NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name **Mount Olive Village Historic District**

other names/site number Rattletown

2. Location

street & number Corner of Mount Olive and Flanders-Drakestown Road ☐ not for publication

city or town Mount Olive Township ☐ vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Morris code 027 zip code 07828

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I certify that this [X] nomination

☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ Nationally ☐ Statewide [X] locally. ☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.

Rich Boornazian Ass't Commissioner 6/11/15

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

NJ DEP

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

[✓] Entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

for Edson H. Beall

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action 8.3.15

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- [x] Private
- [x] public-local
- [ ] public-State
- [ ] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- [ ] building(s)
- [x] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
3	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
5	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education: School
Religion: Religious facility
Funerary: Cemetery

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant: Not in use
Funerary: Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Early 19th century
Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone / stucco
walls Stone / stucco
roof Asphalt
other

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8 Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

[X] **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

[ ] **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

[X] **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

[ ] **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria considerations
(mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

[ ] **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

[ ] **B** removed from its original location.

[ ] **C** a birthplace or grave.

[ ] **D** a cemetery.

[ ] **E** a reconstructed building, object or structure.

[ ] **F** a commemorative property.

[ ] **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Settlement

Period of Significance

1753-1900

Significant Dates

1837, 1854, 1855-6, 1873

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

[ ] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
[ ] previously listed in the National Register
[ ] previously determined eligible by the National Register
[ ] designated a National Historic Landmark
[ ] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
[ ] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data

[ ] State Historic Preservation Office
[ ] Other State agency
[ ] Federal agency
[ ] Local government
[ ] University
[ ] Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 7.14 acres

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	522511E	4522305N	3			
2				4			

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carla Cielo, Historic Preservation Consultant. (Revised by Margaret M. Hickey, R.A.)

organization _____ date January 2013

street & number 548 County Road 579 telephone 908-284-9638

city or town Ringoes state NJ zip code 08551

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:
Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Mount Olive Township

street & number 204 Flanders-Drakestown Road telephone 973-691-9275

city or town Mount Olive state NJ zip code 07828

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this from to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Description

The proposed Mount Olive Village Historic District includes one church, a schoolhouse and three cemeteries that contribute to its significance. The two contributing buildings are the Mount Olive Baptist Church (photo 1) (1855) - a small stone chapel that reportedly is the third ecclesiastic structure built on its site, and the Mount Olive Academy (photo 12) (1837) - a one-room stone schoolhouse that served as a public school until 1925 and subsequently for Sunday School. The Mount Olive Presbyterian Church (1853) - a wood-frame, Greek-styled church with temple front that was converted to a privately owned residence was destroyed by fire in 2011. The Mount Olive Academy has an outhouse (1940s). The three contributing sites are the Baptist Churchyard cemetery (photo 10), that has 215 known burials including two Revolutionary War veteran grave sites and seven Civil War associated graves behind and west of the church, the Presbyterian Churchyard cemetery (photo 18), which historically was known as Greenwood Cemetery and occupies the churches' west side yard, and the Mount Olive Union Cemetery (photo 19), which was incorporated in 1873 and is immediately west of Greenwood Cemetery. The district consists of 7.14 mountaintop acres. Buildings face Flanders-Drakestown Road at the corner of Mount Olive and Flanders-Drakestown Road in Mount Olive Township. Together, the two buildings, the recently lost Presbyterian Church building and accompanying cemeteries were the 19th-century "center" of Mount Olive Village. Other buildings, a few residences and a general store, are of the same time period but are set a distance away from the center with several non-historic resources between and therefore not part of the proposed district.

Mount Olive Baptist Church

Exterior: The Baptist Church building was constructed in 1855 in a vernacular style with Greek Revival and Italianate characteristics (photos 1-4). The gable-fronted chapel measures 32- x 46-feet, and has a simple gable roof, the base and bell tier of an original steeple, a 5' x 11'-9" shed-roofed apse (added in 1870), and a gable-roofed entrance porch (added in 1906). The stone bearing walls have maintained their original stucco and bear on a projected stone base.

The facade is symmetrically composed with four, narrow, 4-light windows above an entry added in the late-nineteenth century that is flanked by one 4-light window on each side. The facade windows are fixed and have twelve-over-twelve wood-hung sashes. A circular window which is above the row of four windows and beneath the peak, has been fitted with tinted glass. A date stone reads "Mount Olive Baptist Meeting House 1855" on three lines, located in the center of the set of four windows. This date stone is not original as the name of the chapel was changed in 1889 from Schooley's Mountain Church.

The original entry doors remain. They are Italianate-style and have four octagonal panels with applied trim. The doors have black porcelain knobs with white porcelain back plates. Door surrounds are original and are molded in three tiers and have a high base. Jambs have an inset panel. The doors were originally single-leaf and separated by a center mullion. The mullion was removed in 1885 and the doors re-hung as double-leaf doors on new furred-out jambs.[1]

[1] Stanhope Eagle, 10-27-85

The east and west side walls are delineated with four large windows per side. The original jambs are wood with beaded edge trim and are recessed approximately 4–inches behind the surface of the stucco. Window sills are also original and are painted chiseled sandstone that extends ¼ to e–inches beyond the plane of the existing stucco.

The eaves and rake eaves are original and are delineated with a classically inspired cornice with facade facing returns that add a dominant stylistic embellishment to the church's overall appearance. The Greek Revival style cornice consists of a projecting corona with a cyma recta crown molding and supporting modillions in the form of simplified scrolls. A frieze and architrave are below the corona and are separated by a band with paired scrolls. The frieze and architrave are unadorned. The current roof is asphalt. A slate roof was installed in 1894[2] which reportedly replaced a tin roof that was installed in 1870.[3] The original roof is unknown.

The church originally had a four-tiered steeple with a cross. Only the base and bell tier remain today. The steeple base is timber-framed, sheathed with flush horizontal boards, and trimmed with a projecting cornice mimicking the corona with cyma recta crown molding of the main part of the church. Stepped in from the base of the steeple is the bell tier with three wooden vents per side. This tier has a hipped asphalt roof.

The rear elevation has two vertically oriented window openings (similar to those of the facade) flanking the 5 x12-foot apse. The apse was added in 1870 and is about 16- feet high. The window openings appear to pre-date the construction of the apse and are therefore likely original. The apse is framed with brick infill and is finished with stucco to imitate the stone construction of the original chapel. It is detailed with a molded wood water table and flat corner boards. The roof line is trimmed similarly to that of the main church but in a simplified fashion; the modillions have been omitted from its cornice, and the corona is shorter.

The entrance porch was added in 1906.[4] The facade-oriented, gable roof of the porch is supported on four simplified Tuscan columns (two engaged and two free-standing), and has exposed rafters and outriggers with fancy cut ends, exposed roof sheathing, scroll-type barge board, and fancy cut shingles. The entrance steps are poured concrete that top an earlier stone and brick stoop. The steps leading to the entrance doors are stone.

Interior: The interior has maintained its original floor plan which consists of a 28'-7" x 36'-4" sanctuary and 5½-foot deep narthex (entry hall) with balcony above (photos 5-9). The sanctuary is a two-story space with a clear-spanning ceiling. It has an apse which was added in 1870. The apse has a vaulted ceiling and trapezoidal-shaped interior walls that are set into a 5' x 11'-9" rectangular addition (photo 6). The narthex has winder stairs that lead to the balcony at its west end. The east end shows evidence of a second winder stair and possibly a

[2] Stanhope Eagle, 10-9-1895

[3] Halsey, 256

[4] Church records, 1870-1963

later vestry or closet. This simple floor plan (without the apse and with the second stair) is original to the construction of the building.

Most of the original interior decorative elements remain. The lower walls of the sanctuary and narthex are paneled with original beaded planks below a simple chair rail and are plastered above the dado. Original splayed jambs and three tired window casings with flat arch tops remain. The sanctuary is accessed through a pair of original Italianate-style doors that match the entry doors. Door surrounds are three-tiered and complement the window treatments. The replacement sanctuary windows are its only major alteration.

The sanctuary has three finished ceilings. The earliest remaining ceiling consists of painted tongue-and-groove, beaded boards and is believed to be original. The middle ceiling is a stretched polychrome ceiling cloth which dates to 1870. The exposed ceiling is painted pressed metal which was installed in 1895.[5] There is a picture rail lining the perimeter of the church below the metal ceiling.

The vaulted apse ceiling is plastered. The ribs of the vault and the front arch are accentuated with Victorian era moldings. The vault spandrels and piers project to delineate the altar. The piers have molded corner trim, with crown molding at the 10½-foot height. These details accompanied the apse construction in 1870. A speaking platform is immediately in front of the apse. It is 2½-feet above the sanctuary floor level and is accessed by two sets of four steps. The front of the platform is finished with an Italianate-style, elongated octagon-shaped panel. The stair rails are finished with similarly-styled, triangular-shaped panels. The applied molding of these panels match that of the front entry door. Paint analysis confirms that they are original and that the apse was constructed around an original speaking platform.

All of the balcony features are original. The balcony rail on the sanctuary side is detailed with Italianate-style panels that mimic the front door paneling (photo 8). Paint analysis confirmed that the paneling is original. The winder stair and the interior of the balcony railing are lined with original random-width, horizontal boards with beaded-edges. There is an original low scrolled handrail between the risers of the winder stair. The balcony flooring is wide-plank boards.

The wainscoting in the narthex is original and matches the wainscoting in the sanctuary. The narthex ceiling is plastered. The west end of the entrance hallway features two original board-and-batten doors that lead to the balcony staircase and a space beneath the stairs. The divider between the doors is beaded.

Mount Olive Academy

The Mount Olive Academy was constructed in 1837 and served as a township school until 1925, and subsequently for Sunday school (photos 11 thru 14). It is a 36'-6" x 22'-6", one-room schoolhouse of stone bearing construction with exterior stucco. This schoolhouse was renovated and “modernized” in the late 19th century, while it was still in use as a school. The current appearance largely represents its late 19th century renovations.

[5] Stanhope Eagle, 10-9-1895

The three-bay, gable-fronted facade has a central entry flanked by windows. The entry is 3'-5" wide, has paired paneled wood doors on butt hinges and is surrounded by flat beaded casing. The doors date to the late-19th century but the jambs appear original. The entry is topped by a hand chiseled date stone with an inscription that reads "Mount Olive Academy 1837" with the date underscored. Above the date stone is a small boarded, window opening. The entry doors are flanked by one window on each side. The windows have been removed and the openings boarded but the jambs remain. The east and west side walls are also three-bay with three double-hung 4-over-4-light, wood sash. All windows have flat casing projecting drip caps and pegged wood sills. The rear elevation is currently a blank masonry wall. It had two double-hung windows which were removed during the operational-period renovation.

The roof has extended soffited eaves with a flat fascia and wide barge board trim. The exterior is currently finished with stucco. Beneath the stucco the stonework is pointed. The stucco covers the masonry openings of the former rear windows, indicating that the existing stucco was added in the late 19th century renovation. The roof is asphalt and was formerly punched by a central chimney. The building was constructed over a crawl space that has no access.

The interior currently consists of one 18'-7" x 32'-4" room with furred out plaster walls and beaded vertical board wainscoting to the chair rail height (photo 15). There is a slate blackboard in a wood frame on the north wall. All of the current interior finishes are from the late 19th century renovations. Behind the existing plaster that is applied to lath on studding, are the original plaster walls that are parged directly on the masonry bearing walls. Evidence of two small, original coat closets separated by an entry hall remains in the original plaster. An 8'-3" x 20'-6" shed-roof frame addition was constructed in front of the original stone schoolhouse (probably in the late 19th century) and was removed in the early 1980s. No documentation of this addition was found, but it was possibly used as a vestibule, and perhaps had space for storage and hanging coats.

