was killed). The present appearance of the Municipal Building is not inconsistent with this history, but a modern source states emphatically that the store "was used as a barber shop but never as a Township Hall;"⁴ The implication is that the present building and the temporary hotel were two different buildings.

By the time of the fire the Hendrickson name had become well established in Imlaystown. Edward T. had purchased the mill in 1845 and sold it to Reuben in 1872. Reuben had purchased the hotel in 1863; his son John rented it from him and operated it. Reuben, who lived at #19, also owned the former shoe shop destroyed by the fire; thus, of the seven buildings destroyed he owned three (the mill, the hotel, and the shoe shop).

The reconstruction following the fire was the last major period of construction in the district. The Baptist Church burned and was replaced (by #13) in 1903, and the adjacent school (#15) was built in 1930.

3. "Big Fire at Imlaystown", Freehold Transcript, September 24, 1897.
4. Ethelynn Maginnis, "'The Manor of Buckhole'", Messenger-Press, December 14, 1972, p. 12.

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Imlaystown Historic District

Continuation Sheet 8-5

There have been at least four known removals. What was reportedly the oldest house stood between #3 and #4 burned in this century. The sawmill at the north end of town, and the Knights of Pythias Lodge nearby, are both gone, the latter disassembled during World War II. Finally, between #1 and #2 stood the Methodist parsonage.

In this century, Route 526 was extended eastward, removing Imlaytown from its crossroads function in terms of transportation. Traffic from Allentown to points east now need not pass through the heart of the village, resulting in little demand for change on the district's buildings. Even the casual observer notices the light volume of cars in the village proper, and it is easy to see why buildings have not been torn down for gas stations or convenience stores. In fact, there is today no retail use in the village, and no new structures intrude on its historic character.

In summary, the Imlaystown Historic District is a village in the classic definition of a settled place containing houses and three of the following four building types: church, school, store, and tavern/inn. In addition to the mere survival of these structures, they have not lost their historical relationships to new construction.

The central roles (visual and historical) played by the hotel and Salter's Mill are continuing. The hotel is now in business as the Happy Apple Inn (a restaurant), and the mill has been converted to landscape architects' offices. Following the rehabilitation it was entered on the National Register of Historic Places.

As is frequently the case in isolated villages, individual buildings are not architecturally outstanding. The two churches and the school, because of their non-private function, show more stylistic aspirations; the latter is Colonial Revival, and the Baptist Church has some Shingle Style influences. On the whole, however, the district buildings are vernacular evolutions of the standard building types common throughout central New

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AND
OTHER AGENCIES

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Imlaystown Historic District

Continuation Sheet 8-6

Jersey. The three-bay house with ridge parallel to the street predominates (even the Happy Apple, #9, is a variant of this tradition), although one house (#26) is notable for its temple front with pediment.

Because of a variety of events and forces, Imlaystown as a village has weathered the 20th century virtually unchanged. Individual structures have undergone alterations, mostly superficial in nature, as one would expect in a living, non-museum town; more important, the form of the village itself, focusing on the central core, is as it was at least as early as the mid-19th century and probably considerably before.