The 1893 state school report gives an excellent representation of how the Mount Olive Academy operated. Enrolled in the Mount Olive school were 1 male and 5 females between the age of 5 and 6, 1 male between the age of 6 and 7, 1 male and 2 females between the age of 7 and 8, 2 males and 2 females between the age of 8 and 9, 1 male and 3 females between the age of 9 and 10, 5 males and 2 females between the age of 10 and 11, 2 males and 2 females between the age of 11 and 12, 2 males and 3 females between the age of 12 and 13, 3 females between the age of 13 and 14, 2 males and 1 female between the age of 14 and 15, 3 males and 2 females between the age of 15 and 16, 2 males and 1 female between the age of 16 and 17, and 2 males and 1 female between the age of 17 and 18; for a total of 24 males and 27 females.[6]

Outhouse: Behind the schoolhouse is a single seat outhouse that was constructed in the 1940s by the Salmon Family Association on a poured concrete slab (photo 16). The outhouse is sided with 5-inch wide vertically oriented beaded boards with a center bead. It has an asphalt covered shed roof sloped towards the east opposite the entrance door. The door is a board-and-batten door, fabricated with beaded boards that match the siding.

[6] Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1894.

There are two small ventilation “slits”. The latrine is a poured concrete shaft with a wood pillow toilet seat diagonally oriented in the northeast corner of the outhouse.

Although not tremendously old, its presence is significant as it illustrates the use of the site during the mid 20th century.

The Mount Olive Baptist Churchyard Cemetery

The Baptist Churchyard Cemetery occupies the west side yard and is behind the church (photos 3-10). It was the primary resting ground for both congregations from the early 1800s until 1873, when the Mount Olive Union Cemetery and the Greenwood Cemetery were started, and on a limited basis after 1873 to about 1930. Nineteenth century stone walls with twentieth century concrete caps delineate the cemetery and border Flanders-Drakestown Road to the south, Mount Olive Road to the east and the school yard to the west. The stone walls are two-feet thick. Poured concrete entrance pillars with textured panels and metal gates (removed) face Flanders-Drakestown Road. The stone wall turns at a right angle to meet the west corner of the Baptist Church where there is a second entrance formerly with a metal gate. The stone walls also turn at a right angle to meet the east corner of the Baptist Church. There is a rocky berm lining part of the north side. Equally spaced mature trees line Flanders-Drakestown Road.

The cemetery contains nearly 150 headstones for 215 burials. Headstones face east and west; the headstones closest to the Baptist Church face east. The headstones are closely spaced, and mostly upright. Most are marble but there are a few sandstone and a few granite headstones. The granite headstones are replacements for earlier stones. All are inscribed, some with very long blessings. A few have toppled and some cracked. Some minimal conservation work has been attempted. Notable is the Salmon family row of headstones and the prominent Budd family memorial pillar. The Reverend T. F. Clancy, pastor of the Mount Olive Baptist Church from 1853 to 1863 was buried in the cemetery in 1890.

The Mount Olive Greenwood and Union Cemeteries

The present day Mount Olive Union Cemetery is a 5.4 acre cemetery created by the merger of two cemeteries in the 1950s: the Presbyterian Churchyard cemetery, also known as the Greenwood Cemetery (photo 18) and the Mount Olive Union Cemetery which was founded in 1873 (photos 19-22). Greenwood Cemetery is closest to the Presbyterian Church; the original Union Cemetery is immediately west of the Greenwood section. The two sections have different styles of border walls, a separate internal road configuration and were once separated by a row of hedges. The Greenwood Cemetery is about two acres and is lined with a fieldstone wall with pointed stone capping and two entrances set off by stone pillars. The entrances lead to a single lane macadam driveway that winds around a small circular-area with a monument erected in honor of Daniel Bell Wagner (1887), his wife Mary Rodgers (1888) and their three children.

The Union Cemetery has a wrought iron picket fence with cast iron end pillars. There is one central entrance set off with brick pillars that has a cast metal name plate that reads: “Mount Olive Union Cemetery 1873." This entrance is in three parts and includes a vehicular entrance flanked by pedestrian entrances. This section rises on a gentle knoll and is traversed by a straight single lane macadam driveway that leads to two circular

driveways. There is a large pine tree planted near the highest part within the larger circular driveway. The back of the cemetery is wooded and serves as a buffer between the cemetery and a housing development. The remains of a fieldstone wall exist in the far southwest corner.

Despite the difference in the appearances, neither cemetery has a higher concentration of older stones. Most death dates post date 1873; 1860s death dates appear to be associated with a spouse that died after 1873. Most of the stones are granite but some late 19th century marble headstones exist. The Salmon, Stephens and Wolfe family gravestones are throughout both cemeteries. There is a stand of mature cedars at the east end, near the Presbyterian Church.

Site: This site is graced by a wealth of mature oak and pine trees, stone walls, part of a slate sidewalk, a white picket fence in front of the academy, a single seat outhouse, and a wrought iron picket fence with brick entrance pillars in front of the Union Cemetery.

Statement of Significance

The "Mount Olive Village" Historic District meets the National Register Criterion A for its association with the development of Mount Olive Township and the area mining industry, and Criterion C as a distinguishable and unified entity whose components embody the distinctive characteristics of the mid-19th century. The church, cemeteries and schoolhouse within the district were related to one another through historic land ownership and association. The district was known locally as "Mount Olive Village" from the 1830s to the present day. The village center remains intact to this day albeit with some changes of use and the loss by fire in 2011 of the Mount Olive Presbyterian Church. It has retained its rural character.

The Mount Olive Village Historic District includes the Mount Olive Baptist Church (1855), the Mount Olive Academy (1837) with accompanying outhouse (1940s), and three cemeteries: the Baptist Churchyard Cemetery (1812-1930), Greenwood Cemetery and the Mount Olive Union Cemetery (1873-present). It was the center of a small 19th century mining district which was described in 1882 as having two churches, a schoolhouse, and four dwellings within a quarter of a mile.[1] Located on the remote peak of Schooleys Mountain, geographic restrictions limited its growth and the village's 19th century appearance was maintained.

Mount Olive Village in present-day Mount Olive Township was formerly part of Roxbury Township. From about 1800 to the 1830s it was called "Rattletown" and informally, prior to 1800, "log church." Peter Salmon, an important local figure whose family settled nearby in or about 1762, suggested the name "Mount Olive". The name "Mount Olive" was either derived as a tribute to Benjamin Olive, a seventeenth century proprietary landowner and surveyor who is said to have "located land near the churches," or was a biblical reference to the Mount of Olives. The first recorded instance of its use occurred with the dedication of the schoolhouse and its engraved date stone reading "Mount Olive Academy - 1837".[2] In 1810, Roxbury's total population was 1,563; in 1830 it had grown to 2,262.[3]

The earliest Euro-American settlers to the area arrived before 1752. Their numbers were apparently substantial enough to support the construction of a "log" structure that was reportedly built for religious service by several denominations on the site of the current Baptist Church. The exact date this structure was built is unknown, but it is believed to have been large enough to accommodate 40 people.[4] In 1752, the Revered James Harcort, pastor of the Roxbury Presbyterian Church in Chester, started monthly services in what was to become Mount Olive Village, suggesting that the log church was built in or before this date.

Morris County's iron industry began in the mid 1700s with both mining and smelting operations. A bloomery near what was to become the Mount Olive Village was reportedly started by Samuel Heaton and his three brothers. Heaton was ordained as a Baptist minister and was one of twelve founding members of a Baptist

[1] Halsey, p. 255

[2] Stanhope Eagle, April 27, 1892.

[3] Gordon, 1973 p. 185

[4] Church Records, n. d.

congregation that met in the "community" log church.[5] In 1768, Samuel Heaton's son James deeded "an acre of land" to "Jacob and Job Corsart, and Richard Stephens" as the trustees for use by four denominations: Baptists, the Church of England, the Congregationalists and the Presbyterians, "to build meeting houses and schoolhouses and to bury their dead and for nothing else".[6] Apparently the land was deeded after the log church was constructed. This land comprises about one third of the proposed Mount Olive Village Historic District, and likely included the area of land now occupied by the Baptist Church, and the churchyard cemetery.

Episcopalians are believed to have held an "occasional service" in the log church[7] but little is known about their existence; the group apparently dissolved or merged with another congregation early on. No record of the use of the log church by Congregationalists was found. Between 1752 and 1834, the Mount Olive Presbyterian assembly functioned as an outpost of the Presbyterian Church in Chester. In 1834, it was officially organized as "Mount Olive Presbyterian Church" with 48 members.[8] The Mount Olive Presbyterian Church served the Mount Olive Village population until 1959 at which time the congregation merged with the Flanders Presbyterian Church and relocated. Between 1753 to 1786, the Mount Olive Baptist organization was an outpost of the Baptist church in Morristown and was known as the Roxbury Church; from 1786 to 1890 it was known as the Schooley's Mountain Church; and from 1890 to 1969 was the Mount Olive Baptist Church.[9] In 1969, the parish moved to within a mile of the original site and is now known as the Mount Olive Community Bible Church.

The Stephens, Salmon and Budd families were early, prominent settlers near Mount Olive Village. Captain Peter Salmon came from Long Island, New York, and acquired extensive landholdings near Mount Olive Village. He fought in the Revolutionary war, died in 1825 at the age of 85 and was buried in the Baptist churchyard cemetery. He and his wife had three sons and four daughters. Richard Stephens and his family settled about a mile away and became local millers. Two of Richard's daughters married Peter Salmon's sons, Peter Jr., and William.[10] Both the Presbyterian and Baptist churches had elders from each family.[11]

Between 1809 and 1818, the Presbyterians and the Baptists constructed a new church on the site of and replacing the log church. This church accommodated 75 and was started during the pastorate of the Reverend Lemuel Fordham, the Presbyterian minister from 1785 to 1815. This church building was "repaired and newly seated" in 1842 and was utilized until 1854.[12] The existing churchyard cemetery was apparently started before

[5] Halsey, 1882 p. 256

[6] Chambers, 1895 p. 613

[7] Iron Era, November 21, 1902

[8] Halsey, 1882 p. 255

[9] Morristown Daily Record, September 16, 1944

[10] Chambers, 1895 p. 613

[11] Halsey, 1882 p. 257

[12] Ibid

the construction of this building. The earliest dated grave marker is 1812, but pre-1800 graves are believed to exist.[13] A Presbyterian Sunday School was organized in the 1820s.

The Mount Olive Academy, a stone one-room schoolhouse measuring 36 by 22-feet in plan, was built in 1837, reportedly replacing an earlier school house built in 1820. Before 1820, school was believed to have been held in the community church. The academy was intended to seat 60 students "comfortably" including both primary and secondary students.[14] The schoolhouse is located west of a stone wall which divides the cemetery from the school grounds. An 1848 state school report lists Roxbury as having 682 children between the ages of 5 and 16 and 393 children attending classes an average of 5 months out of the year at a quarterly tuition of $2.00.[15] Some schools could not be used during winter months and some operated until yearly funding ran out, hence the shortened school year. By 1865, there were 14 schools in Roxbury Township.[16]

In the 1830s, Thomas Gordon reported that iron ore was "abundant near the spring at Schooleys Mountain."[17] But the extent of 18th- and early 19th-century iron mining was minimal. The demand for iron ore to supply furnaces in other counties and states increased after about 1850, lending increased profitability to the local resource.[18] Mount Olive's mining "heyday" began in 1848 with the opening of a mine called the "Mount Olive Mine" located about a quarter mile from the village center on land owned by Aaron and Charles Salmon. Three other mines, Stephan's, Soloman and Drake's (opened in 1854) were within a mile of the village center. These four mines were part of a grouping of about fourteen mines that followed an earthquake fault line parallel to the northeast / southwest orientation of Schooleys mountain, covering a distance of about 3 miles starting with the Mount Olive Mine and ending with Hilts Mine.[19] The Mount Olive Mine was the largest in the township and included several shafts, two of which were 175 feet deep. Although of a smaller and lesser importance than the larger grouping of mines near Dover, New Jersey, the mines established an economy and created the core of population for both congregations and the Mount Olive Academy. Much of the ore, however, was sulfureous and most mines were low yielding. The inconsistencies of the resource deterred population growth; Mount Olive Village remained small and did not develop into the classic company town.[20]

By 1850, the Mount Olive Presbyterians and Baptists began to desire their own identity and had grown large enough to support the construction of their own church buildings. In 1850, Aaron Salmon and his wife sold a

[13] Personal communication with Cecilia Thea Dunkle, Mount Olive Township Historian

[14] Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1873

[15] Superintendent of Public Schools, 1849

[16] Superintendent of Public Schools, 1866

[17] Gordon, p.184

[18] Halsey, 1882 p. 62

[19] Hopkins, 1868

[20] Morris County Heritage Commission, 1987

half acre lot, immediately west of and adjacent to the schoolhouse, to the Mount Olive Presbyterians for $50 for the purpose of building a church.[21] Between September 1852 and December 1854, the Presbyterians constructed their Greek temple fronted edifice on the newly acquired lot. Dedication services took place on December 29th 1854. Also in 1854, the 1809-18 church was said to have been sold and removed from the property.[22] The whereabouts and existence of this building is unknown to the writer. The Mount Olive Baptist Church was reportedly constructed on the foundations and site of the 1809-18 building. The Mount Olive Baptist church was dedicated on March 12, 1856; the cost of construction was $3,000. It had a "gallery over the entrance, a spire, and a bell weighing over 600 pounds".[23] The bell was manufactured at the Meneely's Bell Foundry in West Troy, New York. It remains today and awaits restoration.

After the construction of separate church buildings, the two churches maintained a sisterhood relationship. The churches held joint sermons at Christmas, Thanksgiving and at other times throughout the year. When one church was closed for repairs, or alterations, the other was utilized in a shared capacity. This relationship continued into the 1950s. Both churches copied the other's style and interior finishes. In or about 1870, both churches were renovated, apparently spending the proceeds from the sale of the 1809-15 church which was divided between the two parishes in or about 1866.[24]

The Baptist Churchyard Cemetery is a united, nineteenth century cemetery behind and west of the Baptist Church with a heavy concentration of graves from the 1840s, 50s and 60s. Few people were buried there after 1872 apparently due to the openings of the larger Mount Olive Union Cemetery and Greenwood Cemetery. The earliest remaining, recorded, grave site is that of John Casad and his widow Elizabeth, dated March 12, 1812. They were members of the Baptist Church for over 50 years. There are two other stones with death dates from the teens, 11 stones with 1820s death dates, and 15 with 1830s death dates. Revolutionary War veterans Co. Simeon Dickerson (age 63) was buried in this cemetery on July 1, 1830 and, as mentioned, Captain Peter Salmon, who died on February 19, 1825 in his 85th year. There are five civil war soldiers who died in combat and were buried in the churchyard cemetery: Brothers Charles, (age 22) and Amos (age 24) Stephens of the Co. C. 27th regiment, drowned in the Cumberland River in Windgald Ferry, Kentucky on May 6, 1863; Andrew Salmon, who fought with the Co. F. 15th regiment died at age 21 on May 21, 1864 in Fredericksburg, Virginia of wounds received in battle near Spotsylvania; Augustus Salmon who fought with the Co. C. 27th regiment died on November 30, 1862 at age 21; and the Reverend George W. Sovereign, also of the Co. C. 27th regiment died in 1863. Two civil war veterans were buried in the churchyard cemetery: John Mc Cain of the Grand Army of the Republic, died in 1866 and Major Enos Goble Budd of Co. F. 15th Regiment died in 1907.[25] The Reverend T. F. Clancy, pastor of the Mount Olive Baptist church from 1853 to 1863 was buried here in 1890.

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[21] Morris County Deed Book Z4 page 307 dated August 27, 1850

[22] Halsey, 1882, p. 256

[23] Halsey, 1882, p. 256

[24] Halsey, 1882, p. 256

[25] Genealogical Society of New Jersey, vol. 57, 1982

Mount Olive Township was formed from the western portion of Roxbury in 1871 and included eight villages, hamlets and their neighborhoods: Flanders, Budd Lake, Mount Olive, South Stanhope, Bartleyville, Waterloo, Saxon Falls and Drakestown. Mount Olive Township had a total population of 1,760 in 1875 and 1,982 in 1880.[26] Agriculture and milling dominated the lower fertile areas, while, mining activities occurred in the mountainous region. Flanders grew to become the largest 19th century village in the township.[27] By 1871, this village had several mills, a creamery, a pasteurizing plant, two doctors, a post office, and 50 houses. Bartleyville had a schoolhouse, a post office (1874), and an iron foundry that employed about 15 men.[28] South Stanhope emerged as an ironworkers village for the work force of the Stanhope Blast Iron Furnace complex. Budd Lake became a popular summer-oriented vacation destination. Mount Olive Village remained small as it was bypassed by late 19th century progress.

Mount Olive Township is bounded by the Musconetcong River and Warren County to the west and northwest, Washington Township to the southwest, Chester, to the south and Roxbury to the east. Several major 19th century transportation routes hugged the Mount Olive Township's perimeter. The Morris Canal skirted the Townships' northern edge passing through Waterloo. The Morris and Essex Railroad which provided rail service to Newark and was completed to Hackettstown and Phillipsburg in 1865 with station stops in Waterloo and South Stanhope, was located on the northern edge of the Township. The High Bridge Branch of the Central Railroad which traversed the Townships' eastern side with station stops in Bartley and Flanders, was opened in 1876 with connections to Easton, Allentown, and Scranton Pennsylvania, and Newark and Jersey City, New Jersey.[29] Mount Olive Village and Drakestown which are located in the more mountainous central areas of the township remained accessible by hilly horse-and-carriage roads which deterred industrial development.

In 1872, Mount Olive Township had 6 schools; Flanders, South Stanhope, Cross Roads, Mount Olive, Bartleyville, and Drakestown which together educated 456 children. The Mount Olive Academy school district had 78 children between the ages of 5 and 18: there were 65 enrolled in school, but most attended school less than 4 months of the year. The average daily attendance was 21. Eleven children were listed as attending "no school."[30] It is assumed that when not in school, children were working either at home doing farming related chores or in the mines. By the early 1850s, a movement towards free education had begun in Roxbury Township. State and township funding was appropriated to each school so that the quarterly tuition could be dropped. In 1872, the state appropriated $423.32 to run the Academy which was designated as Morris County School number 39. Only $350.00 was needed to run the Academy for 9 months, so it was open for teaching purposes 11 months that year.[31]

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[26] Halsey, 1882, p. 254

[27] Gordon, p. 142

[28] Halsey, 1882 p. 255

[29] Transit guide, 2005

[30] Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1873

[31] Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1873

By 1870, the Baptist Churchyard Cemetery was quite full, and two new village cemeteries were opened to take its place. The Greenwood Cemetery also known as the Presbyterian Churchyard Cemetery began in the west side yard of the Presbyterian Church on lands sold to the "Trustees of the Greenwood Cemetery of Mount Olive" by Aaron L. Salmon and his wife Sarah W.[32] There are at least 253 burials in Greenwood Cemetery.[33] The Mount Olive Union Cemetery was officially opened in 1873 on a tract west of the Greenwood Cemetery on land donated by the Stephens family and Lewis Hulse.[34] Within the original boundaries of Union Cemetery are at least 987 graves.[35] In 1950, Greenwood Cemetery went bankrupt and merged with the Mount Olive Union Cemetery. Both sections remain in use today and are included within the Mount Olive Historic District. The most prominent gravestones are that of the Salmon family and the Stephens family. Salmon, Drakes, Wolf and Stephens family names are the most numerous.

The iron mines began to close in the 1880s and the population of the Mount Olive Village vicinity began to decline as people moved to industrialized cities and elsewhere to make a better living. In 1886, there were only 46 children in the district, down from 78 in 1872.[36] Church reports also indicate a decline in attendance by the 1890s. In 1882, the Presbyterian Church membership was 95; the Baptist Church membership was 110, down from 150 in 1842. The Presbyterian Sunday School was 75.

By the 1880s one room schoolhouses were considered obsolete. The schoolhouse was renovated in the late 19th century to better serve its duties. In 1886, there was one female teacher paid $35.00 per month.[37] A 1904 school budget appropriated $900 for teachers salaries, $100 for books, $100 for repairs, and $250 for expenses.[38] The Mount Olive Academy continued to be utilized as the schoolhouse for its district until 1925 after which it was used for Sunday School, Board of Education meetings, township government meetings, cemetery association meetings and as the site for the Salmon Family annual picnic.

Early 20th-century area populations continued to decline with the closing of the Morris Canal in 1924. Much of the remaining population was farmers and/or descendants of the early families. During the 1930s, Presbyterian Church membership dropped to 37 members, and that of the Sunday School to 19. The church was closed for 2½ years between 1930 and 1932. In 1959, the Mount Olive Presbyterian Church merged with the First Presbyterian Church of Flanders and vacated their building. The church building was sold to a theater group in 1970, was converted to a residence in the mid-1980s, and was destroyed by fire in 2011. The parish used the

[32] Morris County Deed Book C, pages 494-496, recorded January 27th 1874

[33] Personal communication with Cecilia Thea Dunkle, Mount Olive Township Historian

[34] Morris county deed Book Y8 pages 478 -480 recorded April 1, 1874 and Box Y8 page 481-484 recorded April 1, 1874.

[35] Personal communication with Cecilia Thea Dunkle, Mount Olive Township Historian

[36] Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1873 and 1887

[37] Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1887

[38] Stanhope Eagle, March 23, 1904

1855-56 Baptist Church building until 1969 when a new brick building was erected a mile west of the historic building. The name of the parish was changed to the Mount Olive Community Bible Church and celebrated its 250th anniversary in 2003. The Baptist Church building remained in use in a limited capacity by youth scouting groups and escaped modern renovations including central plumbing. In 2003, the building was sold to the Township of Mount Olive for use as a township museum. The schoolhouse was deeded to the Baptist church in 1956 to secure a tax-exempt status and as such continued to be utilized for Sunday School and by youth groups. In 2003, the Township of Mount Olive acquired the academy for use as a township museum.

Mount Olive Village is centrally located on Schooley's Mountain: its core remains intact today. It is important for its association with the area's agriculture and mining related populations and for its association with the development of the 19th century iron mining industry in Mount Olive Township. The remaining church embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Italianate style of architecture and the Mount Olive Academy shows the characteristics of a vernacular one-room school house. Together, the two buildings and three cemeteries contribute to the understanding of 19th century village life in a rural and mountainous, iron-mining region.

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Hopkins *G. M.* *Geological Survey of New Jersey.* New Jersey Geological Survey. Trenton. 1868. On file at the New Jersey State Library.

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Shields, J. B. *Map of Morris County New Jersey* 1853. On file at the New Jersey State Library.

Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries are indicated on an accompanying tax map and include block 7801 lots 12, 13, and 14.

Boundary Justification

The district consists of 7.14 mountaintop acres and faces Flanders-Drakestown Road at the corner of Mount Olive and Flanders-Drakestown Road. Together, the two buildings, the recently lost Presbyterian Church building, and the accompanying cemeteries were the 19th century "center" of Mount Olive Village.