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National Park Service

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date entered

Imlaystown Historic District Continuation sheet 9-1

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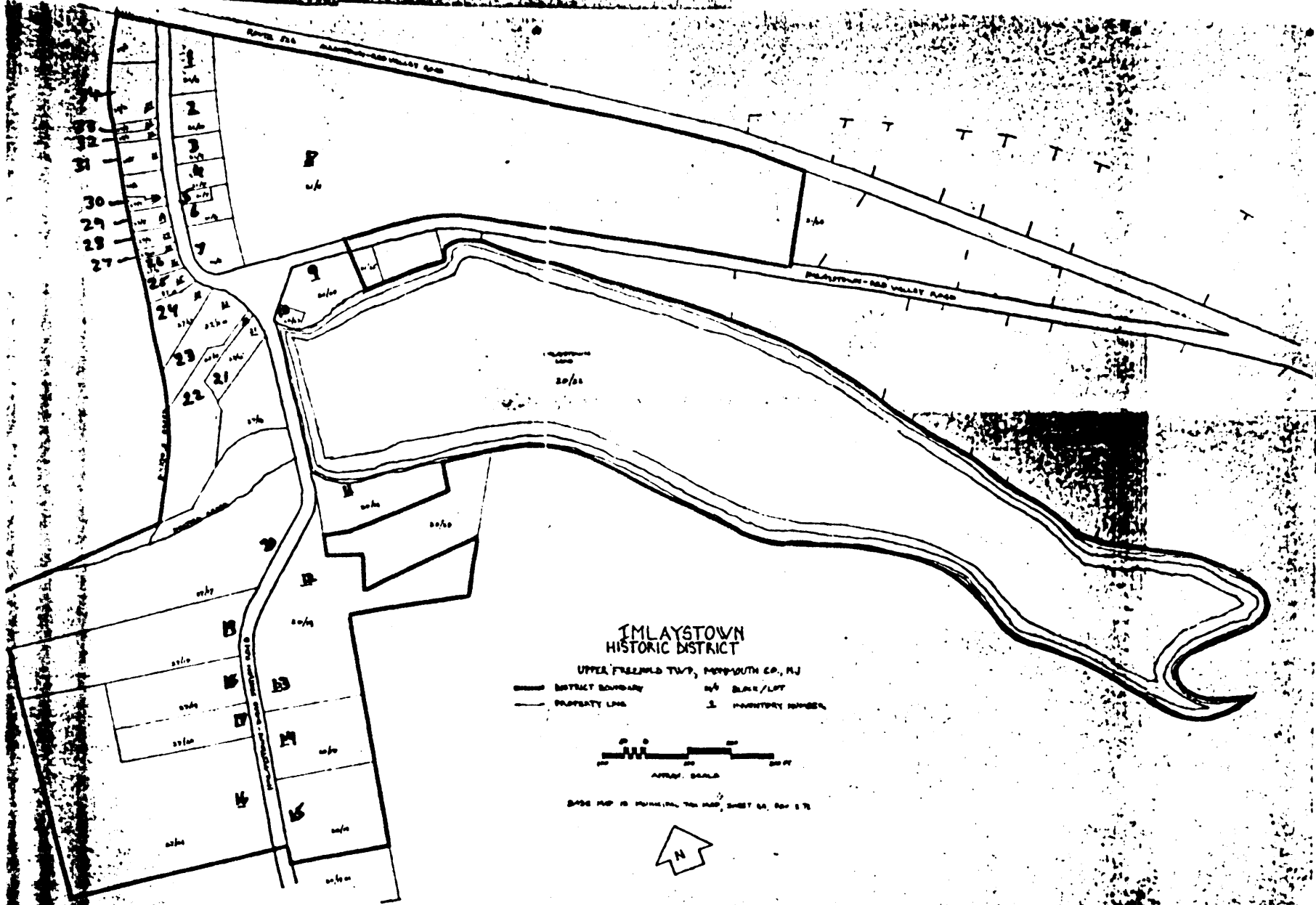
Gordon, Thomas F. Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey, 1834 (reprinted by Rutgers University Press, 1973).

Maginnis, Ethelyn. "'The Manor of Buckhole' ... a History of Imlaystown" in Messenger-Press, December 7 and 14, 1972.

Maps

Beers, F.N. Map of Monmouth County, New Jersey (New York: Smith, Gallup and Holt, 1861).

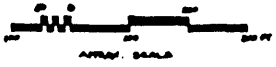
Lightfoot, Jesse. Map of Monmouth County, New Jersey (J.B. Shields, 1851).



**IMLAYSTOWN
HISTORIC DISTRICT**

UPPER FREEHOLD TWP, MONMOUTH CO., NJ

- DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- PROPERTY LINE
- 14 BLOCK/LOT
- 1 HOUSE NUMBER