Additional Documentation

Name of Property: Mount Olive Village HD

City or Vicinity: Mount Olive

County: Morris State: New Jersey

Photographer: Margaret M. Hickey

Date Photographed: Varies

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0001
View of the south (front) elevation of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church. Camera facing north.
Date: March 7, 2013

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0002
View looking east at the west side of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church with the churchyard in the foreground.
Date: September 12, 2013

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0003
View looking southeast at the north and west sides of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church with the churchyard in the foreground.
Date: September 12, 2013

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0004
View looking west at the east side of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church.
Date: September 12, 2013

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0005
Interior view of the narthex of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church. Camera facing northeast.
Date: November 27, 2013

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0006
Interior view of the sanctuary and the apse. Camera facing north.
Date: November 27, 2013

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0007
Interior view of the sanctuary. Camera facing east.
Date: November 27, 2013

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0008
Interior view of the sanctuary and balcony. Camera facing south.
Date: November 27, 2013

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0009
Interior view of the sanctuary taken from the level of the balcony. Camera facing northeast.
Date: November 27, 2013

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0010
View of the Mount Olive Baptist Churchyard Cemetery, view facing north.
Date: May 26, 2015

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0011
Overall view of the south and east sides of the Mount Olive Academy. Camera facing northwest.
Date: May 26, 2015

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0013
View of the south (front) elevation of the Mount Olive Academy. Camera facing north.
Date: May 26, 2015

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0014
View of the east side of the Mount Olive Academy. Camera facing southwest.
Date: May 26, 2015

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0015
View of the north side of the Mount Olive Academy. Camera facing south.
Date: May 26, 2015

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0016
View of the Mount Olive Academy outhouse. Camera facing southwest.
Date: May 26, 2015

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0017
View of the former site of the Mount Olive Presbyterian Church. Camera facing north.
Date: April 29, 2015

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0018
View of the Mount Olive Greenwood Cemetery. Camera facing northwest.
Date: May 26, 2015

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0019
View of the Mount Olive Union Cemetery. Camera facing north.
Date: May 26, 2015

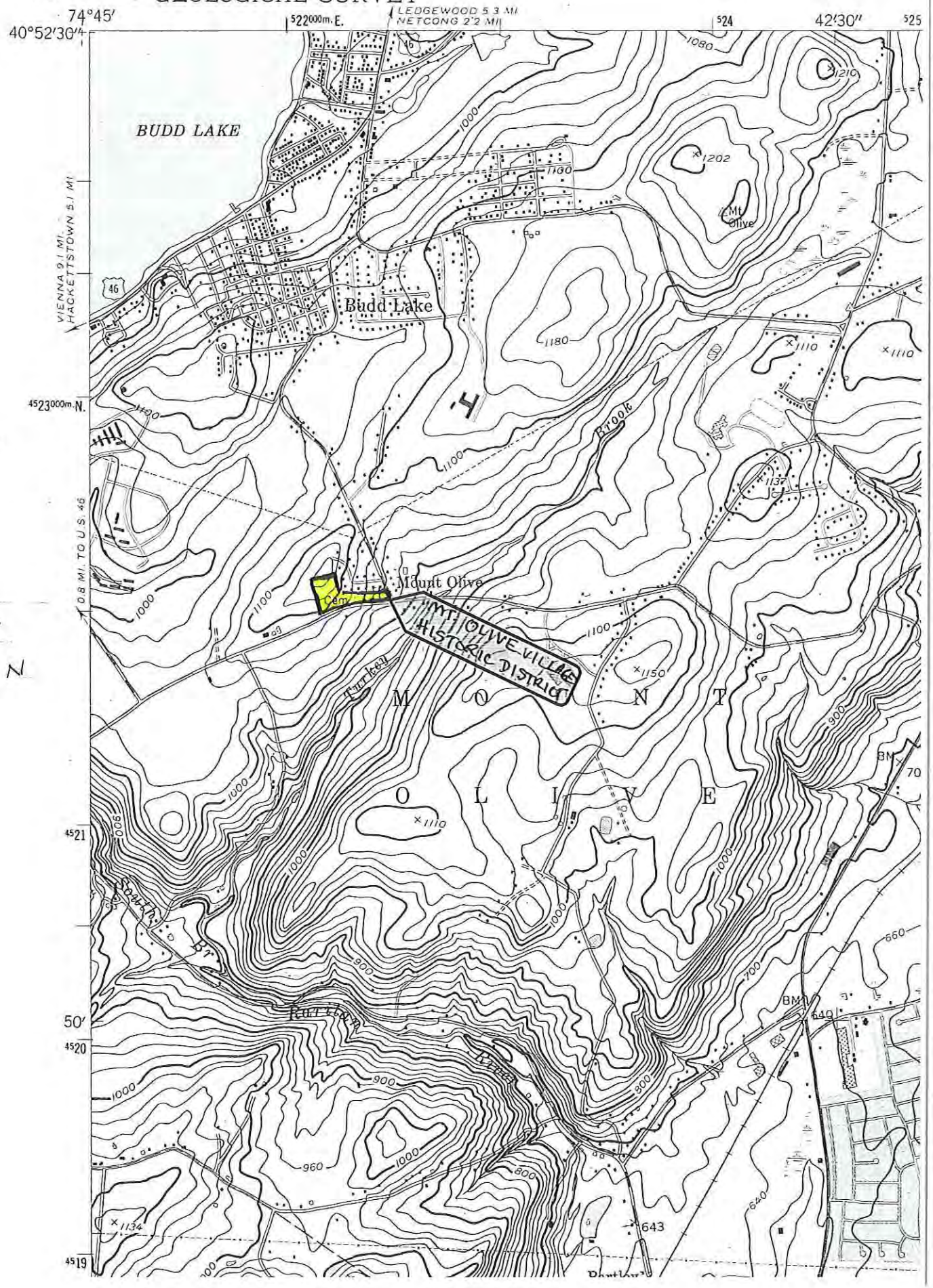
NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0020
View of the Mount Olive Union Cemetery. Camera facing north.
Date: May 26, 2015

NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0021
View of the Mount Olive Union Cemetery of gate where it transitions with the Mount Olive Greenwood Cemetery. Camera facing northwest.
Date: May 26, 2015

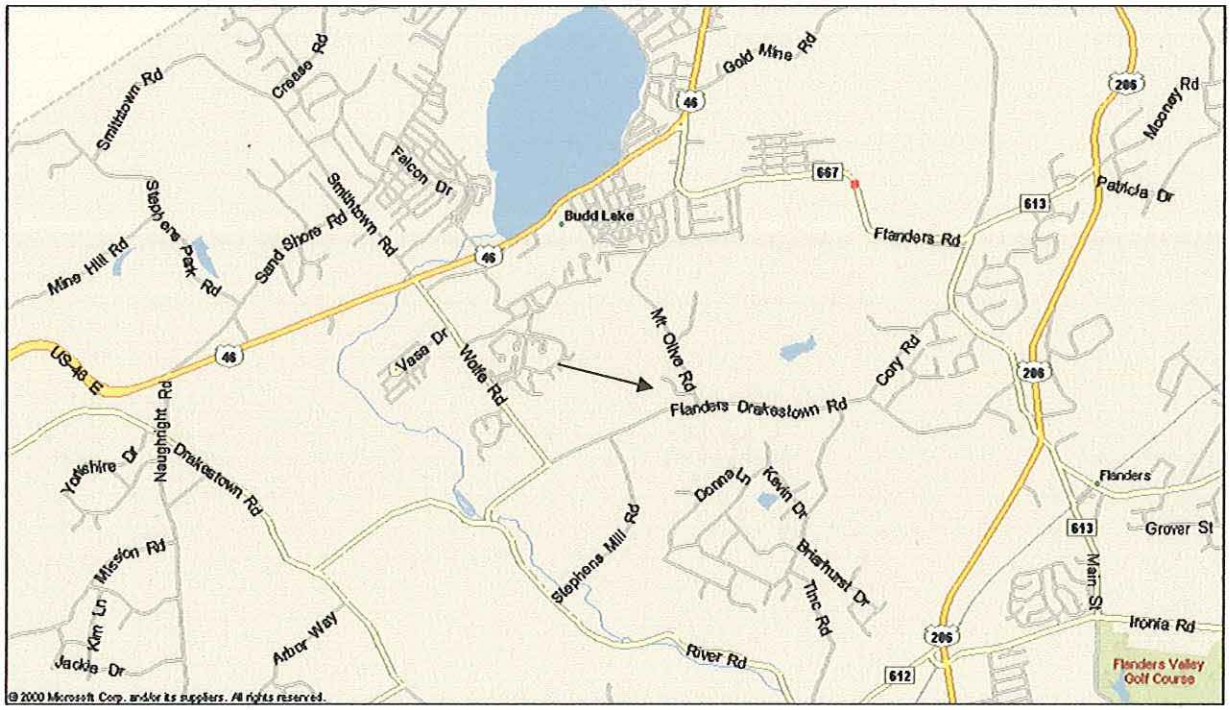
NJ_Morris County_Mount Olive Village HD_0022
View of the Mount Olive Union Cemetery. Camera facing west.
Date: May 26, 2015

6065 IV NE
(TRANQUILITY)

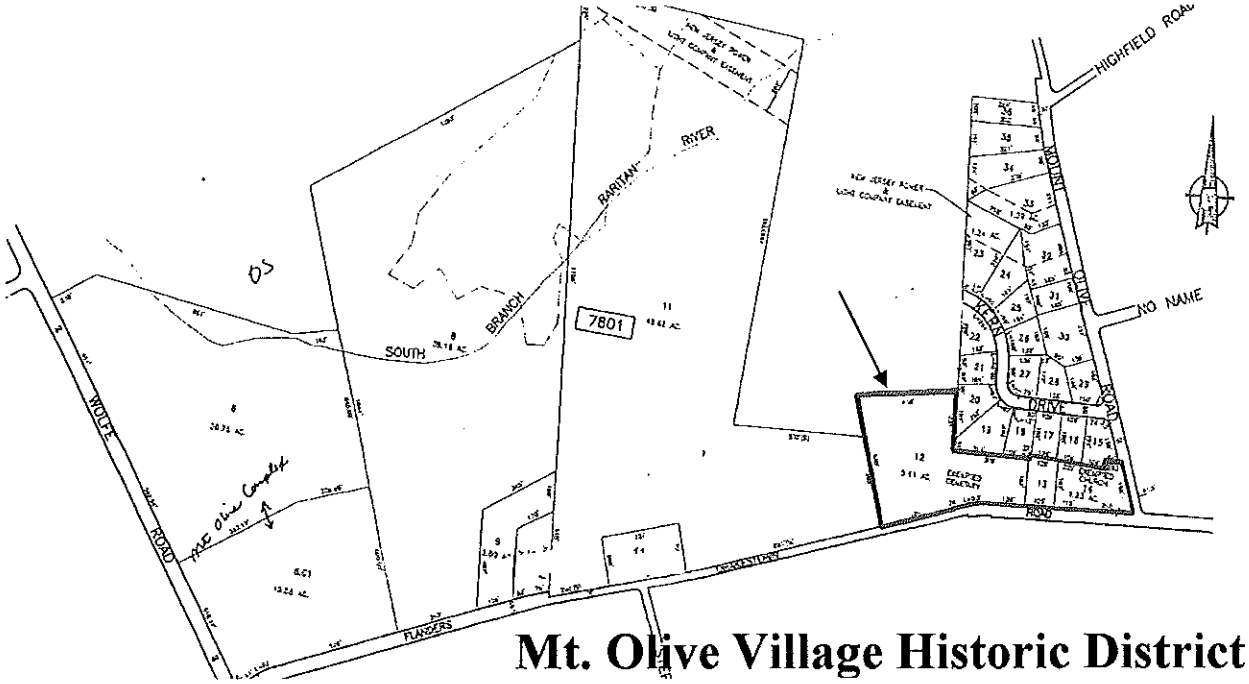
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



ZONE 18
522511 E
4522305 N



Street map,
showing location of the Mount Olive Village Historic District,
Microsoft 2002



Mt. Olive Village Historic District

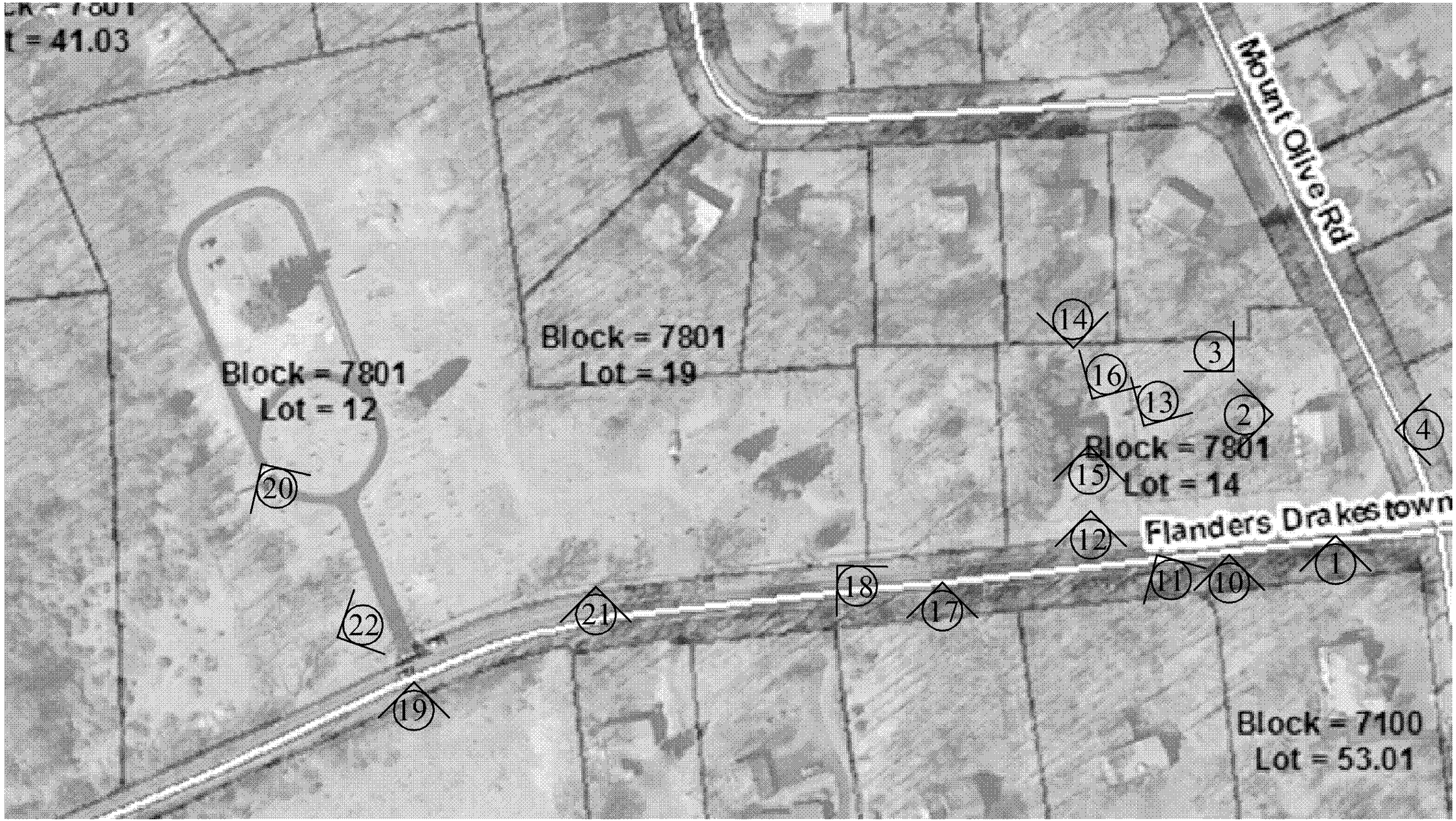
Mt. Olive Township Tax Map showing proposed district boundaries

MOUNT OLIVE VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT – SITE MAP

MOUNT OLIVE TWP., MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

DATE: 23 MAY 2015

SCALE: 1” = 193’



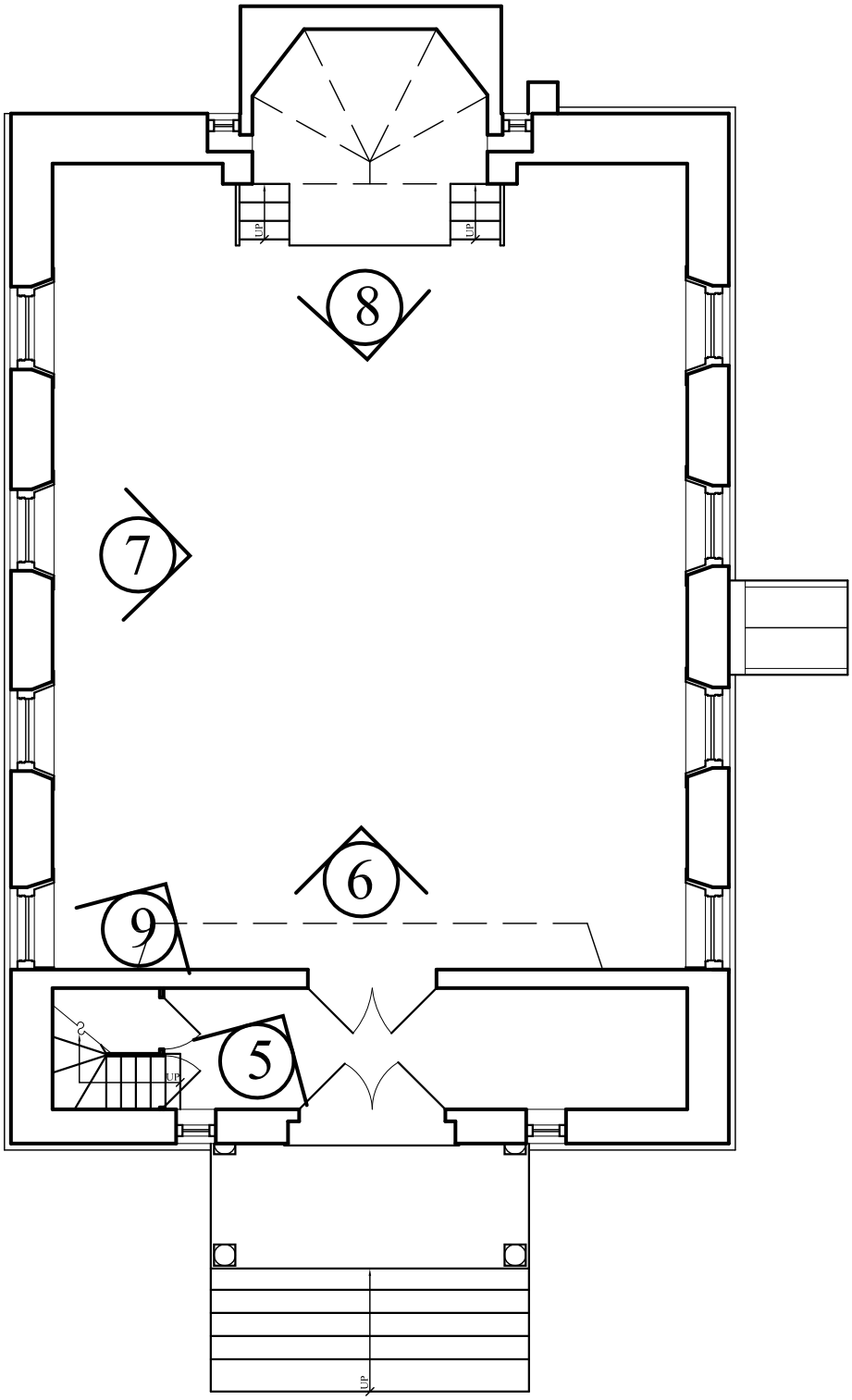
NORTH

1 MOUNT OLIVE VILLAGE HD - PHOTO KEY

NOT TO SCALE

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

MT. OLIVE, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

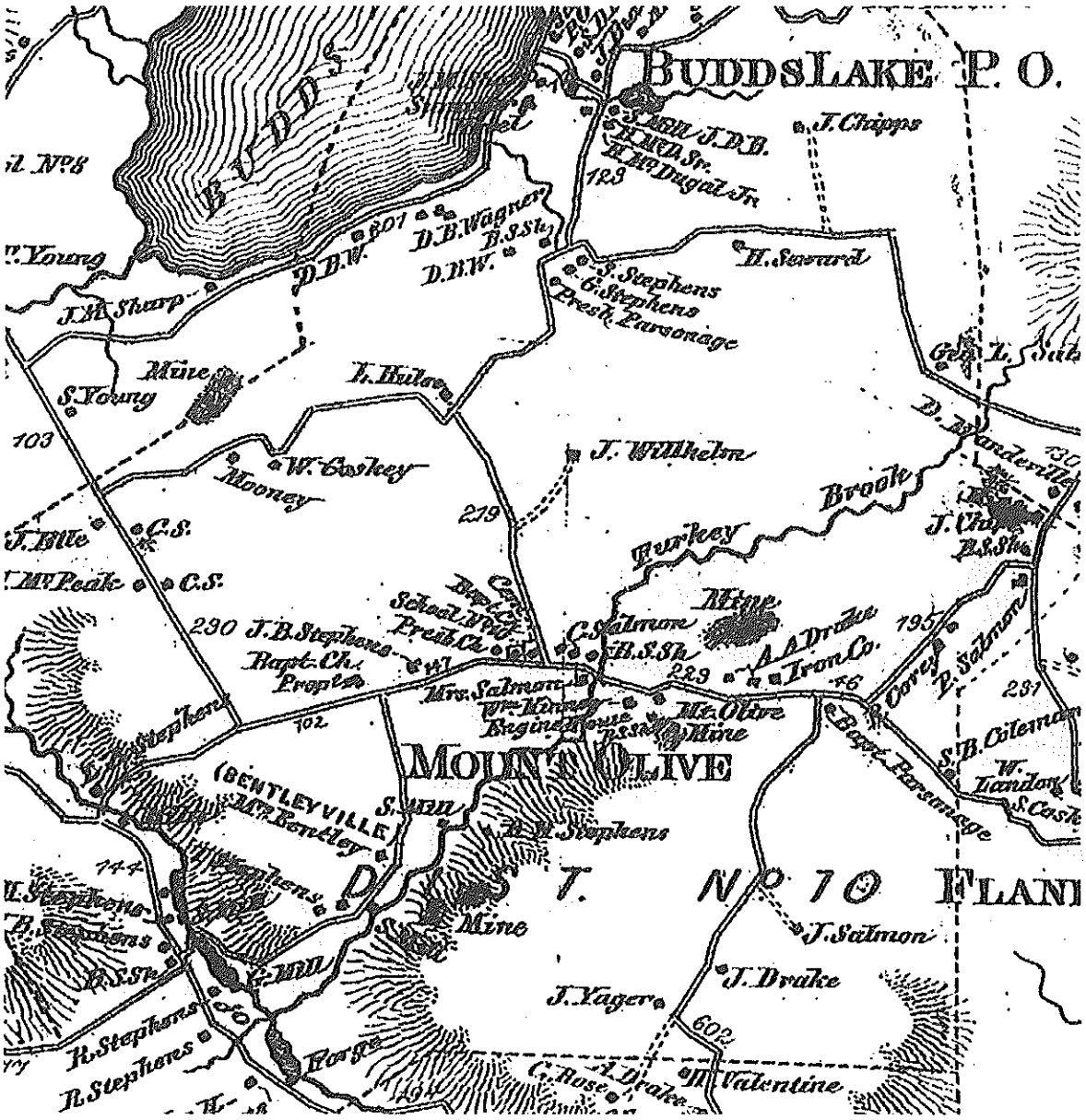


NORTH

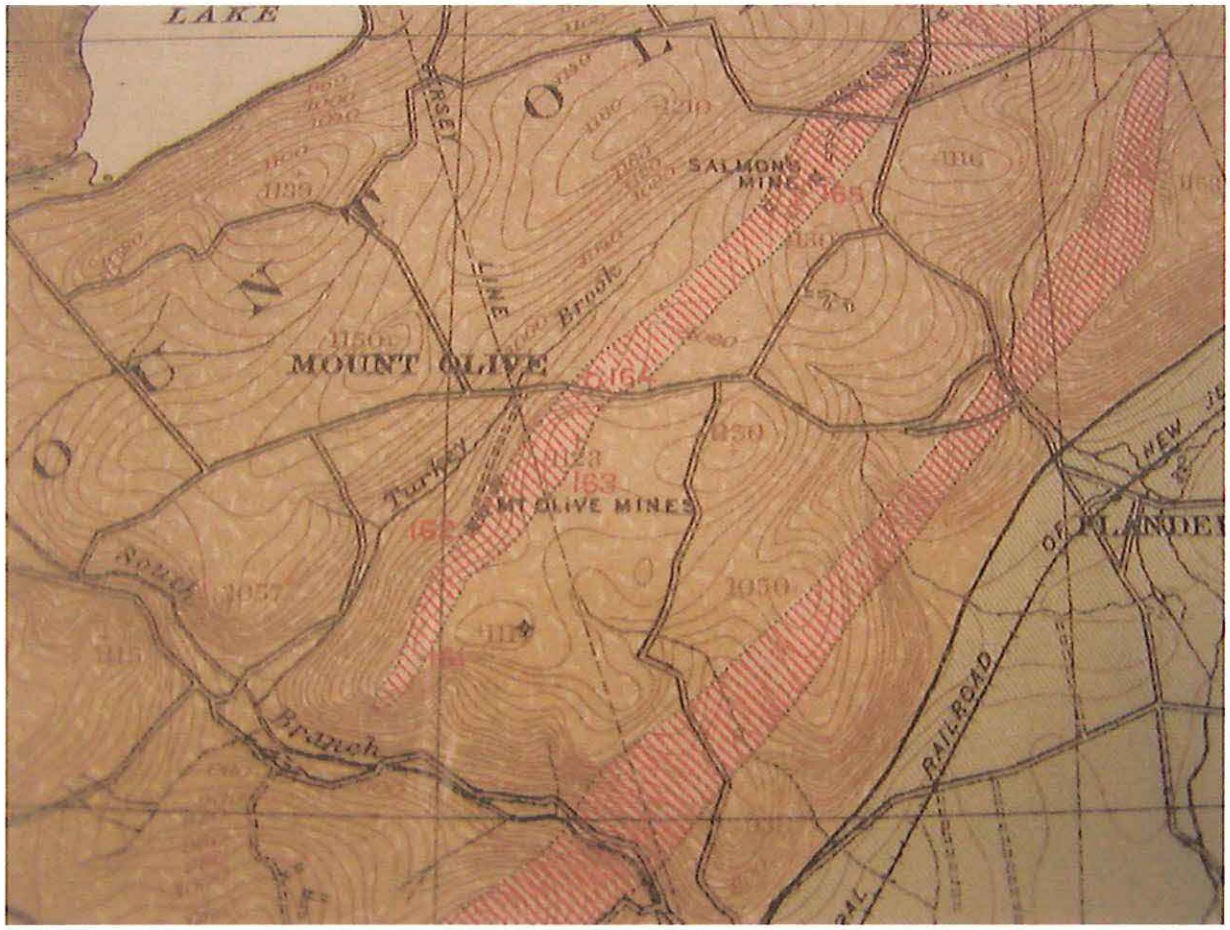