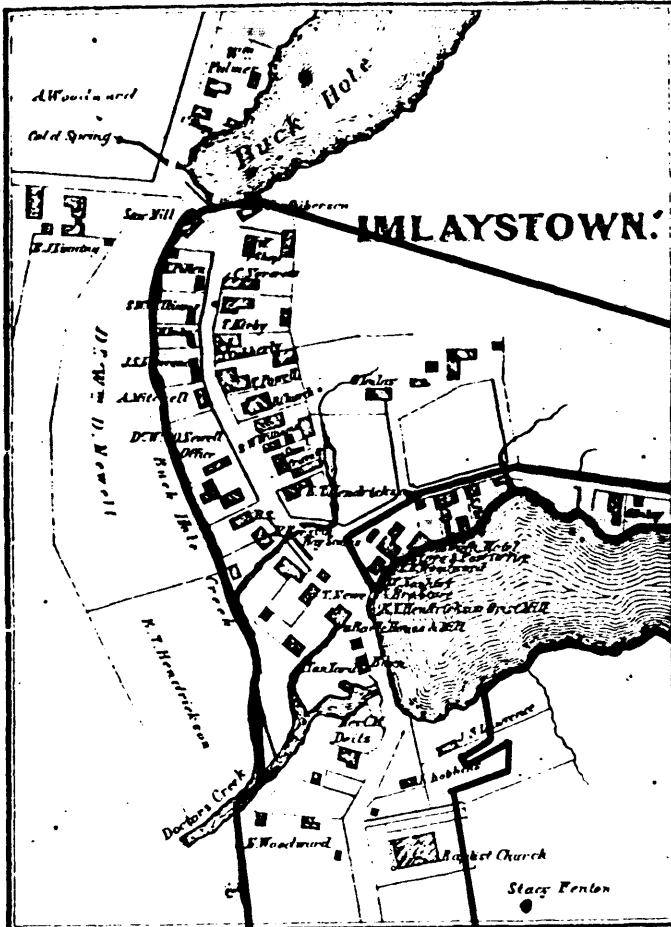
BASE MAP IS MUNICIPAL TAX MAP, SHEET 64, ROW 17



Imlaystown Historic District
 Upper Freehold Township
 Monmouth County, NJ

DRUGGIST AND BOOK STORE
 JONAS CLARK
 DRY GOODS AND GROCERIES
 William Warner
 P. P. Conover
 R. Winterton
 F. D. C. Vanderhoven
 W. Brown
 J. S. Crocheran
 S. Lee
 G. W. Taylor

IMH

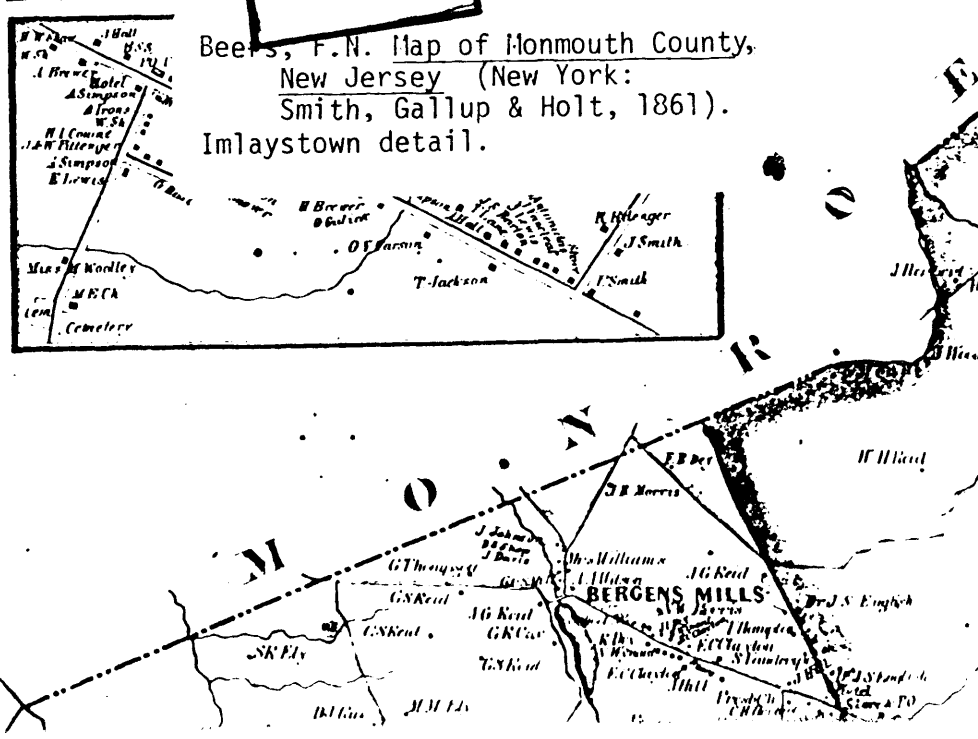


TAB
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Allentown	42 4 32
Clarksburg	54 7 24
Colls Neck	25 8
Falon Town	34 3 3
Englishtown	32 2 17
Farmingdale	10 13 1
Freehold	27 2 13
Goldwell	29 4 6 6
Hope Tille	3 11 3
Imlaystown	38 6 2 6
Keyport	36 4 10
Long Branch	12 3 6 3
Norlboro	29 12
Middletown	2 4 5
Middletown Point	33 12 3
Fort Washington	18 9 3 3
Red Bank	16 7

Squire Village
 Red Bank

Beers, F.N. Map of Monmouth County, New Jersey (New York: Smith, Gallup & Holt, 1861). Imlaystown detail.