2 MOUNT OLIVE VILLAGE HD - PHOTO KEY

NOT TO SCALE

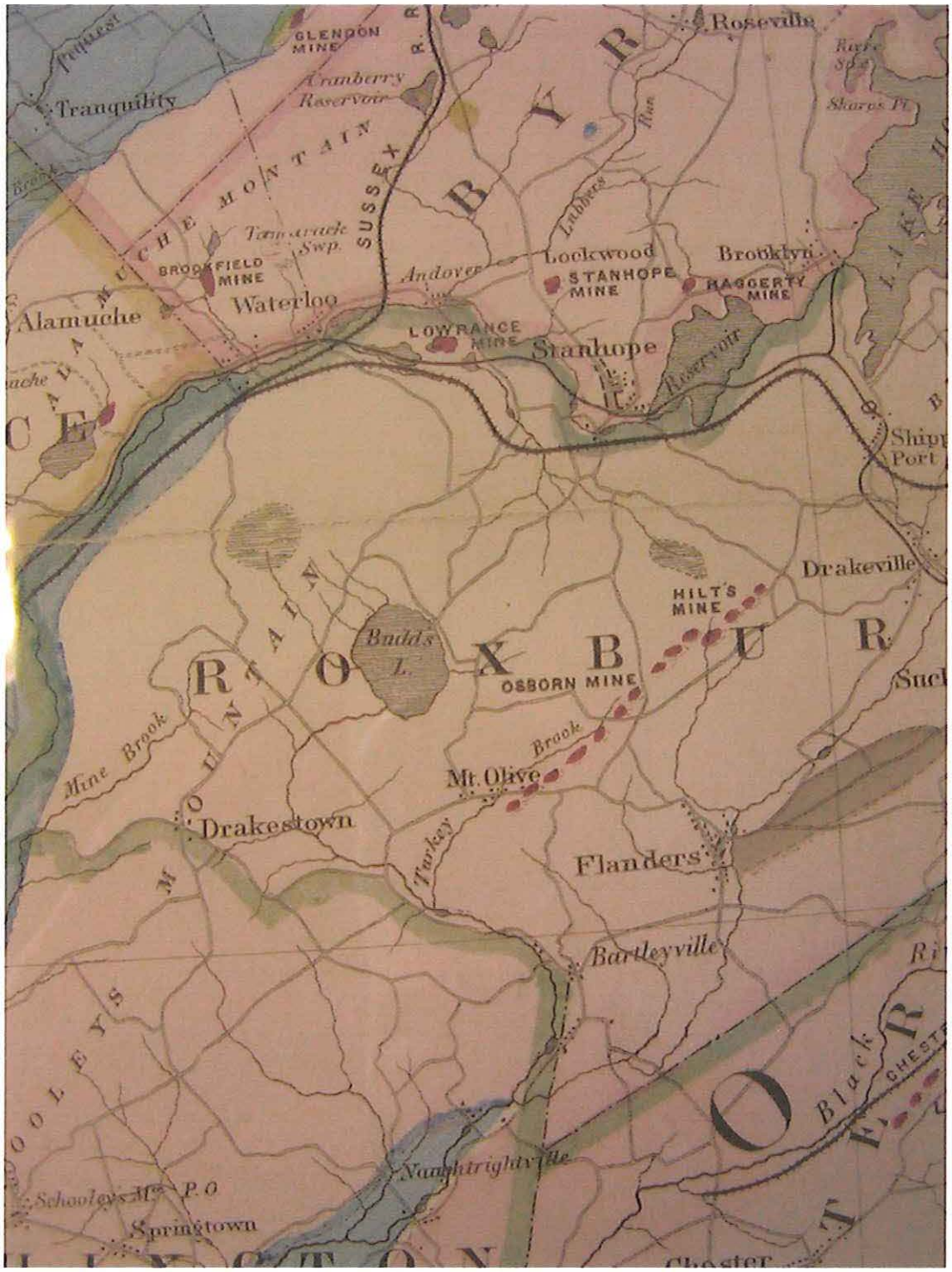
Shields, J. B. *Map of Morris County*
New Jersey
1853
Presbyterians and the Baptists are shown
sharing the same church



Beers F. W. *Atlas of Morris County*
1868



Bayley W. S. *Map of Eastern Section of the New Jersey Highlands* Undated



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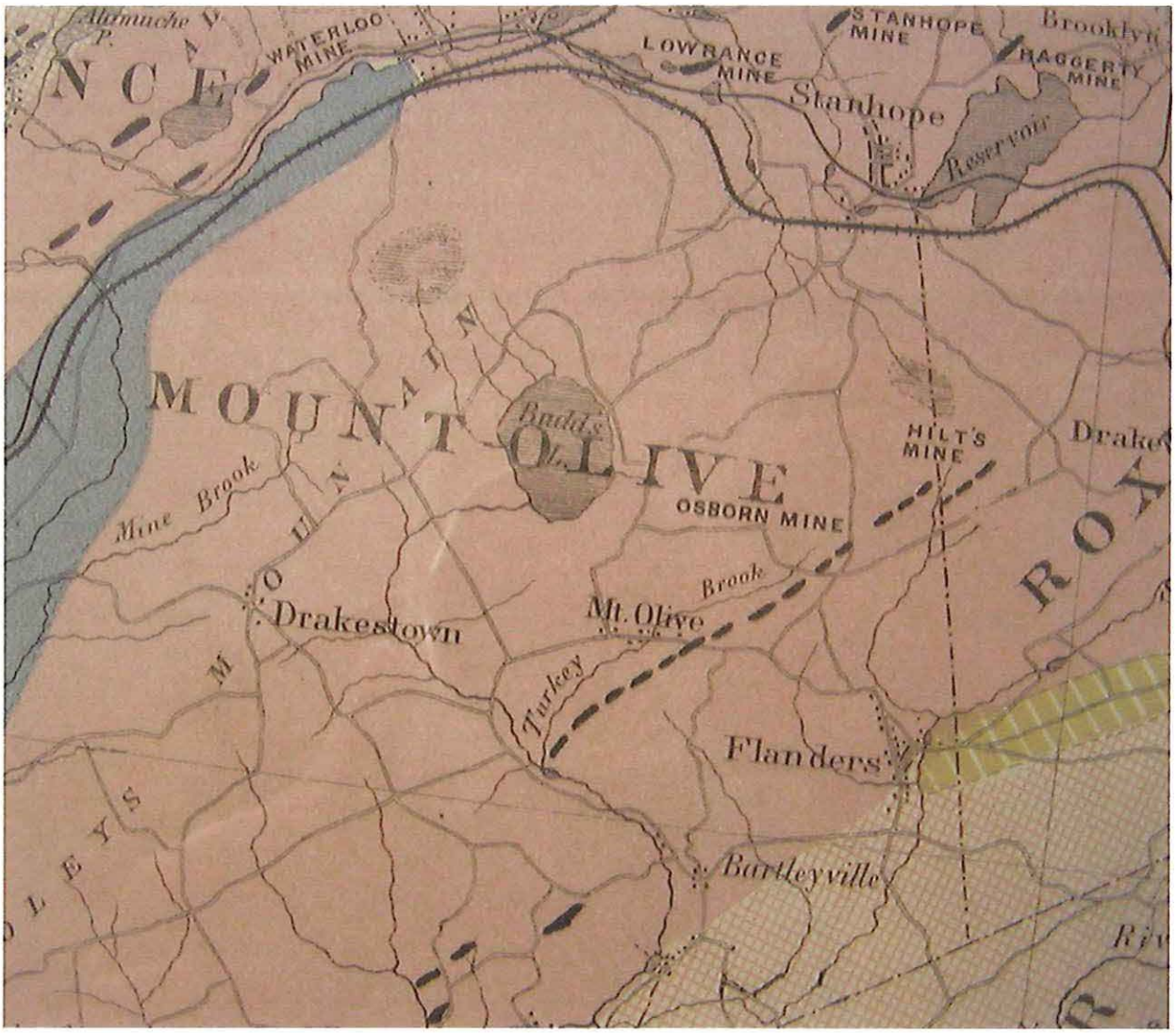
Indicating the relationship of the mines to Mount Olive Village



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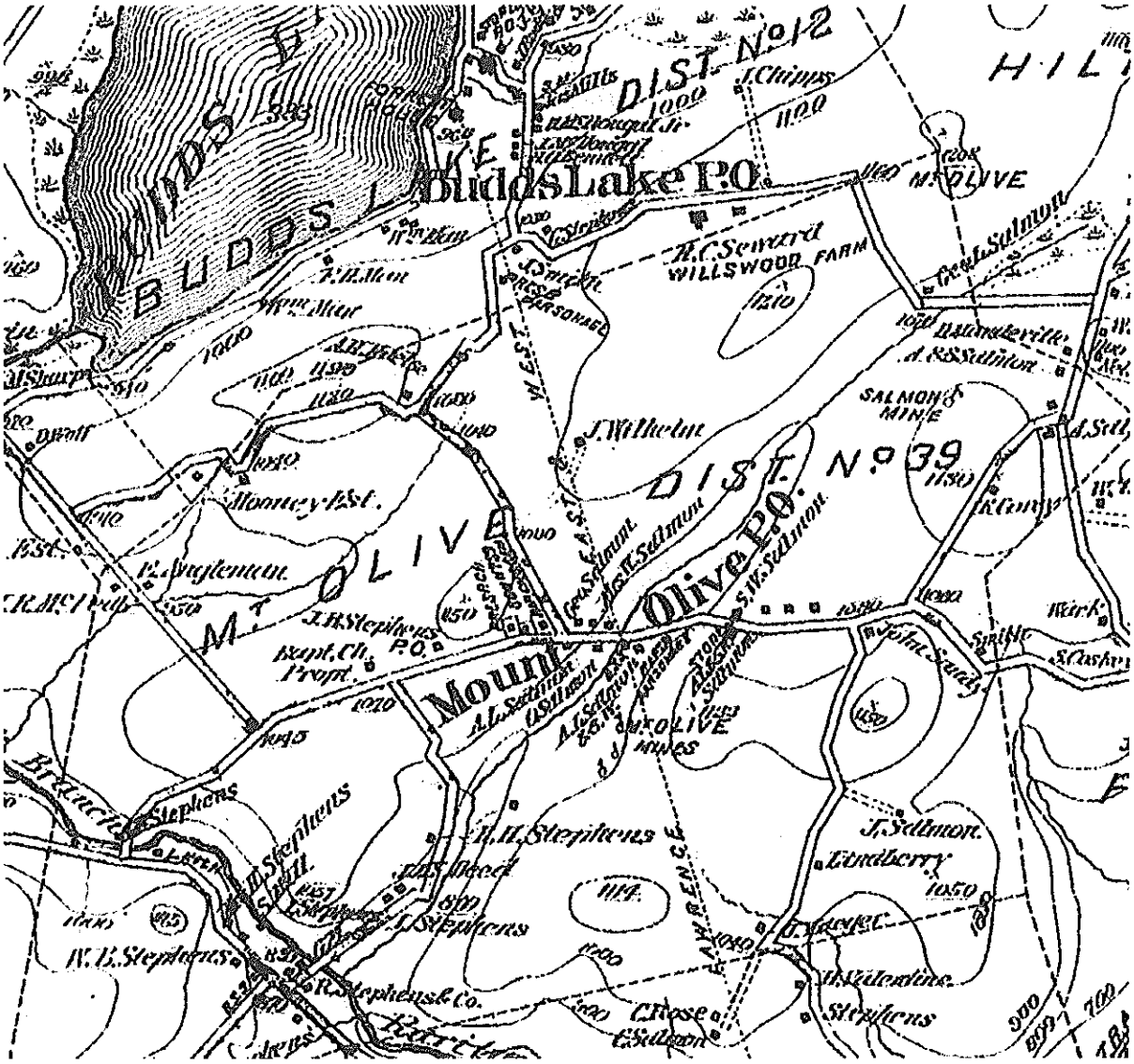
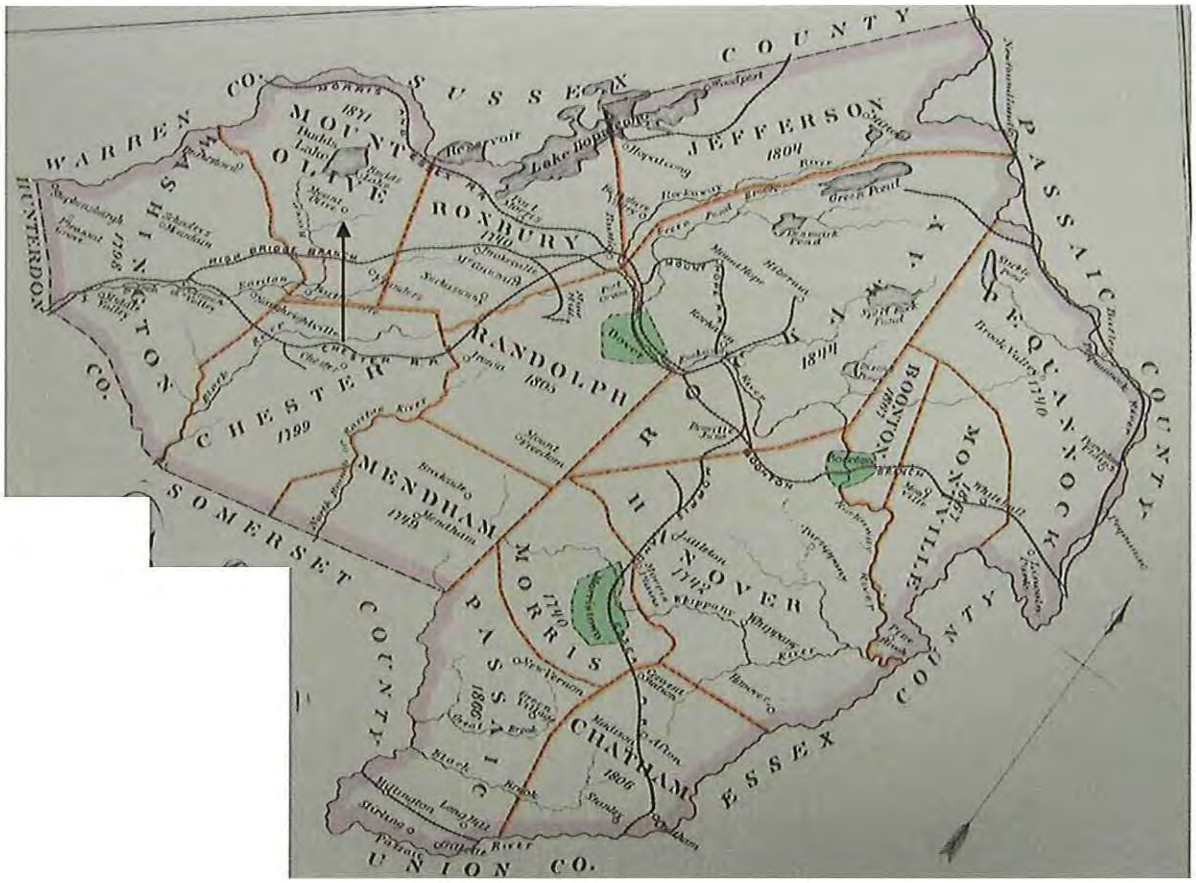
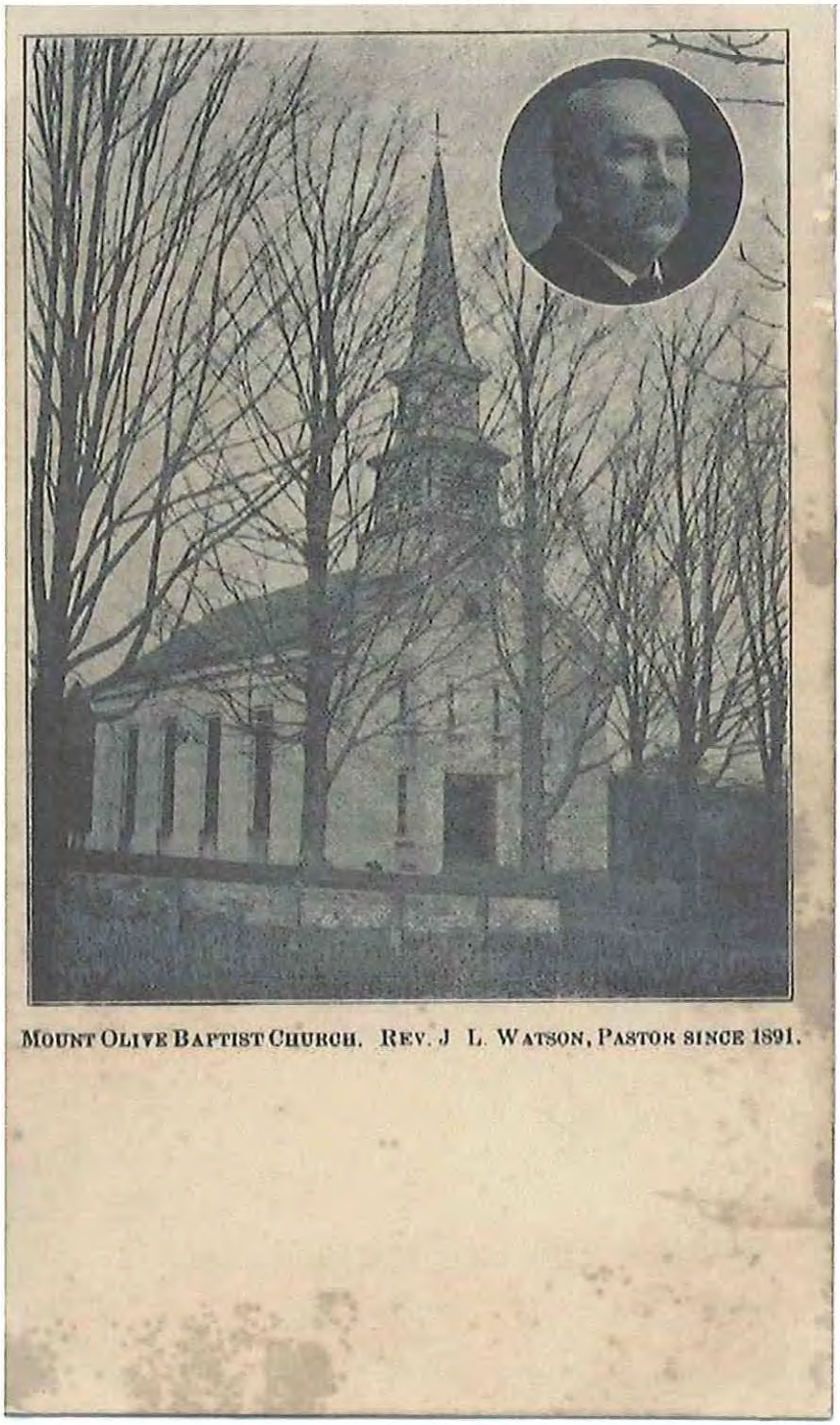
Indicating the relationship of the mines to Mount Olive Village



Robinson. *Atlas of Morris County*
1887



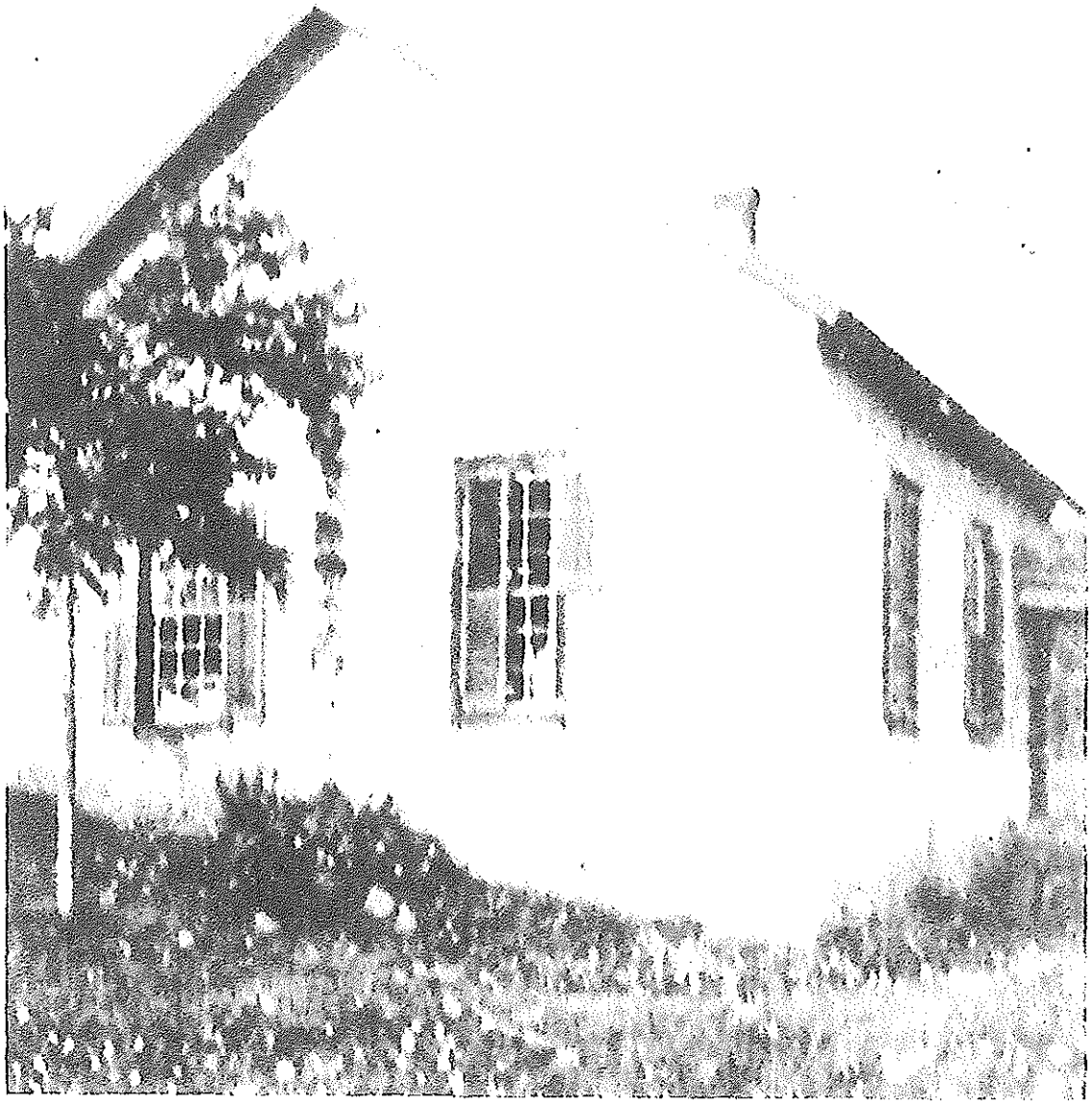
Morris County Map showing
Township and county boundaries