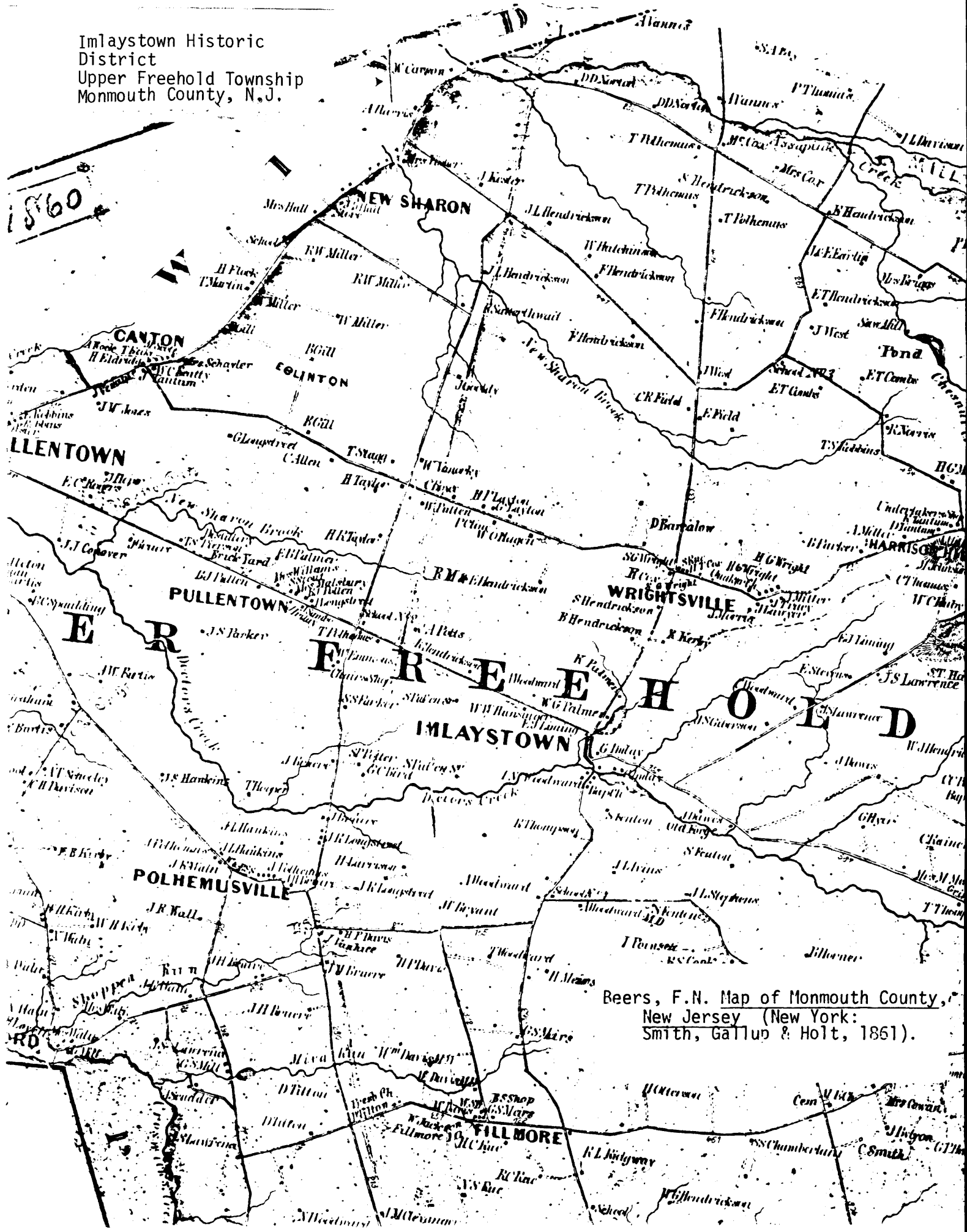


Conn.

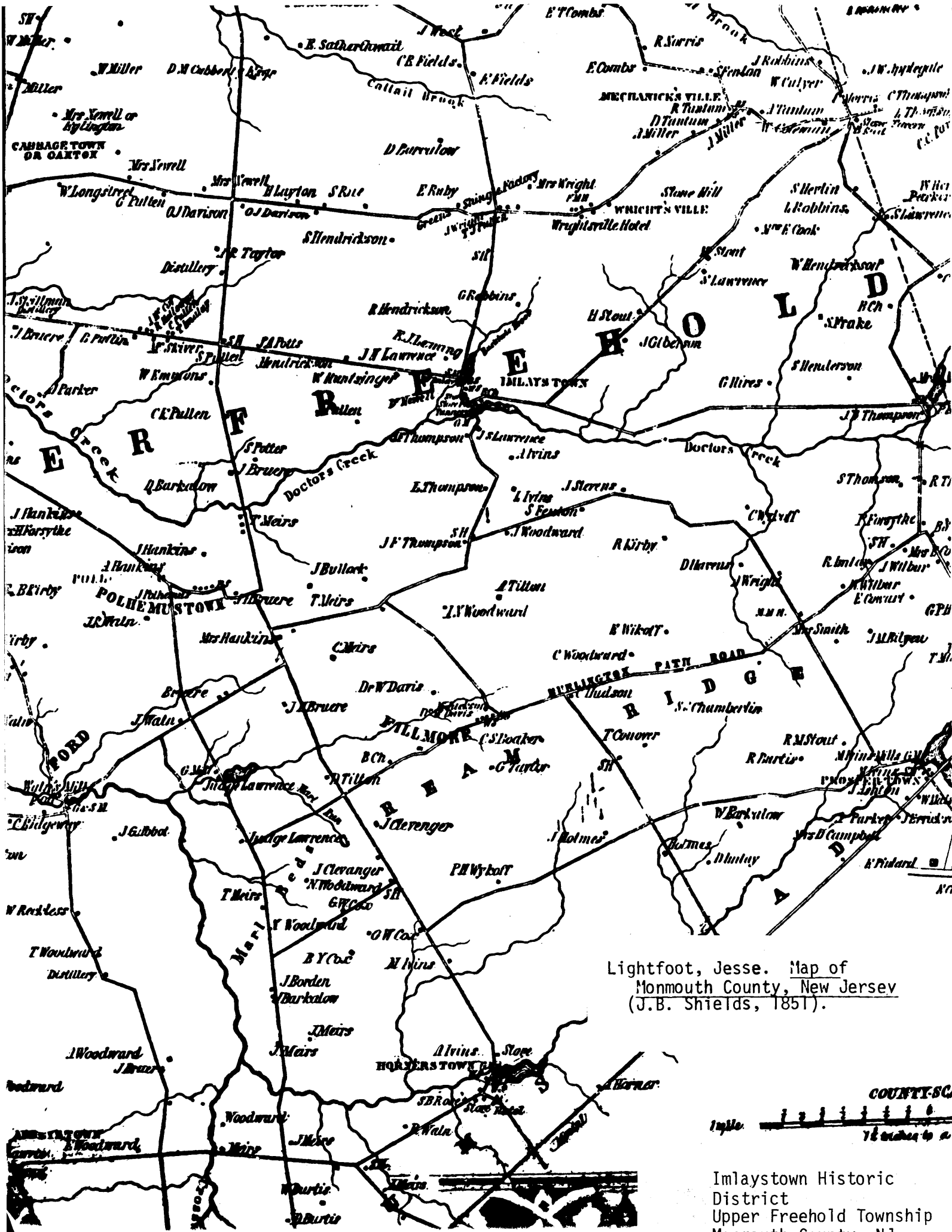
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Imlaystown Historic District
Upper Freehold Township
Monmouth County, N.J.

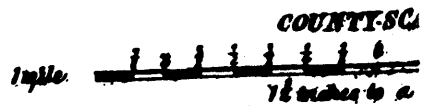
1860



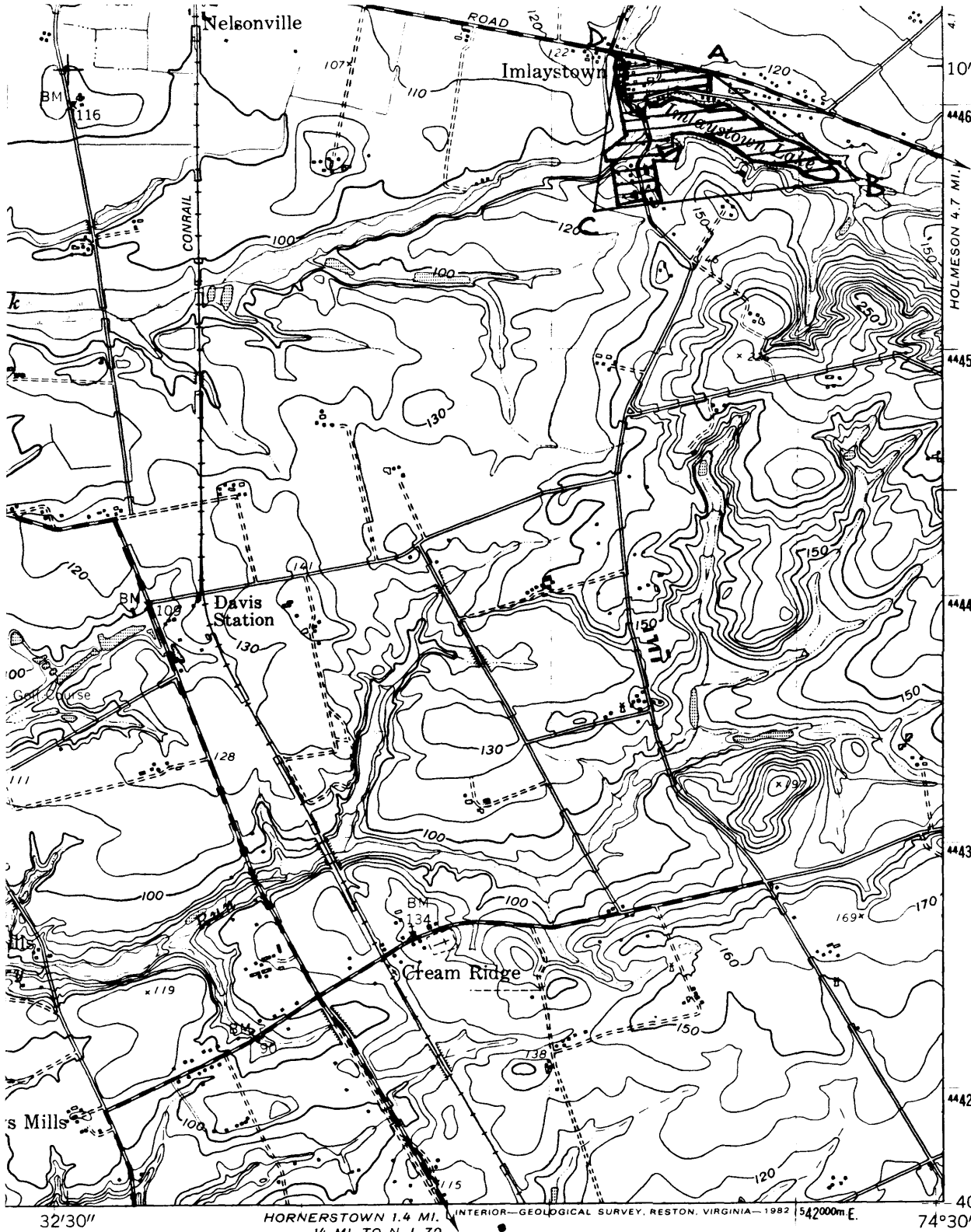
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Lightfoot, Jesse. Map of Monmouth County, New Jersey (J.B. Shields, 1851).



Imlaystown Historic District
 Upper Freehold Township
 Monmouth County, NJ



Imlaystown Historic District
 Upper Freehold Twp.
 Monmouth Co., N.J.

UTM Reference:
 A: 18/541650/4446130
 B: 18/542240/4445690
 C: 18/541180/4445560
 D: 18/541360/4446200

32°30" HORNERSTOWN 1.4 MI. INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1982 542000m.E. 74°30" 40°07'30"

1 MILE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty		Light-duty	
Medium-duty		Unimproved dirt	
	U. S. Route		State Route
	Interstate Route		



ALLENTOWN, N. J.
 N 4007.5—W 7430/7.5
 1957
 PHOTOREVISED 1981
 DMA 6084 II NE—SERIES V822

(CASSVILLE)
 6164 III SW

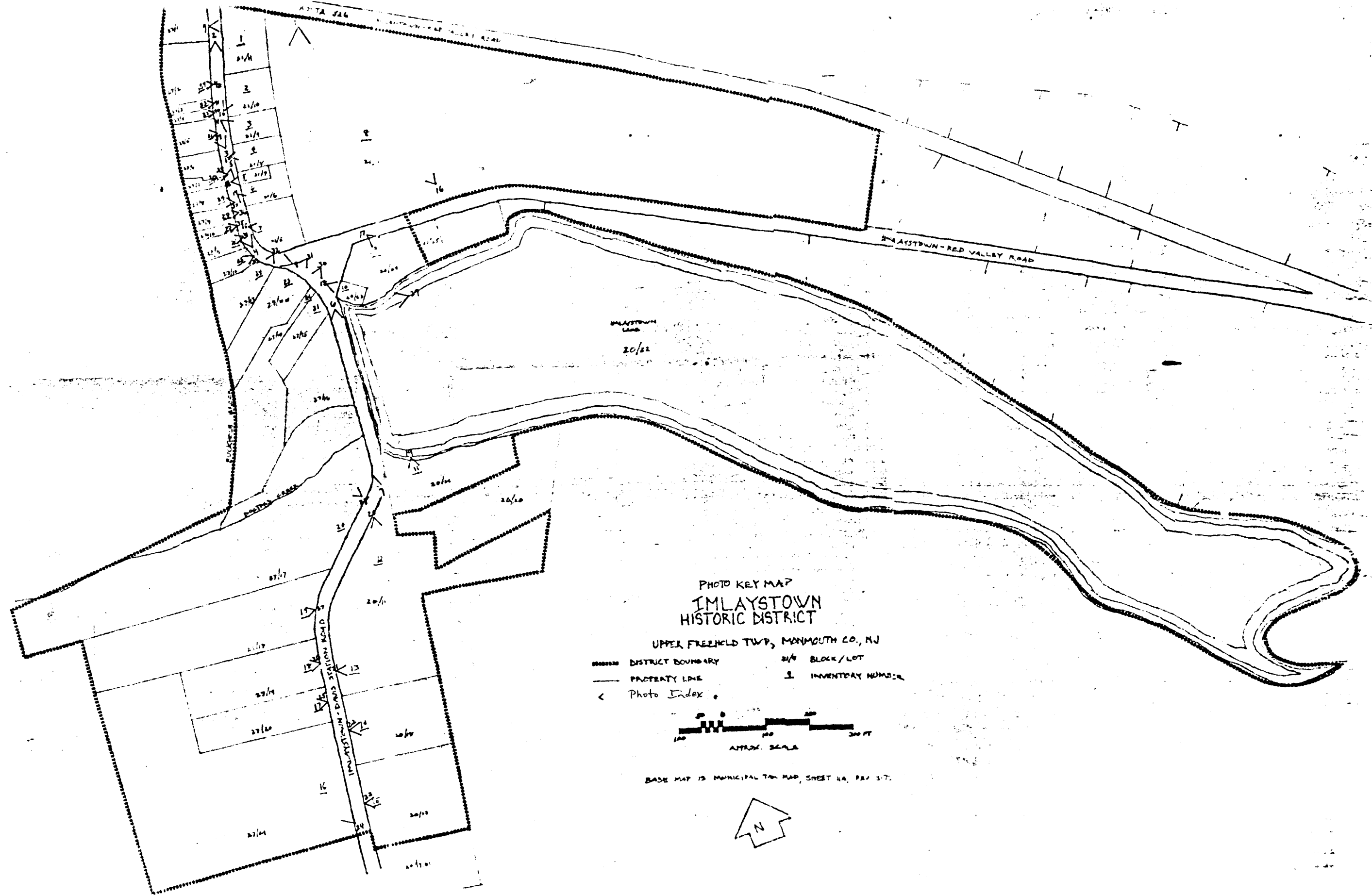
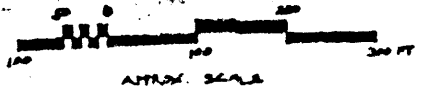


PHOTO KEY MAP
 IMLAYSTOWN
 HISTORIC DISTRICT

UPPER FREEHOLD TWP, MONMOUTH CO., NJ

- DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- PROPERTY LINE
- < Photo Index
- 20/1 BLOCK/LOT
- I INVENTORY NUMBER



BASE MAP IS MUNICIPAL TAX MAP, SHEET 44, PAGE 3-7.