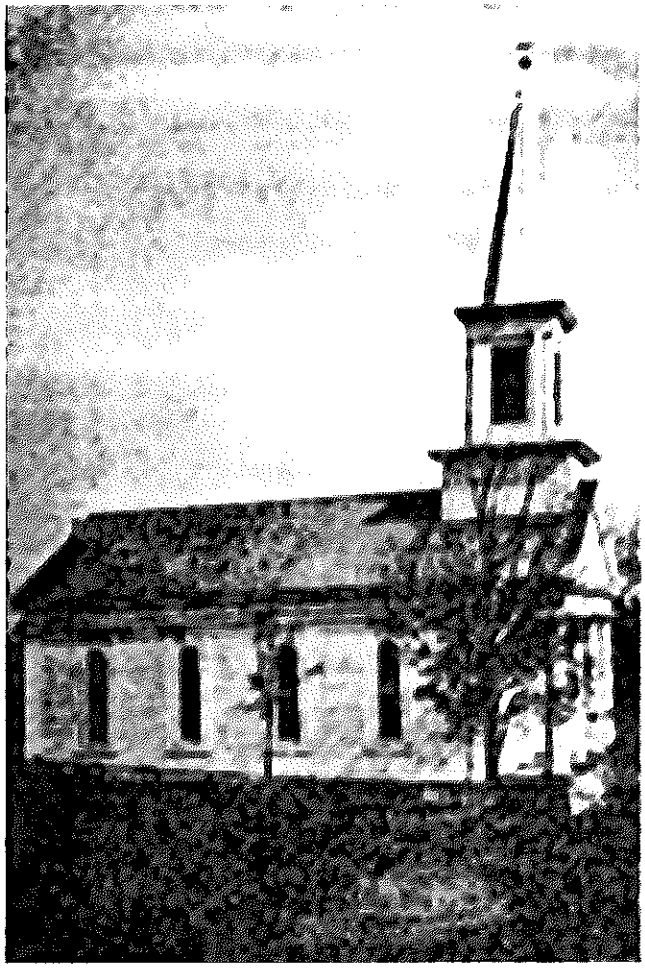
Postcard view of the Mount Olive Baptist Church
Undated

Mount Olive Academy
View of facade, View facing north
1973
Provide by the Mount Olive Township Historic society

The "Academy" school of Mount Olive Village.

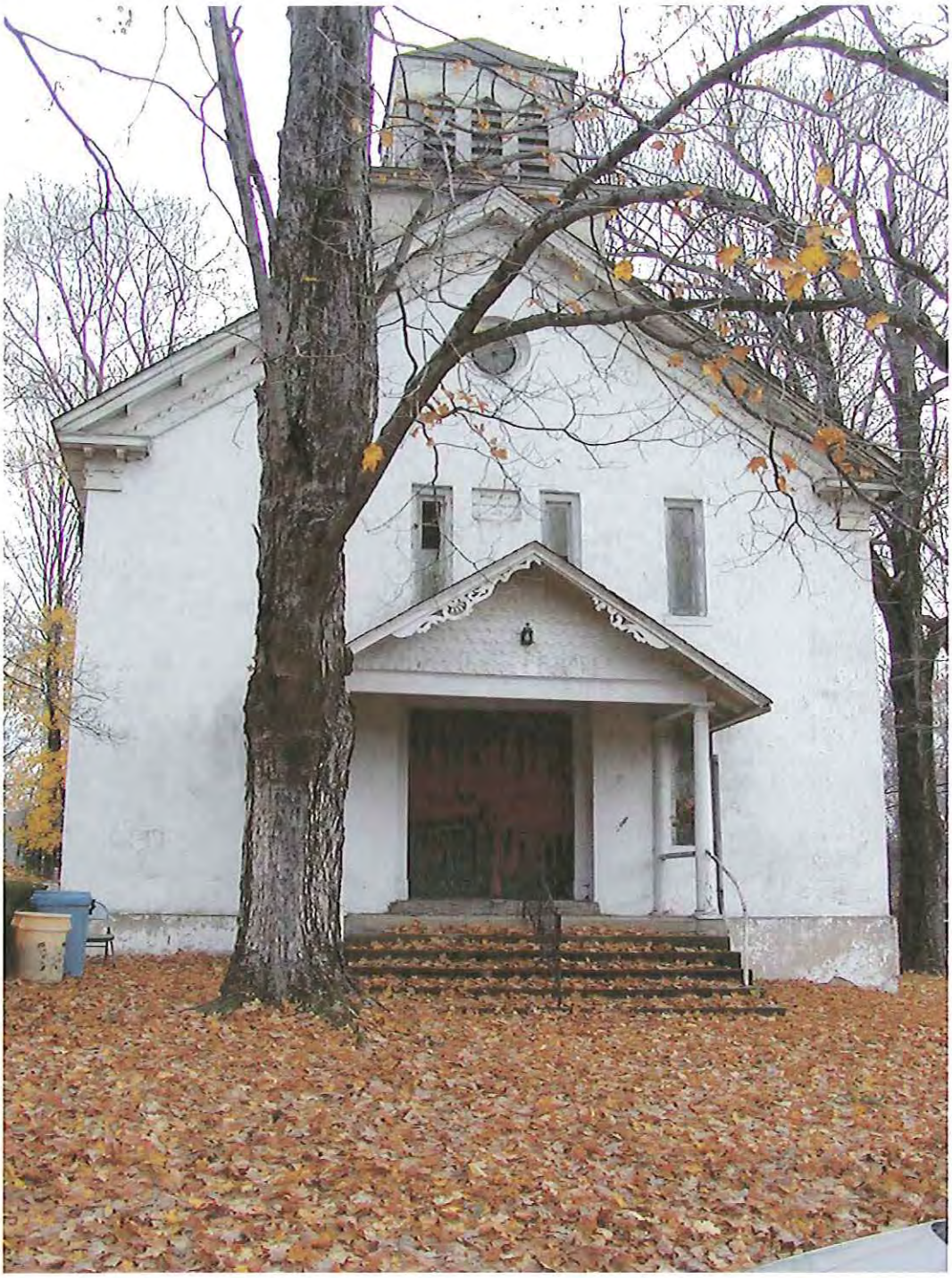


Mt. Olive Academy Schoolhouse
View of rear and west side wall
View facing south
Undated photograph



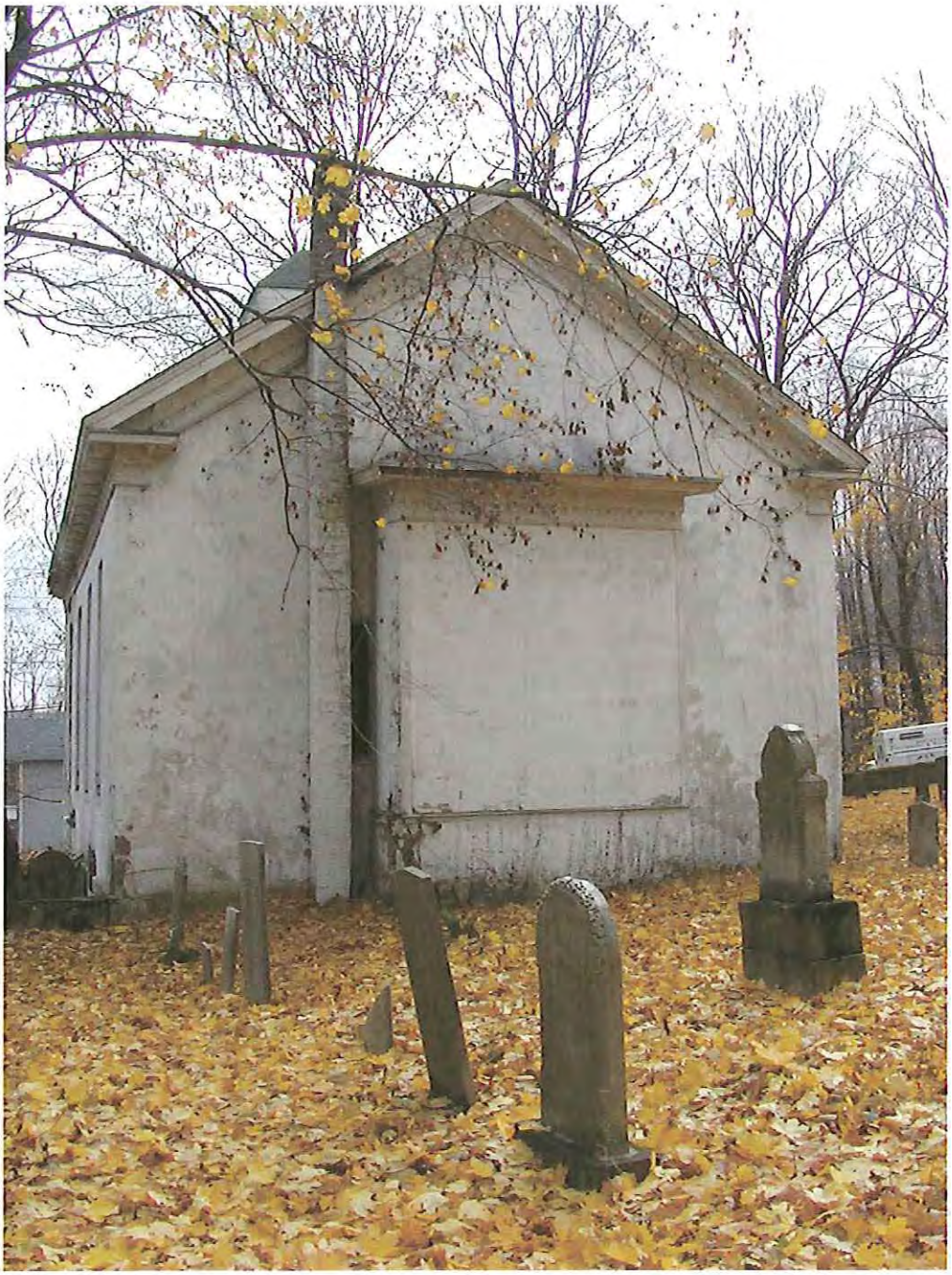
Mount Olive Presbyterian Church
Chambers, *Early Germans of New Jersey*
1895

Proposed Mt. Olive Village Historic District, View facing north. Spring 2004



Mt. Olive Baptist Church facade
View facing north
Fall 2003

Mt. Olive Baptist Church and churchyard cemetery
West side view, view facing east
Winter 2004



Mt. Olive Baptist Church and churchyard cemetery
Rear view facing south
Fall 2004

Mt Olive Baptist Churchyard Cemetery
view facing north
Winter 2004

Mt. Olive Baptist Churchyard
Cemetery
view facing southeast
Winter 2004

Mt. Olive Academy
view facing north
Winter 2004

Mt. Olive Presbyterian Church
view facing northwest
Winter 2004

Mt. Olive Presbyterian Church and
Greenwood Cemetery
view facing east
Winter 2004

Greenwood Cemetery
view facing east
Winter 2004

Mt. Olive Union Cemetery
view facing north
Winter 2004

MOUNT OLIVE
BAPTIST MEETING HOUSE
1855
GREEN ACRES

CAUTION / CUIDADO

RARICK
DRAKE
WACK
WACK

STEPHENS
STEPHENS
STEPHENS
STEPHENS
WOLFE
YOUNG

ANDREW F. STEPHENS
1868 — 1943
JEAN M. CLERIHEW
HIS BELOVED WIFE
1865 — 1916
HIS WIFE
GRACE M. FOX
1875 — 1949

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Mount Olive Village Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Morris

DATE RECEIVED: 6/19/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/07/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/22/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/04/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000490

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

✓ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT 8.3.15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA_____

REVIEWER_____ DISCIPLINE_____

TELEPHONE_____ DATE_____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

HPO Proj. #06-0165
Chrono #: F2015-098

State of New Jersey

MAIL CODE 501-04B
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
TEL. (609) 984-0176 FAX (609) 984-0578

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Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

June 12, 2015

Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

I am pleased to submit the nomination for the Mount Olive Village Historic District, Mount Olive Township, Morris County, New Jersey, for National Register consideration.

This nomination has received majority approval from the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites. All procedures were followed in accordance with regulations published in the Federal Register.

Should you want any further information concerning this application, please feel free to contact Daniel D. Saunders, Administrator, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Mail code 501-04B, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420, or call him at (609) 633-2397.

Sincerely,

Rich Boornazian
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer