

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

MAY 6 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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 Dennisville Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number Irregularly bounded by Gatzmer Ave., the railroad tracks, part of SR47, and the rear lot lines of properties on the north side of Petersburg Road and SR47 not for publication

city or town Dennis Township vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Cape May code 009 zip code 08214

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I certify that this 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 meets nationally statewide locally. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. See continuation sheet for additional comments. Signature of certifying official/Title Date 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. determined eligible for the National Register. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:). Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	60	88	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	2	0	structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	0	0	objects
		62	88	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
55 (53 buildings and 2 sites)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single family dwelling; secondary structure

RELIGION/religious facility and church-related residence

EDUCATION/school

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/man. facility

COMMERCE/TRADE: professional

SOCIAL/meeting hall

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single family dwelling; secondary structure

RECREATION AND CULTURE: museum

RELIGION/religious facility and church-related residence

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/dam

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

SOCIAL/meeting hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL/Post-medieval English

EARLY REPUBLIC/Federal

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne, Italianate

LATE 19TH/EARLY 20TH C/bungalow, Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE, CONCRETE

walls WOOD/clapboard; ASBESTOS; SYNTHETICS/ vinyl

roof WOOD/shingle; ASPHALT; METAL

other

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

Name of Property

County and State

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.
X 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.
X 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:

- X A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
X B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
X 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.

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
X previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
X recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # NJ-751; NJ-752; NJ-753
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- A: education
B: transportation; politics/government; commerce
C: architecture
D: historic—non-aboriginal

Period of Significance

Ca. 1700 - 1928

Significant Dates

Ca. 1700; 1749; 1928

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Nathaniel Holmes, Jr.; William S. Townsend

Cultural Affiliation

none

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
X Other

Name of repository:

Dennis Twp. Historical Society

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Approx. 182.4 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 Zone Easting Northing
2

3 Zone Easting Northing
4

X 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 Joan Berkey, architectural historian

organization date 12-3-2015

street & number 707 N. Delsea Drive telephone 609-861-2208

city or town Cape May Court House state NJ zip code 08210

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

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

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.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Dennisville Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation

Section number 7 Page 1

Cape May County, NJ

Description Narrative

Summary Description:

The Dennisville Historic District is located in the southwestern corner of Dennis Township in Cape May County, New Jersey. Dennisville, an unincorporated village, takes its name from Dennis Creek, a tidal waterway located one-half mile to the south. The village prospered through the 19th and early 20th centuries because of shipbuilding and other commercial pursuits located at Dennis Creek Landing. A sawmill established in the mid-18th century on a branch of the creek also fostered the village's development. Dennisville is a small residential neighborhood characterized by buildings—mostly frame houses—that range in date from ca. 1700 to the early 21st century. Most are well-preserved vernacular interpretations of the Post-medieval English, Federal, Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, and Queen Anne styles. The expanded district also contains three former school buildings, several former stores, a church, two former social halls, a cemetery, and a mill pond in addition to numerous historic and modern outbuildings. The district is concentrated along two major village streets (Main Street and Petersburg Road), a two-thirds-mile long segment of State Route 47 (Delsea Drive) that adjoins the village to the west, and three minor streets within the village.

The district was originally listed in the National Register in 1987 and included historic resources located along Main Street, Petersburg Road, Hall Avenue, Gatzmer Avenue, and Church Road, in addition to four contributing resources on the south side of SR47 near Johnson's Mill Pond west of the village. The 1987 nomination identified a total of 60 contributing resources: 58 buildings and two sites (a former saw mill archaeology site and the Ludlam cemetery). This nomination: (1) re-examines and reevaluates the status of those 60 resources within the listed National Register Historic District; (2) provides more-detailed architectural descriptions of the original resources; (3) identifies, classifies, and describes outbuildings because they were rarely described and were not counted as resources in the original nomination; (4) reflects lots subdivided and/or built upon after 1987 and a loss by fire resulting in new construction; (5) deletes two vacant lots (block 73, lots 15 and 18); and (6) corrects errors in the original nomination wherein two historic houses on Church Road were described accurately but were identified by the wrong lot numbers (block 71, lots 12 and 19).

This nomination also physically expands that part of the original district located on SR47. The 1987 district included four historic resources with a quarter-mile frontage on the south side of the SR47 located adjacent to the village. The expanded district now covers a two-thirds mile long segment of SR 47, adding 16 historic resources (eight houses, six outbuildings, one former school, and a 43.3-acre former mill pond) and 16 non-contributing buildings (one bank, one house, and 14 modern outbuildings). Like those within the 1987 district, these 16 contributing resources provide a clear progression of the cultural history and development of the area and all are architecturally similar to those in the original district. Also added to the district are one contributing and two non-contributing resources (a ca. 1922 house and its two modern outbuildings) on Gatzmer Avenue. In total, the 182.4-acre expanded district contains 117 contributing resources (113 buildings, two structures, two sites) and 92 non-contributing resources, of which twelve are modern houses or buildings, four of them listed as non-contributing in the original nomination. The remaining 80 non-contributing resources are mostly outbuildings erected after 1928, most of which were neither identified nor described in the 1987 nomination.

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Section number 7 Page 2 Cape May County, NJ

Narrative Description

The Dennisville Historic District is located in the southwest corner of Dennis Township in Cape May County which is in the southeastern tip of the state of New Jersey. A peninsula, the county is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean on the east and the Delaware Bay on the south and west. Dennis Township, originally part of Upper Township until it became a separate township (roughly what was the lower half of Upper Township) in 1826, is located in the north central part of the county. Sited south of Upper Township, the county's northernmost township, Dennis Township stretches from the Delaware Bay and West Creek on the west to the barrier island community of Sea Isle City on the east.

Dennis Creek, for which Dennisville is named, is a narrow and winding tidal waterway that begins in the Great Cedar Swamp about $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile northeast of the State Route (SR) 47 bridge over Dennis Creek and empties into the Delaware Bay, which is about four miles southeast of the SR47 bridge. Historically known as Dennis Creek Landing, the area around the present bridge was the industrial and commercial center of both the unincorporated villages of Dennisville (on the north side of the creek) and neighboring South Dennis (on the south side of the creek) through most of the 19th century. However, little physical evidence of those activities remains today and Dennis Creek Landing is considered separately eligible as an archaeological district.

SR47 is a two-lane highway that originates in Camden County and travels south roughly 80 miles before ending in the barrier island resort of Wildwood in Cape May County. [photos 32-34, 37,38,40] As it comes from the north, the road runs roughly west to east through northern Dennisville and past Johnson's Mill Pond, after which it arcs southeast along the western edge of Dennisville. It then continues south over the creek and through South Dennis. [photos 31, 32] Smaller county roads branch off SR47 in northern Dennisville heading to the northeast.

Dennisville's Main Street runs north to south, anchored by a modern convenience store on SR47 (outside of the district) at the south and running $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north where it dead ends at Petersburg Road. [photos 1-4, 30] Petersburg Road is a two-lane county road (CR610) that runs from SR47 northeasterly about six miles to Petersburg, an unincorporated village in Upper Township. [photos 6,9-12, 14-15, 18, 20-21] Several small streets (Hall [photo 22], Church [photo 23] and Gatzmer [photo 25]) make a grid in the heart of Dennisville village, while two less-traveled roads—Fidler and Academy—branch off Petersburg Road in the village and head northeast towards the borough of Woodbine and the village of Tuckahoe in Upper Township.

Land is mostly level throughout the historic district. Building lots within Dennisville village are typically about 100' wide by 200+' long in size. Many along Main Street and Petersburg Road resulted from a subdivision of sawmill owner David Johnson's land by his heirs after his death in 1805. Lots along SR47 immediately west of the village range in size from 100-150' wide by 300'+ long to several acres, a consequence of piecemeal subdivision of larger farms that straddled both sides of SR47 in the 18th and 19th centuries.

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Dennisville Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation

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Cape May County, NJ

Dennisville retains its small village character largely because heavily-traveled SR47 by-passed the village when constructed in 1928. [see fig. 10 in the *Supplemental and Historic Images* section] The village has no sidewalks currently¹, and the houses retain their relatively modest set-backs from the street. [photo 1] Historic photographs show tree-lined streets with dirt or clamshell paths that served as sidewalks. Many houses were fronted by wooden or iron fences, but most have been removed or replaced with modern fences. [fig. 12, 15, 16, 17, 20] Landscaping varies by property with some houses fronted by large, old trees and grassy lawns, while others have grassy lawns and foundation plantings. Trees include white oak (*Quercus alba*), Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), white pine (*Pinus strobus*), holly (*Ilex*), magnolia (*Magnolia*), wild cherry (*Prunus avium*), and sycamore (*Plantanus occidentalis*). In addition to grass, ground covers include ivy (*Hedera helix*), periwinkle (*Vinca*), and pachysandra (*Pachysandra*). The most commonly found shrubs are forsythia (*Forsythia*), boxwood (*Buxus*), and privet (*Ligustrum*).

In total, the expanded district includes most of the buildings and structures located within the village of Dennisville on Main Street, Petersburg Road, Hall Avenue, Gatzmer Avenue, and Church Road. West of the village, the historic district contains resources on both sides of SR47 from roughly 200 feet southeast of its intersection with Petersburg Road to roughly 600 feet west of its intersection with Myrtle Avenue. Although historic buildings along SR47 in the district expansion typically have larger lots, their modest set-backs are similar to those in the village. [photos 40, 41] Land behind them is vacant wetlands, forested upland, or fallow farmland. Johnson's Mill Pond is located almost in the geographic center of the expanded historic district, between the village (to the east) and the buildings in the district expansion (to the west). [photo 31]

District boundaries are irregular. Within the village the district is generally bounded on the south by Gatzmer Avenue, on the north by an irregular line that follows the rear lot lines of buildings on the north side of Petersburg Road between the railroad tracks (to the east) and SR 47 (to the west), on the east by the railroad tracks, and on the west by SR47.

The bulk of the district (that within the village) was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on November 24, 1987. The 1987 district included 60 historic resources (58 buildings and two sites [the sawmill archaeology site and the cemetery]). Of the 58 buildings, one was lost to fire (block 70, lot 28), three were demolished (block 73, lot 18; block 72, lot 11; and block 72, lot 10), and a ca. 1810 moved house previously listed as contributing (block 67, lot 35) is considered as non-contributing because it was moved after 1928 from a place outside of the historic district. This leaves a total of 53 contributing buildings identified in 1987 that are still standing within the original district and are within the proposed expanded district.

Historic buildings in the original 1987 district consist mostly of single-family residences that range in date from ca. 1700 to ca. 1900 and represent styles that include Post-Medieval English, Federal, Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, and Queen Anne, most of them vernacular interpretations. Also part of the historic building stock is an 1871 Italianate style church [photo 28],

¹ Plans to install new sidewalks are currently (2015) in the design phase as part of a proposed county road paving, drainage, and sidewalk project along CR610.

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Cape May County, NJ

several stores and a medical office [photo 8] (none used as such), a former academy built in 1842 [photo 19], a former public school built in 1874 [photo 13], two fraternal organization halls [photo 25 and in the center left of photo 32] (both now residences), and numerous historic outbuildings. Most historic residences are two-stories tall and all are of wood frame, typically placed on a brick foundation. Historic and modern outbuildings were not enumerated or described in the original nomination, but they are in this nomination.

Within the village, the boundary is increased by adding one contributing house at 32 Gatzmer Avenue (block 74, lot 6); it was built in 1922 and thus falls within the period of significance. [photo 26] Two contributing houses (both in block 71, on lots 12 and 19) [photo 23 (in the distance to the left) and photo 24] were identified by the wrong lot numbers in the original nomination and this nomination corrects that. The incorrectly-identified lots (block 71, lots 14 and 18), which are vacant land, remain within the district. One historic house burned in 2004 and the new house erected on its lot (block 70, lot 28) is non-contributing.² Two adjoining village lots in block 73 are now vacant and have been excluded from the district: lot 15 had a non-contributing building on it that was demolished after 1987, and lot 18 had a contributing building on it that has also been demolished. Block 72 lot 10, now vacant, had a contributing building on it that was demolished after 1987.

There are four vacant lots within the expanded district: block 69, lot 16; block 71, lots 14 and 18; and block 72, lot 10. The original nomination identified four non-contributing houses (block 72, lots 8 and 9; block 70, lot 25; and block 71, lot 5); all still stand and are still non-contributing.

Outside of the village proper, on SR47, the original nomination included two historic houses (block 64, lots 26 and 27), the site of the Johnson sawmill (block 64, between lots 26 and 27), and a historic cemetery (block 64, lot 25), all on the south side of the road. The dam over which SR47 travels was mentioned but was not counted as a separate resource. [photos 33, 34, 43] In this nomination, the dam is counted as a separate contributing resource/structure. The mill pond on the opposite side of SR47 was excluded from the 1987 district because, at that time, it was thought the pond pre-dated the establishment of the mill. However, subsequent research has determined the pond was created specifically to power a sawmill in 1749, either by raising an existing pond or by damming a branch of Dennis Creek (Beaver Dam branch) to create a new pond. Thus, the increased boundary now includes Johnson's Mill Pond.

Continuing further west along SR47, beyond the pond and the original district boundary, the expanded district includes seven contributing houses that range in date from ca. 1760 to ca. 1910 and a one-story public school built in 1874, also contributing, in addition to six historic outbuildings and 12 non-contributing outbuildings. [photos 35-42] The seven houses share the same building characteristics as those within the village, all are wood frame, and all are vernacular expressions of the Post-medieval English, Federal, Pre-Railroad, Italianate, and Gothic Revival styles. Of these contributing resources, the Townsend House was listed in the state and National Registers of Historic Places in 1984 and the Ludlam Schoolhouse was determined individually eligible for the Registers in 2006.

² 676 Petersburg Road

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Two additional houses are added on SR47, east of the four historic resources in the original district: a ca. 1860-70 historic house (contributing, block 64, lot 280.02, with 3 non-contributing outbuildings) that was moved not far from its original location to make way for the 1928 bypass, and a modern non-contributing house (block 64, lot 28.01, with one non-contributing outbuilding).

There are several moved buildings within the district. An early to mid-19th century store that originally stood on Main Street in the village was moved in 1904 to its current location behind the Townsend House at 1196 SR47. Two other stores were also moved from their original locations on Main Street to a place behind houses fronting on Main Street (128 Main Street and 131 Main Street). These are considered as contributing buildings because they were moved before 1928, the end date of the period of significance. In the village, at least four historic houses are known to have been moved to their present location: two from across the street (706 Petersburg Road and 1109 SR47, the latter moved to make way for the realignment of SR47 in 1928), one from neighboring South Dennis (now used as a guest house behind 694 Petersburg Road), and one from Middle Township (698 Petersburg Road). The two houses that were moved from within the village are considered as contributing because they were present in the village before the 1928 end date of the period of significance. The other two houses are considered non-contributing because they were moved from locations outside of the village after the 1928 end date of the period of significance.

Generally, the architectural integrity of most historic buildings within the district remains high. One local Dennisville resident commented that when he was growing up in Dennisville in the 1940s and 1950s, the village was nothing but “widows and old maids” which might account for the high state of preservation in Dennisville’s housing stock.

Poverty preserved a large number of the more-modest, vernacular residences occupied historically by day laborers who worked in the ship yards, at the mills, or on the water as oystermen, clambers, and baymen. These often-humble, architecturally-simple buildings—sometimes no more than one room down and one room up—continued to serve small families with modest means well into the 20th century. Many today have modern additions to the rear or side that speak not only to the increased wealth of their occupants but to the need for more living space. [photo 42]

Description of Resources within the Historic District (C=contributing and NC=non-contributing)

626 Petersburg Road

Block 69/Lot 13

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building

Historic Name: Gandy and Phebe Robinson House

Description: Built in 1887 in the Folk Victorian style, this 2½-story frame house (C) is 3 bays wide and 2 bays deep. The house faces south. It is covered with original wood clapboard and stands on a brick foundation. The side-gabled roof has wide eaves and exposed rafter ends. The roof is

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covered with asphalt shingles and the rake boards have original applied, flat jig-saw cut ornamentation in a fleur-de-lis pattern. A brick chimney flue emerges from the rear (north) elevation of the roof. Each gable end is decorated with a variety of original, patterned wood shingles (fish scale, diamond and bevel cut). An original full-width, 1-story open front porch with a hipped roof shelters the façade (south elevation) and is supported by original chamfered wood posts, some of which retain their original scroll-cut brackets. To the rear (north) is an original, shed-roofed kitchen ell; it has been extended about 6' to the north in the mid-20th century. There is a modern shed-roofed addition, on a cinder block foundation wall, placed against the west (side) elevation of the main block; it is covered with wood clapboard and decorative wood shingles. A small pump shed is attached to the rear addition. The main block and rear kitchen ell have wooden double-hung 2/2 sash windows (appear original), with aluminum storm windows; the remaining windows are modern sash. Behind the house is a ca. 1925 two car frame garage (C); it is gabled fronted and is covered with German siding (wood, original). The roof, which has exposed rafter tails, is covered with asphalt shingles. The sliding garage doors consist of narrow vertical boards strengthened with cross-buck boards. There is a small door hung on strap hinges at the attic level in the gable front. The east side elevation has an original 2/2 double-hung wood sash window with an original 4-panel door to the north. The garage has a poured concrete foundation.

632 Petersburg Road

Block 69/Lot 14

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building +1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: John and Eliza Annelly House

Description: Built in 1889 in a modest interpretation of the Folk Victorian style, the main block of this side gabled, 2-story house (C) is 3 bays wide and 2 bays deep. The house faces south. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has wide, open eaves; the west gable end has decorative stick work ornamentation in the gable peak. There is an original interior end wall brick chimney in the east gable end. An almost full-width, shed-roofed front porch shelters the center entrance. The porch has modern turned posts topped with modern spindle-work brackets. The modern wooden front door is flanked by modern sidelights, all of which have clear stained glass. Behind the main block is a 2-story ell (originally the kitchen); it has an original semi-hexagonal, 1-story bay window on the west side elevation. Behind the ell is a shed-roofed addition of undetermined date. Placed against the east wall of the kitchen ell is large, 2-story side gable addition built ca. 2000. It has an exterior end wall boxed-in flue on the east gable end and 1/1 vinyl replacement windows. Windows on the main block are original 2/2 double-hung wood sash; those on the second story of the façade are flanked by inoperable shutters. All sections are sheathed with vinyl siding. The main block and rear kitchen ell stand on a foundation of brick piers infilled with brick. The decorative stick work in the west gable end and the bay window in the kitchen ell may date to a remodeling in the first quarter of the 20th century. Behind the house is a modern, one-car garage (NC).

636 Petersburg Road

Block 69/Lot 15

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 3 contributing buildings

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Cape May County, NJ

Historic Name: Captain Lewis and Sarah Douglas House

Description: This 2-story, cross-gabled Queen Anne style home (C) was built 1887-1888; it faces south. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has wide overhanging eaves supported by original stick work braces near the bottom of the rake boards, and exposed rafter ends. The main block and kitchen wing are covered with wood clapboard except for the attic level of the main block gable ends which have original patterned shingles (diamond, fish scale, and bevel cut) arranged in rows. Rake boards are decorated with blocks having original open trefoil cutouts. An exterior wall cinder-block chimney flue rises near the northwest corner of the main block. The house has an original hipped-roof front (south elevation) porch (now screened in) with a standing seam metal roof, square columns, a frieze of X-shaped wood crosses and wood brackets, all original. It shelters a 9-light wooden front door that appears to date to ca. 1930. Windows on the first and second floor of the main block are 2/2 double-hung wood sash (original). These are flanked by operable, original wooden louvered shutters and have molded window heads. There is a 2-story gable roof side (west) wing; it has a door sheltered by a ca. 1930 gable-fronted door hood enclosed to create an entry porch. Against the south wall of the wing and the west wall of the main block is 1-story shed-roofed open porch with corrugated metal roofing supported by Doric columns. The façade (south elevation) of the main block has ca. 1930 1-story enclosed porch with a shed roof; this porch has three 12-light single-sash wood windows on the south elevation and two 1/1 double-hung sash windows on the east side elevation. A 1-story stucco-covered addition, built ca. 1930-50, with a shed roof is placed against the east side wall of the main block. It has a triple window on the façade (south elevation) topped with a transom of 3 stained glass windows. A double door on its east side elevation is topped with a broken pediment. In the west side yard is a small 1-story frame outbuilding (C), erected ca. 1900, with a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles, and sheathed in clapboard. It has a ca. 1880 door with arch-headed panels on the façade (south elevation) with a long, 1-light single sash window to the west. The east gable end has a saw tooth rake board that appears to be original, and a 1-story boxed bay window with two single-sash wood windows. Behind the house is a gable front frame outbuilding that appears to be a ca. 1925 garage (C) and a frame building (C) that appears to be an outhouse; neither are visible from the street.

646 Petersburg Road [photo 19]

Block 69/Lot 17

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building

Historic Name: The Old Academy

Description: Built 1842-1843, this 2-story, side gabled building (C) is modestly Greek Revival in style. It is 3 bays wide and 2 bays deep, and faces south. The asphalt-shingle covered roof has wide eaves and a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends. Each gable end has an original interior end wall brick chimney covered with stucco. A modern, free standing, exterior wall steel chimney flue is placed against the east (side) wall. A ca. 1945 1-story shed-roof front (south elevation) porch runs almost the full width of the house and shelters a center front door that is a simple late 19th-century replacement 4-panel wood door; the upper two panels have been replaced with panes of glass. The main block is clad with square cut, cedar clapboards (combination of original and replacement). First story and gable end windows on the east and west side elevations are vinyl replacement, 1/1 double-hung sash. The rear (north elevation) windows on the second floor are vinyl replacements. Original

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6/6 double-hung wood sash windows are found on the 1st floor façade, and the east, west and façade elevations of the 2nd floor. There is a ca. 1980 small 1-story, shed-roofed addition on the west side elevation; it has a pair of 15-light single sash wood casement windows. This addition has a combination of clapboards on the west elevation and T-111 siding on the north and south sides. Built against the rear (north) elevation is a ca. 1980 1-story shed-roofed addition sheathed with T-111 siding. It has a wood-enclosed exterior wall chimney against the east side wall, modern casement windows, and a modern back door.

652 Petersburg Road [photo 14 (seen to the far right)]

Block 70/Lot 23

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 2 contributing buildings + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Mary Dalton House

Description: Built in 1886, the south-facing main block of this 2½-story Queen Anne style dwelling (C) is 3 irregular bays wide and 2 bays deep. The main block has a nearly-square footprint; the easternmost two-thirds has a hipped roof that abuts a cross-gable roof over the westernmost third; there is a gable-front dormer to the east on the façade (south elevation) and a hipped roof dormer on the east side elevation. The asphalt shingle covered roof has wide, overhanging eaves with boxed cornices and returns in the gable ends. A 1-story shed-roofed front porch (original) with a center gable runs almost the full width of the house. It shelters the center door and has an original balustrade of square balusters; the porch roof is supported by original square molded columns with brackets that have original cut-out ornamentation. Dormer side walls, porch end walls, and the center gable have fish-scale shingles that appear to be original. The exterior is sheathed with wood clapboard siding and the corners have wide corner boards. The front door is not original to the house but it is about the same age and is composed of arched windows with privacy glass over sunk panels. The windows, which have pedimented heads (original), are vinyl replacement 6/6 double-hung sash, most flanked by inoperable louvered shutters. The cross gable has an original round-headed window with original operable wood shutters on the front (south) and rear (north) elevations. There is a 1-story shed-roofed rear (north) addition, built in the last quarter of the 20th century, which extends beyond both side walls of the main block. The westernmost part was a screened porch that was enclosed in the early 21st century; it has a door on the façade (south elevation) that is fronted by a bracketed porch that was added in the late 20th century. Behind the house are three outbuildings: (1) a ca. 1900 outhouse (C) (1-seat) with a gable roof, exposed rafter ends, and a half-moon cut-out on the door; (2) a 1-story, gable front wood frame building, formerly a ca. 1900 coal house (C), rebuilt into a work shop in the early 21st century, and (3) a 1-story wood frame, side-gabled store (NC) built about 2002.

656 Petersburg Road [photo 16]

Block 70/Lot 24

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Captain Harry and Hannah Chester House

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Description: Completed in 1894, this 2½-story frame house (Key C) is an excellent example of Queen Anne style architecture, showcasing the irregular roof line, complex massing, and asymmetrical façade characteristic of the style. The main block, which faces south, features a gable front section to the east and to the west a recessed, jerkin-head cross-gable roof section placed perpendicular to the gable front section. The roof is covered with original slate ornamented with a wide band of fish-scale shaped slates. Eaves are wide and overhanging with no cornice. Rake boards on the main block and original porches are decorated with original bull's eye circles with two adjacent narrow strips of wood. A small parged chimney rises from the center of the gable front section; below the chimney is a shorter, windowless cross gable on the east side elevation. The house is covered with wood clapboard, interrupted by (1) bands of decorative wood shingles (original) in the gable ends and windowless dormer, (2) plain bands of wood between the second and attic stories below which is a row of diamond shingles, and (3) an area between the first and second stories on the gable front section that has a frieze (about 3' wide) with plain panels, half-timbered panels, and a large, carved starburst, all original. The southeast corner of the gable front section has an original cut-away bay window decorated with original jigsaw-cut brackets.

The front door is placed on the façade (south elevation) of the recessed hipped roof section and is sheltered by a full-width 2-story porch with heavy, turned columns having jigsaw-cut brackets, a spindle frieze, and a spindle-work balustrade, all original. In front of the 2-story porch is an original gable-front porch with half-timber detailing placed over pattern shingles in the front-facing gable. Its spindle frieze and spindle-work balustrade match those of the two-story porch behind it. There is a 2/3-width porch along the east side of the gable front section, also with matching spindle work frieze and balustrade. The northernmost one-third of the east side porch is enclosed. Windows throughout are a combination of 1/1 and 4/4 double-hung wood sash except for a Queen Anne style window on the second story of the façade of the gable front section and a single-sash stained glass window in the northernmost bay on the second story of the hipped roof section.

There is a large, 1-story side gable addition, 3 bays wide and 1 bay deep, built against the west wall of the main block that appears to date to the mid- to late 20th century. It has a roof covered with asphalt shingles, has wide eaves, and is covered with wood clapboard. Rake boards in the west gable end match those on the main block and there is a stick work gable ornament. Windows are 8/1 double-hung wood sash. Built against the rear wall in the northeast corner of the main block is a smaller 1-story addition, 1 bay wide; it has an exterior wall brick chimney and was probably built in the last quarter of the 20th century. The chimney is made of recycled bricks found locally. There are two smaller additions of indeterminate age, both with 1/1 double-hung wood sash windows, placed against the rear of the main block. The building and its additions stand on a brick foundation.

Behind the house is a gable-front ca. 1894 carriage shed (C) sheathed in original wood clapboard. It has exposed rafter ends, a roof covered with wood shingles, two board and batten doors hung on strap hinges, and 2/2 double-hung wood windows on the side elevations. Near the rear of the lot is a small modern storage building (NC).

660 Petersburg Road
Block 70/Lot 25

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Original District Count: 1 non-contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed non-contributing building

Description: Built about 1940-1950, this 1-story ranch style house (NC) has a rectangular footprint more wide than deep; it faces south. The side-gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingles and the house is covered asbestos siding that is probably original. The entrance is recessed in the southeast corner of the house and is sheltered by a small porch with square wood columns. There is a 3-light picture window (original) in the center of the façade (south elevation); it has two windows to the west. The remaining windows are 2/2 (horizontal placement) double-hung wood sash that appear to be original. The building stands on a concrete block foundation wall and has a late 20th-century shed-roofed, screened-in porch along the rear (north) elevation.

668 Petersburg Road [center right in photo 15]

Block 70/Lot 26

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 3 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Enoch and Nancy James House

Description: This 2-story, side gabled frame dwelling (C) with a later 2-story rear ell was built around 1820-30 in the Pre-Railroad/Folk Vernacular style; it faces south. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has wide eaves, a boxed cornice, and returns in the gable ends. The main block is 3 bays wide and 2 bays deep with a center entrance; the door is a modern wood door with a beveled glass insert. An open, wraparound porch (built 2010-2011) with a standing seam metal shed roof supported by square wood columns runs the full-width of the façade (south elevation) and wraps around the east (side) elevation. A pediment in the roof on the facade marks the center entrance; there is a matching pediment on the east side of the porch roof that marks the entrance to the 201-2011 east side addition. To the rear is a 2-story ell with a roof that runs perpendicular to that on the main block. A new (2010-2011), 1-story addition is placed against the east elevation of the rear ell; it has a modern metal 12-light door that opens onto the side porch. The main block, rear ell, and new one story addition are covered with modern wood clapboard. All windows are modern 6/6 double-hung vinyl replacements except for 4-light single sash windows in the attic level of the main block's gable ends. A ca. 1880-1920 frame storage barn (NC) with a standing seam metal roof is sited east of the house and has modern, shed-roofed 1-story additions to the north, south, and east elevations. Because of these additions, the barn no longer retains sufficient historic appearance to be considered as a contributing element to the historic district. Also on the property are two modern storage buildings (both NC).

672 Petersburg Road

Block 70/Lot 27

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Osman and Clara Geary House

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Description: Built in 1913, the main block of this 2-story, Colonial Revival style home (C) is three bays wide and two bays deep; it faces south. The house has a steeply-pitched hipped roof that features a prominent cross gable, sheathed with original fish-scale wood shingles, on the façade (south elevation). Wide, overhanging eaves are open and a slender brick chimney flue (original) rises from the east slope of the roof. The original full-width front porch has a half-hipped roof supported by original Doric columns and a balustrade of turned balusters that might be original. The porch shelters an off-center door placed to the east. There is an original semi-hexagonal, 1-story bay window on the west (side) elevation. The east side elevation has an exterior door sheltered by a door hood with a half-hipped roof supported by heavy stick brackets, all original. The exterior is sheathed with wooden clapboards (appear original). Windows are mostly original 1/1 double-hung wood sash, some placed in pairs. The east side elevation has two Queen Anne style windows (also original). The main block stands on an original brick foundation.

Placed against the easternmost half of the rear elevation is a 1-story gable roof, ca. 1980 addition; it has a 3-light picture window and a 1/1 double-hung wood sash window on the east (side) elevation. Placed against the westernmost half of the rear elevation, and extending beyond the side walls of the main block, is a large 1-story addition with a flat roof and 5-light casement windows (1 on the façade and 3 on the west side elevation). This addition has an exterior wall chimney, enclosed with wood, placed against the rear (north) wall. The addition was probably built in the last quarter of the 20th century.

In the back yard is a 1-story, ca. 1920-25 wood frame garage (C). It has a gable front with two original wood garage doors, hung on strap hinges, which have 6 lights over sunk panels. The roof has exposed rafter ends, windows are 8-light single sash wood casement, and the building is sheathed in original wood clapboard. The building was almost doubled in size with a rear extension probably shortly after the garage was built since its details (windows, clapboard, and exposed rafter ends) are nearly identical to that of the original section. Behind the garage is a modern storage building (NC).

676 Petersburg Road [second from the left in photo 12]

Block 70/Lot 28

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 non-contributing building

Description: This modern, 2-story wood framed house (NC), modestly Neo-Victorian in style, was built on the foundations of an historic home that was destroyed by fire in 2004. In its original form it was similar to a reverse version of #680 Petersburg Rd.

680 Petersburg Road [seen to the far left in photo 12]

Block 70/Lot 29

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building

Historic Name: Captain Daniel and Eunice Fidler House

Description: Built by local builders Crandol and James in 1894, this 2-story Queen Anne style home (C) has a hipped roof with two lower cross gables, one front-facing on the façade (south elevation)

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and another (side-facing) placed at the north end of the west side elevation. The asphalt shingle covered roof has wide, open eaves with exposed rafter ends and molded rake boards. A brick chimney flue (original) emerges from the rear elevation of the roof. There is an original short, 2-bay wide shed-roofed dormer, also with exposed rafter ends, on the east side elevation; it has original 6-light single-sash wood windows. A full-width, 1-story front porch shelters the front door which is recessed from the front wall. The wood front door appears to be original and has a large pane of glass over raised panels. The front porch has turned columns with wood brackets that support a spindle-work frieze, all original. The west-facing cross gable has a cutaway semi-hexagonal bay window with two angled windows on the first story; both angled windows are topped with original wood brackets having a wood pendant in the center. A shed-roofed, 1-story section across the rear appears to be original. A side door on the east elevation is sheltered by a metal-roofed hood. The exterior is sheathed with wooden clapboard, while the gable ends, porch gable ends, and dormer side walls are covered with original wooden square shingles in an alternating off-set pattern. The main block windows are 1/1 double-hung (appear original) wood sash fronted by aluminum storm-windows. The original foundation of large, rough-cut stones is unique to the village of Dennisville.

684 Petersburg Road [second from the left in photo 11]

Block 70/Lot 30

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 2 contributing buildings +3 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Walter and Julia Stiles House

Description: Built in 1890, this 2½-story house (C) with a prominent center cross gable on the façade (south elevation) and a cross-gabled rear ell is a late example of the Gothic Revival style. It faces south. The side gabled roof of the main block and rear ell are covered with asphalt shingles, have wide overhanging eaves, boxed cornices, and generous returns in the gable ends. An original brick interior wall chimney emerges just west of the front-facing center gable at the roof ridge, while a modern cinder block chimney flue rises along the exterior of the east side wall. A nearly-full width front porch on brick piers has a shed roof supported by chamfered posts with ornate, flat-jigsaw-cut brackets, all of which appear to be original; the balustrade, also original, consists of square balusters. The front door is flanked by original sidelights below which are raised panels. The wooden front door has a single panel of glass over raised panels and may be original. The east and west side elevations have identical original 2-story, semi-hexagonal bay windows with a flat roof, arch-headed window trim, and sunk panels below the first story windows; a modestly-flared roof covered with fish-scale shingles (original) marks the division between the two stories. On the east side elevation there is a small original porch, with a turned post and a balustrade of turned balusters, tucked into the space between the bay window and a 2-story, ca. 1900 flat-roofed rear addition. There is a later, 1-story shed-roof addition to the rear of the flat-roofed addition.

The house is covered with vinyl siding and has original wood corner boards with original molding at their tops. Windows are mostly 6/6 vinyl double-hung replacement sash; those on the first and second stories have modestly-arched trim over the window heads, while the garret windows are topped with semi-circular heads; the window trim appears to be original. Behind the house is a 1-

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story, side gable carriage shed with two sliding board and cross-buck doors (ca. 1900/C), a ca. 1900 outhouse (C), and three modern storage buildings (all NC).

108 Fidler Road [at the far left in photo 11]

Block 70/Lot 31

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 4 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: James G. and Beulah Stiles House

Description: Built in 1891 in the Queen Anne style, the main block of this 2-story house (C) has a T-shaped footprint and features a gable front main block with a cross gable ell to the rear. The house faces south. The steeply-pitched roofs are covered with asphalt shingles, have wide open eaves, and a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends. There are two original brick chimneys at the roof ridge, one in the front facing gable and the other in the west end cross gable. A 1-story flat-roofed porch runs the full width of the façade (south elevation) and wraps around the west side elevation. It shelters the original front door which has an original transom; the wood door has arched panels over sunk panels. Original porch details consist of turned posts with flat, jigsaw-cut brackets, a spindle work frieze, and a balustrade of turned balusters. The east (side) elevation has a 1-bay wide porch with identical details; it shelters a side door placed in the cross gable. The west (side) elevation of the west cross gable section has a 2-story semi-hexagonal bay window in the gable end; it has a flat roof, and sunk panels below the windows on both stories. Another 2-story gable-roof addition, built in 1901, is placed against the rear (north) elevation of the main block; it has a hipped roof, 1-story screened porch added to its rear (north) wall. There is a 1-story shed-roofed addition, one bay wide, added to the rear (north) wall of the main block, west of the 2-story 1901 addition. Windows are mostly 1/1 double-hung vinyl replacement sash except for 2/2 double-hung wood sash windows (original) in the gable ends and in some openings on the rear elevation; those in the attic level of the gable ends are arched. The house stands on a brick foundation wall and is clad in vinyl siding. Vinyl is also used in the soffits and cornices.

Behind the house is a long, one-story side-gabled frame outbuilding (NC) comprised of three sections, all with asphalt shingle covered roofs and having exposed rafter ends. The ca. 1850-1900 southernmost section is 3 bays wide and 2 bays deep; it appears to have been a store or possibly a small house since it has a center door placed between two 6/6 double-hung wood sash windows on the façade (west elevation). It has an exterior wall cinder block chimney flue that runs along the south side wall. The center section is modern and is composed of three garage doors. The somewhat taller modern northernmost section has a single garage door. All sections are covered with wood clapboard. Near this outbuilding are three modern frame storage buildings, all one-story tall (all NC).

694 Petersburg Road [photo 10]

Block 67/Lot 36

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 2 contributing buildings + 3 non-contributing buildings

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Historic Name: Jonathan Crandall House

Description: The main block, which faces south, of this ca. 1813-1817 house is comprised of two historic sections built in the Pre-Railroad style. The easternmost section is 1½ -stories tall and has a side-gabled, sweeping “catslide” roof in the front that incorporates a one-story enclosed porch with jalousie windows. A brick well is located in the porch. The façade consists of a centrally placed doorway flanked by two windows, a fenestration pattern that is repeated on the rear (north) wall. The upper half story is raised a few feet from the floor to accommodate a small 6-light single sash window on the façade. Two small 6-light, single-sash wood windows are located on the east side wall of the first story on each side of the chimney stack, while the upper half-story has a 6/6 double-hung wood sash on the east wall. The rear (north) elevation of this section has two dormers built in the 20th century, both with 6-light casement sash. A large interior end wall brick chimney pierces the gable roof at the easternmost end.

The westernmost section is 2-stories tall and has a centrally-placed door flanked by two windows, a fenestration pattern that is repeated on the rear (north) wall. Windows are predominantly 6/6 double-hung wood sash. The west wall has two double windows at each story, both of 6/6 double-hung wood sash likely added in the 20th century. The attic level has a 4-light single sash window in the gable end. The second floor of both the façade and rear elevations has two windows. There is a boxed cornice with no returns, a simple rake board, and a modest, one-story shed-roofed porch supported by square columns that shields the front door. A large interior brick chimney pierces the gable roof at the easternmost end. Windows are flanked by louvered blinds on the second floor and paneled shutters on the first floor. A one-story, shed-roofed addition runs across the entire rear (north) elevation and comprises a kitchen to the east and a porch with jalousie windows to the west. It was likely added in the 20th century.

Behind the house is a small 2-story frame house (NC) which appears to date ca. 1830-1840; it has a centrally placed door flanked by two windows (6/6 double-hung wood sash) with two 6-light single sash wood windows on the second story. It was moved to this site after 1963 from its original location on Rt. 83 in South Dennis and is non-contributing because it was moved to this site after the 1928 end date of the period of significance. Also behind the house is a 1-story side gabled former carriage house (ca. 1880) of wood frame (C), a late 19th century outhouse (C), and a late 20th century greenhouse (NC). In the back of the property, not visible from the street, but seen in aerial photographs, is what appears to be a modern storage building (NC).

698 Petersburg Road

Block 67/Lot 35

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 3 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Enoch and Amelia Godfrey House

Description: Moved to this site in 1967 from the Townsend’s Inlet section of Middle Township, this house (NC) is composed of two main sections which face south. To the west is a 1½-story side gable section that is 2 bays wide and 1 bay deep; adjoining it to the east is a 2-story side gable section that is three bays wide and 2 bays deep. Both were probably built in the first half of the 19th century. The roof of the shorter section is covered with asphalt shingles, while the taller section’s

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roof is covered with wood shingles. The only chimneys are on the 2-story section: there is a large interior end wall brick chimney in the west gable end and a smaller brick chimney, interior end wall, in the east gable end. Neither is original. Both sections have a boxed cornice with no extended eaves or returns in the gable ends. The front door is located in the westernmost bay of the 2-story section. The front door surround is composed of reeded pilasters supporting a plain pedimented entablature; the pilasters may be original. The front door appears to date to the mid-20th century and has a row of 4 lights over raised panels. Both sections are sheathed with wood shingles and have windows that are mostly 6/6 double-hung vinyl replacement sash. Those in the attic level of the gable ends of the 2-story section are original 4-light single sash, while those on the façade of the upper story of the shorter section are 6-light single sash (possibly original) that appear to slide horizontally. There is a ca. 1920-30 shed-roofed addition to the rear. Behind the house are two modern frame storage buildings/garages (both NC). The house was considered as contributing in the 1987 nomination but is now considered non-contributing because it was moved to this site from outside of Dennisville after the 1928 end date of the period of significance.

702 Petersburg Road [photo 5]

Block 67/Lot 37.01

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Nathaniel Jr. and Rebecca Holmes House

Description: This house (key C), which faces south, is composed of several historic sections all sheathed with beaded clapboard, some original, some replacement. The oldest is the somewhat shorter 2-story section of the main block, built about 1800 in the Pre-Railroad style/New England timber frame tradition. It has two windows flanking a central door on the first floor façade (south elevation) with two windows on the second floor, a fenestration pattern that is repeated on the rear (north) elevation. Adjoining it to the west is a taller, 2-story section built in 1822 in the Federal style. It has a door to the east, with two windows to the west on the first floor of the façade, and three windows on the second floor. The original pedimented door surround of the 1822 section has molded pilasters with diamond block motifs. The door is surmounted by an original semi-circular fanlight flanked by two diamond block motifs, and supported by molded columns. Both sections of the main block have a side gable roof sheathed in wood shingles and both are pierced by interior end wall brick chimneys, the ca. 1800 section at the east end and the 1822 section at the west end. Both sections have a brick foundation. Windows are predominantly 6/6 double-hung wood sash that appear to be original. There are later additions, both one-story with shed roofs, to the rear (north) and the east. The addition to the rear, built in the early to mid-20th century, contains a kitchen to the east and an enclosed sun porch used as a dining room to the west; it has a modern box bay window on its west wall. The 1-bay wide shed-roofed addition adjoining the east wall of the original section dates to the 19th century.

There are two outbuildings behind the house. One is a 19th-century hipped roof outhouse (C), sheathed in wood clapboard and having two window openings infilled with wood bars; the roof is wood shingle. The other is a small 1-story gable front building used as a store (NC); it was built about 2007.

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706 Petersburg Road

Block 67/Lot 37.02

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building +3 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Eleazor Crawford Tenant House

Description: Built about 1810 in the Federal style, this 2-story, side gabled house (C) with a rear lean-to faces south. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a boxed cornice with no returns in the gable ends. A brick chimney emerges from the center of the roof ridge. The main block is three bays wide and two bays deep with a center entrance. The front (south elevation) door has a simple, pedimented surround (not original). Windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash with 4-light single sash wood windows in the attic level of the gable ends; those on the façade are flanked by inoperable louvered shutters. Immediately behind the main block is a 1.5-story lean-to that runs the full width of the main block; it was built in the 1960s. There is a modern 1-story, side gabled screen porch attached to the east (side) elevation of the lean-to. Behind the lean-to is a modern, 1-story cross-gabled addition that spans the full-width of the lean-to and has a small, shed-roofed pump house on its west side elevation. Its rear (north) elevation has two triple windows of 6/6 double-hung wood sash. All sections of the house are covered with wood clapboard. The house originally stood across the street, on the lot adjacent to the Fire Company on the east (block 73, lot 3) and it was from this lot that the house was moved to its present location around 1965. Behind the house are what appear to be three modern storage buildings (all NC) not visible from the street but seen in aerial photographs.

712 Petersburg Road [seen to the far right in photo 6]

Block 67/Lot 38

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Rice-Diverty House

Description: Built about 1830 in the Federal style, the main block of this 2-story frame house (key C) has a rectangular footprint more wide than deep. It faces south. The first story of the façade (south elevation) is six bays wide and has two front doors, each flanked by a window on each side. The second story is four bays wide and the main block is one room deep. The side gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a boxed cornice with modest returns in the gable ends. Two wide, interior end wall brick chimneys (possibly original) with corbeled tops are located in each gable end. A 1-story, full width front porch, built around 1900, has a nearly flat roof supported by Doric columns; the porch has an original balustrade of heavily-turned balusters. The easternmost door has a pedimented door surround that encloses a semi-circular fanlight with a keystone arch. The pediment is supported by molded pilasters with diamond-shaped blocks. All elements appear to be original and are identical on those of the Nathaniel (Jr.) and Rebecca Holmes House, two houses to the east. Both doors are 6-panels (2/2/2) in what is called locally a “cross and bible” configuration. The westernmost door is enframed with simple molding. First story windows flanking the front doors are original 9/6 double-hung wood sash while those on the second story of the façade are 6/6 double-hung wood sash that also appear to be original. Windows in the attic level of the gable ends are 4/4 double-hung wood sash, possibly original. There are no windows on the east side gable end;

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there are 2 small windows (one on each story) on the west side gable end. The main block is sheathed with wood clapboard and stands on a foundation of infilled brick piers.

The house has several later additions. To the rear of the main block is a somewhat shorter 2-story addition, probably built in the 19th century, with a gable roof that runs perpendicular to that on the main block. The 2-story addition has a 1-story, 20th-century addition with a nearly flat roof against its west side elevation and a 1-story gable roof addition to its rear (north) elevation. There is a gable roofed screened-in porch against the rear wall of the 1-story addition. Against the east (side) wall of the main block is a 1-story, side gable addition that is three bays wide and 1 bay deep. It also dates to the 20th century and has 6/6 double-hung wood windows. All additions are covered with wood clapboard and those with gable roofs have asphalt shingles on the roof.

Behind the house, not visible from the street but seen in aerial photographs, is what appears to be a modern garage (NC).

716 Petersburg Road

Block 67/Lot 39

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 2 contributing buildings + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Eleazer (Sr.) and Eliza Crawford House

Description: This 2-story side gabled house (C) was built about 1821 in a modest interpretation of the Federal style. It faces south. The main block is three bays wide and two bays deep with a center entrance on the façade (south elevation). The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has overhanging eaves, and a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends. There are no chimneys. A 1-story front porch with a half-hipped roof spans the full width of the façade. It has Doric columns and a balustrade of heavy, turned balusters, all of which appear to date to ca. 1900-1920. Windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash that appear to be original; those on the first story of the façade are flanked by operable louvered shutters. The wooden front door has four panels (2/2) and a simple surround (original) composed of simple pilasters supporting a molded entablature. Behind the main block is a somewhat shorter, two-story cross-gabled ell that probably dates to the last quarter of the 19th century; its cornice and eaves are identical to those on the main block and a tall red brick chimney is found near the south end of the roof ridge. The ell is 1 bay deep and has ca. 1900 double windows (1/1 double-hung wood sash) on each story of the rear (north) elevation. Placed against the west side wall of the rear ell is a 1-story shed-roof enclosed porch. All sections are sheathed in wood clapboard. A small, gable-front 1-car garage (ca. 1925, C) is in the rear of the property; the front section, about 6' deep, appears to be an addition to the front of the original ca. 1925 garage as suggested by a break in the roof line. The garage has a pair of wooden cross buck doors hung on strap hinges. Not visible from the street but seen in aerial photographs are what appear to be two small outbuildings, one a ca. 1900 outhouse (C) and the other a modern storage building (NC).

720 Petersburg Road [photo 7]

Block 67/Lot 40

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

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Cape May County, NJ

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 2 contributing buildings +1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: David and Sarah Johnson House

Description: This two-story plank frame house (key C) was built ca. 1700-1730 in the Post-medieval style, but its exterior was remodeled in the Italianate style in the 1870s. It faces south. The main block is three bays wide and two bays deep, with a center entrance flanked by two windows. The gable roof ridge runs parallel with the façade (south elevation) and is covered with wood shingles. A deep cornice, with returns, has large Victorian-era brackets; the eaves are also bracketed. Two brick chimneys, both corbelled, pierce the gable ridge at each end (east and west). Windows are predominantly 6/6 double hung vinyl replacement sash. Most are flanked by ca. 1870 operable louvered shutters with original hardware and hold-backs. A one-story, Queen Anne style front porch has a half-hipped roof, covers the three bays on the façade (but is not full-width), and has a flat jigsaw-cut balustrade; all elements appear to be original. To the rear of the main block is a two-story ell placed on the north elevation; the front porch and ell were probably built ca. 1874. In the northwest corner between the main block and the ell is a small one-story addition, likely built around the turn of the last century. It has a pair of 6/6 double-hung windows on the north (rear) elevation. The house is sheathed in wood clapboard over original vertical board planking (1¾" thick), and a simple 3-light transom (original) tops the doorway. The interior features heavy timber framing with exposed, decorated framing members, shouldered and molded corner posts, and two summer beams.

Behind the house is an early 20th-century frame storage building (C), possibly a small stable or workshop originally, converted to a garage; it is 2-stories tall and has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Adjacent (to the west) of the house is a storage (?) building (C) that is partially below grade; it has a flat roof and a brick foundation wall pierced with single-sash wood windows. A set of Bilco doors on the east side provide access to the interior. It may date to the early 20th century and was possibly a root cellar. Also on the lot is a small modern storage building (NC).

726 Petersburg Road [photo 8]

Block 67/Lot 41

Original District Count: 1 contributing building³

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 3 contributing buildings

Historic Name: Dr. Maurice and Sarah Beesley House and Medical Office

Description of House: Built ca. 1820-30 and then extensively remodeled and added onto around 1880-1900 in the Queen Anne style, this 2-story house (C) has a main block with a rectangular footprint that is three bays and two bays deep. The house, which faces south, stands on a brick foundation and is sheathed in wood clapboard. The hip roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has wide eaves embellished with ca. 1900 flat jigsaw-cut trim in a pointed trefoil design. The entrance is placed off-center in the westernmost bay; the paneled wood door is topped with an original transom light. The door is sheltered by a full-width 1-story front porch with a half-hipped roof; the roof is supported square, chamfered posts with flat jigsaw-cut brackets. The balustrade is composed of

³ The medical office was described separately from the house, but was not counted as a separate resource in the 1987 nomination.

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Cape May County, NJ

square balusters. All porch details appear to be original to the Queen Anne style remodeling. Windows are mostly 2/2 double-hung wood sash in the main block, all flanked by original, operable louvered shutters with original hardware and holdbacks. Behind (to the north) the main block is a 2-story addition with a hipped roof; this section extends one bay wide beyond the sides of the main block and is an irregular two bays deep. It has a brick chimney flue (original) that emerges from the rear (north) slope of the asphalt shingle covered roof. The addition windows are mostly 2/2 double-hung wood sash except for a rectangular single-light stained glass window on the east side elevation. Twentieth-century additions to the rear include a 2-story gable front section to the west, a 1-story section to the east that has an entrance, sheltered by a small porch, on the east side elevation, and a 1-story screened porch with a shed roof.

Outbuildings: Behind the house are two historic outbuildings: (1) 1-story frame, gable-front building (C, probably originally an out-kitchen, built ca. 1800-50), 2 bays wide and 2 bays deep. It has a corbeled brick chimney at the rear (north) of the roof ridge. The building is covered with wood clapboard, the roof is covered with asphalt shingles, and the building has 6/6 double-hung wood sash with a single 6-light sash in the garret level of the façade (south elevation) and rear (north) elevation. There is a shed-roofed addition against the west side wall. (2) To the west of the out-kitchen is a 2-story side gable former carriage house (C), built ca. 1900, covered with wood clapboard. The roof is covered with wood shingles and has exposed rafter ends. There are no windows on the second story. The first story, rear (north) elevation has two 6/6 double-hung wood sash and the east elevation has a 16-light single sash wood window. There is an exterior wall brick chimney flue on the rear elevation to the west. Across the entire façade (south elevation) are two pairs of ca. 1920 cross-buck over board and batten garage doors.

Description of the Medical Office: The gable front medical office (C), built about 1860 in the vernacular Italianate style, is two bays wide and two bays deep with a rectangular footprint more deep than wide. It is located west of the house and faces south. The roof has broad, open eaves supported with original scrolled wood brackets. The cornice is modestly boxed and has generous returns in the gable ends. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a small chimney flue topped with a terra cotta chimney cap that emerges at nearly the center of the roof ridge. A 1-story full-width original porch hood, supported by scrolled wooden brackets, shelters the front door which is placed off-center to the east. West of the door is an original 6/6 double-hung wood window. A porch railing of crossed wood timbers and square columns, probably built in the last quarter of the 20th century, encloses the wood deck in front of the building. The structure is covered with narrow wood clapboard (possibly original) and windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash, all flanked by original paneled wood shutters with original hardware and hold backs. There is a small shed-roofed addition, 1-bay deep, placed on the east side elevation toward the rear (north), and a narrow ca. 1970 wood door with 2 lights on the rear (north) elevation.

727 Petersburg Road [seen left center in photo 32]

Block 73/Lot 1

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building

Historic Name: former Odd Fellows Hall

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Description: Built about 1845 in the Italianate style, the main block of this 2-story, side gabled frame house (C) faces north; it is three bays wide and two bays deep with a rectangular footprint more wide than deep. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has wide overhanging eaves supported by extended roof lath; flat. The eaves are decorated with jig-saw cut trim. In each gable end is an interior corbeled brick chimney. A nearly-full-width 1-story front (north elevation) porch with a flat roof shelters the center entrance. The porch is supported by pairs of square columns (not original); there are no brackets and no balustrade. The double-front doors appear to be original to an 1874 remodeling and have arched raised panels; above the doors is an original 2-light transom. Windows on the second story are original 6/6 double-hung wood sash; those on the façade of the first story are tall, ca. 1874 4/4 double-hung wood sash placed in pairs. All are flanked by operable louvered shutters with original hardware and holdbacks. The main block is covered with original wood clapboard. Attached to the east side elevation of the main block is a 1-story screened-in porch with a flat roof; the porch appears to date to the last half of the 20th century. There is a 1-story frame shed-roof addition possibly built when the Hall was converted to a house in 1874; it is 1-bay deep, runs across most of the rear (south) elevation and extends a few feet beyond the east side elevation. It has a boxed bay window on the rear elevation and several 2/2 double-hung wood windows (also flanked by operable shutters) that appear to date to ca. 1874. An exterior wall narrow chimney flue (parged) rises out of this addition and runs along the rear (south) wall of the main block. The addition is also covered with wood clapboard. A small, 1-story wooden outbuilding, possibly a storage shed (C) built about 1900, sits to the rear of the structure.

693 Petersburg Road

Block 72/Lot 12

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: William Souder Place

Description: The main block of this 2-story, side gabled frame dwelling (C) with a saltbox roof line was built about 1820-1850 in the Pre-Railroad/Folk Vernacular style; it faces north. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has no chimneys. There is a boxed cornice with no returns in the gable ends. The main block has irregular fenestration on all elevations. The façade (north elevation) has a triple window to the east and two single windows to the west on the first story, with four windows on the second story. In the center of the façade on the second story is a smaller 4/4 double-hung wood sash window. There are doors on each side elevation but none on the facade; that on the west side is flanked by a double window and that on the east by a single window. Windows are mostly replacement 6/6 vinyl double-hung window sash. Attached to the west side elevation toward the rear is a 1.5-story addition with a saltbox roof line and an almost-square footprint. There is a pair of modern casement windows on the north elevation and a modern door in the west side elevation. A single 6/6 double-hung sash window lights the garret level. Both sections are covered with wood clapboard. The house has been heavily altered by changes to its original fenestration and may have originally had two doors on the façade. Behind the house is a 1-story frame storage building (NC) that appears to date from ca. 1940 or later.

681 Petersburg Road [photos 13, 14]

Block 71/Lot 1.01

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Cape May County, NJ

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Dennisville School

Description: Built in the Italianate style in 1874, this one-story gable front frame schoolhouse (C) has a rectangular footprint more deep than wide. It faces north. The building is three bays wide and three bays deep, and has a center entrance on the façade (north elevation). The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has wide overhanging eaves accented with original heavy, scroll brackets, and a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends. There is an exterior wall brick chimney flue on the west side elevation. The front door, accessed by a modern flight of wood steps with a balustrade of turned balusters, is topped with a 3-light wood transom window that appears to be original; above the transom is an original molded cornice supported by paired brackets. The front door is not original and consists of multi-lights over a panel. There is an original window of 6/6 double-hung wood sash in the façade gable end at the attic level. The southernmost window on the west side elevation has been removed and replaced with a modern door; the door is fronted by a modern handicapped-access ramp and a flight of steps with a balustrade of turned balusters identical to those on the front of the building. Windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash flanked by louvered shutters with clamshell holdbacks. There are wide, molded pilasters in all four corners. The school is covered with wood clapboard and stands on its original stone foundation. Even though this building was shortened by one story in 1948 after being damaged in a fire, it possesses sufficient historic integrity reflecting its character through such details as the bracketed eaves, transom and molded cornice over the door, gable front massing, and wide corner boards. Behind the school is a modern storage building (NC).

673 Petersburg Road

Block 71/Lot 2

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building

Historic Name: Captain William and Ruth Taylor House

Description: Built about 1850-70 in the Gothic Revival style, the main block of this 2½-story frame house (C) faces north. It has a rectangular footprint more wide than deep. It is 6 bays wide and 2 bays deep and features a side gable roof with a prominent cross gable on the façade (north elevation). The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has wide, overhanging eaves and no chimneys. A full-width, 1-story front porch shelters two front doors; the nearly-flat porch roof is supported by chamfered posts with flat jigsaw-cut brackets and spandrels, all of which appear to date to a late 19th-century remodeling in the Queen Anne style. Two brick steps with ca. 1960 wrought iron railings lead to the porch. Windows are mostly original 2/2 double-hung wood sash flanked by operable louvered shutters held with clamshell tie backs. The 1/1 double-hung wood sash attic window in the front-facing cross gable is arch headed (original); those in the side gable ends have been replaced with arch headed louvered openings. The main block is covered with wood clapboard and stands on a mortared brick foundation. Ca. 1890 fish scale shingles are in the gable ends and in the front cross gable at the attic level. Attached to the first story of the west side elevation is a ca. 1890 1-story polygonal bay window with a half-hipped roof. It is covered with fish scale wood shingles and has a frieze decorated with triangle-shaped wood shingles, all original. Behind the main block is a 2-story rear ell, possibly built as a kitchen ell ca. 1890; it also has a wood clapboard exterior and 2/2

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double-hung wood sash windows. Behind the main block is a 1-story enclosed porch with jalousie windows that runs along the west side of the rear ell and wraps around part of the ell's rear (south) wall. A tall cinder block chimney flue rises along the rear (south) wall of the main block where this porch is located. A 2-story addition that appears to have added a bathroom on at least the 2nd story is placed in the northeast corner where the rear ell joins the main block. Attached to the rear of the 1-story porch is a 3-bay garage, probably built in the mid-20th century. It is frame and has a side gable roof. In the rear of the property is a 1-story, wood frame, side gabled outhouse (C) built ca. 1880-1920.

669 Petersburg Road Block 71/Lot 3

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building

Historic Name: Jonathan and Sarah James House

Description: Built about 1860 in a vernacular interpretation of the Greek Revival style, the main block of this 2-story frame house (C) faces north. It is three bays wide (with a center entrance) on the first story, two bays wide on the second story, and two bays deep. The side gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has overhanging eaves, and a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends. The eaves are decorated with ca. 1890 flat jig-saw cut trim in a tear-drop shape. There is an interior end wall chimney (stucco-covered) at the east gable end. The front door on the façade (north elevation) has a surround of reeded pilasters that support a cornice with a dentiled pediment. The door has nine lights over panels and is not original; it is fronted by a wood storm door. The door is sheltered by a ca. 1920-30 1-bay wide porch composed of a pedimented hood with a barrel ceiling supported by two Doric columns. The main block is covered with wood clapboard (possibly original) and windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash (original) with shutter pintels and holdbacks. Gable end attic windows are 4-light single wood sash, also original. There are several later additions to the rear. A 1½-story kitchen ell placed to the rear (south) of the main block has a gable roof that runs perpendicular to that on the main block. It is four bays deep and a break in the clapboard indicates that the southernmost half was added at a later date. The northernmost half may have been built as a kitchen concurrent with the construction of the main block. A tall brick chimney, the lower half of which is parged and corbeled, is located in the center of the roof ridge. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a boxed cornice. Windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash on the first story and wooden 6-light single sash (possibly sliders) on the upper story. A ca. 1900-1920 enclosed porch on the west side elevation has an asphalt-shingle covered hipped roof, a solid balustrade of wood clapboard, and original 6/1 double-hung wood sash placed ribbon-like on all three elevations. The east side elevation of the rear ell has a shed-roofed addition containing an open porch to the north and enclosed rooms to the south. The porch shelters a side door (the door is identical to the front door) with an adjoining window. All sections stand on a brick foundation and all are covered with wood clapboard.

Also on the property is a ca. 1830-60 1.5-story outbuilding (C) with a side gable roof; it is two bays wide and one bay deep, with an interior end wall brick chimney placed in the east gable end. Eaves are open and there are no show rafters in the gable ends. Windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash on the first story of the façade (north elevation) and in the east and west side elevations; those on

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the upper story of the façade and west side elevation are 6-light single wood sash, possibly horizontal sliders. The east and west side elevations have a door; the building is sheathed in clapboard.

665 Petersburg Road

Block 71/Lot 4

Original District Count: vacant lot

2015 District Count: 3 non-contributing buildings

Description: This two-story frame house (NC) was built in the late 20th century. It is three bays wide and two bays deep with a center entrance. The side gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, the house is covered with vinyl siding and stands on a parged foundation. Window are 8/8 double-hung vinyl sash on the second story and 8/12 double-hung vinyl sash on the first story. Not visible from the street but seen in aerial photographs are two outbuildings (both NC) that appear to be modern storage buildings.

659 Petersburg Road

Block 71/Lot 5

Original District Count: 1 non-contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed non-contributing building + 5 non-contributing buildings

Description: This two-story frame house (NC) was built in the late 20th century. It is three bays wide and two bays deep with a center entrance. The side gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, the house is covered with vinyl siding and stands on a parged foundation. Window are 6/6 double-hung vinyl sash. There is a large exterior wall brick chimney on the east side elevation. A full-width one-story front porch with a shed roof runs along the façade (north elevation). It has a balustrade of square columns and square balusters. Behind the house is a modern, gable-front 2-car garage (NC). Not visible from the street but seen in aerial photographs are four storage/garden buildings (all NC) that appear to be modern.

655 Petersburg Road [second from the left in photo 18]

Block 71/Lot 6

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building

Historic Name: Charles and Lydia James House

Description: Built in 1881 in the Italianate style, the main block of this 2-story frame house (C) faces north. It is three bays wide with an off-center entrance and two bays deep. The side gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has wide overhanging eaves decorated with paired, scrolled brackets (original). Cornices are boxed and have generous returns in the gable ends. A parged, interior end wall brick chimney (corbelled at the top) emerges at the west gable end. A 1-story porch with a half-hipped roof covers the full width of the façade (north elevation) and wraps around the entire west side of the main block. A cross gable on the porch roof, one-bay wide, marks the entrance. The porch has turned columns with flat jigsaw-cut brackets (all original), but no balustrade. The front door is topped with an original transom. The front door may be original and consists of 2 tall panes over panels. The main block has a side door on the west side elevation; it

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appears to be a modern 15-light steel door. The main block is covered with original wood clapboard (narrow) and has wide corner boards. Windows are original 2/2 double-hung wood sash flanked by operable paneled shutters. Behind the main block (to the south) is an original kitchen ell, 2-stories tall (but shorter than the main block), also with 2/2 double-hung wood sash windows, a clapboard exterior, and an asphalt shingle covered gable roof that runs perpendicular to that on the main block. Placed against the west side wall of the kitchen ell is a 1-story, shed-roofed enclosed porch with a pair of modern French doors and two pairs of tall 10-light modern windows. Behind the kitchen ell is a large 2-story addition (built in 2000) with a rectangular footprint that is about the same size and orientation as the main block. It is three bays wide and three bays deep, has a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles, and wide overhanging eaves but no decorative scroll brackets. It has an entrance on the west side elevation sheltered by a door hood, 2/2 modern double-hung vinyl sash, and patio doors on the south side elevation.

651 Petersburg Road [seen to the far left in photo 18]

Block 71/Lot 7

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 2 contributing buildings + 2 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Captain Charles J. and Lydia Crawford House

Description: This 2-story side gabled dwelling (C), which faces north, was built in the Pre-Railroad/Folk Vernacular style. The east half of the main block was built about 1852 and the west half was a ca. 1881 addition. There is a small rear kitchen ell (ca.1870) and an enclosed sun porch (ca.1990) on the rear of the main block, with a large 2-story modern addition (ca.1995) against the rear (south elevation) of the kitchen ell. All roofs are covered with asphalt shingles; the main block has slightly overhanging eaves and boxed cornices with modest returns in the gable ends. The main block is five bays wide on the first story and 2 bays deep, and has two front doors. It has an original interior end wall chimney in the west gable end of the main block and a modern metal chimney flue in the east gable end. The door in the original section (the east half) is flanked by two windows and is the original cedar plank door fronted by a modern multi-light wood storm door. The door in the west half is topped with a molded cornice accented with wood dentils (added in 1996) and has a window to the west. Windows are 6/6 replacement vinyl double-hung sash with operable louvered shutters having their original hardware and holdbacks. The ca. 1870 gable roof rear kitchen ell runs perpendicular to the main block and is 1.5-stories tall with small single-sash windows on the upper half story. An interior end wall brick and cinder block chimney flue (parged) is located in the south gable end. Running along the rear (south) elevation of the main block and abutting the kitchen addition is a 1-story shed-roofed porch probably added in the early 20th century. It has a wall of modern, multi-pane tall wood windows and a door along the rear elevation, and a pair of vinyl replacement 6/6 double-hung windows on the west side elevation. The ca. 1995 addition has a door on the west side wall, sliding patio doors on the south (rear) elevation, and an exterior gable end wall in the center of the rear elevation. Windows are mostly 6/6 vinyl replacement sash and there is a small shed-roofed greenhouse addition placed against the rear wall to the east of the chimney. The main block and the east elevation of the kitchen ell are covered with wood clapboard; the modern addition to the rear and the west elevation of the kitchen ell are covered with vinyl siding.

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Behind the house are a modern garden shed/storage building (NC) and a modern garage (NC). There are two historic out-houses (both C) on the property, both on the east (side) elevation. The southernmost one is original to the property; it has a side gable roof covered with wood shingles and has a clapboard covered exterior. The other, which is closer to the front of the property, was moved from the Gandy House at 130 Main Street. It has a gable front, exposed rafter ends, a board and batten door, and a roof covered with wood shingles.

645 Petersburg Road [seen to the right in photo 20]

Block 71/Lot 8.01

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building

Historic Name: Isaac W. and Martha Gandy House

Description: Built about 1852 in the Pre-Railroad/Folk Vernacular style, the wood frame, 2-story tall main block of this side gable house (C) faces north. It is three bays wide and one bay deep with a center entrance placed between two windows on the façade (north elevation). Abutting its west side wall is a 1½-story side gable section, possibly built at the same time as a kitchen wing that is two bays wide. The roofs of both sections are covered with asphalt shingles, have modestly extended eaves, and boxed cornices with no returns in the gable ends. An interior end wall brick chimney (possibly original) is found in the west gable end of the main block. Windows are 2/2 double-hung wood sash (added ca. 1880-1900) except for replacement 2/2 vinyl sash found in the garret level of the east gable end on the main block and in the two second story facade windows of the 1½--story section. The wood front door is not original and is composed of a large pane of glass over a panel; it is fronted by two, late-20th century wood benches. A large, side gable roof addition (built in the last half of the 20th century) abuts the west side elevation of the 1½ -story addition and wraps around the entire rear elevation of both the main block and the 1½-story addition. It has a modern, 10-light picture window on the façade (north elevation) and paired modern wood 2/2 sash windows (double-hung) on the west side and rear elevations. There are two doors on the rear elevation also. All sections are covered with unpainted wood clapboard. Behind the house is a side gable 1-story, ca. 1900 storage building (C) with a standing seam metal roof.

641 Petersburg Road

Block 71/Lot 8.02

Original District Count: not counted as a resource because the lot had not yet been subdivided

2015 District Count: 1 non-contributing building

Description: Built about 1987 in the Split Level style, this wood frame house (NC) faces north. It has a 1-story tall 3-bay wide side gable section to the west that contains an off-center entrance. It abuts a 2-story tall, 2-bay wide gable front section to the east. The building is sheathed in clapboard and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. There is a large exterior wall chimney on the east wall of the 2-story section.

635 Petersburg Road [seen to the left in photo 21]

Block 71/Lot 9

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

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2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 3 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: John and Ellen Armstrong House

Description: Built about 1845 in the Pre-Railroad/Folk Vernacular style, this 2-story frame house (C) faces north and has a rectangular footprint more wide than deep. It is three bays wide and one bay deep and has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof has a boxed cornice (vinyl wrapped) with no returns or extended eaves in the gable ends. In the center of the roof ridge is a corbeled brick chimney that may be original. Windows on the façade (north elevation) are placed in pairs, two on each story. They are 1/1 double-hung vinyl replacement sash flanked by inoperable modern paneled shutters. The somewhat off-center door does not appear to be original and has 9-lights over raised panels. A 1-bay deep gable roofed addition, added in 2005, is placed against the full width of the rear elevation of the main block. It has an asphalt shingle covered roof, a modern sliding patio door on the west side elevation and a 6-light single sash vinyl window on the east side elevation. A small 1-bay deep addition is placed against the east half of the rear addition. All sections of the house are covered with vinyl siding. Behind the house are three modern storage buildings (all NC).

150 Main Street [center right in photo 9]

Block 72/Lot 1

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 2 contributing buildings

Historic Name: Jeremiah Johnson/Richard Crawford House

Description: The main block of this 2-story side gable house (C), which faces west, was built ca. 1800-1815 in the Pre-Railroad/Folk Vernacular style. It is three bays wide on the first story of the façade (west elevation) with a center door (modern) and two bays deep, with a rectangular footprint more wide than deep. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has an interior end wall brick chimney in the north gable end, and a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends. A full-width front porch with a half-hipped roof has square columns and no balustrade; it was probably added ca. 1880-1910. Windows are 1/1 double-hung sash (not original); those on the façade are flanked by modern, inoperable paneled shutters. Behind the main block is a 2-story, two bay deep kitchen ell; it has a gable roof that runs perpendicular to that on the main block. It was originally built as a 1-story lean-to about 1830-40 and was raised to its present 2-story height in the early 20th century. It has an interior end wall brick chimney in the east gable end. The ell's roof, roof covering, windows, and boxed cornice are identical to those on the main block. Attached to the east (rear) wall of the ell is a 1-story shed-roofed addition, one bay deep and two bays wide. A 1-story shed-roofed addition is placed between the kitchen ell and the rear (east) wall of the main block; it extends a few feet beyond the south side wall of the main block and has a door on its south elevation. All sections of the house are covered with vinyl siding and the house has parged foundation walls.

Behind the house is a gable front frame outbuilding (C) that faces north; it has a man door in the center of the façade (north elevation) topped with a 6-light single wood sash window. Inspection of the interior suggests it was built in the early 1900s. The roof is covered with corrugated metal and the building is clad in wood clapboard. Attached to the west side wall is a three bay garage addition, also frame, with three vertical board garage doors that slide open. The garage addition roof is also

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of corrugated metal. There is also an early 20th-century three-seat outhouse (C) covered with beaded boards laid vertically.

146 Main Street [far left in photo 4]

Block 72/Lot 2

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: John W. Young House (locally known as the John and Mary Carroll House)

Description: Built in 1887 in the Folk Victorian style, the main block of this 2-story frame house (C) faces west. It has a gable front and wing footprint with a two bay wide gable front section to the north and a two bay wide wing placed to the south. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a brick chimney, topped with an original clay chimney pot, emerging from the rear (east) roof slope of the wing. The roof has open eaves with original, flat jigsaw-cut vergeboards. The front door is placed in the northernmost bay of the wing; it is topped with an original arched transom and the door appears to be original, having two arch-headed panels. A 1-story shed-roof porch shelters the front door and adjacent window; it has square posts and a wood balustrade of timbers in an open stick-work design. There is an exterior end wall brick chimney on the north side elevation of the gable front section; it was probably added in the early to mid- 20th century. Windows have original arch-headed trim; those on the façade (west elevation) are original 2/2 double-hung wood sash and are flanked by original operable louvered shutters with original hardware and holdbacks. The attic level of the front facing gable section has an arch-headed window (original) with 1/1 double-hung wood sash. The main block stands on a brick foundation.

Behind the wing is a 1-story tall, one bay deep addition with a parapet roof and a 1-story polygonal bay window with 1/1 double-hung wood windows on the south side elevation. This section probably dates to the early 1900s. There is a deep, shed-roofed addition across the rear of the main block. It has two entrances on the north side elevation and modern ribbon windows along the rear (east) elevation. All sections are sheathed with wood clapboard. Behind the house is a modern 2-story frame gable-front garage (NC) with two modern, overhead garage doors.

144 Main Street [second from the left in photo 4]

Block 72/Lot 3

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building

Historic Name: Young's Hall/Carroll's Store

Description: Built in 1879 in the Folk Victorian style, this wood frame, 2-story gable front former store building (C) faces west. The main block is two bays wide and three bays deep and stands on a concrete foundation wall. It has wide eaves with a boxed cornice and generous returns in the gable ends. The off-center (to the south) modern front door is sheltered by a pent roof (not original) that runs the width of the façade (west elevation). North of the door is a modern triple window composed of a single light flanked by 6/6 double-hung vinyl replacement sash. Remaining windows are 6/6 double-hung vinyl replacement sash. Façade windows are flanked by modern, inoperable paneled shutters, except for that in the attic level of the front-facing gable which is flanked by inoperable louvered shutters. Each side elevation has a door placed in the easternmost bay. The

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rear (east) elevation has a one bay deep lean-to addition of indeterminate date; it is 1-story tall. The building's exterior is sheathed with vinyl siding and has simple vinyl corner boards. Behind the building is a small one-car gable-front garage (C) built ca. 1925.

142 Main Street [third from the left in photo 4]

Block 72/Lot 4

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building + 2 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Edward and Annabelle James House

Description: Built in the early 1800s in the Pre-Railroad/Folk Vernacular style as a 1-story building and raised to its present 2-story height about 1830-50, the main block of this frame house (C) faces west. It has a rectangular footprint more wide than deep. Three bays wide and one bay deep, it has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles, no overhanging eaves, and a boxed cornice with no returns in the gable ends. A tall corbeled brick chimney (added ca. 1970) emerges from the rear (east) roof slope. The off-center front door, placed to the south on the façade (west elevation), is topped with a transom. The door is sheltered by a ca. 1920, 1-bay wide porch with a gable-front roof and arched ceiling supported by wood brackets and square posts. Windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash (possibly original) flanked by operable louvered shutters on the second story and paneled shutters on the first story, all with original hardware and holdbacks. There is a ca. 1850-1900 full-width, 2-story lean-to addition across the rear (east elevation) of the main block. It has a door on the north side and 6/6 double-hung wood sash windows (one on each story), also flanked by operable shutters. A 1-story enclosed porch addition with a hipped roof is placed against the rear of the lean-to addition and wraps around its south side elevation. The 1-story lean-to has a wall of 1/1 double-hung wood ribbon windows on the south side and rear elevations. A small 1-story addition with a lean-to roof is placed against the rear elevation of the enclosed porch addition at the south end; it dates to the mid-1900s.

Behind the house is a 2-story, gable front frame carriage house/barn (NC) with sliding barn doors that faces south. Because only a small part of this structure is original and most of it was built or rebuilt in the mid-1990s, it is non-contributing. Also on the property is a late 19th-century outhouse (C) and a modern timber framed storage building (NC).

138 Main Street

Block 72/Lot 5

Original District Count: 2 contributing buildings

2015 District Count: 2 previously listed contributing buildings + 1 contributing building

Historic Name: Herbert Carroll Store/Church Social Hall and the Herbert and Harriet Carroll House

Description of the Herbert Carroll Store/Church Social Hall: Built in 1890 in the Queen Anne style, this gable-front frame store (C) faces west. It is three bays wide and has a rectangular footprint more deep than wide. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a boxed cornice with no returns in the gable ends. A brick exterior wall chimney flue rises from the rear (east) elevation in the northeast corner. The eaves are wide and the rake boards are decorated with original, applied cut-

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out wood trim. The south roof slope has a nearly full-width dormer with wide overhanging eaves and five pairs of 6/6 double-hung wood sash. A second story door, accessed by a flight of modern wood steps, is placed at the west end of the dormer. The store's center entrance is composed of two multi-light wood doors that appear to be original; they are topped with an original transom. Flanking each door is an original polygonal bay storefront window with multi-panes of glass over sunk panels. The windows have muntins and mullions decorated with rounded, molded pilasters topped with semi-circular wood ornamentation, all original. The door and bay windows are sheltered by a 1-story porch with a half-hipped roof supported by square columns. The original balustrade has been removed and is now composed of modern square balusters with a flat handrail. There is a 6/6 double-hung wood window in the attic level of the front-facing gable end. The fenestration pattern on the first story of the side elevations is irregular, with four bays (one of them a door) on the south side and three bays on the north side. The building, which has a brick foundation, is covered with wood clapboard, but the boxed cornice and soffits are wrapped in vinyl. In the rear of the property is a ca. 1900-1925 small, gable-front frame storage building (C) with a 4-panel door on the façade (west elevation) and a window on the side elevations. It is covered with clapboard and has an asphalt shingle roof.

Description of the Herbert and Harriet Carroll House: Built in 1883 as a late example of the Gothic Revival style with Italianate details, the main block of this 2½-story frame house (C) faces west. It is three bays wide and two bays deep and has a rectangular footprint more wide than deep. The side gable roof, which is covered with asphalt shingles, has a tall cross gable in the center of the façade (west elevation). Eaves are wide and open; the cornices are boxed and have generous returns in the gable ends. The cornices are supported by pairs of original wood brackets. The remnant of what appears to have been an original extended finial is present in the cross gable peak. The center front door has an original arched transom and 3-light sidelights. The door is sheltered by an original 1-story porch, nearly full-width, with a half-hipped roof. The porch roof is covered with a standing seam metal roof and is supported by original square molded columns topped with original heavy, jigsaw-cut brackets. The balustrade may be original and is composed of turned balusters under a molded handrail. Windows are 1/1 double-hung replacement sash. Windows have arched heads, except for that in the cross gable which is topped with a pointed arch hood mold, and those in the side gable ends at the attic level which have rounded hood molds. The south side elevation of the main block has a 1-story semi-hexagonal bay window, possibly original. It has bracketed eaves and below the arch-headed windows are sunk panels. The north side elevation has a recessed, one bay wide by two bay deep 2-story wing, likely original, that has a door on the façade (west elevation). The door appears to be original and has arch-headed panes over sunk panels. It is sheltered by an original, 1-story porch with molded square columns topped with heavy, scroll brackets and a flat, jigsaw-cut frieze, all original. This wing wraps around the rear (east) elevation of the north half of the main block; it has a back door. Adjacent to it is a 1-story shed-roofed addition with a modern triple window on the south side elevation and a back door. A wood deck, enclosed with a modern balustrade of turned balusters, runs along the entire rear of the house. The house is sheathed with original clapboard and stands on a parged brick foundation.

**134 Main Street [photo 28]
Block 72/Lot 6**

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Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building

Historic Name: Dennisville United Methodist Church

Description: Completed in 1871, this gable-fronted Italianate style frame church (key C) faces west. It is three bays wide and three bays deep with a center entrance on the façade (west elevation). The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has wide open eaves with boxed cornices and paired original brackets, and returns in the gable ends. An interior wall brick chimney flue rises from the south side elevation of the roof near the side wall. The roof is topped with its original steeple that stands on a square, original belfry. The belfry has wide, open bracketed eaves and a wide cornice. Each side of the belfry has arched-headed louvered openings flanked by sunk panel pilasters. All elements, except for the louvers, appear to be original. The center entrance is composed of original, tall double doors with arch-headed sunk panels. The door is framed by simple pilasters supporting a plain entablature with brackets under a molded cornice; all components appear to be original. Windows have arch-headed trim (not original) and are tri-part multi-light (12/12/8/8) replacement vinyl sash. There is an original 5-light demi-lunette window in the front facing gable. Corners of the building have original paneled pilasters. The rear (east) elevation has a small, one-bay deep apse with a shed roof. The building is covered with wood clapboard and stands on an uncoursed rubble stone foundation.

130 Main Street [third from the right in photo 1]

Block 74/Lot 1

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Francis Edwards/Ogden Gandy House

Description: This 3-story wood frame main block of this Italianate style house (C) was probably built in the mid-1860s. The main block, which faces west, has a square footprint and a low-pitched hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. Eaves are wide and supported by original heavy scrolled brackets evenly spaced along a wide, plain frieze. An original interior wall brick chimney with a corbeled top emerges from the south side roof slope. Behind the main block is a 2-story gable roofed rear ell, possibly built concurrently to serve as the kitchen. Behind the ell is a hipped roof 2-story section the same width as the main block; it has an exterior wall cinderblock chimney flue on the south side elevation. Both the ell and the addition have the same bracketed eaves as the main block. There are two 1-story additions, one to the south of the kitchen ell and the other behind the 2-story rear addition. A modern, 2-story porch runs the full width of the façade (west elevation) of the main block and wraps around the north and south side elevations. A 1-bay wide part of the porch has been enclosed on the first story of the north side. Porch posts, with modern flat jigsaw-cut brackets on the first story, are square and the balustrade is composed of modern turned spindles. The same balustrade is replicated on the south side of the third story in a small porch that accesses an apartment door at this level, and much of the south side of the porch is sheltered behind a wall of modern wood lattice. The off-center front door is a modern multi-light replacement of metal. It has an original surround consisting of simple pilasters supporting a plain entablature above an original transom. To the south of the door is a modern picture window of four 10-light single sash windows. Windows in the main block are a combination of original 2/2 double-hung wood sash and modern 1/1 replacement sash. Originally a single family house, it has been converted into four

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apartments that are accessed by doors placed on the second and third story porches. The exterior is sheathed with wood clapboard. In the rear of the property is a one-story gable front storage building (NC), erected ca. 1940, and made of corrugated metal.

128 Main Street [second from the right in photo 1]

Block 74/Lot 2

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building +2 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Frederick and Mary Bushnell House

Description: Built about 1850 in the Folk Victorian style, the main block of this 2-story wood frame house (C) faces west; it is three bays wide and two bays deep. Its side gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has wide overhanging eaves, and a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends. A corbelled brick chimney (possibly original) emerges from near the center of the roof ridge. The center door is sheltered by a ca. 1910-20, 1-story, full-width shed-roofed front porch that has square columns; remnants of the original flat jigsaw-cut trim are found on the columns against the house. Windows are 4/4 replacement sash; pintels and holdbacks for shutters are extant. The south side elevation of the main block has an early 20th-century, 1-story polygonal bay window with a half-hipped roof. It has sunk panels under its 4/4 replacement windows. The main block is covered with wood clapboard and has corner boards with molding at the top. To the north is a 1-story, two bay wide by three bay deep addition (formerly a free-standing store) with a parapet roof that hides a front-facing gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. This addition is placed against the rear (east) wall of the main block and extends beyond the main block to the north. It has a wood door on the façade (west elevation) composed of multi-lights over a panel; it is fronted by a modern storm door. A small porch with square columns shelters the door. Windows in this clapboard-covered section are also replacement. Adjacent to it is another small gable roof addition. Behind the house, not visible from the street but seen in aerial photographs, is what appears to be a modern storage building (NC). Next to the house (to the north) is a modern carport (NC).

126 Main Street [far right in photo 1]

Block 74/Lot 3

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building +1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Thomas and Ann Stiles House

Description: Built about 1856 in the Folk Victorian style, the main block of this 2-story frame house (C) faces west; it is three bays wide and one bay deep. It has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Eaves are wide and overhanging, with a boxed cornice and returns in the gable ends. An exterior wall cinder block chimney flue rises along the north gable end wall. A nearly full-width, 1-story front porch with a half-hipped roof runs along the façade (west elevation). The porch is enclosed with four-light jalousie windows (four on the façade and two on each side) and has a center door composed of a modern metal storm door with a cross-buck design on the bottom. Windows are replacement 1/1 double-hung sash except for a jalousie window at the attic level in the south gable end. To the rear (east) is a 1-story shed-roof addition, the easternmost half of which is a screened porch. The enclosed westernmost half has a double window of replacement sash on the

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south side elevation. Built ca. 1900 against the rear of the main block, to the north, is a 2-story hipped roof section, two bays wide. All sections are covered with vinyl siding and have 1/1 replacement sash; windows on the main block are flanked by modern inoperable louvered shutters. The foundation is not visible. There is a modern one-story building (NC) to the rear that houses small animals, in addition to a small frame ca. 1900 outhouse (C).

125 Main Street [far left in photo 2]

Block 73/Lot 16

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Ludlam and Phebe Johnson House

Description: This 2-story house (C), which faces east, is comprised of several building campaigns. The original building, erected ca. 1695-1730 in the Post-medieval style, is the northernmost half of the main block, which consists of a 2-story heavy timber frame house notable for its molded corner posts on the second floor and joists decorated with chamfers and lamb's tongue stops. The southernmost half consists of a 2-story addition built ca. 1850-60. Each section has a centrally placed front door flanked by two windows on the first floor, and two windows on the second floor. The main block has a gable roof whose ridge runs parallel with the façade (east elevation); each gable end is pierced by an interior end wall parged chimney. A 2-story addition, added ca. 1880, is placed against the rear (west) wall of the main block. It also has a gable roof. Both have their own front doors and share a center hall stair which provides access to the second floor. Windows in the earliest section are predominantly 6/6 double hung wood sash with wavy glass. Windows in the Victorian-era southern half are also 6/6 double-hung wood sash on the façade and 1/1 replacement vinyl sash on the south side elevation. The house is sheathed in wood clapboard and has a cedar shake roof. The earliest portion of the house stands on foundation piers of stones. The remaining foundations are of brick. Also on the property is a small, 1-story frame building (C) supposedly moved before 1928 to this site from the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia and a modern 1-story frame storage building (NC).

131 Main Street [photo 29]

Block 73/Lot 14

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 3 contributing buildings + 2 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Captain John and Cornelia Douglas House

Description: Built about 1830-35 in the Federal style, the main block of this 2-story house (C) faces east; it is five bays wide and two bays deep with a center door on the façade (east elevation). It has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles; each gable end has an original interior end wall corbelled brick chimney. There is a boxed cornice with modest returns in the gable ends. The paneled front door is topped with an original 3-light transom and has an original door surround composed of molded pilasters supporting a molded pediment with dentil trim, all possibly original. Windows, flanked by modern inoperable shutters, are 6/6 double-hung wood sash (possibly original), except for 4-light single sash windows in the attic level of the gable ends. Pintels are extant

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for the original shutters. The main block is covered with wood clapboard (possibly original) and stands on a brick foundation wall. There are several later additions to the rear (west), including a 1-story shed-roof addition at the north end of the rear elevation (one bay wide and one bay deep) and a large, 1-story gable roof addition at the south end of the rear elevation. The latter has a triple window to the east and a single window to the west on the south side elevation. Two adjoining exterior wall chimney flues of cinder block are at the west gable end of this addition. Both additions are clad with wood clapboard and have asphalt shingle covered roofs. Also built against the west gable end is a 1-story enclosed porch, built in the late 20th century, with jalousie windows. It is four bays deep and six bays wide and has a modern door on the south side elevation.

In the rear of the dwelling are three historic out buildings: (1) a hipped roof frame outhouse (C) with a board and batten door, an original louvered window opening, and an original clean-out trap door on the rear elevation; (2) a well-preserved example of a ca. 1835-40 frame, gable-roof ice house (C), and (3) a ca. 1900 1-story frame building (C), formerly a store, with later additions. The ice house has a stone foundation wall, a roof covered with wood shingles, and unpainted wood clapboard in the gable ends; it is accessed by a nearly square wood door, hung on modern hinges, in the south gable end. The gable front former store has exposed rafter ends and decorative vergeboards. An exterior wall cinder block flue rises along the rear (north) elevation. There are two 6-light wood frame windows on the east elevation. On the south side elevation is a two bay wide polygonal bay window. Adjacent to the window is a ca. 1940 wood door with a single pane of glass over two wood panels. There is a 1-story lean-to addition abutting the north side, and a large, full-width 1-story addition, also frame, to the west. The west addition has two pairs of 6/1 double-hung wood windows on the south side elevation. To the rear of the addition is a one bay wide garage addition and then a modern one bay wide storage addition. Also on the property are two modern storage buildings, both one-story tall (both NC).

135 Main Street [far left in photo 45]

Block 73/Lot 13

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 2 contributing buildings + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Captain Frank and Ruth Williams House

Description: Built about 1830-40 in the Federal style and remodeled in the Italianate style about 1860-70, the main block of this 2-story frame house (C) faces east; it is three bays wide and two bays deep. It has a side gable roof with wide, overhanging eaves decorated with original, heavy brackets and a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends. A wide frieze across the façade (east elevation) also has heavy original brackets. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a corbeled brick interior end wall chimney in the south gable end. The front door (possibly original) on the façade is placed to the north; it has arch-headed and a surround of plain pilasters supporting a molded cornice over an original 4-light transom. A ca. 1900 1-bay wide porch shelters the door; it has a gable front roof supported by two Doric columns. Windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash except for those in attic level of the gable ends which are 4-light single wood sash. All windows are flanked by operable shutters (louvered on the second story, paneled on the first story) and have their original hardware, pintels, and holdbacks. The main block is covered with original wood clapboard.

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Behind the main block is a 1½-story frame kitchen ell with a gable roof that runs perpendicular to that on the main block. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles and is pierced at the west gable end by an original corbeled interior wall brick chimney. This addition is also covered with wood clapboard and has the same brackets and eaves as the main block. Windows on the first story are 6/6 double-hung wood sash while those on the upper half-story are 4-light single wood sash (possibly sliding sash). All windows are flanked by operable louvered shutters. Attached to the south side wall of the kitchen ell is a screened-in porch. Behind the kitchen ell is a 1-story gable roof addition built in the last quarter of the 20th century. It is covered with vinyl siding, has a modern, semi-hexagonal bay window on the rear (west) elevation, and a 6/6 double-hung wood sash window on the south side elevation. Its roof is also covered with asphalt shingles.

Outbuildings include (1) a modest 1-story, gable-front frame carriage house (C) built ca. 1850 that has a shed roofed addition to the north side; (2) a ca. 1880-1900 frame outhouse (C) with a low-pitched hipped roof, louvered ventilation opening, 2-board door, and a trap door for cleanout; and (3) a modern cinderblock storage building (NC).

139 Main Street [center of photo 45]

Block 73/Lot 12

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building

Historic Name: Belle Carroll House

Description: Built around 1825 in the Pre-Railroad, Folk Vernacular style, this frame house (C) faces east; it is comprised of two sections. To the south is a 1-story, two bay wide and one bay deep section, that appears to have been erected first. It has a side gable roof covered with wood shingles, a boxed cornice with no returns, and no chimney. The front door, placed in the northernmost bay, is sheltered by a one-bay wide ca. 1900 porch with a half-hipped roof supported by square molded columns. Windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash (possibly original), except for a 6-light single sash wood window in the attic level of the south gable end. To the north is a 2-story frame section, two bays wide and one bay deep that has a side gable roof covered with wood shingles. This section also has a boxed cornice with no returns; an original interior end wall chimney of corbeled brick is located in the south gable end. Windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash (possibly original) except for a 6-light single sash window in the attic level of the north gable end; the front door of this section is covered over. There is a 1-story tall and one bay deep lean-to addition to the rear of the north section; it has a single 6/6 double-hung wood sash window on the north side elevation. All sections are covered with wood clapboard that is not original.

141 Main Street [fourth from the right in photo 3]

Block 73/Lot 9

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building

Historic Name: Harry and Edith Wheaton House

Description: Built in 1893, this 2-story frame dwelling (C) which faces east combines elements of the Gothic Revival and Queen Anne styles. It has a gable front and wing floor plan; the gable front (at

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the south end) is two bays wide and three bays deep, while the wing (at the north end) is two bays wide and two bays deep. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has wide, overhanging eaves, boxed cornices, no chimney, and generous returns in the gable ends. The eaves are decorated with a delicate, flat jigsaw-cut trim that appears to be original. A 1-story enclosed porch with a half-hipped roof shelters the façade (east elevation) of the north wing; it is sheathed in wood clapboard. The porch has a center entrance composed of a modern steel door and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Windows on the porch and the main block are 1/1 double-hung sash. The gable front section has a double window on the first story (probably added later) and an original point arch headed 2/1 double-hung wood window in the attic level of the front facing gable end. The double window is surmounted by a ca. 1910-20 hood with a half-hipped roof (also covered with asphalt shingles) supported by carved braces and decorated with the same flat jigsaw-cut trim found on the eaves. There is a 2-story ca. 1910-20 frame addition to the rear, one bay deep by three bays wide. It has a door to the north on the rear (west) elevation that is topped with a gable front hood. Windows are 1/1 double-hung sash. The hood is supported by the same braces as those on the front window hood. The main block and the rear section stand on a brick foundation and all are covered with ca. 1950 asbestos siding. Behind the house and minimally visible from the street is what appears to be a ca. 1900-20 1-story gable front garage or storage building (C).

143 Main Street [third from the right in photo 3]

Block 73/Lot 8

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building

Historic Name: Jacob and Catherine Souder House

Description: This 2-story frame house (C) was built about 1828 in the Pre-Railroad style. It has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles and a boxed cornice with returns (all wrapped in vinyl) in the gable ends. The main block is three bays wide and two bays deep; it is covered with vinyl siding. The front door is placed in the northernmost bay; it is not original and is fronted by a modern aluminum storm door. Windows are modern 1/1 replacement sash; the first story of the north side elevation has a ca. 1890 Queen Anne style window placed in a diamond shape.

145 Main Street [second from the right in photo 3]

Block 73/Lot 6

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Captain Frank and Rebecca Tomlin House

Description: Built in 1883 in a vernacular interpretation of the Italianate style, the main block of this 2-story frame house (C) faces east; it is three bays wide and two bays deep. It has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof has wide overhanging eaves, a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends, and an interior end wall brick chimney in the south gable end. The off-center front door, placed in the northernmost bay, is topped with an original transom. Windows are mostly 2/2 double-hung wood sash (probably original), topped with original point arch window heads. Windows are flanked by inoperable louvered shutters on the façade (east elevation). There is a 2-story rear ell with a shed roof; the ell is probably original and served as a kitchen. It has the same original point arch window heads and a tall parged brick chimney emerges from the roof at the rear

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(west) wall. There is a 1-story shed roofed addition to the rear that projects a few feet beyond the south side of the main block; it has modern replacement windows and the west half of it is a screened porch that has a balustrade of flat jigsaw-cut balusters. All sections are covered with wood clapboard and stand on parged foundation walls. Behind the house is a small, 1-story frame storage building (NC) that appears to have been built after 1930.

147 Main Street [far right in photo 3]

Block 73/Lot 5

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 3 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Henry and Charlotte Carroll House (locally: Sophia Scull House)

Description: Built around 1830 in a vernacular interpretation of the Federal style, the main block of this frame house (C) faces east. It is composed of two sections, both with side gable roofs. The 2-story section to the north is two bays wide and one bay deep. The roof is covered with wood shingles, has a boxed cornice with no returns in the gable ends, and is pierced at the north gable end by an interior end wall corbeled brick chimney (possibly original). The off-center front (east elevation) door is placed in the southernmost bay; it is topped with an original 4-light transom. The door is sheltered by a 1-bay wide pedimented porch (not original, ca. 1920-30) supported by square columns. Windows are original 6/6 double-hung wood sash. The 1½-story section abutting the south wall of the 2-story section is two bays wide with no windows on the south side wall. It has a roof identical to that on the north section; it also has a large interior end wall corbeled brick chimney in the south gable end. There is no door on its façade; windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash on the first story and 6-light single sash (probably sliding sash) on the upper story. Behind the north section is a 1½-story section with a gable roof that runs perpendicular to that on the north section; it has original 6-light sliding sash windows on the upper story and 6/6 double-hung wood sash (probably original) on the first story. It is offset from the main block a few feet to the south. The north half of the main block's north section and the entire south section were greatly expanded to the rear with a 2-story addition that resulted in an alteration of the main block rear roof slopes to a shed roof configuration. What was once an L-shaped footprint (two sections of the main block with rear ell), is now a rectangular footprint more wide than deep. The first story of the rear expansion is composed of an enclosed porch with 1/1 double-hung replacement vinyl sash and a modern, multi-light steel door to the north. There is another door, also modern, on the south side elevation. Second story windows on the expansion include two 1/1 double-hung sash on the rear elevation and a single 6/6 double-hung wood sash window on the south side elevation. All sections are covered with wood clapboard. The foundation is not visible. Behind the house are three modern frame outbuildings: a one-story gable front garage (NC) and two one-story storage buildings (both NC).

151 Main Street

Block 73/Lot 4

Original District Count: this block/lot was identified in section 10 of the 1987 nomination as part of the district, but was not described in section 7, nor counted as a resource

2015 District Count: 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: house that served as a former post office

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Description: This 1-story ranch style frame dwelling was built about 1960 and has an L-shaped footprint. The gable roof has wide, overhanging eaves and is covered with asphalt shingles. The front door is placed in the easternmost bay of the ell that faces north onto Petersburg Road. It is sheltered by a full-width porch. West of the door is a pair of windows and a smaller window. The end of this ell is terminated with a 2-car garage. The ell facing Main Street is two bays deep. Windows are modern 6/6 double-hung vinyl replacement sash. The building is covered with vinyl siding and stands on a parged foundation. It was renovated, inside and out, in 2014-15.

27 Hall Avenue

Block 72/Lot 11

Original District Count: 1 contributing building (building demolished after 1987)

2015 District Count: 1 non-contributing building

Description: Built in 2003, this 2-story wood frame dwelling (NC) combines Neo-Federal and Neo-Italianate styles; it faces north. It is five bays wide and one bay deep with a center entrance. The doorway is framed with molded pilasters supporting a simple, molded entablature. The cornice and overhanging eaves are bracketed. Windows are modern 6/6 double-hung sash. The wood-like siding is made of fiber cement. There is a 1-story hipped roof porch across the rear (south) elevation and the house has a concrete foundation.

24 Hall Avenue

Block 71/Lot 1.02

Original District Count: described in the 1987 nomination as a building on the same lot as the 1874 Dennisville School, but not counted as a resource

2015 District Count: 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Dennisville Post Office/formerly Township Garage

Description: Built in 1957 as the township garage (NC), this 1-story gable front structure, which faces west, is made of concrete blocks. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a small interior wall cinder block chimney stack on the roof ridge toward the east gable end. The façade (west elevation), which is parged, is two bays wide. The attic level of the front-facing gable end is covered with unpainted wood clapboard and has a louvered opening in the center of the peak. A modern metal door, with 9-lights over cross bucks, is placed to the north and an 8/8 double-hung vinyl replacement window, flanked by modern paneled inoperable shutters, is located to the south. The door has a surround consisting of reeded pilasters supporting a broken pediment; the surround appears to date to the last half of the 20th century. In the south end of the façade is a date stone with the date of 1957. The north side elevation is two bays deep and has two modern replacement windows. The south side elevation is three bays deep; it has a man door to the east and two modern replacement vinyl sash windows to the west.

17 Hall Avenue [far right in photo 22]

Block 72/Lot 9

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 2 contributing buildings

Historic Name: Holmes Tenant House

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Description: Built 1830-1850 in the Pre-Railroad style, this 2-story frame house (C) faces west. Its side gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has wide overhanging eaves, and a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends. A cinder block chimney flue rises along the façade (west elevation) wall. The main block has a rectangular footprint more wide than deep and there are numerous additions to the rear (west) elevation and side elevations; all are covered with wood clapboard. The main block is three bays wide and two bays deep. It has a modern center door with an original surround of pilasters supporting a pediment with a segmental arch underneath it. A 1-story porch with a half-hipped roof spans the full width of the rear (east) elevation and wraps around most of the south side elevation. It also extends to the north beyond the main block's north side wall and connects with a one bay wide by one bay deep 2-story addition placed against the north side elevation of the main block. The porch roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Fenestration patterns are irregular on all elevations of the porch: the south side elevation has a 4-light ribbon window and a door opening (closed over with infilled boards) placed between two single windows, while the rear elevation has 4 windows. A one bay wide break in the clapboards at the south end of the porch indicates that the enclosed south side of the porch was added later. The 2-story addition to the north side has a half-hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. A door is located on the north side elevation; it may be original and consists of 9-lights over two raised panels. Windows throughout the house and additions are mostly 1/1 double-hung replacement sash except for two 6-light (original) and one 3-light single sash windows in the attic level of the gable ends. The house has a brick foundation wall. Standing north of the house is a ca. 1920-25 one-car garage (C) sheathed in wood clapboard; it has a hipped roof and exposed rafter ends. The garage door is modern and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Immediately north of the garage is a small, ca. 1900-1920 frame storage building (C) with a gable front and a wood clapboard exterior.

12 Hall Avenue [far right in photo 23]

Block 71/Lot 21

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building +1 non-contributing building

Description: Built in the early 1900s in the Craftsman style, the main block of this 1-story, gable-front frame house (C) faces west and has a deep cross gable on the north side elevation. It has a sweeping, slightly-angled roof line characteristic of the style. The wide overhanging eaves have no brackets and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A rock-faced cement block chimney (original) rises near the roof ridge on the south slope and a cinder block chimney flue rises along the exterior of the façade (west elevation). Fenestration is irregular on all elevations. The façade has two pairs of windows to the north and two single windows to the south. The front door is located in the southernmost bay; it is fronted by a modern flight of steps with modern railings. The west third of the south side elevation consists of three 3-light windows placed in a ribbon with a single window to the east. The north side elevation has a double window in the center and three 3-light ribbon windows to the west. The southeast corner of the main block is recessed and has a deck enclosed with a modern balustrade. There is a 1-story, two bay deep addition to the rear with a gable roof. All sections are covered with vinyl siding and except where noted above, windows are modern 1/1 double-hung vinyl replacement sash. Also on the property is a 1-story gable front garage of indeterminate date; it has a shed-roof addition to the rear (east). The house has a parged

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foundation wall. Behind the house is a modern one-car garage (NC), gable front, with a shed roof addition to the rear; all sections are covered with vinyl siding.

28 Church Road [seen behind the church in photo 46]

Block 72/Lot 7

Original District Count: 1 non-contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed non-contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Description: This house (NC), which faces south, is composed of two sections. To the west is a 1-story frame side gable roof section built ca. 1940-60 in the Ranch style. To its east is a 2-story gable front section built in the last quarter of the 20th century. Both roofs are covered with asphalt shingles and have no extended eaves in the gable end. The façade (south elevation) of the 1-story section has a 3-light picture window to the east and a double window to the west. The west side elevation has two windows. A shed-roofed front porch runs the full width of this section's façade; it has square wood porch posts (appear original) and a balustrade of modern open wood lattice work with a handicapped access ramp at the west end. The 2-story frame gable front addition is two bays wide and four bays deep; it extends one bay deep beyond the façade of the 1-story section. It has a modern door on the west side elevation that opens onto the front porch, a door on the east side elevation, and a double window on the first story of the façade. A cinder block chimney flue rises along the exterior of the rear (north) wall. The house is covered with wood clapboard, has plywood in the gable ends, and has 1/1 double-hung replacement vinyl sash throughout. It has a parged foundation wall. Behind the house and not visible from the street (but seen in aerial photographs) is what appears to be a modern storage building (NC).

26 Church Road

Block 72/Lot 8

Original District Count: 2 non-contributing buildings⁴

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed non-contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Description: Built around 1945 in a modest interpretation of the Ranch style, this 1-story frame house (NC) has a gable front; it faces south. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a molded rake board along the front gable. The eaves do not extend and the cornice is not boxed. The southwest corner of the façade (south elevation) is recessed to create an open porch that shelters the front door which is flanked by a window to the west. The porch has a modern wood railing and is accessed by concrete steps. The façade has an original double window to the east and an original window at the attic level in the front-facing gable end. The east side elevation is three bays deep with two single windows to the south and a double window to the north. The west side elevation has a modern 3-light polygonal bay window to the north and a modern 4-bay ribbon window (8-light panels) to the south. The building stands on a concrete block foundation wall and is covered with vinyl siding, except for the front-facing gable end which is covered with ribbed aluminum or vinyl siding laid vertically. Windows are 1/1 double-hung replacement sash flanked by inoperable

⁴ The original nomination described this lot as having two separate mid-20th century houses on it, but only one survives.

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louvered shutters. Attached to the east side elevation is a large, 1-story garage with a flat roof and a 1-bay wide modern garage door; this building has a nearly square footprint. It has a modern metal man door (9 lights over a cross buck) to the west and is also covered with vinyl siding. Behind the house and not visible from the street (but seen in aerial photographs) is what appears to be a modern storage building (NC).

16 Church Road [seen to the left in photo 23]

Block 71/Lot 12

Original District Count: 1 contributing building [but listed as standing on lot 14]

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Socrates and Amy Wells House

Description: Built about 1860-70, the main block of this 2-story house (C) faces west. It is three bays wide with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. There is an interior end wall brick chimney (original, parged) in the north gable end; the eaves are wide and overhanging, and the boxed cornice has returns in the gable ends. A wide plain frieze along the façade (west elevation) may have originally had brackets supporting the cornice. The entrance is placed in the southernmost bay on the façade. A 1-story porch with a half-hipped roof runs along the façade and the south side elevation. The porch has square columns and a balustrade of square balusters, all of which appear to date to ca. 1900-1920. Windows are 6/1 double-hung wood sash on the second story and 1/1 double-hung wood sash on the first story; those in the attic level of the gable ends are original 4-light wood single sash windows. Behind (east) of the main block is a 2-story kitchen ell, two bays deep, which extends one bay in width beyond the south side wall of the main block. This extra bay is filled with a door opening onto the porch. The ell has a gable roof that runs perpendicular to that on the main block and an interior end wall chimney (parged) in the east gable end. Windows are 1/1 double-hung wood sash (not original). Behind the ell is a 1-story addition, two bays wide, with a half-hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. It covers the northernmost two-thirds of the ell's rear elevation and probably dates to the early 1900s. Attached to the north side elevation is a modern, 1-story addition that is three bays wide and has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. It has 1/1 double-hung vinyl sash. The house is covered with a combination of late 20th-century asbestos shingles and modern vinyl siding. The main block has a brick foundation wall. Behind the house is a modern frame storage building (NC) and what appears to be a ca. 1900-20 frame outhouse (C) with a shed roof.

15 Church Road [photo 24]

Block 71/Lot 19

Original District Count: 1 contributing building [but listed as standing on lot 18]

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building

Historic Name: Lewis and Ann Fisher House

Description: Built around 1850-60 in the Pre-Railroad/Folk Vernacular style, the main block of this clapboard-covered 1½-story frame (C) house faces north. It is two bays wide and one bay deep and has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Eaves are overhanging; there is no boxed cornice and no returns in the gable ends. An interior end wall chimney (likely original) emerges from the gable peak at the east gable end. The façade (north elevation) has a door to the west and

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an empty window frame to the east. The door, partially broken, has two panels (missing) over two panels with applied moldings and probably dates to the late 1800s. Windows on the upper half story are original 6-light single wood sash. The west side elevation has a 6/6 double-hung wood sash window (original) on the first story and no windows on the upper story. There are no windows on the east side elevation. Behind the main block is a 2-story rear kitchen ell that may have been built at the same time as the main block. It is three bays deep and has a gable roof that runs perpendicular to that on the main block. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has an interior end wall parged brick chimney in the south gable end. The east side elevation has a plywood door on the first story between two 6/6 double-hung wood sash windows (original); the second story windows are 3/6 double-hung wood sash that appear to be original. A shed-roofed addition to the west (side) elevation fills in the ell and projects beyond the west side wall of the main block. It has a ca. 1900 door of 4 lights (all missing) over raised panels on the north elevation, and two window openings along the west side elevation.

32 Gatzmer Avenue [photo 26]

Block 74/Lot 6

Original District Count: outside of original district

2015 District Count: 1 contributing building + 2 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Roxanna Gandy House

Description: Built in 1922 in the Craftsman style, the main block of this 2-story house (C) faces south. It is four bays wide and four bays deep, and has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. A shorter cross gable section extending southward from the façade (south elevation) contains the front porch, which is enclosed with screens. The porch has original rock-faced ornamental piers above which are original square wood columns that support the porch roof. The balustrade is comprised of square balusters and a square hand rail (possibly original). Both side elevations (east and west) have a 1-story polygonal bay window with a half-hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. The bay windows are one bay wide and two bays (a paired window) deep. A red brick exterior wall chimney runs along the east side wall. A red brick interior wall chimney is located on the rear (north) roof sloop, about mid-way down the roof. There are paired windows in the attic level of each gable end. Attached to the rear (north) elevation is a small shed-roofed addition, one bay wide and one bay deep; it stands on concrete block piers and has a modern door on the east elevation. Windows throughout are 1/1 double-hung wood sash (probably replacement). The house is covered with vinyl siding and stands on a panel-faced concrete block foundation wall punctuated with basement windows. The brackets in the eaves and the soffit are also covered with vinyl siding. Behind the house is a modern carport (NC) and a 1-story, modern frame storage building (NC).

26 Gatzmer Avenue [photo 25]

Block 71/Lot 22

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building

Historic Name: Knights of Pythias Hall

Description: This large 2-story, gable front meeting hall (C), which faces south, was built in 1895 with Queen Anne and Italianate style details. It was converted to a single family dwelling in the late 1980s. The exterior is sheathed with wooden clapboard siding that appears to be original. It is three

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bays wide on the first story and three bays deep with a rectangular footprint more deep than wide. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a slender, tall corbeled brick chimney emerging from the west (side) slope near the eaves. Eaves are overhanging and the roof has a coved cornice on all elevations. The attic level of the façade (south elevation) gable end is infilled with rows scalloped-, diamond-, and square-end cedar shingles that appear to be original. Also at this level is an arch-headed opening infilled with wood slats. The front door is placed between two windows and is topped with an original 2-light transom. The wooden double doors may be original and consist of an arch-headed panel over a raised panel. The doors are accessed by wood steps with a modern railing of turned posts and turned balusters. Windows are 2/1 double-hung wood sash (original) and 1/1 vinyl replacement double-hung sash. Pintels are extant for shutters. A 1-story addition, probably built at the same time as the main block, has a half-hipped roof and runs along the entire rear (north) elevation. It is one bay deep on the east side elevation and two bays deep on the west side elevation. The west side elevation has a single wood door in the southernmost bay; this door, also topped with a transom, has sunk panels (2/2/2) and may be original. The building has a parged foundation wall.

4 Gatzmer Avenue [photo 27]

Block 71/Lot 25

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building + 2 non-contributing buildings

Description: Built around 1890 in a vernacular interpretation of the Folk Victorian style, the main block of this 2-story side gable house is three bays wide and one bay deep. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has overhanging eaves. A small brick chimney (original) is found near the center of the roof peak. A gable-front 1-story porch, one bay wide, shelters the center front door on the façade (south elevation). The wood front door may be original and consists of a large pane of glass over raised panels. The porch has square posts and no balustrade. Windows on the main block are 2/2 double-hung wood sash (original). There are two shed-roofed additions, one on each side (west and east) elevation. That to the west has a door and a window on the façade. That to the east, which has exposed rafter ends, has a double window on the facade and a triple window with 6/1 double-hung wood windows on the east side elevation. There is a small gable roof addition to the rear of the main block and a brick exterior wall chimney that runs along the west side elevation. All sections of the house are covered with vinyl siding.

There are several out buildings. A long, low side-gabled structure (NC) with one-light single sash windows (three on the east side elevation) has an interior end wall brick chimney (original) in the south gable end and a brick foundation wall. It is covered with asbestos siding and has a small, shed-roofed addition to the rear (west). This might have been a work shop or a remodeled chicken coop; it appears to date post-1930. Also on the property is a modern 1-car garage (NC) and an original, gable front, clapboard-covered ca. 1890 outhouse (C) placed directly behind the dwelling.

1113 Route 47 [photo 44]

Block 64/Lot 28.02

Original District Count: not in original district

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2015 District Count: 1 contributing building + 3 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Thomas and Phebe Fidler House

Description: Built about 1860-1870 in the Italianate style, the main block of this 2-story frame house (C) faces east. It is three bays wide on the first story and two bays deep. The side gable roof has extended, overhanging eaves decorated with original scrolled brackets placed along the cornice and in the gable ends. There are also returns in the gable ends. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and no chimney is visible from the street. Windows are original 2/2 double-hung wood sash with original arched and molded window heads; those in the attic level of the gable ends are original arched 4-light single sash. The center front door on the façade (east elevation) is topped with an original entablature composed of an applied sunburst under a modestly-arched course of dentils. Two brick steps lined with ca. 1970 wrought iron railings lead to the front door. The main block stands on a brick foundation and is covered with aluminum siding. Behind the main block is a 2-story kitchen ell with a gable roof that runs perpendicular to that on the main block; it may have been built at the same time as the main block. It has extended eaves decorated with the same brackets, 2/1 double-hung wood sash windows, and an interior end wall chimney in the west gable end. Behind the kitchen ell is a modern 1-story screened porch on the south side elevation and a 2-story addition placed in the northeast corner between the ell and main block. It has a nearly flat roof with wide eaves and corbels. The first story has a door, two 1/1 double-hung windows, a single sash window and a three-light picture window on the north side elevation. There is a shed roofed addition to the rear. Behind the house is a modern, 2-car garage (NC) and (not visible from the street but seen in aerial photographs) two modern storage buildings (both NC).

1123 Route 47

Block 64/Lot 28.01

Original District Count: not in original district

2015 District Count: 2 non-contributing buildings

Description: This modern wood frame dwelling (NC), built about 1990, was erected on the foundation of an earlier structure and faces east. It is composed of two sections: to the north is a 2-bay wide by two bay deep two-story section with a side gable roof. The center entrance is sheltered by a hipped roof part, the southern half of which has been enclosed with a semi-octagon bay window. To the south is a 1½-story, two bays wide, with two pedimented dormers on the façade (east elevation). The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, windows are 1/1 double-hung vinyl sash, and the house is covered with vinyl siding. Behind the house is a large modern storage building/garage (NC), not clearly visible from the street.

1133 Route 47

Block 64/Lot 27

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building

Historic Name: Granny Green Cottage

Description: Built about 1828 in the Pre-Railroad/Vernacular Folk style, the main block of this 1½-story frame house (C) faces east. It is three bays wide on the first story and has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. An interior end wall brick chimney (possibly original) is located in the north gable end. The center front door on the façade (east elevation) is flanked by two original 6/6

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double-hung wood sash windows. The paneled front door is fronted by a modern aluminum storm door and is sheltered by a ca. 1920 pedimented door hood supported by ca. 1920 heavy wood brackets. Windows on the upper story of the façade are original 6-light wood sash that are hinged on top and swing out. Windows on the façade and south side elevation are flanked with ca. 1940 vertical board shutters decorated with a tree-shaped cut-out. The foundation of the main block is not visible. A 1-story side gable section placed against the north side wall of the main block is one bay wide and two bays deep. Its façade has a 2/2 double-hung sash window flanked by shutters identical to those on the main block. There are two single sash wood windows on the north side elevation, one with four lights the other with six. This section stands on a brick foundation with basement windows visible on the north side elevation. To the rear of the main block is a 1-story shed roof addition, one bay deep. It has a window on the south side elevation also flanked by shutters that match those on the rest of the house. Along the rear wall is a modern, 1-story screed porch on concrete piers.

Johnson's Sawmill Site

Block 64/between lots 26 and 27

Original District Count: 1 contributing site

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing site + 1 contributing structure

Description: Existing in archaeological contexts only is the site of Johnson's saw mill (C, established ca. 1749) which was powered by the mill pond on the opposite side of SR47. The saw mill was abandoned in 1905 and then destroyed by a storm in 1909. The adjoining bridge of SR 47 runs over the top of the mill dam (C).

1153 Route 47 [far right in photo 33]

Block 64/Lot 26

Original District Count: 1 contributing building

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing building + 1 contributing building + 2 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Townsend-Wright House

Description: Built about 1880 in the Italianate style, the main block of this 2½-story frame house (C) faces north; it is five bays wide and two bays deep. The side gable roof is covered with cedar shakes and features a prominent center cross gable. There are two original interior end wall corbeled brick chimneys in each gable end. Eaves are wide and overhanging with returns in the gable ends; they are supported by original scrolled brackets. The façade (north elevation) has a center double door (original) with arched panels over square panels. The door is topped by an original 2-light transom. All window heads are arched (original) and trimmed with molding. Windows are original 2/2 double-hung sash flanked by original arch-headed operable louvered shutters. One-light single sash wood windows (original) in the gable ends have original elaborated window crowns. To the rear is a cross gable section that has a corbeled brick chimney identical to those on the main block in the south gable end and a wood shingle covered roof. Windows and eaves are also identical to those on the main block. Behind this section is another 2-story section with windows and bracketed eaves that are identical to those on the other two sections; this part of the house was built ca. 1817-1830 and it also has a wood shingle covered roof. A 1-story, three bay deep porch (now enclosed) runs along the east side elevation of the southernmost 2-story section; it retains its original scrolled porch

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posts. There is a later 1-story frame addition to the rear of the house and a modern, 1-story porch along the west side elevation behind the main block. Also on the property is a modern 2-car garage (NC) and a mid-20th century storage building (NC), both of wood frame construction. Not visible from the street, but seen in aerial photographs, is what appears to be a ca. 1890-1910 outhouse (C).

[no street number] Route 47 [photo 43]

Block 64/Lot 25

Original District Count: 1 contributing site

2015 District Count: 1 previously listed contributing site

Historic Name: Ludlam Family Burial Ground

Description: This .04-acre burial ground (C), which abuts State Route 47, is enclosed with a cast iron fence that dates to the late 1800s/early 1900s. Within the fence are 27 headstones (and a few footstones) that range in date from 1775 to 1890. The cemetery also includes several headstones (but not the interments) that were originally located in a small Ludlam family cemetery on the west side of Jake's Landing Road (about 1 mile to the west). They were moved to this cemetery in the early 21st century to protect them from vandalism.

1245 Route 47

Block 64/Lot 18

Original District Count: not in original district

2015 District Count: 1 contributing building +2 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Albert and Emma Corson House

Description: Built around 1910 in a vernacular interpretation of the Folk Victorian style, the main block of this 2-story frame house (C) faces north. It is composed of a two bay wide gable front section with two one bay wide wings on each side that create a T-shaped footprint. The roof is covered with architectural dimensional asphalt shingles, has wide extended eaves, and a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends. An exterior wall, ca. 1950 cinder block flue runs along the façade (north elevation) of the gable front. Windows are original 6/6 double-hung wood sash on the first story and 1/1 double-hung sash on the second story. This section is covered with asbestos shingles and vinyl siding, and has a parged brick foundation. There is a 1-story porch, possibly original, with a shed roof on the east side elevation. It has a solid balustrade covered with wood clapboard and square posts. A small part of the porch on the north elevation (to the west) is enclosed and has a single 6-light wood sash window. To the rear of the main block is a 2-story tall, two bay deep addition with a gable roof; it spans the entire width of the main block and has a modern, shed-roofed porch along part of the east side elevation that extends to the rear (south) to shelter a 1-story cinder block addition with a flat roof. Windows are 1/1 double-hung sash. The first story of the two bay deep addition on the west side elevation is of cinderblock construction. Not visible from the road, but seen in aerial photographs, are what appear to be two modern storage buildings (both NC), one large and the other small, behind the house.

1266 Route 47 [far left in photo 42]

Block 57/Lot 12

Original District Count: not in original district

2015 District Count: 1 contributing building + 2 non-contributing buildings

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Historic Name: Reuben and Eliza Stiles House

Description: Built ca. 1858 in the Pre-railroad/Vernacular Folk style, the main block of this 2-story frame house (C) faces south; it is three bays wide on the first story and two bays deep. It has a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles, a boxed cornice with no returns in the gable ends, and no overhanging eaves. An interior end wall modern chimney pipe projects from the peak at the east gable end. The center door (not original) consists of a large pane of glass over panels. There are two windows on the second story of the façade (south elevation). There are no windows on the east side elevation. Behind the main block is a 1½-story kitchen ell (possibly built at the same time as the main block) that is two bays deep; it has an asphalt shingle covered gable roof covered that runs perpendicular to the main block roof. Piercing the kitchen ell roof at the north gable end is a parged brick interior end wall chimney. Attached to the east side elevation is a 1-story side gable addition that is one bay wide and two bays deep; it has a modern door placed on the east side elevation in the southernmost bay. Behind this addition are two later 1-story shed-roofed additions and a screened-in porch. All sections except for the screened-in porch are covered with ca. 1950 asbestos siding. Windows are mostly 1/1 double-hung wood sash (not original). Most of the windows on the upper story of the main block and the kitchen ell are covered over with plywood, except for one on the main block which is a 2-light single wood sash window and two on the east elevation of the kitchen ell which are 6-light single sash wood windows. Not easily seen from the street are two one-story outbuildings (both NC), one large and one small, which appear to post-date 1928.

1256 Route 47 [far left in photo 40]

Block 57/Lot 11

Original District Count: not in original district

2015 District Count: 1 contributing building + 1 non-contributing building

Historic Name: Charles and Experience Crandol House

Description: Built about 1830-50 in the Pre-railroad/Vernacular Folk style, the main block of this 2-story frame house (C) faces south. It is three bays wide on the first story and two bays deep with a center entrance. It has a side gable roof with extended eaves and a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends. Wide corner boards are topped with molding at the cornice line. A parged brick interior end wall chimney emerges from the roof peak at the east gable end and is topped with a modern metal chimney pipe. A 1-story, nearly full-width front porch with a shed roof shelters the front door. The porch has square columns, a balustrade of turned balusters, and flat jigsaw-cut brackets, all of which appear to be modern replacements. The front door has a surround of molded pilasters supported a raised panel entablature, all of which appear to be original. The front door has two lights over raised panels and its age could not be discerned; it is fronted by a storm door. Windows are 1/1 double-hung wood replacement sash, except for attic windows which are 1-light single wood sash, also not original. Behind (to the north) the main block is a 2-story kitchen ell, probably built at the same time as the main block. Its gable roof runs perpendicular to that on the main block, has extended eaves, and has a parged brick chimney (interior end wall), also with a metal pipe, at the north gable end. There is a 2-story addition with a side gable roof, two bays wide, placed against the west side wall of the main block. A shed-roofed 1-story addition, two bays deep, is placed against the east side wall of the kitchen ell. A modern screened-in porch is placed against the rear of the kitchen ell. Windows in the kitchen ell and both additions are 1/1 double-hung wood

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replacement sash. All roofs are covered with architectural dimensional asphalt shingles, and all sections are covered with wood clapboard. In the rear is a modern 2-story gable-front garage (NC).

107 Myrtle Avenue [far left in photo 41]

Block 57/Lot 10

Original District Count: not in original district

2015 District Count: 1 contributing building + 3 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Henry and Rebecca Fisher House

Description: Built ca. 1840-50 in the Pre-railroad/Folk Vernacular style, the 2-story, 2-room wide frame main block of this house (C) faces south. It has a rectangular footprint more wide than deep. The side gable roof, which is covered with asphalt shingles, is pierced in each gable end (east and west) by an original interior end wall brick chimney. There is a boxed cornice with no returns in the gable ends. The east half of the first story of the façade (south elevation) has a door placed between a double window to the west and a single window to the east. The west half of the main block has an infilled door to the east and a single window to the west. The second story of the facade has four windows while the east and west side elevations have a window on the first and second stories; all windows are vinyl 1/1 replacement double-hung sash except for two original 4-light single sash in each of the gable ends at the attic level. The exterior is covered with original wood clapboard. To the rear (north) is a 1½-story addition, built ca. 2000, with a gable roof (covered with asphalt shingles) that runs perpendicular to that on the main block. It is six bays deep with an off-center door and has two gable-front dormers on the east side elevation. The addition is covered with stucco and has vinyl 1/1 double-hung replacement sash. A door on the east side elevation is accessed by a flight of steps with a modern balustrade of turned balusters. Behind the house are three modern storage buildings (all NC).

106 Myrtle Avenue [photo 39, left center in photo 41]

Block 65/Lot 9

Original District Count: not in original district

2015 District Count: 1 contributing building

Historic Name: Ludlam Schoolhouse

Description: Built in 1871 in the Italianate style, this 1-story, gable front frame building (key C) faces south; it is two bays wide and five bays deep. The roof is covered with architectural asphalt shingles, has a boxed cornice with generous returns in the gable ends, and has wide, overhanging eaves with a wide, plain frieze. Eaves in the south gable end are supported by original brackets on wide plain rake boards in the gable ends. There are two small interior wall chimneys, one in each gable end; both are corbelled and appear to be original. The exterior is clad in narrow clapboards that may be original. The façade (south elevation) gable end has a semi-circular wooden sign at the attic level. A 4-panel wood door (possibly original) is placed on the west side elevation, midway along the wall; it is sheltered by a one bay deep, shed-roofed enclosure that has a screen door on the south elevation. The east side elevation has a closed-over doorway in the southernmost bay, fronted by a modern wooden handicapped access ramp. Toward the rear of the east side elevation is a 1-story gable roof addition, with a 5-panel wood door on the east elevation which provides access to the basement. Windows are original 6/6 double-hung wood sash. The front (south) half of the building stands on a brick foundation while the rear (north) half stands on an uncoursed rubble stone foundation.

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1234 Route 47 [left center in photo 37]

Block 65/Lot 8

Original District Count: not in original district

2015 District Count: 2 contributing buildings

Historic Name: Elizabeth Morton House

Description: Built about 1820 in the Pre-railroad/Vernacular Folk style then remodeled in the early 1900s, this two-story, gable front house (C) faces south. It has a rectangular footprint (more deep than wide) that is three bays wide and three bays deep with an off-center entrance on the façade (south elevation). The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has a boxed cornice with no returns, and has no overhanging eaves. An exterior wall cinder block flue runs along the west wall at the northwest corner of the main block. The front door consists of six raised panels with applied moldings and windows are 1/1 double-hung wood sash. There is a pair of 2/2 double-hung wood sash windows in the front-facing gable end at the attic level that date to the ca. 1900 remodeling. There is a ca. 1920 door of four lights over raised panels on the east side elevation. A 1-story shed-roofed porch built in the early 20th century runs the full width of the façade and wraps around the east side elevation. The porch roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has exposed rafter ends. Behind the main block is a 1-story addition that is one bay deep and has a shed roof. It also has 1/1 double-hung wood sash windows and extends several feet beyond the east side wall of the main block. The house—including the main block, porch, and rear addition—stands on a cinder block foundation and is covered with ca. 1950 asbestos shingles. Behind the house is a 1-story gable front garage (C) that dates to ca. 1920-25.

1224 Route 47

Block 65/ Lot 7

Original District Count: not in original district

2015 District Count: 1 non-contributing building

Sturdy Savings Bank

Description: Built in 1981 in the Neo-Folk Victorian style, this 1½-story commercial building (a bank, NC) is six bays wide and two bays deep. It has a side gable roof broken by a front-facing cross gable placed over the front (south elevation) entrance. The roof is covered with architectural shingles and is topped with an octagonal cupola where the cross gable meets the roof ridge. Bracketed eaves are wide and have returns in the gable ends. The cross gable has an arch headed window while the remaining windows are topped with elliptical arched window heads; all windows are 2/2 double hung vinyl sash. The double front doors are topped with a 6-light transom. A square columned portico with a standing seam metal roof shelters the entry. The building stands on a brick foundation. Drive-up windows are placed on the rear (north) elevation.

1196 Route 47 [photo 36]

Block 67/Lot 57.01

Original District Count: not in original district

2015 District Count: 6 contributing buildings

Historic Name: William S. and Hannah Townsend House

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Description: The Federal style main block (key C) is 2½ stories tall and faces south; it is five bays wide and two bays deep, with a gable roof that runs parallel to the façade (south elevation). The main block was built in two phases: the center entrance with two bays to the east was built ca. 1820-30, while the two bays to the west were added ca. 1845. Two corbelled brick chimneys pierce the interior end walls of the gable ends, and there are two gable front dormers on the façade. The front door has an original Federal style door surround consisting of a triangular pediment above a 5-light semi-circular fan light. Fluted pilasters with applied diamond-shaped motifs support the pediment. The raised panel front door appears to be original. The house has a cedar shingle roof, mostly original 6/6 double-hung wood sash, original beaded clapboard exterior, original paneled shutters flanking the windows on the first floor, and original louvered blinds flanking the windows on the second floor.

Immediately behind the main block (to the north) are two frame sections, both 2-stories tall, with clapboard exteriors and wood shingle roofs; both date from ca. 1760 to 1780. The section against the rear wall of the main block is rectangular in plan with a 17' x 20' footprint, and is oriented to the west. It has a typical Cape May vernacular fenestration composed of a center door flanked by two windows on the first floor, and two windows on the second floor. Its gable roof runs perpendicular to that on the main block and is pierced by an interior wall brick chimney. The section placed against its rear (north) wall has a door on the first floor of the façade (west elevation) flanked by a window to the north, and two windows on the second floor. It also has an interior wall brick chimney at the north end. All windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash flanked by louvered blinds on the second floor and paneled shutters on the first floor. A one-story lean-to, probably built in the last half of the 19th century, is appended to the north wall of this 2-story section; it has a standing seam metal roof and a 12-light single sash wood window on the north elevation. A one-story, ca. 1870-1900 shed-roofed porch with carved spandrels runs across the west elevation of the two rear sections; it has a cedar shake roof. A similar porch, along the east elevation of these sections, was enclosed late in the 20th century and converted for use as a modern kitchen.

Abutting the east wall of the modern kitchen are two separate historic buildings. The northernmost of these likely served as a separate or summer kitchen (C); it is 1½-stories tall, is covered with wide, original clapboards, has wide projecting eaves with returns in the gable ends, and a cedar shake roof. It has an exterior wall chimney on the north side elevation. There are two original 6/6 double hung wood windows on the first floor of the east elevation, one 9-light single sash window in the gable end and one single sash sliding window on the west elevation. The southernmost building is a one-story brick root cellar (C) with a side gable roof covered with metal. There are two doors on the front (south) façade, both vertical planked. The westernmost one opens into what was formerly a storage room (now converted into a bathroom) with a root cellar below, while the easternmost one opens into another storage room. Behind the house is a 1½-story, ca. 1780-1820 frame store(C) moved to the site from Dennisville in May 1904. It has a side gable roof covered with cedar shingles, a rectangular footprint with two doors on the façade (south elevation), and a clapboard exterior. Also on the property are two gable front, clapboard covered storage buildings (both C) that appear to date from ca. 1840-1860.

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Block 67/Lot 47

Original District Count: not in original district

2015 District Count: 1 contributing building + 2 non-contributing buildings

Historic Name: Charles and Rachel Carroll House

Description: Built about 1850-60 in the Gothic Revival style, the main block of this 2-story frame house (C) faces south; it is five bays wide and two bays deep. It has a side gable roof with a prominent center cross gable on the façade (south elevation) and rear (north) elevation. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has a boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends, and wide overhanging eaves. There are two original interior end wall chimneys of corbeled red brick, one in each gable end. The pair of center front doors is topped with an original transom, is fronted by a pair of aluminum storm doors, and is sheltered by a ca. 1920 1-story gable front porch. The porch, supported by Doric columns, has a roof covered with asphalt shingles. To the rear is a 2-story gable roof kitchen ell probably built at the same time as the main block. It has an interior wall corbeled brick chimney in the northwest corner and is flanked on each side by a 2-story, one bay deep flat roofed addition. Windows throughout appear to be original 6/6 double-hung wood sash. The center cross gable has an original arch-headed window, while the attic level of the side gable ends have 4-light single wood sash, also original. There is a 1-story enclosed porch on the east side elevation, probably added ca. 1920. The house is covered with vinyl siding and the foundation is covered with strips of vinyl siding. Behind the house is what appears to be a modern garage (NC) with a side gable roof; it appears to date from ca. 1950 or later and is composed of three sections, all built after ca. 1950. Located east of the house is a one-story frame outbuilding (NC), likely erected about 1950; it may have been a chicken coop that was remodeled for storage and also contains a one-car garage bay.

Route 47 [photo 31, fig. 24]

That part of block 67/Lot 42 covered by the pond, and those parts of block 67, lots 34, 37.01, 37.02, 38, 39, 40, 41, 43, 44, 46, 49, 50, 51, 52, 77.07, 169, and 184 covered by the pond as shown on map #3

Original District Count: not in original district

2015 District Count: 1 contributing structure

Historic Name: Johnson's Mill Pond

Description: The 43.3-acre lake (C), roughly 750' wide along SR47 and 2,000' deep, was created as a mill pond around 1749 when a sawmill was erected on the south side of present day SR47. State Route 47 runs over the dam located at the pond's southern terminus. Except for several historic houses in the northwest section of Dennisville village with lake frontage (and within the 1987 historic district)⁵, modern houses (excluded from the district) and a small beach for a trailer park campground abut its tree-lined shores.

⁵ Block 67, lots 37.01, 37.02, 38, 39, 40, and 41

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Statement of Significance

Summary paragraph

The Dennisville Historic District with its proposed boundary increase is significant as a well-preserved maritime village that remains essentially as it had developed beginning in the 18th century until a major state road bypassed it in 1928. Although the village was sustained by a long tradition of shipbuilding and the production and shipping of local wood products (e.g. sawn boards, cord wood, shingles, hoop poles, and masts), those industries no longer survive. However, the Dennisville Historic District continues to reflect the tastes and traditions of the ship captains, boat builders, shingle miners, sawyers, carpenters, and laborers who lived side by side in the small village that developed on the north side of Dennis Creek in Dennis Township, Cape May County, New Jersey. The expanded district possesses local significance under criterion C as it represents the range of domestic, religious, civic, and school architecture that prevailed from ca. 1700 to 1928. The district possesses local significance under criterion B for its association with residents Nathaniel Holmes Jr. (1782-1864), who was considered the most influential and powerful Dennis Creek merchant, chosen freeholder,¹ and road builder in early 19th century Cape May County, and William S. Townsend (1811-1881), who served numerous years on the board of county freeholders, advocated and then oversaw construction of the first railroad into Cape May County in 1863, and was a successful local merchant. The district is also locally significant under criterion A/Education: its three extant former school buildings—an 1871 public school built on the site of a subscription school founded in 1801, an academy begun in 1842, and an 1874 public school—are significant for their association with the mid-19th century development of free public education in New Jersey. Under criterion D, the district is significant for an 18th-century sawmill site that exists in archaeological contexts only, and its extant mill pond and dam adjoining the sawmill site to the north. The period of significance runs from ca. 1700, when the first two houses were built in Dennisville, until 1928 when a major state highway bypassed the village.

Historical Background

Colonial Beginnings

Beginning in the late 1600s, Cape May County was settled by English-speaking people, most of them from New England, Long Island, or northern New Jersey. Many came because of the lucrative coastal whaling industry, which led to the establishment of the bayside village of Town Bank (no longer extant), while others were attracted by the county's natural resources, specifically large stands of timber. Although most of the Cape May peninsula was owned in the late 17th century by Dr. Daniel Coxe, a London physician who never came to the New World, Dennisville lays just west of Coxe's holdings. The 1691 map of southeastern New Jersey, drawn by surveyors Budd and Worlidge, shows the land on which Dennisville was settled as being a small part of two 10,250-acre tracts owned by Robert Squibb Sr. and his son, Robert Squibb Jr., two Englishmen who also never came to America. Their vast holdings, purchased in 1676, began on the east side of the Maurice River in Cumberland County and extended eastward, ending at a point just below Goshen Creek in Middle Township, Cape May County. [fig. 1 in the *Historic and Supplemental Images* section] The land was sold in 1705 by the estate of Robert Squibb Jr.

¹ In New Jersey, members of county governing boards are still known as "chosen freeholders."

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to Thomas Byerly who then released 4,726 acres of the tract to the West Jersey Society, a group of London-based land speculators, before 1715.²

In 1715, Jacob Spicer Sr., a Lower Township, Cape May County resident, and Dr. Coxe purchased a “great tract” of 3,933 acres and two other tracts from the West Jersey Society; combined, they included the land near or on which Dennisville stands (on the north side of Dennis Creek) and appear to have been part of the Squibbs’ holdings. The tracts were inherited equally by their sons Jacob Spicer Jr., William Coxe, and Daniel Coxe Jr. who divided their jointly-owned land by quit claim in 1748, with Jacob Spicer Jr. receiving land on both sides of present-day Dennis Creek.³

Land on the south side of Dennis Creek had been previously sold by Jacob Spicer Sr. to Joseph Ludlam in 1719.⁴ Ludlam’s sons, Jeremiah (?-1777) and Joseph Jr. (?-1753,) bought land on the north side of Dennis Creek in the 1740s and at least part of Dennisville appears to stand on land purchased by Jeremiah.⁵ The legal description in the 1719 Spicer to Ludlam deed is of great interest because it illustrates that what is today known as Sluice Creek (located two miles south of present-day Dennis Creek and which divides Dennis and Middle townships) was originally called Dennis Creek and what is today called Dennis Creek was originally called Cedar Swamp Creek. This difference in names has caused much confusion to modern scholars and use of the different appellations continued well into the 1700s. In the 1800s, these two creeks were known as the North Branch and the South Branch of Dennis Creek. Their present names were in use by the mid-1800s.

According to a 1777 entry in Aaron Leaming Jr.’s diary, Dennis Creek and the Dennisville area received its name from Dennis Linch (no dates), a late 17th-century Cape May County settler who first purchased land in Lower Township in 1699.⁶ He was a ship carpenter according to the 1699 deed and Leaming relates that he lived in Dennis’ Neck (the area between Sluice Creek and Crow’s Creek in Middle Township) then moved to Gloucester County (no date given) where he died. No deed for him buying or selling land in Middle Township was recorded and he may have leased the land in Dennis’ Neck in the early to mid-18th century. It is not known if he established a shipyard in either Cape May location.

The Area’s First Sawmill

In 1749, Jeremiah Ludlam and three other Dennisville area residents—Richard and James Stephenson and John Iszard—entered into an agreement to build a sawmill on Beaver Dam Branch (a branch of Dennis Creek). This is the first documented sawmill in Dennis Township. Although no lake or pond is shown at this location on either the 1691 map [fig. 1] or the 1706 Worlidge/Thornton Map,⁷ a beaver-made pond or natural salt pond may have been on the site at the time. However, language in the agreement suggests a mill pond was either created by damming or was raised by damming to create what

² West Jersey Deeds, book AAA, 236; Cushing and Sheppard, *History of Gloucester, Salem and Cumberland Counties* (Philadelphia, Everts & Peck, 1883), 508; Lewis Townsend Stevens, *The History of Cape May County, New Jersey* (Cape May, NJ, 1897), 1-58.

³ Aaron Leaming Book of Surveys, p. 369; this chain of title for the 3,966 acres is recited in an unrecorded deed dated 11-20-1748 from the West Jersey Society to Jeremiah Ludlam, but transcribed by Aaron Leaming in his Book of Surveys; West Jersey Deeds, book HH, 26.

⁴ Cape May Deeds, Liber C, 58.

⁵ Colonial Deeds, Book L, p. 210, 217, 461; Colonial Deeds, book E-F, p. 500, Colonial Deeds, book G-H, 130, 136.

⁶ Aaron Leaming Diaries, Vol. 4 [at the Historical Society of PA, call # Am .0923]

⁷ <https://www.loc.gov/item/97683601/>

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is today called Johnson's Pond or Johnson's Mill Pond.⁸ The pond and its dam, which are extant north of the sawmill site, then provided waterpower for the mill until the sawmill was abandoned in 1905. [fig. 13] Ludlam and Iszard each owned one-third, while the Stephenson's each owned one-sixth. It was probably about this time that a landing located near the present bridge over Dennis Creek was established to facilitate the shipping of sawn goods. The sawmill was the first of several local industries to succeed because of local timber products that provided the economic base on which the village thrived from the 18th through the early 20th centuries.

Iszard sold his share to Ludlam in 1750, and in 1765, Jeremiah Ludlam gave his two-thirds ownership of the sawmill to David Johnson "during his own natural life" then to his granddaughter, Sarah Johnson (David's wife) and her heirs. On his death in 1777, Jeremiah Ludlam willed Sarah several other tracts in the Dennisville area. He also deeded her several properties before his death, the earliest dated 1765.⁹ David Johnson (ca. 1740-1805) assumed operation of the sawmill and purchased neighboring properties, but deeds for his purchases were never recorded. Because Johnson's will of 1804 gave land in present day Dennisville to his heirs, it is presumed that Dennisville stands on land he purchased, but from whom or when is not known.¹⁰

David and Sarah Johnson lived in one of the oldest houses in the village (see the David and Sarah Johnson House, 720 Petersburg Road, photo 7). Its decorated heavy timber framing and plank frame exterior (preserved under the existing clapboard) suggest it was built before 1730, likely about 1700, but it is not known for whom it was erected. The house that was owned by their son, Ludlam Johnson (ca. 1770-bef. 1830) and his wife, Phebe, was built about the same time; it also has decorated joists and molded corner posts. (see the Ludlam and Phebe Johnson House, 125 Main Street)

Late 18th Century Roads

In November 1789, the State Assembly authorized the construction of a bridge over the north and south branches of Dennis Creek (today respectively called Dennis Creek and Sluice Creek) and the construction of a road (part of today's State Route 47/Delsea Drive) that extended from Sluice Creek and headed north along Main Street before it ended at what is today Petersburg Road, then called the road leading from the "Great Cedar Swamp to David Johnson's sawmill."¹¹ In 1790, Cape May County road commissioners formally established a road leading from David and Sarah Johnson's house in Dennisville west and north to Jonas Hoffman's house in Cumberland County; today, SR47 follows much of this route.¹²

Previously, the overland route from the Camden area to Cape May City (at the southeast end of the county) bypassed Dennisville by roughly five miles to the northeast as it traveled southeast from

⁸ Deed book A, 115.

⁹ Aaron Leaming Surveys & Misc. Records 1695-1764, Cape May County Clerk's Office, 369. Aaron Leaming Jr. transcribed the unrecorded deed from the West New Jersey Society to Jeremiah Ludlam in 1748 and commented that "by deed dated June 24, 1765, Jeremiah Ludlam gave this tract to Sarah Johnson, wife of David Johnson and granddaughter to Jeremiah Ludlam." Ludlam gave three other tracts near Dennisville to Sarah Johnson that same day, and those deeds were also not recorded.

¹⁰ Jeremiah Ludlam will, NJ State Archives, file #375W; David Johnson will, NJ State Archives file #797E.

¹¹ Stevens, p. 222; Cape May deeds book B, 24.

¹² *Cape May County Book of Roads* A, 22-23.

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Dorchester in Cumberland County, then across the lower part of present day Upper Township where it eventually connected with Seashore Road, the north-south road that runs along the eastern side of the Cape May peninsula. [fig. 2 through 5]

In the early 1790s, the State Assembly authorized David Johnson and his son-in-law James Ludlam (1765-1826) to construct a gristmill and dam on the north branch of Dennis Creek, just above the point at which the public road crossed the creek. This mill pond is visible on the 1856 Cook map [fig. 6] and the 1872 Beers Map [fig. 9], but no longer exists.¹³

Historically known as Dennis Creek Landing, the area around the present bridge was the industrial and commercial center of both the unincorporated villages of Dennisville (on the north side of the creek) and neighboring South Dennis (on the south side of the creek) through most of the 19th century. However, little physical evidence of those activities remains today and Dennis Creek Landing is considered separately eligible as an archaeological district.

In 1802, Dennisville received the county's first post office under the name of "Dennis Creek" with David Johnson's son, Jeremiah, acting as postmaster. The post office was located on the north side of the landing for many years, and the name was changed to Dennisville in 1854. The county seat of Cape May Court House, overshadowed by the more prominent Dennis Creek landing area, received its post office in 1803.¹⁴

The deaths of Sarah Johnson in 1803 and her husband, David Johnson, in 1805 profoundly affected the continued development of Dennisville village. Each divided their substantial land holdings—his presumably purchased, hers both deeded and inherited from her grandfather, Jeremiah Ludlam—willing them in pieces to their nine children.¹⁵ One son, David Johnson Jr., began selling half-acre "town lots" in the village along Petersburg Road in the early 1810s; most measured 4 perches wide by 20 perches deep (66' x 330') and were numbered according to a site plan mentioned in the deeds, but not filed at the county clerk's office.¹⁶ In the 1810s several Johnson heirs died, David Johnson Jr. fled the state as an absentee debtor, and his brother Ludlam Johnson was jailed as an insolvent debtor, all of which resulted in more subdivisions of land within Dennisville through sheriff's sales held that decade to cover debts.

The village developed along two main roads: Petersburg Road that runs east-west and Main Street which headed north from the Landing and terminated at Petersburg Road. Most of Dennisville's stores were located on Main Street, as were its two taverns, one chapel (later replaced by the Methodist Church), a blacksmith and wheelwright shop, and about a dozen residences. [fig. 12]

The Establishment of Maritime and Timber Industries

The deaths of David and Sarah Johnson also coincided with the establishment of maritime and timber industries drawing heavily on the area's natural resources. Beginning in the early 1800s and lasting

¹³ Stevens, 222; Cape May County Miscellaneous Deeds, book B, 301.

¹⁴ Mary E. Law, comp., *Postmasters of Cape May County*, as found at www.NJPostalHistory.org; Jeffrey Dorwart, *Cape May County, New Jersey: The Making of an American Resort Community* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1992), 72.

¹⁵ NJ State Archives, file #797E and #775E; Cape May County Book of Reports A, 147-148

¹⁶ Cape May Deeds, book H, 36.

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through most of the 19th century, shipping and shipbuilding provided a major economic base for Dennisville's prosperity. In 1803, the causeway over Dennis Creek was enlarged, presumably to accommodate increased usage. By 1812 the landing at Dennis Creek was being used for shipbuilding: In May of that year "the hull of a new vessel...built at Dennis Creek, Cape May county" was advertised for sale in a Philadelphia newspaper.¹⁷ This vessel was probably built by James Diverty who later advertised the sale of another new Dennis Creek vessel in that same Philadelphia paper in 1817.¹⁸

Diverty (1783-1832), a Scotsman who immigrated to this country around 1797, came to Dennisville in 1804 to purchase hoop poles. He married a local woman, Deborah Hand, in 1805 and settled in South Dennis where he was a lumber merchant. He later entered the shipbuilding business; his shipyard was located on the north side of Dennis Creek, on a lot he purchased in June of 1811 that is outside of the district boundaries. In the later 1830s, a second shipyard was established by Jeremiah Leaming on the south side of the creek where he built at least 10 coastal schooners during the 1830s.¹⁹

The landing at Dennis Creek also bustled with the shipment of cedar shingles, barrel staves, hoop poles, ship timber, masts, cord wood, and sawn lumber, all harvested from the vast forested uplands and cedar swamps.²⁰ By the middle of the 19th century, however, the local stands of timber had been depleted and lumbermen turned to raising ancient fallen logs submerged in nearby swamps to continue the trade. Cedar harvesting became one of the county's biggest industries and employed large numbers of men who cut and transported the wood to the landing for lading on to ships. These timbers, mined from the swamp floor using teams of oxen to haul them up, were utilized mostly for shingle production. Their longevity was legendary and they were reportedly used in the late 1800s on the roof of Independence Hall in Philadelphia. One newspaper reported in 1863 that "from the little town of Dennisville, in this county, as many as eight hundred thousand [shingles], valued at twelve thousand dollars, have been sent to market in a year."²¹ The swamps and marshes around Dennisville were the primary center of these cedar mining operations and the industry continued well into the late 19th century until this source of timber was depleted as well.²² The ca. 1845 home of Dennisville's last known shingle miner, Charles Robart (1828-1907), still stands at 635 Petersburg Road near the easternmost boundary of the district.

It is not known when the first store was built at the Landing, but the items listed in the 1812 inventory of Francis Denny "of Dennis Creek" indicate he owned a general store; its exact location is unknown.²³ By

¹⁷ *Poulson's American Daily Advertiser* (Philadelphia, PA), 5-28-1812, 3.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, 7-23-1817, 1.

¹⁹ Dorwart, 71-72; Damon Tvaryanas, et. al., *Cultural Resource Survey NJ Route 47, Dennis Creek Landing and South Dennisville, Dennis Township, Cape May County, New Jersey*, rev. 2-2001, 4-4; deed book G, p. 296; *Biographical, Genealogical and Descriptive History of the First Congressional District of New Jersey* (NY: Lewis Publishing Company, 1900), Vol. 2, 277-278.

²⁰ *The Washington Whig* (Bridgeton, NJ) reported 12-9-1816 that James Diverty was selling "rails, boards, and shingles" at Dennis' Creek. See also Jacob Ridgeway vs. Richard S. Ludlam, Court of Chancery, New Jersey (7 N.J. Eq. 123; 1848 N.J. Super. LEXIS 4 June 1848) for a description of the lumber business being carried out in the Dennisville area between 1822 and 1839.

²¹ "Hunting for Cedar Timber," *The Wellsboro Gazette* (Wellsboro, PA), 11-4-1863, 1.

²² *Geology of New Jersey*, 1857, 83; Charles Tomlin, *Cape May Spray* (Philadelphia, PA: Bradley Brothers, 1913), 19-23.

²³ New Jersey Calendar of Wills, 181-1813, 107.

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1817, Jeremiah Johnson had established a tavern at Dennis Creek, probably on or close to the lot (outside of the district) on which the modern Wawa convenience store is located.²⁴

The development of Dennisville was encouraged by influential men, many of them real estate speculators, who settled there in the early 1800s. The previously-mentioned James Diverty, a South Dennis resident, purchased over 150 pieces of property in Cape May County during his lifetime (the earliest transaction dated 1806), most of them in Dennisville and its vicinity. Diverty also fostered the local economy; in addition to having a successful shipbuilding business, he hired “wood choppers and carters” and chartered vessels to carry the wood products they produced.²⁵ Nathaniel Holmes Jr. (1782-1864), a Dennisville resident whose house still stands at 702 Petersburg Road within the district, purchased cedar swamp lots, landing lots, meadow lots, and several 50+ acre wood lots outside of Dennisville. He was also active in state and local politics and ran a country store on the north side of Dennis Creek Landing.²⁶ Holmes began purchasing land in Dennisville as early as 1808, when he bought a half-acre tract of land near the property on which he built the fashionable, Federal style part of his house about 1822, also within the district at 702 Petersburg Road. His significant contributions to the development of Dennisville are discussed later in this section.²⁷

The Ludlam family continued to figure prominently in the area’s progress. In 1801, Henry Ludlam (1752-1837) deeded a one-acre lot to 34 Upper (now Dennis) Township residents at the corner of Myrtle Street and SR47 for a schoolhouse.²⁸ The lot was located between Henry Ludlam’s house to the east (within the district at 1196 Route 47) and Daniel Ludlam’s house to the west (no longer extant; its site is outside of district boundaries). The schoolhouse lot is within the expanded boundary at 107 Myrtle Street; on it stands a public school built by the township in 1871 to replace the earlier structure. [photo 39] Most of the historic houses along SR47 northwest of Dennisville, including those within the expanded district, were built either by Ludlam family members or stand on tracts sold as smaller building lots by the Ludlams.

The greater Dennisville area prospered as well. By 1818, Daniel Ludlam (1774-1829) had established a “carding and spinning machine [mill]” west of the village; the sheriff’s sale ad claimed it was “the only one in the county, and which does the carding for all the county.”²⁹ This mill, which stood on the south side of Ludlam’s Pond and was in operation until at least the 1840s, is located to the west of and outside of the district.

In 1826, Dennis Township was created from the southern part of Upper Township.³⁰ By 1830, a small group of buildings was clustered around Dennis Creek landing at the bridge. [fig. 3 and 4] In 1834, Gordon’s *Gazetteer of New Jersey* described Dennis’s Creek (a name that referred to both sides of the creek at that time) as:

²⁴ *Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser* (Philadelphia, PA), 9-10-1817, 4; the store is located on block 73, lot 19.

²⁵ *Washington Whig* (Bridgeton, NJ), 2-5-1825,3; 12-31-1825, 3.

²⁶ Stevens, 276

²⁷ Cape May County Deeds, book F, 319.

²⁸ Cape May County Deeds, book B, 202.

²⁹ *Trenton Federalist* (Trenton, NJ), 3-16-1818, 4; deed book K, 374.

³⁰ Dorwart,72.

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[part] of Dennis's Creek t-ship, Cape May co., at the head of the navigation of Dennis's creek, 6 or 7 miles from the Delaware bay, 7 miles N. from Cape May court house, 194 from W. C., and 97 from Trenton; contains from 30 to 40 dwellings, 2 taverns, 5 stores, and a tide grist mill. The town is built on both sides of the creek, extending each way, about half a mile. Ship building and trade lumber are carried extensively here. The country around it, above the marsh, is of sandy loam.³¹

Sometime between 1835 and 1837, the village above Dennis Creek Landing became known as Dennisville, a change reflected in newspaper accounts during that period. The village on the south side of Dennis Creek became South Dennisville, a name it carried until the late 19th century when it became South Dennis, having developed an identity of its own separate from Dennisville.³²

The section of the US Coastal Survey map of 1842 showing Dennisville village [fig. 5] is blurred, but the landing area is clearly seen with buildings on both sides of the road and on both sides of the creek. Similarly, scattered farm houses, many of them extant, are shown along both sides of SR47 west of the village.

Barber and Howe, writing in *Historical Collections of the State of New Jersey*, described Dennisville in 1844:

Dennisville is a post-village, extending on both sides of the creek for a mile. It is 8 miles north of the courthouse, 8 south of Tuckahoe, and 28 from Bridgeton. It contains 5 stores, about 70 dwellings, a neat academy—the upper story of which is used for a lyceum, and for religious meetings. Ship-building and the lumber trade are carried on here. The Methodist Church, at this place, was the first erected in the county. It was finished in 1803.³³

The academy referred to, built in 1842 and known locally as the “Old Academy,” still stands within the historic district at 646 Petersburg Road, but has been used as a residence since 1874. [photo 19] The church referred to was located in South Dennis. However, a chapel built in the early 19th century, shown on the 1856 map [fig. 6], was originally located at the landing on the north side of Dennis Creek and was moved northwest of Dennisville before 1872. [see fig. 9] Its site is within the expanded district at 1247 Route 47. It was moved a third time in 1908 to 130 Main Street, but it is not known if it was incorporated into the large house there or was a stand-alone structure that has since been removed. Barber and Howe's figures show that the number of houses on both sides of the creek had nearly doubled since Gordon's 1834 description. By contrast, the county seat of Cape May Court House was estimated by Barber and Howe to have “30 or 40 dwellings” in 1844.³⁴

In 1845, the freeholders authorized a new bridge across Dennis Creek that was to be built “on the old foundations of sufficient width for a carriage and a walkway and to be properly enclosed and roofed over.” This covered bridge, built at the cost of \$1702.18, was sided with cedar and had a cedar shingle

³¹ Thomas F. Gordon, *A Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey* (Trenton, NJ: Daniel Fenton, 1834), 131-132.

³² *Washington Whig*, 9-5-1835, 3-11-1837.

³³ John W. Barber and Henry Howe, *Historical Collections of the State of New Jersey* (NY: S. Tuttle, 1844), 123.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, 127.

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roof; it was removed in the 1890s.³⁵ Also in 1845 the *Public Ledger* (Philadelphia) announced that the 50th vessel to be built on Dennis' Creek had been launched.³⁶

Dennisville's Importance in the County

By 1848, Dennisville and neighboring South Dennis had become the “hub of political-economic life in the county” and “only Cape Island shared Dennis Creek’s importance.” Residents on both sides of Dennis Creek felt that the county seat should be removed from Cape May Court House in Middle Township (located about eight miles to the southeast) to the village of Dennisville. The issue was put to public vote that year and although moving the county seat to Dennisville was voted down, the conflict shows just how politically and economically important Dennisville was to the county.³⁷

The 1850 census—the first to list occupations, and names and ages of all residents—shows Dennisville residents engaged in a variety of jobs. Of the 123 men who listed an occupation, 29 considered themselves “mariners,” while 49 said they were laborers, a general term which included wood cutters, lumbermen, and ship workers. Eleven were carpenters along with one specifically identified as a ship carpenter, 11 were merchants, and only three were farmers. Other occupations included blacksmith (3), miller (2), painter (3), and a butcher, cordwainer, tailor, watchmaker, sawyer, surveyor, physician, and wheelwright.

The County's First Railroad

During the 1860s, the stage line between Millville and Goshen passed through Dennisville daily, but the new rail line established in the summer of 1863 from Camden to Cape May city bypassed Dennisville entirely. Shipbuilding, spurred by federal government demands during the Civil War, stimulated local construction, and of the 16 vessels built in the county between 1861 and 1865, one-quarter (4) were built at Dennis Creek Landing.³⁸ Other shipyards in the county were located in Goshen (Middle Township), Tuckahoe (Upper Township) and on Cedar Swamp Creek near Petersburg (Upper Township). Timber harvesting continued, with 315,000 white cedar rails and 593,670 feet of white cedar boards sold at Dennisville in 1862.³⁹

By the 1870s, Dennis Creek landing’s two active shipyards were being operated by Jesse Diverty (James Diverty’s son) on the north side of the creek and Richard Leaming (Jeremiah Leaming’s son) on the south side, both of whom lived in South Dennis. Between 1812 and 1889, over 74 vessels were built here.⁴⁰ The ships, primarily two- and three-masted schooners, were between 200 and 1,000 tons in size, with most between 500 and 800 tons.⁴¹

³⁵ *Cultural Resource Survey*, 4-8.

³⁶ *Public Ledger* (Philadelphia, PA), 7-16-1845, 1.

³⁷ Dorwart, 71-72; 87-89.

³⁸ Dorwart, 116; Captain Alonzo T. Bacon and Edward M. Post, “Vessels That Have Been Built in Cape May County,” *The Cape May County Magazine of History and Genealogy* (1937), 290.

³⁹ *Centinel of Freedom* (Newark, NJ), 8-18-1863, 3.

⁴⁰ Michael Conley notes, *Shipyards of Dennis Creek* folder.

⁴¹ Henry C. Beck, *More Forgotten Towns of Southern New Jersey* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1988), 56.

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The 1872 Beers map shows both villages with the one on the north side of the creek labeled North Dennisville (now Dennisville), the other South Dennisville (now South Dennis). [fig. 9] Dennisville shows as a compact village with buildings lining Main Street and Petersburg Road. [fig. 7] The landing has numerous houses and stores on both sides of the bridge, with a steam sawmill farther north, and the shipyards, one on each side of the creek.

Lumber for shipbuilding was now being imported from North Carolina and Virginia, and the shipyards continued to design and build boats used for coastal and transatlantic voyages. In 1874, the local paper noted:

Our shipyards are full of activity. All classes of mechanics find employment. Those who a few years since obtained livelihood by cutting cordwood are now becoming first and second rate mechanics—Our fellow townsmen Hon. R.S. Leaming and Hon. J.H. Diverty are the leading spirits in this business....Mr. Diverty has a large schooner nearly framed. She is intended for one of our Cape May farmers who has tired of plowing the soil and intends trying his fortune plowing the ocean's briny deep.⁴²

The 1878 Woolman & Rose map [fig. 8] continues to label Dennisville as “North Dennisville” and the village shows little physical change from its depiction in 1872. By the mid-1880s residents in both villages began calling North Dennisville “Dennisville” and South Dennisville “South Dennis,” a change in appellations evident in the local newspapers and reflective of the separate identities each had assumed. Many of the buildings in Dennisville date to this Victorian-era of great prosperity and reflect the styles popular at the time—Queen Anne, Italianate, and Gothic Revival. This increased growth also fostered the establishment of the Dennisville Loan and Building Association, chartered in 1881, which provided mortgages and bought and sold properties.⁴³

Nineteen schooners were built between 1870 and 1879, and 14 from 1880 to 1889.⁴⁴ In 1880, it was reported that Richard S. Leaming's shipyard alone employed 75 workers while vessels were in the stocks.⁴⁵ In 1883, the local newspaper reported there were ten stores north of the landing.⁴⁶ By 1887, however, Dennis Creek was filling in, leaving only a scant six feet of water in the channel, barely sufficient to float new schooners down river to the Delaware Bay.

The County's Second Railroad and Decline of the Landing

The building of a second rail line in Cape May County—the Sea Coast Railroad (later the West Jersey & Seashore Railroad Company line)—in 1894 signaled the death of the ship building industry at the landing. [fig. 11] Providing a rail link from Camden to Cape May City, the line skirted the easternmost edge of Dennisville as it headed south. The village received its own station (no longer extant), as did South Dennis.

⁴² *Star of the Cape*, 3-11-1874.

⁴³ United States Bureau of Labor, *Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labor* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1893), Volume 9, 166.

⁴⁴ Michael Conley notes, Shipbuilding folder.

⁴⁵ *Star of the Cape*, 3-18-1880.

⁴⁶ *Star of the Cape*, 4-13-1883.

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In 1896, the local paper reported on the railroad and subsequent decline of activity at the landing:

We wish to call the attention of our people to the change that has taken place at the Landing in the past thirty years...At that time there were five large well-stocked dry goods and grocery stores, fruit, confectionary and ice cream stand, tailor shop, shoemaker shop, large flour and feed store, large grist mill, blacksmith shop, one church, eight dwelling houses all occupied, seventeen packets running regular weekly trips to Philadelphia, carrying freight to all the surrounding towns; vessels were built and it was the center of business for this section. Now there are but two dwelling houses only one occupied, two storehouses both closed, with all former business interests dispensed with, excepting two regular packets running out of the creek. Surely these changes are wonderful. That is what the railroads have done for Dennisville.⁴⁷

In reality, several of the stores that closed at the landing relocated to the heart of the village. As early as 1873, the “store and post office” at the landing was moved to the village where it was remodeled for use as a dry goods and shoe store by Frederick Bushnell at 128 Main Street; it burned in 1930. [fig. 16] Two small stores were also attached to the rear of Bushnell’s house at 128 Main Street where they still stand. Herbert Carroll built a new store in the heart of the village in 1890 at 138 Main Street. Albert Holmes moved his store from the landing to the village in 1901. In 1904, Francis Williams’ “old store” was moved from the side yard of 135 Main Street to the rear yard of the Wm. S. and Hannah Townsend House at 1196 SR 47 (within the district) where it still stands.⁴⁸ In 1900, Harry Fidler, who owned the Crawford House (716 Petersburg Road), bought the Edwards’ store at the landing and moved it to his property; in the 1930s the store was moved again, this time to Woodbine where it became a beauty parlor.⁴⁹

The channel was dredged in 1897, three years after the railroad came through, but by then the boat building industry at the landing had been all but abandoned. As the shipbuilding and other commercial enterprises there gradually folded, the landing was used by oyster boats for the cleaning and painting of their bottoms and as a place where boats were overhauled.⁵⁰

Although the boat building industry ceased, many of Dennisville’s residents continued to make a living on the water. The *Philadelphia Inquirer* noted in 1895 that “the catching of oysters [in Dennis Creek] furnishes employment to a large number of the inhabitants.”⁵¹ The 1900 census shows 17 of the 95 stated occupations for Dennisville residents are water related and included four watermen, three seamen, three sea captains, a tugboat captain, five oystermen, and one oyster dealer. The majority list occupations as farmer, day laborer, and farm laborer, while four worked on the railroad and four at a nearby brick works. There were three merchants in town and women are increasingly noted in the workforce, with two seamstresses, two teachers, and two farmers.⁵²

⁴⁷ *Cape May Gazette*, 8-21-1896.

⁴⁸ *Cape May Ocean Wave*, 10-10-1891, 3; *Cape May County Gazette*, 7-11-1930.

⁴⁹ Interview with George Brewer, local resident, August 2012.

⁵⁰ *Star of the Cape*, 10-28-1897; *Cape May County Gazette*, 4-16-1897.

⁵¹ *Philadelphia Inquirer*, 10-18-1895, 4.

⁵² 1900 Census, New Jersey, Cape May County, Dennis Township.

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Substantial houses continued to be built in Dennisville, despite the downturn in shipbuilding activity in the 1890s. Tugboat captain Harry Chester and his wife, Gertrude, built a house in 1894 at 656 Petersburg Road that is the village's best-preserved example of the Queen Anne style. [fig. 18] Captain Daniel and Eunice Fidler built their Queen Anne style house the same year at 680 Petersburg Road.

By the early 1900s, timber harvesting re-emerged as a significant local industry, with reforested timber (mostly pine) cut in great quantities. As the *Philadelphia Inquirer* noted in 1900, "[t]housands of cords of rails and timber are being hauled to the Dennis Creek landing, preparatory to shipping to Philadelphia."⁵³ A sawmill on Ludlam's Pond (outside of the district), established in the 1780s continued to operate, and although Johnson's sawmill was abandoned in 1905 after having been active since the 1740s, Dennisville resident Ogden Gandy set up a new steam-powered sawmill on Hall Avenue in 1903.⁵⁴ Because of its success, "houses are now in demand as the new mill brings several families to town." Gandy's mill operated into the mid-20th century and its site is now the location of a fence company outside of district boundaries.⁵⁵

Dennisville continued to thrive in the early 20th century. In 1904, it was described:

It has one church, three well-kept grocery stores, post office, long distance telephone office, two sawmills (one steam and one water), two schoolhouses with two teachers each, several cedar lumber dealers, barber shop, two pool rooms, a good physician, a drug store, and as many pretty young ladies as can be found in the county.⁵⁶

As important as the revived timber industry was, maritime occupations on the Delaware Bay and River continued to sustain Dennisville residents, too. In the 1910 census, 17 of the village's 143 wage earners earned a living on the water; however, only two were sea captains, reflecting a downturn in coastal schooner trading. Nine were in the lumber industry, eight worked for the railroad, four were merchants, four were teachers, and nine were house carpenters. Roughly 20% claimed to be farmers, the highest percentage in that category since occupations were first noted in the 1850 census. Roughly 25% were laborers, most of them working by the day.⁵⁷

In 1920, the *Industrial Directory of New Jersey* described Dennisville as having a population of 900 (an inflated number) with services that included a money order post office, telegraph, telephone, and express service. The community supported two schools—primary and grammar—and two fraternal organizations, the Knights of Pythias and the Patriotic Order Sons of America. The only industry was Gandy's sawmill which employed five men. Farm products consisted of "practically all vegetables" in addition to "several large poultry raising establishments in the town" but no evidence of the latter remains.⁵⁸ The 1920 census shows that of the village's 117 residents with a stated occupation, 12 had

⁵³ *Philadelphia Inquirer*, 10-19-1900.

⁵⁴ *Philadelphia Inquirer*, 4-1-1905; *Cape May County Gazette*, 3-15-1903, 3; Henry Ludlam does not own a sawmill per the 1780 Upper Township tax list, but does own one in the 1785 tax list.

⁵⁵ *Star of the Cape* (Cape May, NJ), 12-7-1907, 3; interview with George Brewer, May 2015.

⁵⁶ *Cape May County Gazette*, 11-18-1904, 4.

⁵⁷ 1910 census, Cape May County, Dennis Township, sheet 26A through 30A. These pages specifically state "Dennisville Town" in the heading.

⁵⁸ *Industrial Directory of New Jersey* (1920), 148-149.

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water-related jobs, 10 claimed to work at a lumber mill, three were wood choppers, and 19 were farmers/farm laborers.⁵⁹

Dennisville and the Automobile Era

The advent of automobile travel brought change to Dennisville. In the late 1920s, the state highway department drew up plans to develop a modern roadway to be used by motorists traveling from Philadelphia and southwestern New Jersey to Cape May City.⁶⁰ [fig. 10] Designated as Route 15 (in 1933 it was named Delsea Drive), the 75-mile long road originated in Brooklawn, Camden County and headed southeast through the parts of Camden, Gloucester, and Cumberland counties as it wound its way to a terminus in the Cape May County barrier island resort of Wildwood. It mostly followed roads that had been established in the 1800s.

The highway department created a quarter-mile long “bypass” that skirted the western edge of Dennisville as the road approached the village from the northwest and then connected with the south end of Main Street. [fig. 10] The road traveled over the bridge at the landing but took a 90° turn ¼-mile south of the bridge, heading on a southeastern course that carried it along present day SR83 for 3.5 miles before connecting with SR9. This effectively drew shore-bound traffic away from the heart of both Dennisville and South Dennis. The new road bed was widened to 44’, but the highway department took a 66’ wide right-of-way from property owners along the route.

Highway department maps show that two buildings—the ca. 1860-70 T.H. Fidler House at 1109 Route 47 and a tenant house owned by Dr. Beesley at 1123 Route 47—had to be moved to make way for the bypass. [fig. 10] The Fidler House originally faced north onto Petersburg Road, next to the Odd Fellow’s Hall, and was moved about 150 feet to the southwest where it now faces east onto the by-pass and stands on a different lot. The Fidler House has been included within the expanded district since it was moved before construction of the highway began in October 1928 and is thus within the period of significance. The site of the Beesley Tenant House, just north of the Fidler House, is within the district, but because a modern house has been built on its foundations, it is non-contributing.

The newly-improved road fostered construction of Gratz’ gas station and car repair in Dennisville on the by-pass (extant, outside of district boundaries) and another gas station near the landing which no longer survives. Within the village, new construction during the 1920s was scant. School teacher Roxanna Gandy (1877-d. after 1940) built a Craftsman-inspired bungalow on Gatzmer Avenue (within the district) in 1922 and hers was the last single family home to be erected until after the Great Depression.

End of the Period of Significance for Dennisville

By the time the Route 47 bypass around the heart of the village was constructed in the summer of 1928—the end date of the period of significance—Dennisville’s shipbuilding industry had been defunct for more than a quarter of a century and the commercial buildings at the Dennis Creek landing had been closed. Some relocated to Main Street while others were moved, often to serve other purposes. In the

⁵⁹ 1920 census, Dennis Township, Cape May County, NJ.

⁶⁰ Cape May County Clerk’s Office, map #47, “New Jersey State Highway Department, General Property Key Map, Route 15, Section 11, South Dennis to East Creek,” April 1927.

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first decade of the 20th century, Dennisville regained its economic base through the prosperity of three sawmills (one in the village, one at the landing, and one at Ludlam's Pond, all no longer standing) that harvested local stands of timber for the production of building material. However, by 1920, two of the three sawmills had closed leaving just Ogden Gandy's in the village, and it employed only five men.⁶¹ Although the Great Depression brought additional hardships, the once-bustling village had already begun its slow descent to the quiet village it remains today.

After World War II, growth in Cape May County was centered on the barrier islands where the development of summer resorts had languished since the Great Depression. In the 1940s and 1950s, a handful of houses were erected in Dennisville (most of them outside of the district boundaries), but a local resident who grew up in Dennisville during the 1940s recalls that there were very few children in the village, a fact that suggests few new families bought houses there.⁶² [fig. 11] A cursory review of occupations cited in the 1940 census significantly shows how the local economy reflected the great changes in technology and transportation in the 20th century. While several men in Dennisville claim to be clammers or fisherman, others have occupations like telephone operator, electrician, truck driver, book keeper, and automobile mechanic or salesman. Quite a few are employed by the Workers Progress Administration in a variety of roles, a few are farm hands, and several work for the railroad or a rubber plant (probably that in Woodbine).

Country stores in Dennisville and South Dennis operated until the mid-20th century, closing about the time when the Wawa convenience store opened at the south end of Main Street in Dennisville in 1984. The Wawa store was erected on the site of the 1836 Dennisville Inn, which was moved to Historic Cold Spring Village in Lower Township to save it. Rail service through Dennisville to Camden and Cape May City stopped in 1983 and new construction in Dennisville consisted of one or two houses per decade until the turn of the last century.

Significance under Criterion C/Architecture

The historic architecture of Dennisville represents American architectural styles from ca. 1700 to 1928. While the same architectural styles are found throughout the county's mainland, those in Dennisville tend to be more formal and better preserved examples, particularly when compared with those extant in the villages of Tuckahoe and Goshen, two other shipbuilding areas in Cape May County. The quality and preservation of Dennisville's historic building stock is rivaled only by those in Cape May Court House, the county seat, which also has at least one house built around 1700 as well as a larger potential historic district.

The village's two oldest houses, the David and Sarah Johnson House and the Ludlam and Phoebe Johnson House, are Post-medieval English style buildings that feature a decorated frame, the presence of which indicates a construction date of 1730 or earlier. The county's earliest English speaking settlers, or their ancestors, came to the New World from England, settling first in New England in the 1620s, then on Long Island in the 1650s and 1660s, and eventually came to southern New Jersey beginning in the

⁶¹ *Documents of the One Hundred and Forty-Third and One Hundred and Forty-Fourth Legislatures of the State of New Jersey* (1920), Vol. VI, 148-149.

⁶² Interview with George Brewer, August 2012.

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1680s. They brought their tradition of heavy timber frame construction with them, so it is no surprise to find the same exposed summer beams, decorated joists, and carved posts in Cape May's first-period (ca. 1690-ca. 1730) buildings that characterize those on Long Island and in New England.⁶³ Despite much research, it cannot be proven for whom these two early village houses were built, but evidence points to Jacob Spicer and/or Dr. Daniel Cox who jointly owned the land on which Dennisville stands in the early 1700s.

The tradition of exposing, and decorating, the house frame continued in Cape May County, and in Dennisville, until well into the 1820s. Although the rest of the state adopted plaster walls and ceilings after about 1730, Cape May County house carpenters clung to the old ways, exposing ceilings joists (that were typically beaded), corner posts (usually wrapped in beaded-edge boards) and girts (faced in beaded-edge boards), and using board walls until plaster finally gained popular acceptance as an interior finish in the 1820s. There are several examples of this late exposed framing in Dennisville, including the ca. 1813-1817 Jonathan Crandall House (694 Petersburg Road), the ca. 1800 section of the Nathaniel Jr. and Rebecca Holmes House (702 Petersburg Road, photo 5) and the ca. 1760-80 rear ell of the William and Hannah Townsend House (1153 Route 47).

After the deaths of David and Sarah Johnson in 1803 and 1805, the village expanded as their heirs sold off smaller lots created from their inherited tracts. New village residents built vernacular versions of the styles that were popular in the opening decades of the 19th century. Vernacular examples of the Pre-Railroad style, like the ca. 1813 taller section of the Jonathan Crandall House (694 Petersburg Road, photo 10) and the ca. 1828 Granny Green Cottage (1133 Route 47), tended to be simple, 1½- to two-story one-room-per-floor "boxes" with a center door flanked by a window on each side and having two windows on the upper story. This massing was extremely popular in Cape May County's more humble dwellings and lasted well into the mid-19th century as evidenced by the ca. 1858 Reuben and Eliza Stiles House at 1266 Route 47 [seen to the left in photo 42].

As wealthier residents settled in the village, they built more style-conscious houses. Around 1822, local merchant and politician Nathaniel Holmes Jr. and his wife, Rebecca, built a handsomely-appointed side hall, two-story Federal style addition against a smaller, ca. 1800 vernacular house at 702 Petersburg Road. [photo 5] The addition features a pedimented door enframing accented with a semi-circular fanlight, a design element that is repeated in the ca. 1830 Rice-Diverty House a few houses to the west at 712 Petersburg Road. The Rice-Diverty House was reportedly built by South Dennis resident James Diverty, a successful local boat builder and lumberman, for his daughter, Jane, and her husband, Edward Rice. The same fanlight and door surround are found on the ca. 1820 section of the main block of the William S. and Hannah Townsend House at 1196 Route 47. [photo 36, fig. 21] This part of the main block was built for Richard Smith Ludlam who then used his inherited wealth in 1832 to build the Mansion House hotel in Cape May City. The unidentified first owner of the ca. 1830 Captain Douglas House at 131 Main Street [photo 29] chose a center hall double parlor plan for his Federal style house, but opted for a more simplistic center door surround omitting the fanlight.

⁶³ Joan Berkey, *Early Architecture of Cape May County, New Jersey* (Cape May County Historical and Genealogical Society, 2008).

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Houses built in the mid-19th century for Dennisville's working class tended to be more vernacular than high-style. The ca. 1860 house that Jonathan (a house carpenter) and Sarah James built at 669 Petersburg Road has the same two-story massing and Pre-Railroad style as the ca. 1813 taller section of the house built by Jonathan Crandall, a blacksmith, at 694 Petersburg Road. Also popular was a three-bay wide two-story house, again one room per floor in plan, remarkably devoid of any ornamentation. The ca. 1856 Thomas (a cordwainer) and Ann Stiles House at 126 Main Street exemplifies this simplicity [seen to the far right in photo 1].

As shipbuilding became a major industry in Dennisville, and trade at the landing flourished in the mid- to late 19th century, the influx of sea and river captain living in the village brought greater awareness of, and a demand for, more up-to-date styles. About 1860-70, Captain Frank Williams remodeled his late Federal style house into a vernacular interpretation of the Italianate style at 135 Main Street [seen to the far left in photo 45], while Captain William Taylor built a large, Gothic Revival style house about 1850 with its distinctive center cross gable at 673 Petersburg Road. "Vessel master" Charles Carroll and his wife Rachel built a similar Gothic Revival style house at 1182 N. Delsea Drive about 1850-60. [seen center right in photo 34]

The Queen Anne style, introduced in the mid-1870s and characterized by complex massing with varied surface treatments, was readily embraced by Dennisville's more prosperous, style-conscious residents in the 1880s and 1890s. Although eschewed by architects, the style owed its popularity to tremendous public enthusiasm fostered by pattern books and mail order plans that allowed Americans to build a Queen Anne style house without hiring an architect. As railroad service spread nationally, pre-cut architectural details common to the style—e.g. spindles, finials, and lace-like brackets—were readily available for purchase locally, further adding to the style's popularity. Dennisville's house carpenters erected several houses in the style with varying degrees of ornamentation, likely purchasing ready-made details from J.P. Collins' lumber yard, established on the West Jersey Railroad line about 1885 in nearby South Seaville.⁶⁴

Widow Mary Dalton built the village's first Queen Anne example house in 1886 at 652 Petersburg Road. [seen to the far right in photo 17] Its complex roofline, mix of exterior sheathing, and columned porches (missing their original details) are a more restrained expression of the style. Soon after, sea captain Lewis Douglas and his wife, Sarah, built a somewhat smaller example in 1887-88 at 636 Petersburg Road. Tugboat captain Harry Chester and his wife, Ruth, built the village's best example of the Queen Anne style in their 1894 house at 656 Petersburg Road [fig. 18, photo 16] The Chester's house showcases the irregular roof line, complex massing, varied wall treatments, and asymmetrical façade characteristic of the style. That same year, Captain Daniel and Eunice Fidler built a modest example of the style at 680 Petersburg Road. [seen to the far right in photo 14]

In the early years of the 20th century, after the demise of the shipbuilding industry and the coming of rail service, new construction slowed considerably. Railroad agent Osman Geary and his wife, Clara, built a modest Colonial Revival style house in 1913 (672 Petersburg Road) and school teacher and administrator

⁶⁴ Robert P. Guter and Janet W. Foster, *Building by the Book: Pattern-Book Architecture in New Jersey* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1992), 147-156; Virginia Savage McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (NY: Alfred A Knopf, 1984, 2014), 348-350.

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Roxanna Gandy built a Craftsman style house in 1922 (32 Gatzmer Avenue, photo 23). Only two other houses were erected between 1900 and 1928 (the latter date being the end of the period of significance): one at 1247 Route 47 and the other at 12 Hall Avenue [seen to the right in photo 23].

Extant contributing public, religious, fraternal, and commercial buildings within the district range in date from the early 1800s to 1890. Although no commercial building continues in use as a store/office, seven remain. The best preserved are Dr. Maurice Beesley's medical office built in 1860 in the Italianate style (726 Petersburg Road, photo 8) and Herbert Carroll's dry goods store built in 1890 in the Queen Anne style (138 Main Street). A 1½-story building that formerly served as Francis Williams' dry goods store next to his house at 135 Main Street in the 1870s was moved in 1904 to the rear of the William S. and Hannah Townsend House at 1196 Route 47. The hand-hewn, heavy timber frame construction of this former store suggests it was built 1800 or earlier. A former ca. 1900 store stands behind the Douglas House (131 Main Street) and attached to the rear of the Bushnell House at 128 Main Street are two small stores moved from an unknown location (possibly the landing) in the early 1900s. Young's Hall at 144 Main Street, was built in 1879 and contained a store on the first floor with a large meeting hall on the second floor.

The original appearance of the Italianate style Odd Fellows Hall, built in 1845 at 727 Petersburg Road, is not known; in 1874 it was converted into a dwelling, a use that continues today. [seen to the left in photo 32] The Knights of Pythias fraternal hall was built in 1895 at 26 Gatzmer Avenue and although converted for residential use in the late 1980s, it retains its original gable-front massing with Queen Anne and Italianate style details. [fig. 19, photo 25]

Dennisville's religious needs were first met by a small chapel built at the landing (probably no longer standing) that was replaced with the well-preserved Greek Revival-style United Methodist Church on Main Street in 1871. [fig. 17, photo 28] It continues as the only church in the village. Dennisville's three schools consist of the "Old Academy" built in 1842 (646 Petersburg Road, photo 19) and used as a residence since 1874, the 1874 public school (now a museum, fig. 14 and photo 13) at 681 Petersburg Road, and the 1871 Ludlam Schoolhouse (vacant, fig. 22, photo 39) at 106 Myrtle Street. All are discussed later in this section. The location of the village post office has moved many times since it was established at the landing in 1802. It is shown opposite the church in the 1872 Beers map [fig. 7] and in 1891 was moved to the former Odd Fellows Hall building. From the late 1960s until 1987, it was housed in a ca. 1960 Ranch-style home (non-contributing) at 159 Main Street and since 1988 has been located in the 1957 former township garage building (non-contributing) behind the 1874 school on Hall Avenue.

Significance under Criterion B/Nathaniel Holmes Jr. (local merchant and political figure)

Nathaniel Holmes Jr., born July 7, 1782, was the son of Nathaniel Holmes Sr. (1757-1834), one of four brothers who emigrated from Ireland to southern New Jersey in the 1770s. Nathaniel Holmes Sr. married Hannah Hand in 1781 and they settled in the county seat of Cape May Court House. Their son, Nathaniel Holmes Jr., was raised in Cape May Court House, but nothing is known about the education he received. In 1808 he made his first real estate purchases, buying four acres of cedar swamp in Dennis

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Township and a half-acre lot in Dennisville on the south side of Petersburg Road.⁶⁵ In 1809, he married Rebecca Souder, the daughter of Philip Souder Jr. who operated a public house in Dennisville. That year Holmes was operating a store according to tax records. In the 1810 tax records, he is shown owning 65 acres of improved land, operating a store or shop, and having sufficient wealth that he owned a “one horse riding chair.”⁶⁶ In 1822, he and his wife bought a half-acre lot on the north side of Petersburg Road (702 Petersburg Road, photo 5) and built a two-story addition to a small house there in which they lived until their deaths in 1864 and 1860 respectively.⁶⁷

The store Holmes operated was on the west side of SR47, north of the bridge at Dennis Creek Landing. Holmes’ granddaughter, Sally Fonstamaker, described the store as carrying sugar, green coffee, salt in sacks, and “coarse salt for fish packing,” along with whiskey, vinegar, molasses, cider, and kerosene. Kept in tubs were butter, lard, and pickles in addition to salt pork contained in barrels. The store burned to the ground in 1899.⁶⁸

In 1815, Holmes joined with other area leaders (Joseph Falkinburg, Henry Ludlam, James Diverty, Jeremiah Leaming, and Elizabeth Ludlam) to incorporate the *South Branch of the Dennis Creek Meadow Company*. Their partnership, encouraged by an 1815 state law sanctioning meadow banking companies, reclaimed meadowland along Sluice Creek to be used as farmland for either salt hay or upland crops.⁶⁹

Holmes was frequently called on by the Court of Common Pleas to act as a commissioner to divide a decedent’s lands among his or her heirs. Holmes also became proficient in road building; in 1827, he was authorized to expand the Dennis Creek causeway with heart of pine pilings and gravel, and in 1837 he superintended the construction of a bridge at West Creek, located at the westernmost end of Dennis Township. In 1833, he and six other influential Dennis Creek residents incorporated the Dennisville Glass Manufacturing Company for the manufacture of window glass on the north side of Dennis Creek, but the act authorizing its incorporation is the only evidence of the company’s existence.⁷⁰

Holmes first entered politics in the 1830s, serving on the county board of freeholders as a Dennis Township representative between 1834 and 1841, and again from 1847 to 1851, acting as director of the board each year he served. On the Democratic slate, he was elected to the state assembly from 1848 to 1849. An astounding 80% of the public works authorized by the freeholders between 1815 and 1848 directly benefited Dennis Creek, a testimony of the area’s importance to the county’s economy and no doubt furthered by Holmes’ tenure on the freeholder board for a third of that time period. Nathaniel Holmes Jr. also led the unsuccessful movement to transfer the county seat from Cape May Court House to Dennisville in 1848, his efforts thwarted in part by a handbill proclaiming, among other things, that Holmes’ interests were financially motivated because all of the materials to construct the new county buildings would come through his store at the landing. Despite the loss, Holmes apparently carried no

⁶⁵ Cape May County Deeds, book F, 316, 319;

⁶⁶ Cape May County Tax Records, Upper Township, 1809 and 1810, 7.

⁶⁷ Cape May County Deeds, book L, 438.

⁶⁸ *Cape May County Magazine of History and Biography*, 1976 (Vol. 7, #4), 315; Holmes’ store was later occupied and operated by his son and grandson, but burned to the ground in 1899 per an account in the *Cape May County Gazette*, 12-15-1899.

⁶⁹ Dorwart, 85.

⁷⁰ Dorwart, 86; Stevens, 255; Acts of the Legislature of the State of New Jersey, 1833, 235.

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grudge and served on the building committee charged with overseeing the construction of a new court house in Cape May Court House one year later.⁷¹

In the 1840 census, Holmes is cited as being employed in agriculture and “manufactures and trades.” In the 1850 census, he is listed as a 67-year old merchant owning real estate valued at \$20,000; he is also cited as a merchant in the 1860 census.⁷² He died January 26, 1864 and is buried at the Union Cemetery in South Dennis.⁷³

Twentieth century historian, Jeffery Dorwart, called Holmes “the most influential and powerful Dennis Creek merchant, freeholder, and road builder in early 19th century Cape May County” and included Holmes as one of a “new, largely well-educated and gentrified occupational group that was involved in diverse economic activity and business enterprise” that emerged as the county’s leaders. Dorwart concluded that these influential leaders, which included Holmes, “formed a nineteenth-century business gentry elite tied together, like their eighteenth-century whaler yeoman ancestors and kin, by intermarriage and political-economic associations.”⁷⁴

Within these contexts, Nathaniel Holmes Jr. is locally significant for the important role he played in encouraging Dennisville’s growth through his commercial and political pursuits that spanned his nearly fifty years as a village resident. The house he and his wife lived in at 702 Petersburg Road retains a high degree of integrity and maintains nearly the same appearance it had when the Holmes’ lived there. It is associated with Holmes’ productive life and is the only extant building associated with Holmes.

Significance under Criterion B/William S. Townsend (political figure and champion of rail service)

A generation younger than Holmes, William Smith Townsend was born in 1811, the son of Isaac Townsend and Hannah Ogden. In 1833 he married Hannah Smith Ludlam, daughter of Henry Ludlam and Mary Lawrence; he was a Quaker who attended the Maurice River meeting (Cumberland County), and she converted to his faith soon after their marriage. In May 1840, they purchased the “homestead plantation” of Richard Smith Ludlam, his wife’s grand-uncle, a 378-acre farm located between Johnson Mill Pond and Ludlam Mill Pond. (see 1196 Route 47, fig. 21 and photo 36) In the 1840 census, his 10-person household included a free black aged 10-24 and two of the residents were engaged in agriculture. Between 1841 and 1842 he operated a store, probably the one Richard Ludlam had established in the 1820s on the opposite side of SR47. This store does not appear to be extant. Townsend entered county politics in 1840 when he represented Dennis Township as a freeholder that year. He took the next nine years off, then re-entered the political arena, serving as a director of the Board of Freeholders from 1851 to 1855 and representing Dennis Township as a freeholder in 1850-54, 1856 to 1859, and 1864-68.⁷⁵

⁷¹ Dorwart, 86-89; Stevens, 255, 276. 451.

⁷² 1840 census, Dennis Township, Cape May County, NJ, 27; 1850 census, 19; 1860 census, 54.

⁷³ Headstone, Union Cemetery, South Dennis, New Jersey.

⁷⁴ Dorwart, 84, 71.

⁷⁵ Stevens, 452, 454-457; Quaker Meeting Records (Ancestry.com database, accessed 5-13-2015); *Genealogical and Memorial History of the State of New Jersey*, Vol. 1, 234-235; deed book S, p. 81; *Bridgeton Chronicle* (Bridgeton, NJ), 12-18-1841, 4; H.C. Campion letter to L.T. Stevens, 7-28-1931, Campion Files/Townsend family, Cape May County Historical and Genealogical Society.

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In 1846 and 1847, Townsend was one of two surveyors of highways for Dennis Township. Experience gained there was probably useful in his position working with the Cape May and Millville Railroad when it established the first rail line serving Cape May County, running to Cape May City via Millville in 1863. Although Townsend was not on the railroad's board of directors, he played a major role in overseeing construction of its rail line and his success there is his most significant contribution to Cape May County history. A Camden, New Jersey paper noted in 1869:

To Mr. William S. Townsend great credit is due for the substantial manner in which the [rail] road was built. Under his supervision, much of labor was bestowed not common to railroads, to make it all that the company and the public desired. He caused it to be thoroughly ditched and drained from Millville to Cape Island; and although without experience, he acquitted himself in such a manner as to win the commendation of all familiar with the construction of railroads. He is still connected with the company, purchasing supplies and attending to repairs, and his faithfulness and efficiency are well appreciated.⁷⁶

Introduction of rail service to Cape May County not only brought more vacationers to the seaside resort of Cape May City, but also spurred a period of unprecedented growth as new communities developed at station stops on the mainland. In fact, "more newcomers entered the Jersey Cape between 1865 and 1870 than during any previous decade."⁷⁷ William Townsend and Jeremiah van Rensselaer laid out streets and building lots on either side of the tracks at Woodbine, not far from Dennisville, but the area languished until it became a settlement for Russian Jews in the 1890s. However, a little farther to the south, South Seaville developed as a major stop with the establishment of a camp meeting, a fairground and a racetrack. Cape May Court House also expanded as a direct result of train service. Dennisville, which the route by-passed to the east, received no similar benefits.

Townsend is enumerated in the 1850 census as a 39-year old merchant, living in the house with his wife, eight children, and two servants, one of them Augustus Jackson a 43-year old African American with the stated occupation of laborer. The value of Townsend's real estate at \$17,000 was the fourth largest in the township, a status he retained for two more decades.⁷⁸ He is enumerated as a farmer in the 1860 and 1880 censuses and as a superintendent for the railroad in the 1870 census.⁷⁹ By 1861, his holdings contained over 600 acres and included a sawmill, a private landing on Dennis Creek, several tenant houses, farm land, pasture land, a mowing meadow, and cedar swamp.⁸⁰ The 1862 IRS tax list shows him engaged in watch and carriage manufacturing, but the location of his shop(s) is not known.⁸¹

⁷⁶ *West Jersey Press* (Camden, NJ), 1-13-1869, 1. Townsend's son-in-law, Benjamin F. Lee, and South Dennis resident Coleman F. Leaming, were on the board of directors and likely played a large role in getting Townsend hired for the job.

⁷⁷ Dorwart, 114.

⁷⁸ 1850 census, Dennis Township, 22.

⁷⁹ 1860 census, 50; 1870 census, 14; 1880 census, sheet 27C.

⁸⁰ *Ocean Wave* (Cape May City, NJ), 8-7-1861, 3.

⁸¹ US. IRS Tax Assessment Lists, 1861-1918 (Ancestry.com database accessed 5-13-2015).

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With the onset of the Civil War, he was appointed by the freeholders to be responsible for looking “after the wants of the soldiers’ families”. He was authorized to give each soldier’s family in his territory \$6 per month as long as the head of the family was in service.⁸²

Townsend died in May 1881. One obituary noted, “Mr. Townsend has always been an active business man and was for many years connected with the Cape May and Millville R.R., afterward with the West Jersey [railroad].”⁸³ Another stated:

He was a man of large intellect and liberally educated. He had been prominent in many matters of public interest, and his wise counsels and superior judgment always carried weight with them. He was one of the first to labor for the extension of the railroad to Cape May, and was one of the first appointed to official position, and was prominently connected with the road for a period of years.⁸⁴

Thus, Townsend’s significant legacy to local history included not only twenty years of political service as a county freeholder, but also as a visionary who championed the introduction of rail service to Cape May County and then oversaw its construction in 1863. The Townsend House retains a high degree of integrity and its current appearance is nearly identical to the appearance it had while Townsend lived there from 1840 until his death in 1881. Although the rail line that Townsend helped to build is extant, it is located outside of the district boundaries. Thus, within the district, the house is the best extant resource associated with Townsend and was the house he lived in during the productive period of his life. The Townsend House was individually listed in the State and National Registers in 1984.

Significance under Criterion A/Education

Education in Cape May County and Dennisville

Educational initiatives in Cape May County followed statewide trends. Schools in the 18th century were few and informal, with records of their existence sketchy at best. Cape May County historian Lewis T. Stevens wrote that “[d]uring the latter half of the eighteenth century once in a very great while an itinerant school teacher would appear.” According to Maurice Beesley, MD, a historian and former Cape May County Superintendent of Public Instruction in the mid-19th century, these teachers would “board around,” traveling around to families who paid school subscriptions and provided board for teachers.⁸⁵ Lower Township resident Aaron Leaming Jr. [1715-1780] noted in a diary entry that in 1723 “Richard Irish taught a school. He was the first master I went to. He taught again in Novem. 1725.” Much later, Leaming remarked that his children attended school for about a month in 1765, but it is not known if they were schooled at home or in a separate building.⁸⁶ South Dennis resident, Anthony Ludlam (?-1735/36) directed in his will of 1735/36 that the rent from his mill was to be applied for schooling his sons. A 1783 Lower Township road return mentions a “road that comes from Fishing Creek where

⁸² Stevens, 328.

⁸³ *Cape May County Gazette* (Cape May Court House, NJ), 5-21-1881, 2.

⁸⁴ *Cape May Wave* (Cape May, NJ), 5-21-1881, 3.

⁸⁵ Maurice Beesley, *History of Schools in Cape May County*, as cited in Nancy Zerbe, Goshen School nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, Section 8, 3.

⁸⁶ *Diary of Aaron Leaming Jr.*, Cape May County Historical and Genealogical Society, 36; Stevens, 248.

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there now stands a school house,” providing the first mention of a school building in the county’s public records.⁸⁷

As the 18th century progressed, subscription schools grew in number and it was not until after the Revolutionary War that school buildings throughout the state became widespread. In Cape May County, several subscription schools had been established by the late 1700s. One of the earliest was in South Dennis, Dennis (then Upper) Township; it was founded in February 1793 when James Ludlam sold 30 men a 50 square rod lot on School House Road to be used “for no other purpose but for a school house as long as time shall last.” Grantees included men living on both the north and south sides of Dennis Creek, and this school is the earliest on record to be established in Dennis Township.⁸⁸ The next established in the township was the Ludlam School, which was created in 1801 when Henry Ludlam deeded a one-acre lot for a schoolhouse on the outskirts of the village of Dennisville (within the expanded Dennisville Historic District) to 34 men who lived in the greater Dennis Creek area.⁸⁹

Almost two decades later, two school associations were incorporated in Upper Township—the Farmers Association in 1817 and the Franklin School House in 1818. The incorporation papers of both cite the 1794 state act that gave them the power to incorporate as a “society for the promotion of learning.” Residents in Middle Township incorporated the Colonial School in 1826, and two more schools (Friendship and Mariner’s Association) were incorporated in Upper Township in the 1830s.⁹⁰

After passage of the 1828 state law that allowed citizens of any township to raise money for the erection and repair of schoolhouses, agents of the American Bible Society surveyed the educational needs of the state’s children and found those in Cape May particularly needy. They reported:

...in the three northern townships of Cape May [Middle, Dennis, and Upper] there are upward of 200 above 15 years of age who cannot read. One of the agents made this statement: “Of the families which I visited, there were 18 in which were none who could read; 20 in which neither of the parents could read, and 55 in which only one of the parents could read.” Upon this appalling picture the committee feel that they need make no remark.⁹¹

Perhaps mindful of the need to provide more schooling for their children, three other Dennis Township communities established schools between 1830 and 1855. In 1830, Stipson Island School trustees founded the West Creek School, so-named for the waterway that separates Dennis Township from Cumberland County. The Sea Side School was built a few miles east of South Seaville in 1845 and the East Creek School in the East Creek section of the township was built on SR47 in 1855. In South Dennis, a new school built on a different lot (but still on School House Road) in 1839 replaced the earlier subscription school built in 1793. All of these buildings were wood frame and of the four only the West

⁸⁷ Anthony Ludlam will, NJ State Archives, file #89E; Cape May County Clerk’s Office, *Road Book A*, 26.

⁸⁸ Deed Book I, 443-444; the school was supposedly moved across the street in 1840 and is purportedly the main block of a historic house located at #175.

⁸⁹ Cape May County Deeds, Book B, 202.

⁹⁰ Cape May County Clerk’s Office, *Miscellaneous Book A*, 276, 279, 347, 391, 441.

⁹¹ Murray, 158.

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Creek School and the Sea Side School still stand, but both have been moved from their original sites and no longer serve as schools.⁹²

The township's first and only academy was founded as a public school in 1842 and was located in the village of Dennisville at 646 Petersburg Road. Sold in 1874 when a new, two-room public school was erected nearby at 681 Petersburg Road, it now serves as a house. [photo 19]

By the 1840s, Dennis Township school districts were still in their infancy. In February 1843, the "inhabitants of the Sea Side in Dennis Township" purchased a half-acre lot "for building a school for the inhabitants who may pay anything towards building the school house" while five months later three trustees purchased a lot "for benefit of school district No. 1 known as the East Creek School district of Public Schools."⁹³

After passage of the 1851 state act "To Establish Public Schools," 14 school districts in Cape May County filed incorporation papers with the county clerk between 1851 and 1867. One, the Goshen School and Meeting House District, noted that they had been formed as an association in the 1820s, but were now incorporating under the new law. Most that incorporated during this period referenced the 1851 act in their articles of incorporation and gave a metes and bounds description of the geographic area covered by their district.⁹⁴

In 1851, the first school superintendents were also appointed in the county; in Dennis Township, Joshua Swain was so chosen.⁹⁵ At that time, of the county's 2,135 school children, 534 (about 25%) lived in Dennis Township. In 1860, the county had 26 schools in which 32 teachers were employed, teaching 2,373 students. Of the 26 schools, only seven were considered to be in good condition. Similarly, only 15 had "proper seats and desks" and "twenty are supplied with blackboards," but all shared only one globe and one set of outline maps.⁹⁶

School attendance, often poor in the largely-rural county, was a constant concern. As Dr. Maurice Beesley, county school superintendent, explained in 1874:

In a county like Cape May, where the sea-faring life engages the attention of many of her sons long before they reach the maximum of eighteen years of age, it is not to be wondered at if the percentage of non-attendance should be large. And many of those who leave the county thus early, are led permanently away by their pursuits, and never again make it a permanent residence, thus tending to retard the growth of our population and indirectly of our schools.⁹⁷

⁹² William Garrison Hunter II, *A History of Education in Dennis Township, Cape May County, New Jersey 1664-1964* (master's thesis, Glassboro State College, Glassboro, NJ), 56-57. It should be noted that the owner of the house at 175 School House Road in South Dennis claims that the 2-story main block was the original 1793 school, but since the interior of the building has not been inspected, this claim cannot be confirmed or denied.

⁹³ Cape May County Deeds, Book T, 506 and Book 26, 36.

⁹⁴ See *Miscellaneous Book B* in the Cape May County Clerk's Office.

⁹⁵ Stevens, 282.

⁹⁶ Report of the State Board of Education, 1860, 33-34.

⁹⁷ Report of the State Board of Education, 1874, appendix, 35.

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However, State Board of Education annual reports show that Cape May County had consistently above-average attendance rates in the 1870s and the overwhelming majority of its schools were open nine months or more.

By 1880, most of the county's old school buildings had been replaced with modern ones, and as early as 1874, Superintendent Beesley reported that "just half the number of our school houses are new or nearly so, having been built within five years." Those in the Dennis Creek area of Dennis Township were among them. The 1801 Ludlam Schoolhouse was replaced in 1871 (the fate of the original building is not known) [fig. 22, photo 39], the 1842 Academy in Dennisville was abandoned in 1874 and its students sent to a new 2-story public school a few blocks to the west [fig. 14, photo 13], and a new building was erected in South Dennis in 1878. However, although widely accepted standards in school design emphasized proper ventilation, none of the county's 28 frame school buildings in 1882 had a ventilating system.⁹⁸

In the opening years of the 20th century, up-to-date brick schools were erected in most barrier island communities, in Cape May City, and in the county seat, Cape May Court House. However, the one- and two-room frame schoolhouses built in the last quarter of the 19th century continued to serve pupils in the county's mainland school districts until after World War II when increased population combined with the demand for modern school facilities spurred the erection of elementary, middle, and high school buildings. Dennis Township built a new school for grades K through 8 on Academy Road in 1953 and as enrollment increased, built additions to it in 1957 and again in 1965.⁹⁹ A new middle school was built in the early 21st century.

School Buildings within the Expanded Dennisville Historic District

The Academy [photo 19]

In 1842, the township's first and only academy was established in Dennisville, but the trustees named in the deed—Nathaniel Holmes, William L. Fidler, and Williams S. Townsend—were members of the "North Dennis School District," so this appears to have been founded as a public school rather than a subscription school.¹⁰⁰ It is a two-story frame building, three bays wide and two bays deep, standing at the northeast corner of Petersburg and Academy roads. An 1844 deed for a nearby property references a "steeple on the Academy" which may have referred to a belfry.¹⁰¹ In 1846 the trustees advertised for "A competent teacher to take charge of the Academy at Dennisville...evidences of capability in the department of an English education will be required."¹⁰² The English method of instruction focused on rote learning as was typical for the time period. Early trustees included two other prominent villagers—Samuel Matthews (merchant and county sheriff) and Dr. Maurice Beesley, who later served as the county school superintendent from 1867 until 1881.¹⁰³ Barber and Howe noted in 1844 that the second story of the building was used as a lyceum and for religious services. By 1860, the Academy was also being used

⁹⁸ Report of the State Board of Education, 1882, 58.

⁹⁹ Hunter, 60.

¹⁰⁰ Michael Conley, "The Old Academy of Dennisville," *Cape May County Magazine of History and Genealogy*, 1998, 227.

¹⁰¹ Cape May County Deeds, Book V, 72.

¹⁰² *Bridgeton Chronicle* (202101846), 5.

¹⁰³ "A Teacher Wanted," *Bridgeton Chronicle* (2-21-1846), 5.

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for town meetings, both governmental and citizen.¹⁰⁴ It shows as a public school on the 1872 Beers Map. [fig. 7]

By 1872, the local paper reported that the “people of the Academy District in North Dennisville [as Dennisville was known at the time] have decided to build a new school house.” A vacant lot closer to the heart of the village, at the southeast corner of Hall Avenue and Petersburg Road, was purchased in 1872 and the new two-story frame structure opened in 1874. The “Old Academy” was sold in 1874 to I.B.W. Gandy and has been used as a private residence since that date.¹⁰⁵ It is shown as a residence on the 1878 Woolman & Rose map. [fig. 8]

There were at least two other academies, both of them private, in Cape May County: Mayville (south of Cape May Court House in Middle Township) and Cold Spring Academy, founded about 1840 in Lower Township. Cold Spring Academy was the first in the county to teach high-school level courses.¹⁰⁶ By 1874, only the Cold Spring Academy was still in operation; it and the Mayville Academy no longer stand.

The Ludlam Schoolhouse [photo 39, fig. 22]

As previously mentioned, a subscription school was built on a one-acre lot sold for that purpose in 1801 by Henry Ludlam to 34 local residents. Because no deed was recorded, it is not known when ownership of the school was transferred to Dennis Township, making it a public rather than subscription school. On June 6, 1853 the Ludlam School was the first in the county to register the boundaries of the population it served, which roughly ran from Johnson’s Mill Pond and mill race on the east to Dillon’s Branch on the west, encompassing what is today known as North Dennis.¹⁰⁷

The fate of the 1801 building is unknown; the oldest section of the current school schoolhouse was built in 1871 [fig. 22], but it may be standing on the stone foundations of the original structure. The 1871 construction date is given in the 1871 State Board of Education report made by the county’s School Superintendent Maurice Beesley who wrote:

In [district] Nos. 8 [West Creek] and 10 [Ludlam Schoolhouse] in Dennis Township, new school houses have been built, are now ready for the teacher, and large enough to accommodate comfortably the children in those districts. They are both handsome structures, and redound to the credit of the architects and people.¹⁰⁸

That year, Dennis Township reported six school districts accommodating 556 pupils being taught by four teachers.¹⁰⁹ The one-room Ludlam Schoolhouse was enlarged to two classrooms in 1902 with an addition to the front and an additional teacher was hired. With the expanded space, the school was often

¹⁰⁴ Conley, 227-229.

¹⁰⁵ Ibid.

¹⁰⁶ Kimberly Sebold and Sara Amy Leach, *Historic Themes and Resources Within the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail* (US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1991), 35.

¹⁰⁷ Cape May County Clerk’s Office, *Miscellaneous Book B*, 210.

¹⁰⁸ *Report of the State Board of Education*, 1874, appendix, 16.

¹⁰⁹ *Annual Report of the State Superintendent of Public Schools of New Jersey for the Year 1853*, 23.

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used for purposes other than education and by the 1940s, was also used for township committee meetings.¹¹⁰

After the township's new elementary school opened in 1953, the Ludlam School was no longer needed and was sold in 1960 to the Northwest Dennis Community Club, a non-profit service group.¹¹¹ After they disbanded in 2000, the building was sold back to the Township, which still owns it.¹¹²

1874 Schoolhouse (district #11)

Built by local carpenters Crandol and James, the Dennisville School #11 was completed in 1874 and dedicated in a ceremony held Thanksgiving night that year. [fig. 14] It replaced the 1842 "Old Academy" located a few hundred feet to the east. A two-story building, it housed a single classroom on each floor. When erected, it was very similar in style and massing to the extant 2-story public school in Goshen built two years earlier, but was not as deep. A fire destroyed the schoolhouse's second floor and roof in 1948 and its students were temporarily taught in the Knights of Pythias building (within the district) two blocks to the south. The burned second story was removed and the school was reconstructed to its present 1-story height. [photo 13] It was used as a public school until the mid-1960s and presently serves as a local history museum.¹¹³

Significance under Criterion D/Archaeology

Straddling both sides of lots 26 and 27 in block 64 is the site of Johnson's sawmill which now exists in archaeological contexts only. [fig. 13] As previously stated, the sawmill was established in 1749 when Jeremiah Ludlam and three other Dennisville area residents—Richard and James Stephenson and John Iszard—entered into an agreement to build a sawmill on Beaver Dam Branch, a branch of Dennis Creek.¹¹⁴ [fig. 14] A tide mill, it continued in operation until it was abandoned around 1905 and was destroyed by a storm a few years later.¹¹⁵ The sawmill and its mill pond show on all historic maps, the earliest depiction being on the 1833 Gordon map [fig. 3], and the mill's position is most clearly identified on the 1872 Beers and 1878 Woolman & Rose maps. [figs. 7 and 8]

When established in 1749, the sawmill was remotely located in terms of human habitation, but was ideally sited within the proximity of a high quality timber reserve. As Dennis Creek Landing emerged as a major shipbuilding site in the 19th century, Johnson's sawmill grew in importance as a supplier of planks, decking, and other sawn goods needed to support that industry.

Although the unexcavated site lacks apparent physical remains, it likely contains significant cultural remains below ground that have the potential to yield data important to a new understanding of past cultural behavior. This data has the potential to inform about the site's evolution as it "reflects patterns of resource use and depletion, as well as technological adaptation to changing ecological, economic, and

¹¹⁰ Interview with George Brewer, 6-22-2015.

¹¹¹ Cape May County Deeds, Book 1040, 165.

¹¹² Cape May County Deeds, Book 2898, 246.

¹¹³ *Cape May Ocean Wave*, 12-3-1874, 3; Brewer interview, 2015; *Cape May County Gazette*, 4-15-1948.

¹¹⁴ Deed book A, 115.

¹¹⁵ *Cape May County Gazette*, 5-25-1906.

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demographic systems.”¹¹⁶ Scholarly and data-based research could be expected to analyze the relationship between the water resource, the timber resource, milling technology, economic demand, the transportation network, the work force, and the related patterns of settlement. As New Jersey archaeologist R. Alan Mounier explained, “. . . further investigations [of historic sawmills] should be directed toward achieving an anthropological synthesis rather than an historical-particularistic recounting of sites on a piecemeal basis.”¹¹⁷

The mill pond, discussed further, also has the potential to yield data important to a new understanding of past cultural behavior as it relates to sawmill products, goods transported along the road over the dam, and household refuse.

The Significance of Contributing Resources within the Boundary Increase

Historic resources along SR47 within the boundary increase are fundamentally related to the historic significance of Dennisville village and augment the district’s significance under criteria A, B, C, and D.

Under criterion A, the 1871 Ludlam Schoolhouse is one of three former school buildings in the district that provided village students with a public education. It was erected on the site of a subscription school begun in 1801 and built on land donated for that purpose by Henry Ludlam, a local resident. It was the first in the county to register the boundary of the residents it served in 1853, a date that might signify its conversion to a public school. The Old Academy on Petersburg Road predates the current Ludlam Schoolhouse by 30+ years, and the 1874 Schoolhouse also on Petersburg Road is contemporary to the Ludlam Schoolhouse. None continue to be used for their original purpose.

Under criterion B, the ca. 1740-60 William and Hannah Townsend House is significant as the residence of William Townsend (1811-1881), who served numerous years on the board of county freeholders, advocated and then oversaw construction of the first railroad into Cape May County in 1863, and was a successful local merchant. His house at 1196 SR47 retains a high degree of integrity and with its later additions appears almost exactly as it did when Townsend lived there until his death in 1881.

Under criterion C, contributing resources reflect most of the same architectural styles found in the original district. Residential buildings are mostly vernacular examples that range in date from the ca. 1760-80 Post-medieval English style rear sections of the William and Hannah Townsend House to the ca. 1922 Roxanna Gandy House [photo 26] built in the Craftsman style. Two front additions to the Townsend House created a Federal style main block [photo 35, 36] with sophisticated details similar to other Federal style houses in the village, most notably the Holmes House at 702 Petersburg Road and the Rice-Diverty House at 712 Petersburg Road. Like many of the houses in the village, two in the boundary increase were the homes of sea captains. Captain Henry Fisher lived in the ca. 1840-50 Pre-Railroad/Folk Vernacular style house at 107 Myrtle Avenue [seen to the left in photo 41] and its simple, 2-story massing with lack of ornamentation is similar to several examples within the present district. Captain Charles Carroll built the Gothic Revival style house at 1182 SR47. [photo 34] Similarly, the ca.

¹¹⁶ R. Alan Mounier, “A Study of Waterpowered Sawmills in the Pine Barrens of New Jersey,” *Historic Preservation Planning in New Jersey: Selected Papers on the Identification, Evaluation, and Protection of Cultural Resources*, Olga Chesler, ed., NJDEP, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, 1982, 93.

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.*, 109.

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1858 Reuben and Eliza Stiles House at 1266 SR47 retains the modest 1.5-story massing and asymmetrical façade fenestration that are common to a handful of Folk Vernacular houses in the village built about the same time. Not present in the boundary increase are examples of the Queen Anne style, but the Italianate style is represented by the ca. 1860-70 Thomas and Phebe Fidler House at 1113 SR47.

Under criterion D, the mill pond and its dam are the direct result of the building of a sawmill at this location in 1749 and thus give added significance to the sawmill archaeology site. Additionally, with a long history of milling at the site (1749 to 1906) combined with a public road over the mill dam since 1790¹¹⁸, there exists a high potential for the pond to contain historic artifacts that were either intentionally or accidentally thrown into its water. These artifacts have the potential to inform about the species of wood milled here, the types of wood products produced at the mill, the types of goods that were transported along the road, and if used for household refuse, the lifeways of local residents. Similarly, the mill pond provides a strong visual link between the village and the contributing resources along SR47 west of the village. As part of the cultural landscape, the mill pond reflects historic patterns of land use when local water power was harnessed to drive saw, grist, and other types of mills. Although the pond has no structures, its former use as a mill pond gives it historic significance. And even though the sawmill it served no longer stands, the mill pond retains its character-defining features of location, setting, feeling, and association and therefore possesses historic integrity.

¹¹⁸ Cape May County Roads Book A, 22.

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Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated historic district includes the following blocks/lots as shown on the current (2015) tax map for Dennis Township, Cape May County, New Jersey:

Block 57: lots 10, 11, 12

Block 64: lots 18, 25, 26, 27, 28.01, 28.02

Block 65: lots 7, 8, 9

Block 67: lots 35, 36, 37.01, 37.02, 38, 39, 40, 41, 47, 57.01

Block 69: lots 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

Block 70: lots 23, 24, 25 (southern half only), 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31

Block 71: lots 1.01, 1.02, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.01, 8.02, 9, 12, 14, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25

Block 72: lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Block 73: lots 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 16

Block 74: lots 1, 2, 3, 6

Johnson's Mill Pond: the following block/lots that are wholly or partially covered by Johnson's Mill Pond as determined by the NJGeoWeb 2012 aerial photograph and shown on map #3:

Block 67: lots 34, 42, 43, 44, 46, 49, 50, 51, 52, 77.07, 169, 184

The boundary is further defined by the following UTM's as identified on map #6:

1. UTM 18S

514163E,
4338293N

2. UTM 18S

515278E,
4339168N

3. UTM 18S

515912E,
4338465N

4. UTM 18S

515008E,
4337206N

Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property has been drawn to include as many contributing building, structures, and sites as possible. The boundary includes houses and sites that maintain historic integrity and accurately reflect the village as it developed between ca. 1700 and until 1928, the period

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of significance end date. To draw wider boundaries would include buildings erected after the 1928 end date for the period of significance. These buildings are mostly houses of the Post-War period and reflect Dennisville of a subsequent era.

The expanded boundaries were drawn to include an additional 16 historic buildings and one historic structure that, like those within the 1987 district, provide a clear progression of the cultural history and development of the area. All of the 16 historic buildings are architecturally similar to those in the original district, and all relate directly to the district's areas of significance.

For boundary purposes involving Johnson's Mill Pond, it was decided to use the extent of the pond as shown on the NJGeoWeb website utilizing a 2012 aerial photo (the most recent available) laid over the current tax map [see map #3]. Although the 2015 county tax map (updated to 2006) shows the outline of the area covered by the pond, comparison of that outline with the pond's actual coverage seen in the aerial photograph differs, particularly at the pond's northernmost reach. There, some of what is shown as pond-covered land on the tax map is actually re-forested land as shown on the 2012 aerial photograph. Thus, actual coverage of land by the pond as shown on the 2012 aerial photograph was chosen because it is more accurate and shows current conditions.

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PHOTOGRAPHS Page 1

Typical Information for All Photographs

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. Name of Property | Dennisville Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation) |
| 2. County and State | Cape May County, New Jersey |
| 3. Date of Photograph | Spring 2015 |
| 3. Location of Digital Copies | Joan Berkey
707 N. Delsea Drive
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
and NJ State Historic Preservation Office |
-
1. setting: view northeast along the east side of Main Street
 2. setting: view north along Main Street from the intersection of Gatzmer Avenue
 3. setting: view southwest along the west side of Main Street from the Petersburg Road intersection
 4. setting: view southeast along the east side of Main Street from the Petersburg Road intersection
 5. Nathaniel (Jr) and Rebecca Holmes House (ca. 1800), 702 Petersburg Road, view northeast
 6. setting: view northwest along the north side of Petersburg Road from the Main Street Intersection. The ca. 1830 Rice-Diverdy House is seen at the far right.
 7. David and Sarah Johnson House (ca. 1700), 720 Petersburg Road, view northeast
 8. Dr. Maurice and Sarah Beesley House, right (ca. 1820-30) and Dr. Beesley Medical Office, left (ca. 1860), 726 Petersburg Road, view northwest
 9. setting: Petersburg Road, view east toward the Main Street intersection
 10. setting: Petersburg Road, view northwest toward the Fidler Road intersection; the ca. 1813-17 Jonathan Crandall House, 694 Petersburg Road, is seen at the left.
 11. setting: Petersburg Road, view northwest from the Fidler Road intersection.
 12. setting: Fidler Road at the Hall Avenue intersection, view northeast.
 13. Dennisville Public School (1874), 681 Petersburg Road, view southeast.
 14. setting: view southwest along Petersburg Road with the Dennisville Public School to the left.
 15. setting: view northwest along Petersburg Road.
 16. Capt. Harry and Gertrude Chester House (1894), 656 Petersburg Road, view northwest.
 17. setting: view northwest along Petersburg Road at the Academy Street intersection.
 18. setting: view west down Petersburg Road at the Academy Street intersection, showing the houses on the south side of Petersburg Road.
 19. The Old Academy (1842), 646 Petersburg Road, view northwest.
 20. setting: view northeast down Petersburg Road at the Academy Street intersection.
 21. setting: view northwest down Petersburg Road at the intersection with the railroad tracks.
 22. setting: Hall Avenue, view south.
 23. setting: view east down Church Street at the Hall Avenue intersection.
 24. Lewis and Ann Fisher House (ca. 1850-60), 15 Church Street, view southeast.
 25. Knights of Pythias Hall (1895), 26 Gatzmer Avenue, view northeast.
 26. Roxanna Gandy House (ca. 1922), 32 Gatzmer Avenue, view northeast.
 27. 4 Gatzmer Avenue (ca.1890), view northwest.
 28. Dennisville United Methodist Church (1871), 134 Main Street, view northeast.

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National Park Service

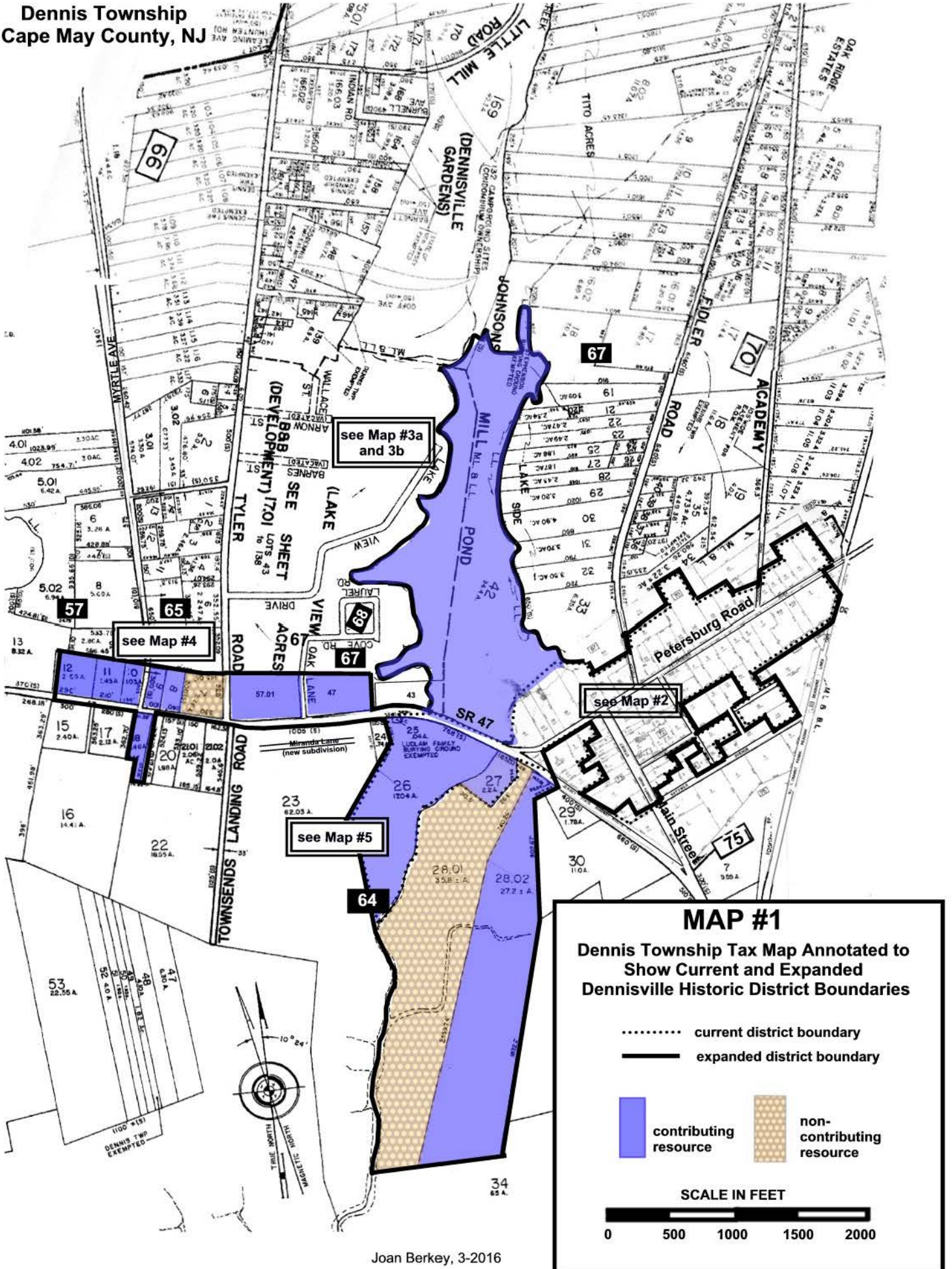
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

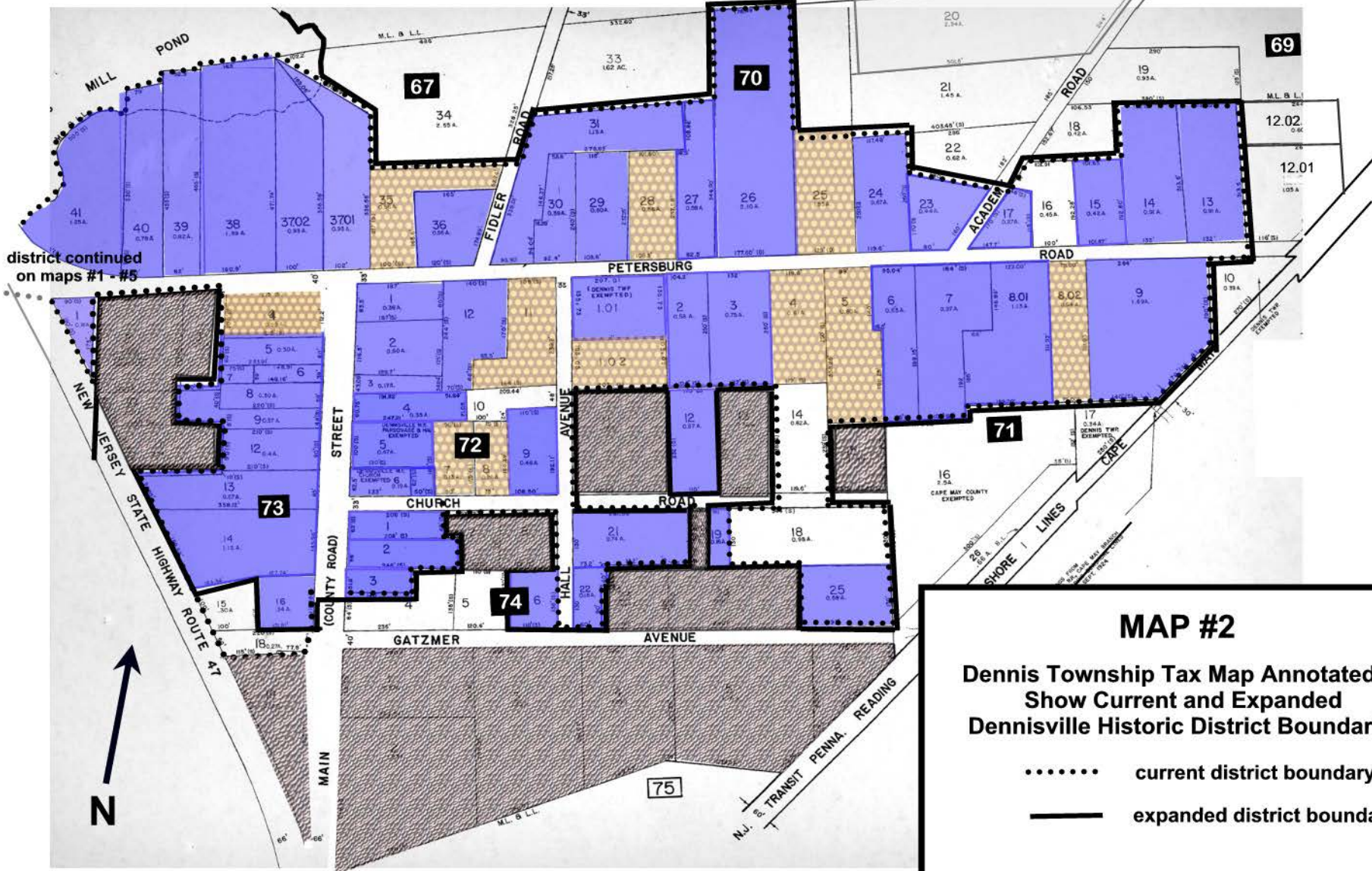
Dennisville Historic District
Cape May County, NJ

PHOTOGRAPHS Page 2

29. Captain John and Cornelia Douglas House (ca. 1830), 131 Main Street, view southwest.
30. setting: Main Street, view north, standing in front of the Methodist Church
31. Johnson's Mill Pond, view west.
32. setting: intersection of Petersburg Road and SR 47, view south.
33. setting: SR47, view southeast toward Johnson's Mill Pond with the Townsend-Wright House (ca. 1880), 1153 Rt. 47, on the right.
34. setting: view west down SR47, standing opposite the Townsend-Wright House.
35. setting: view northwest down SR47 near the Tyler Road intersection.
36. Wm. S. and Hannah Townsend House (ca. 1760-80), 1196 Rt. 47, view northeast.
37. setting: view northeast down SR47 at the Tyler Road intersection. The non-contributing Sturdy Savings Bank building is on the right.
38. setting: view northeast down SR47 standing opposite the Sturdy Savings Bank building.
39. Ludlam Schoolhouse (1871), 106 Myrtle Avenue, view northeast.
40. setting: view northwest along SR47 with the Ludlam Schoolhouse at the far right.
41. setting: view northeast up SR47 near the Myrtle Avenue intersection.
42. setting: view northeast up SR47 at the westernmost boundary of the district.
43. Ludlam Cemetery on SR47, view southeast.
44. T.H. Fidler House (ca. 1860-70), 1109 Rt. 47, view west.
45. setting: Main Street, view northwest from the Church Road intersection
46. setting: Church Road, view east from Main Street.

**Dennis Township
Cape May County, NJ**




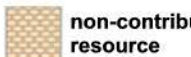





Dennis Township
Cape May County, NJ

MAP #2

Dennis Township Tax Map Annotated to Show Current and Expanded Dennisville Historic District Boundaries

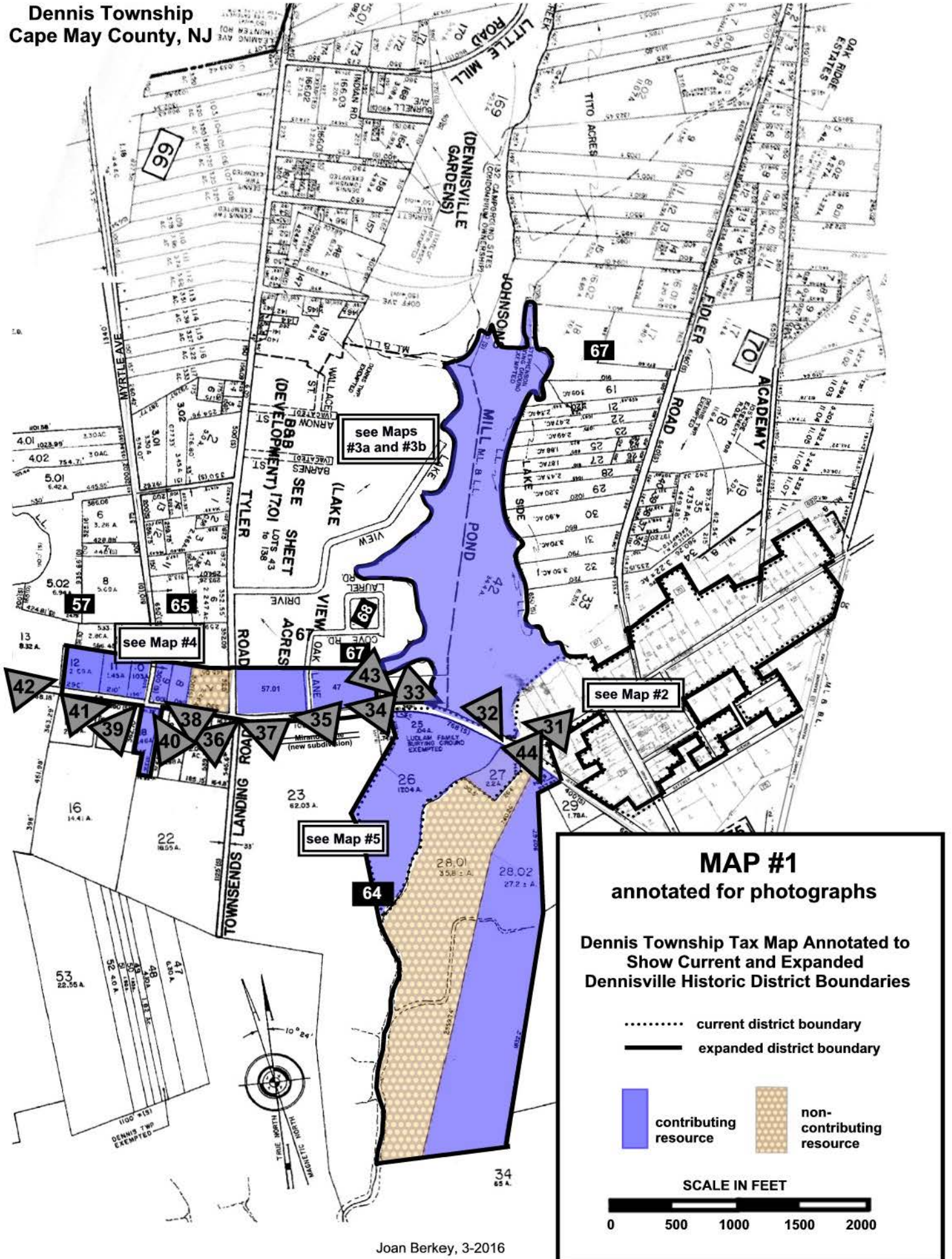
- current district boundary
- expanded district boundary

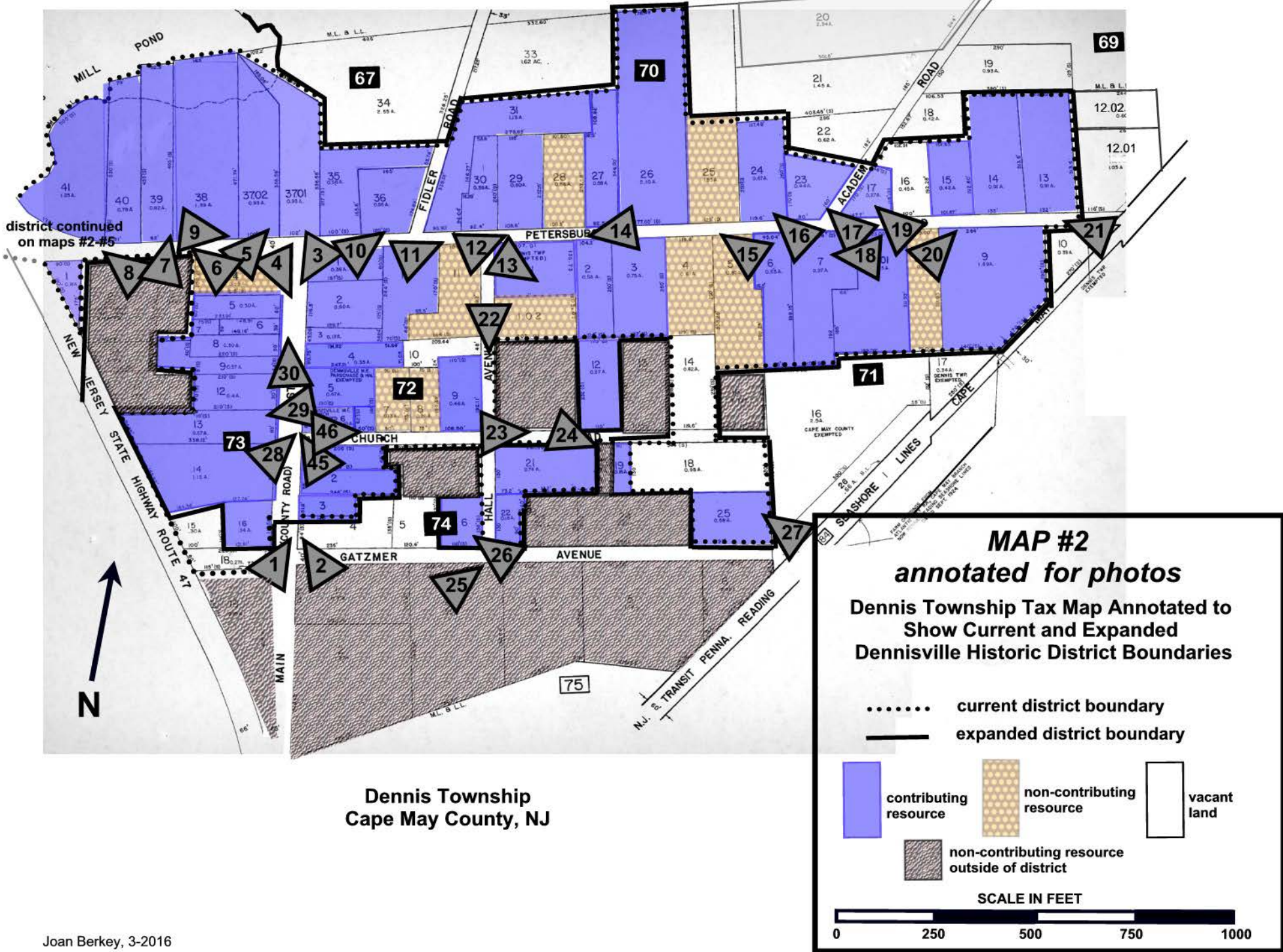
 contributing resource	 non-contributing resource	 vacant land
 non-contributing resource outside of district		



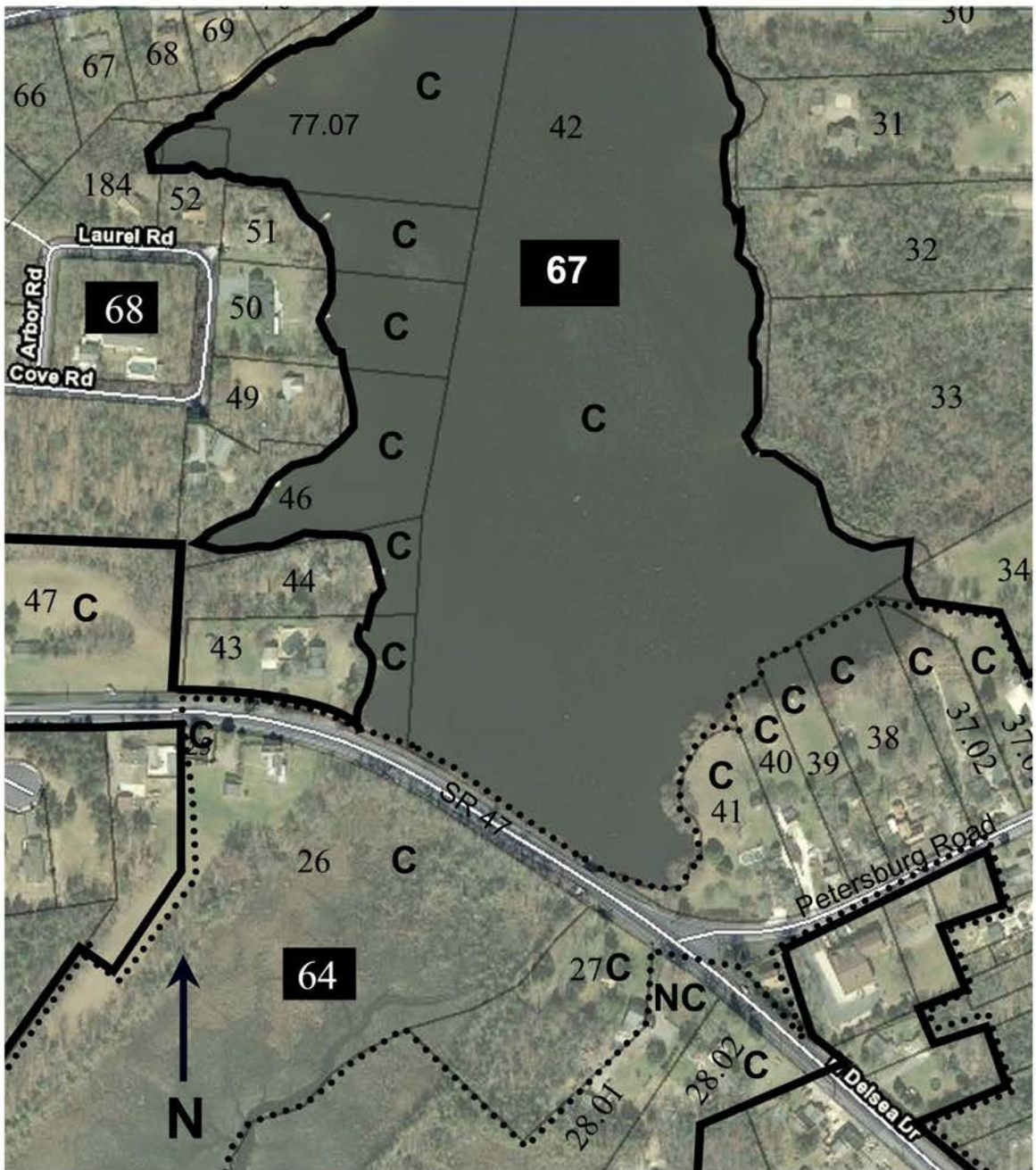
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**Dennis Township
Cape May County, NJ**





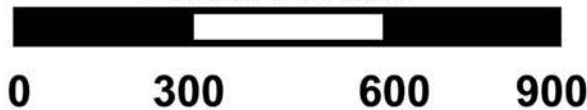
**Dennis Township
 Cape May County, NJ**



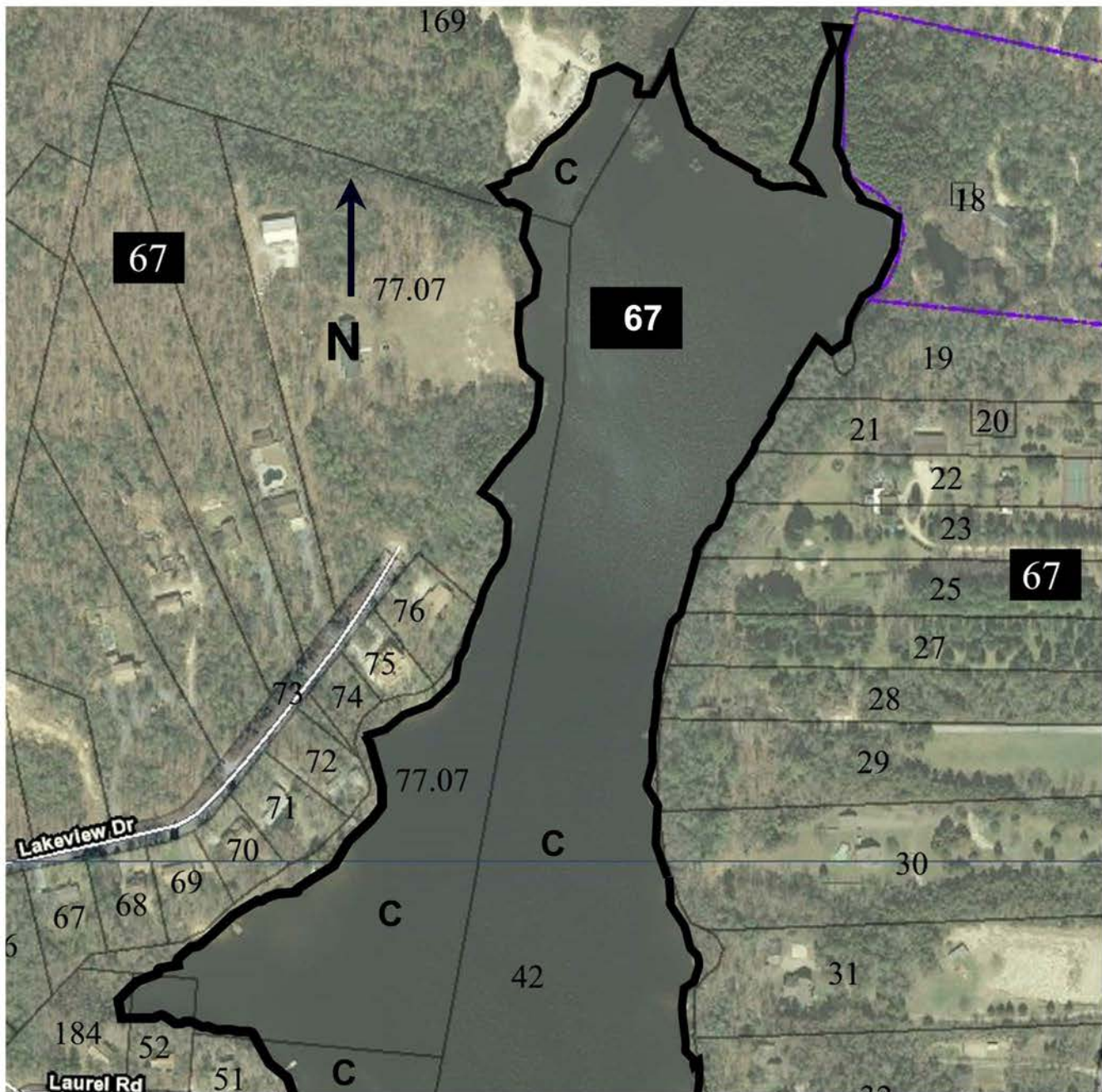
Map #3a
Dennisville Historic District/Johnson's Mill Pond

C = contributing resource NC = non-contributing resource
 original district boundary
 ————— expanded district boundary

SCALE IN FEET



from the NJGeoWeb web site with a 2012 aerial photo and block/lot overlay



Map #3b
Dennisville Historic District/Johnson's Mill Pond

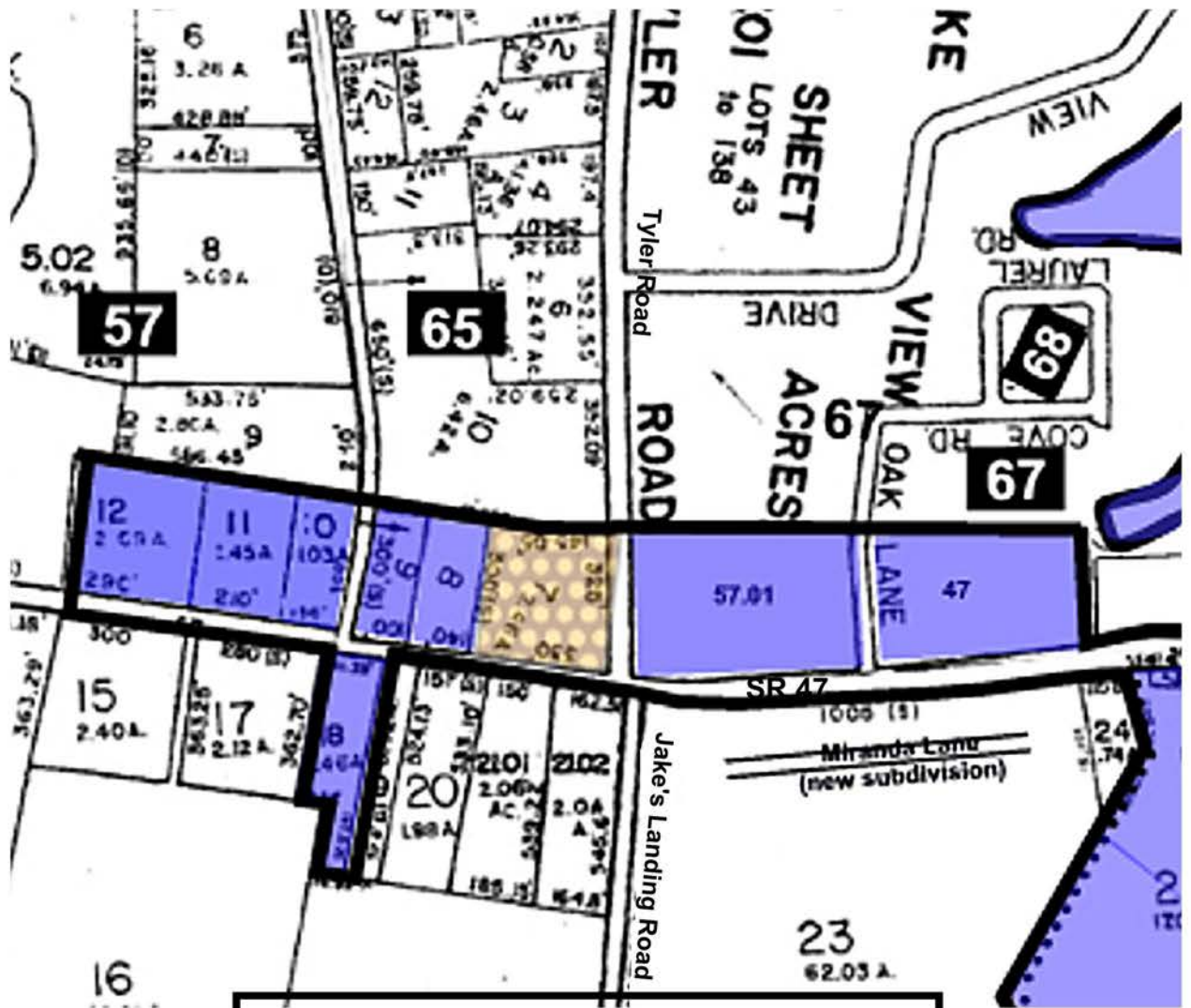
C = contributing resource NC = non-contributing resource
 original district boundary
 ————— expanded district boundary

SCALE IN FEET



0 300 600 900

from the NJGeoWeb web site with a 2012 aerial photo and block/lot overlay



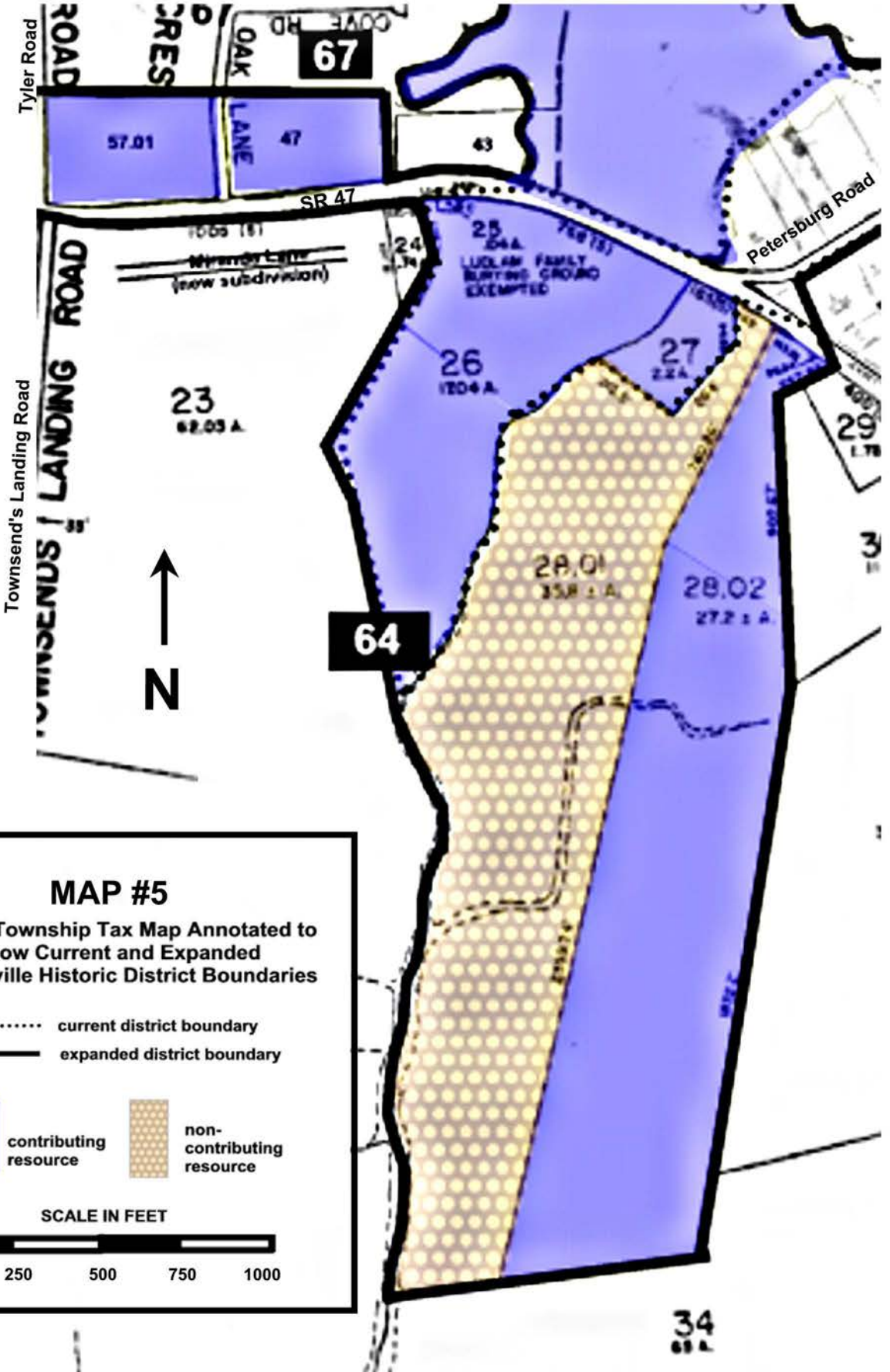
MAP #4
 Dennis Township Tax Map Annotated to
 Show Current and Expanded
 Dennisville Historic District Boundaries

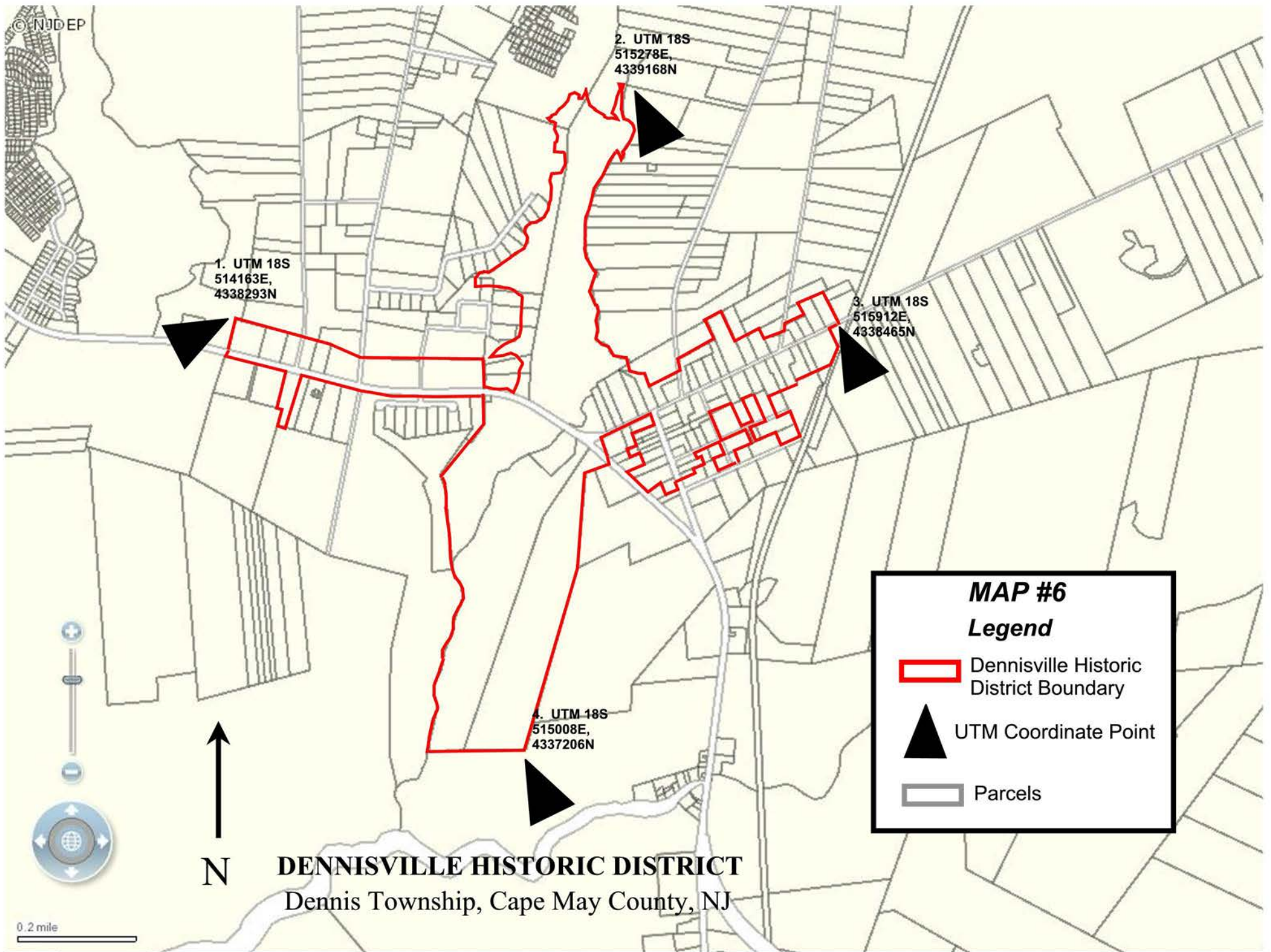
..... current district boundary
 ————— expanded district boundary

contributing resource
 non-contributing resource




SCALE IN FEET

0 300 600 900





MAP #6
Legend

-  Dennisville Historic District Boundary
-  UTM Coordinate Point
-  Parcels

Dennisville Historic District *Historic and Supplemental Images¹*

Figure 1: *The Budd and Worlidge Map of Cape May and Cumberland Counties, 1691*

The star marks the approximate location of Dennisville, but the position and naming of some rivers is inaccurate. [Cape May County Historical and Genealogical Society]

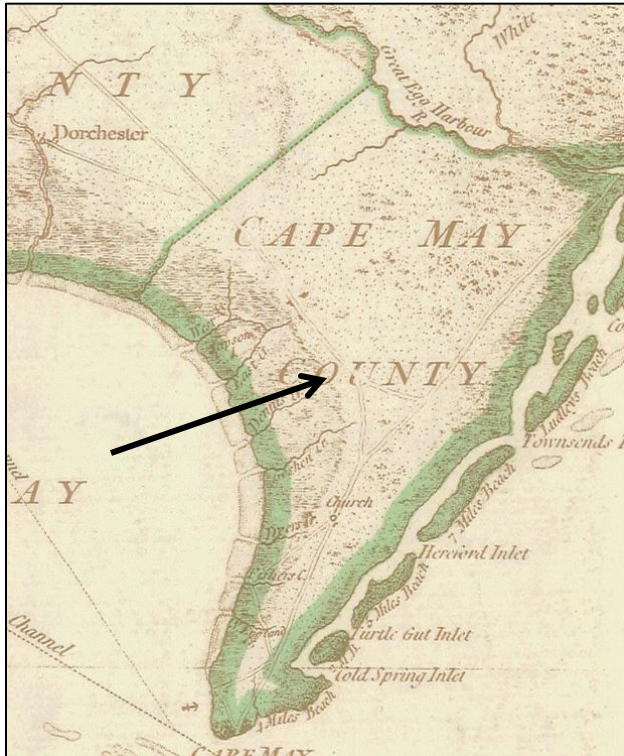
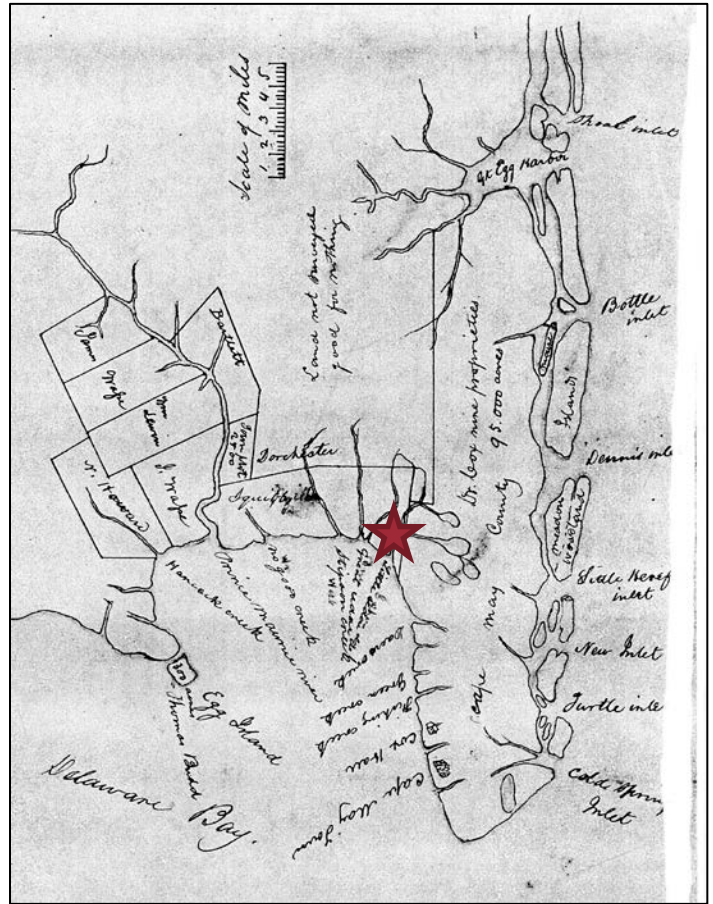


Figure 2: *William Faden Map, The Province of New Jersey Divided into East and West, commonly called The Jerseys, 1778.*

This close-up of Cape May County shows the two principal colonial era roads, one entering from the northwest (from Cumberland County), the other from the northeast, originating at the south bank of the Great Egg Harbor River. The arrow points to the approximate location of Dennisville. [Library of Congress]

¹ Unless otherwise noted, north is at or near the top center of the map image.

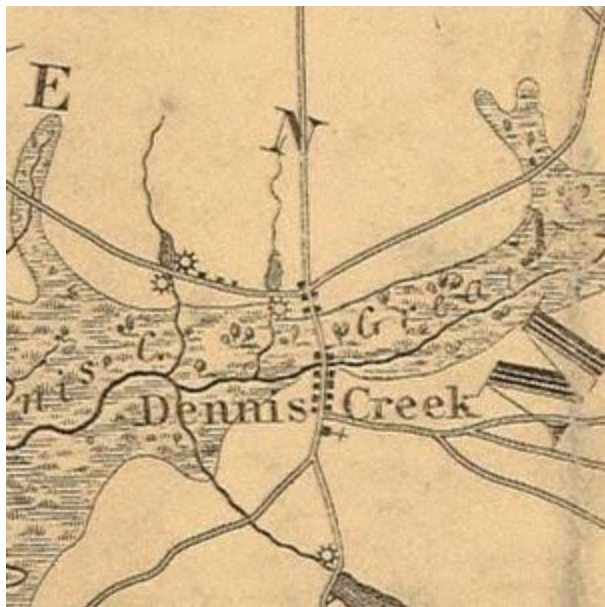


Figure 3: the 1833 Gordon Map of New Jersey

This map does not accurately portray the many buildings that characterized Dennisville at this time, but does show the two mill ponds west of the village and development at the landing.



Figure 4: the 1839 Rogers Map of New Jersey

The depiction of Dennisville on this map is nearly identical to that of the 1833 Gordon Map (above).

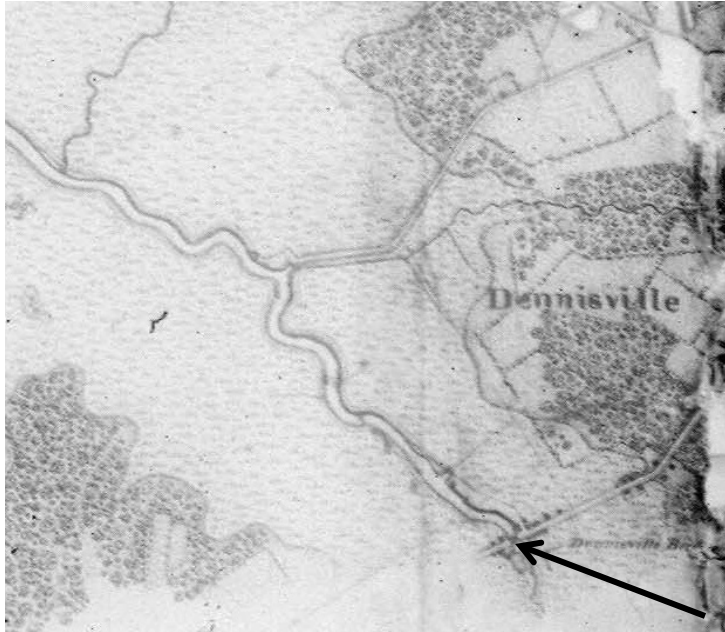


Figure 5: 1842 US Coastal Survey Map

The village area of this map is degraded, but the landing (identified with an arrow) and its many buildings are clearly seen.

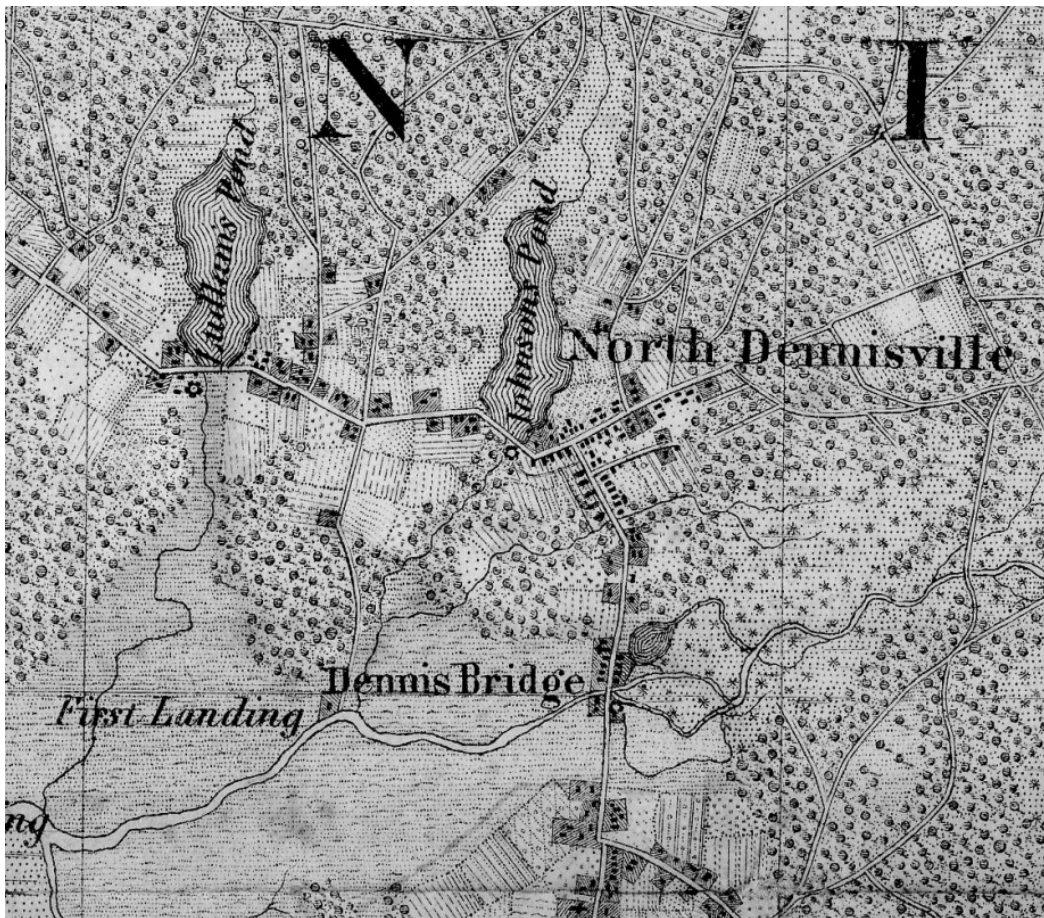


Figure 6: 1856 Cook Map of Cape May County

Dennisville is identified as "North Dennisville" in this map. This is the first map to show the mill pond at Dennis Landing, even though the mill was established in the 1790s.

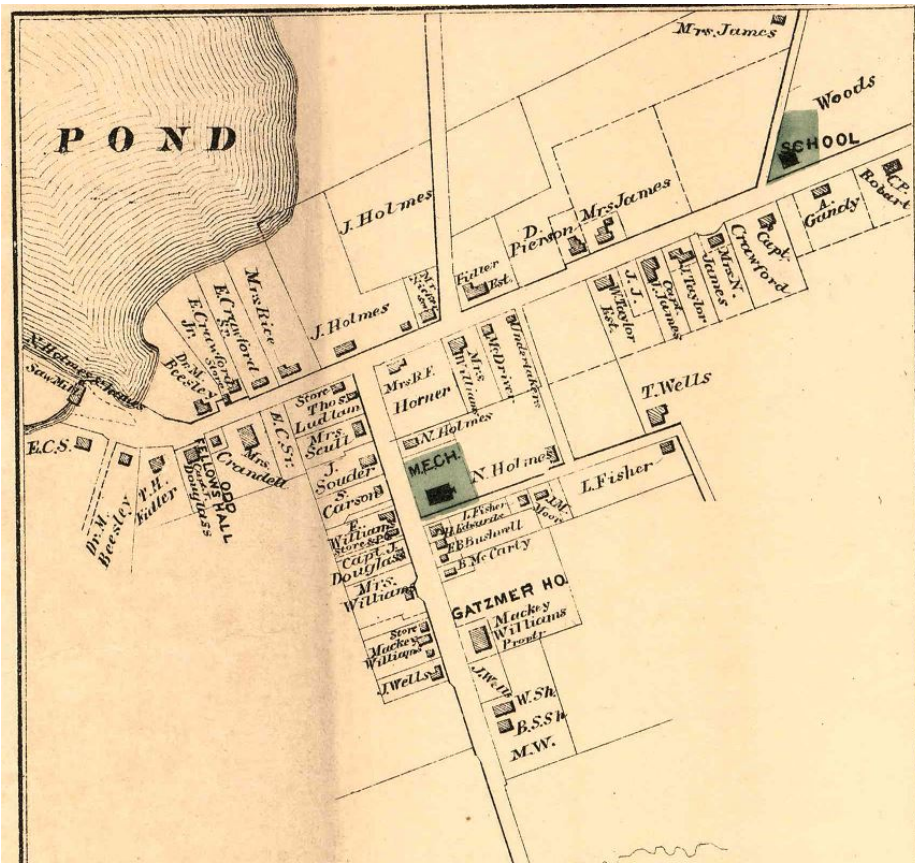


Figure 7: 1872 Beers Map of Cape May County, Dennisville Inset

This map shows the village's two major roads: Petersburg Road has the school on it (the Old Academy) and Main Street has the ME Church. The landing is not shown on this map, but it is south of the blacksmith shop.

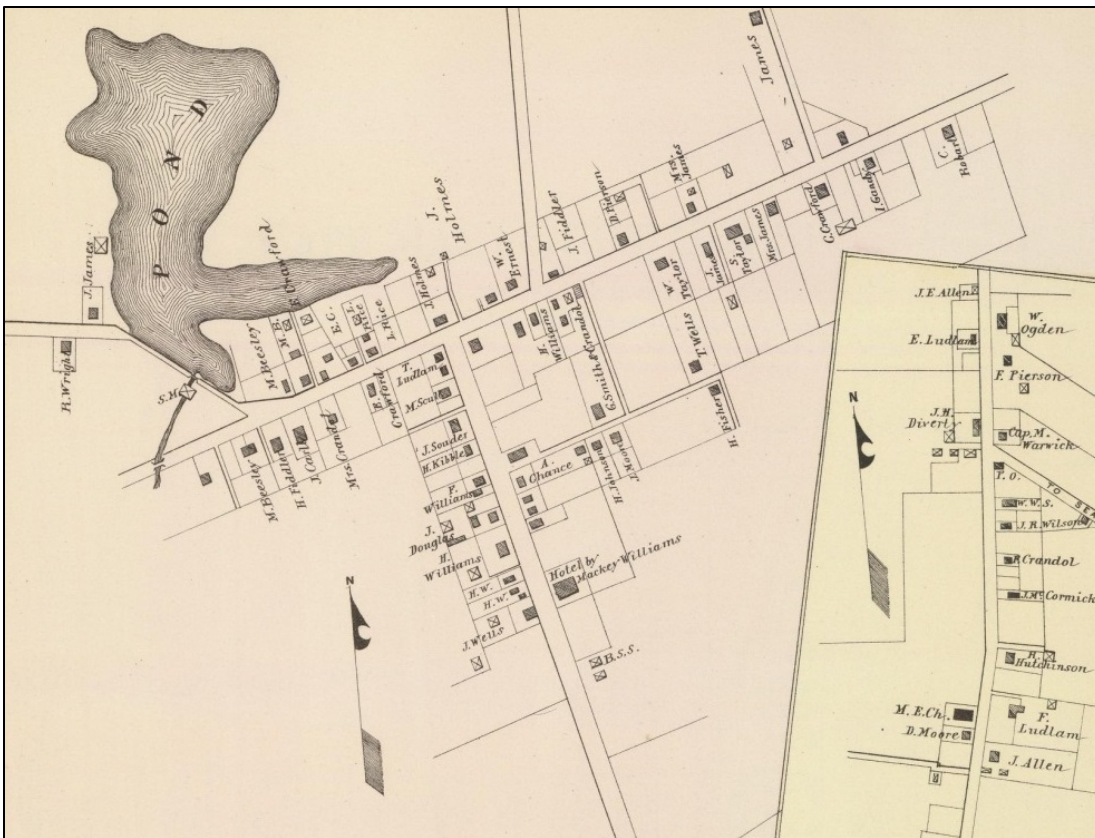


Figure 8: 1878 Woolman & Rose Map, Dennisville Inset

The village has changed very little since the 1872 Beers Map was drawn.

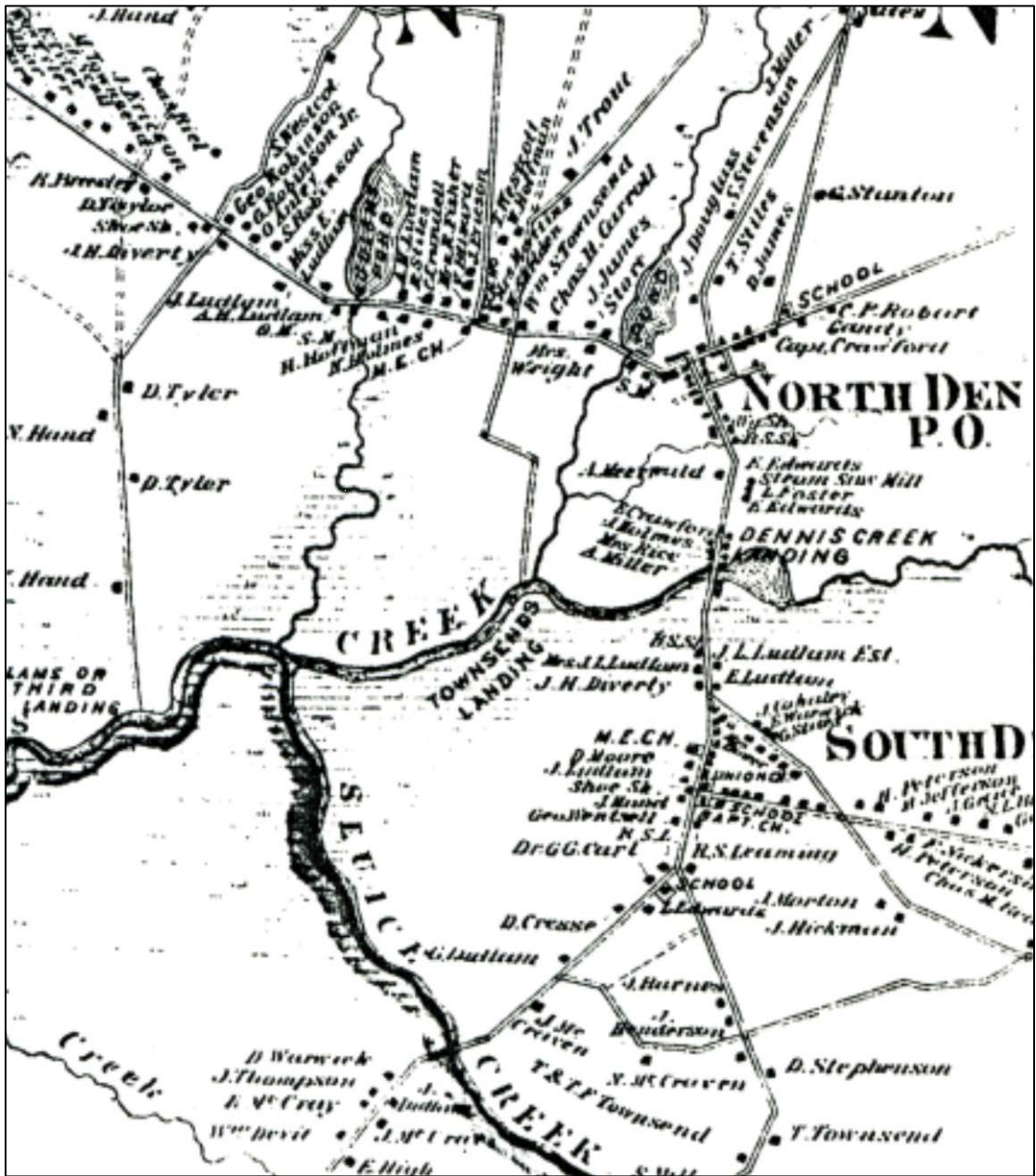


Figure 9: 1872 Beers Map of Cape May County

The wider view of Dennisville as it appeared in 1872 shows its three mill ponds: one at the landing and two located west of the village proper.

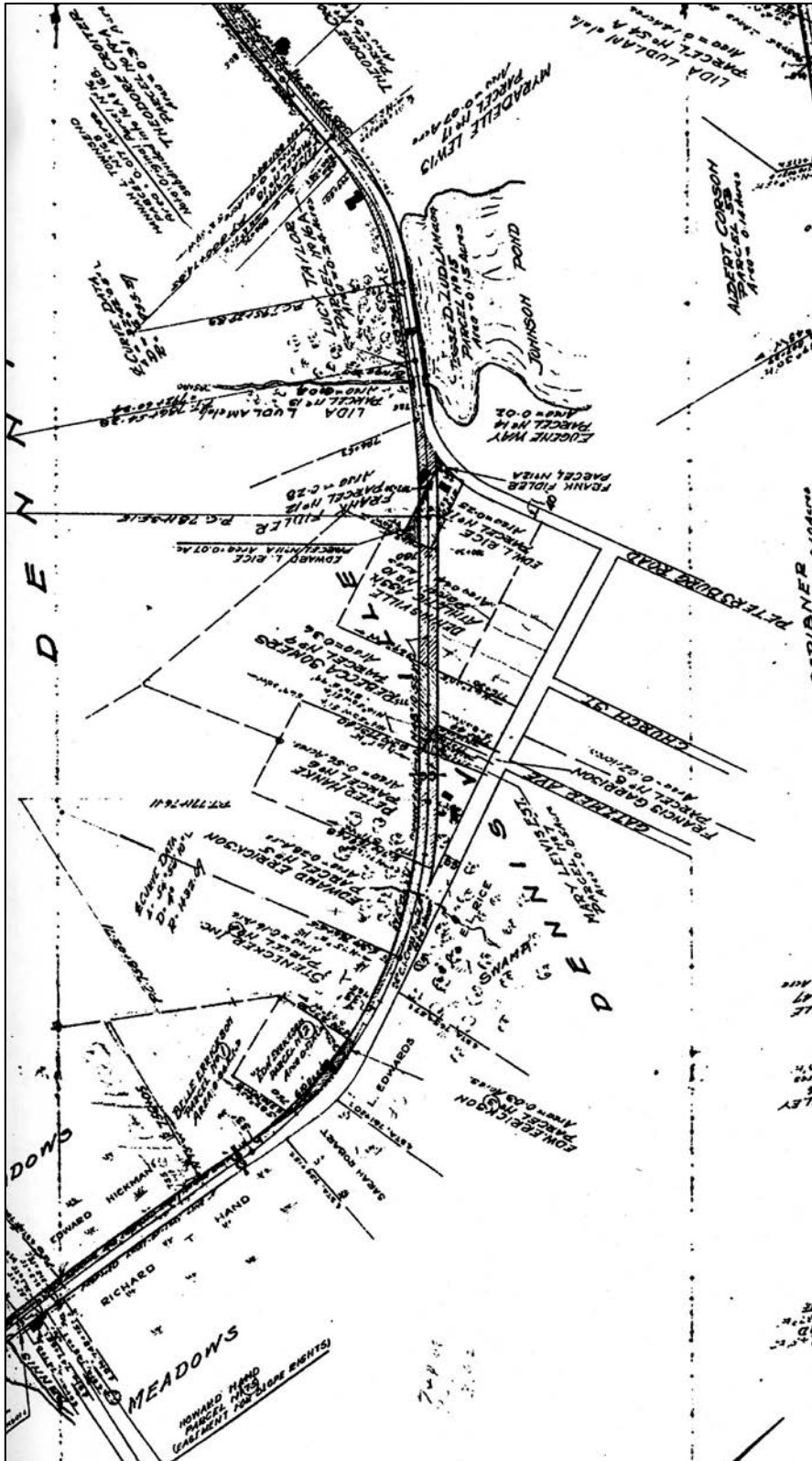


Figure 10: NJ State Highway Map, 1927

This map shows the route of the new Route 15 (now SR47) through Dennisville, almost to the bridge over Dennis Creek. [Cape May County Clerk's Office, map #47]



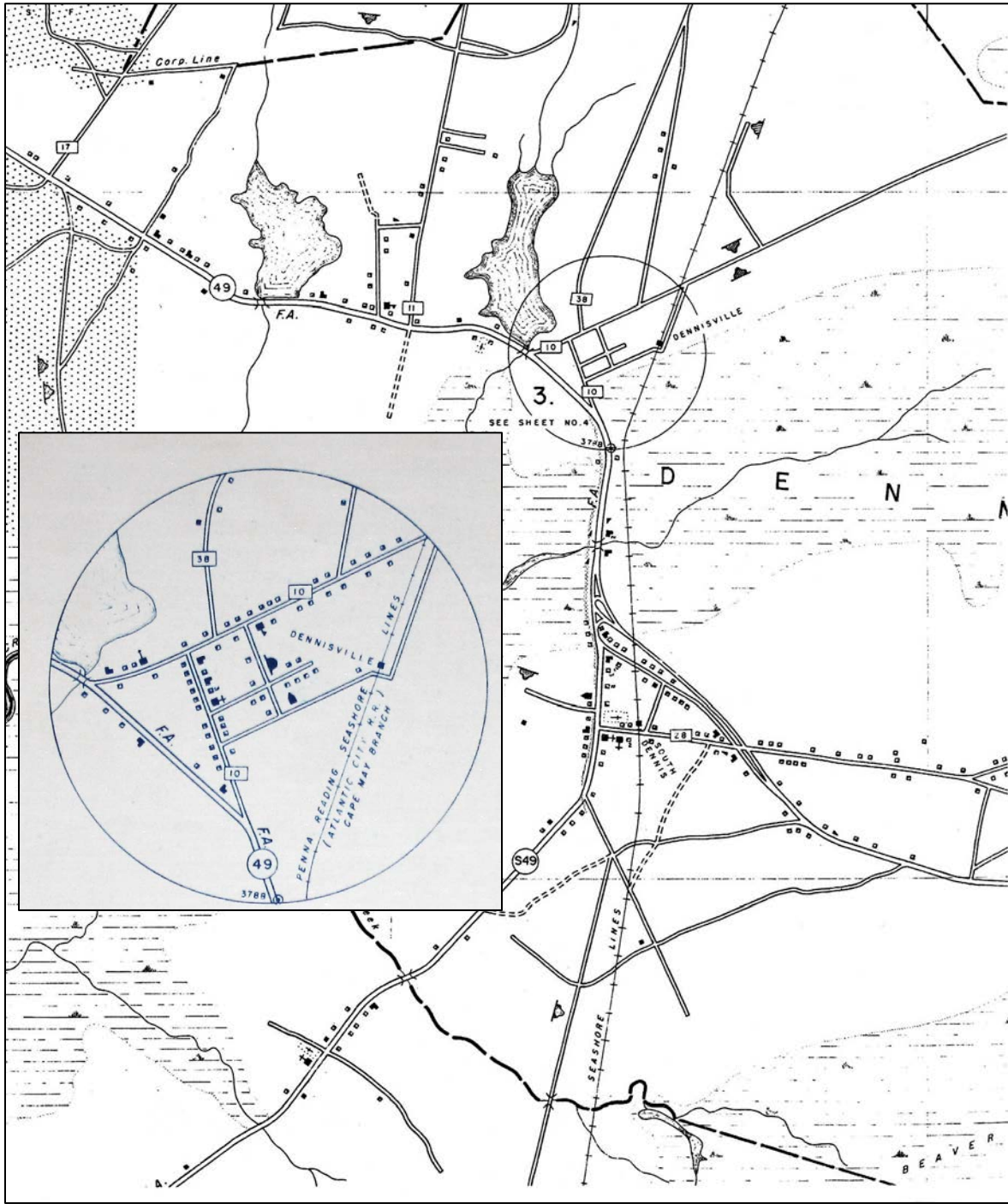


Figure 11: 1942 NJDOT Map with Dennisville Inset

The inset map of the village shows the sawmill (no longer extant), church, Knights of Pythias building (facing Gatzmer Street), and the school. Note that the south side of Gatzmer Street has only one building on it and that building (no longer extant) faced west onto Main Street. [Cape May County Historical and Genealogical Society]

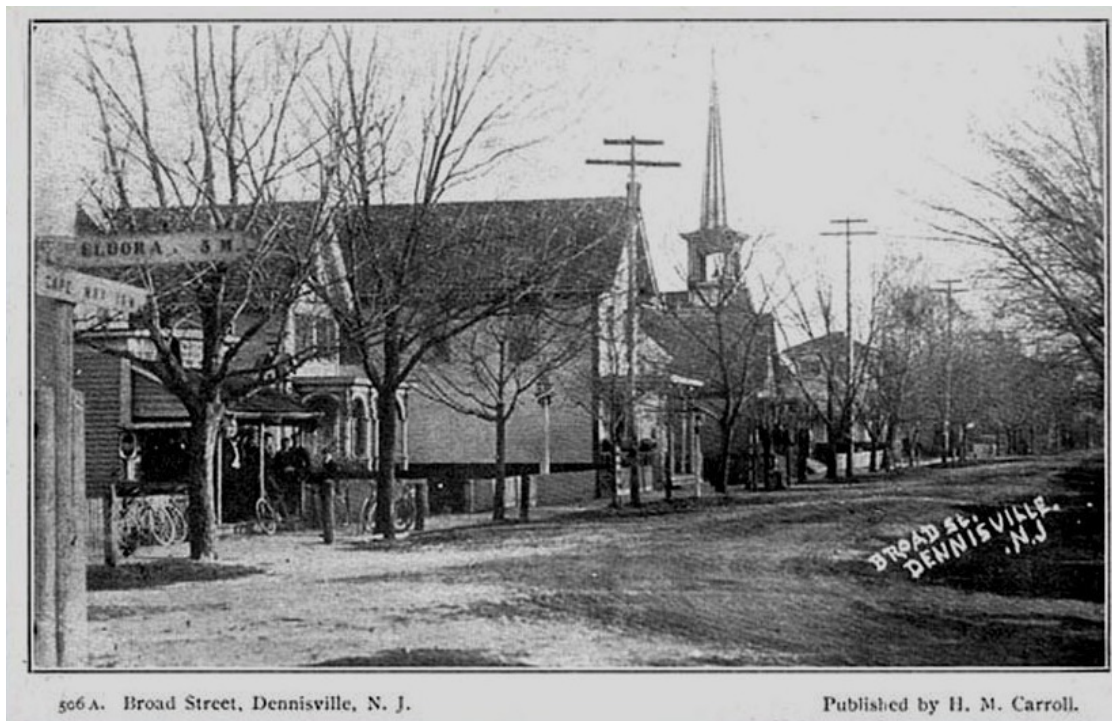


Figure 12: Main Street (mistakenly identified as Broad Street), looking southeast from Petersburg Road, ca. 1910. Three of the village's stores are shown to the left of the church.



Figure 13: Johnson's sawmill and millpond, ca. 1908. A modern log house now stands on the site of the historic house seen at the right edge of the photo.



Figure 14: Dennisville Public School, ca. 1910. This is what the 1874 building looked like until the second story and attic burned in 1948. The school was then rebuilt to its present one-story height.



Figure 15: Bird's eye view of Main Street, looking southeast from the windmill (no longer extant) behind the Williams House at 135 Main Street.



Figure 16: Bushnell's store on Main Street, ca. 1910, before it burned in 1930. A modern carport stands in its stead. The house is extant at 128 Main Street.



Figure 17: The 1871 Methodist Church (to the left) and the Francis Edwards House at 130 Main Street to the right, ca. 1910-20. Both buildings are extant.



Figure 18: Captain Harry and Ruth Chester House, built in 1894 at 656 Petersburg Road. The photo was taken about 1910.



Figure 19: Knights of Pythias Building, erected in 1895, as it appeared about 1920.



Figure 20: View east down Petersburg Road, ca. 1915. The house at the left is the Osman and Clara Geary House (extant) built in 1913 at 672 Petersburg Road.



Figure 21: William S. Townsend House, ca. 1900-1910.



Figure 22: Ludlam Schoolhouse, ca. 1910.



Figure 23: View northeast down Petersburg Road, from the Fidler Road intersection. Ca. 1920. Compare this with photo 11.

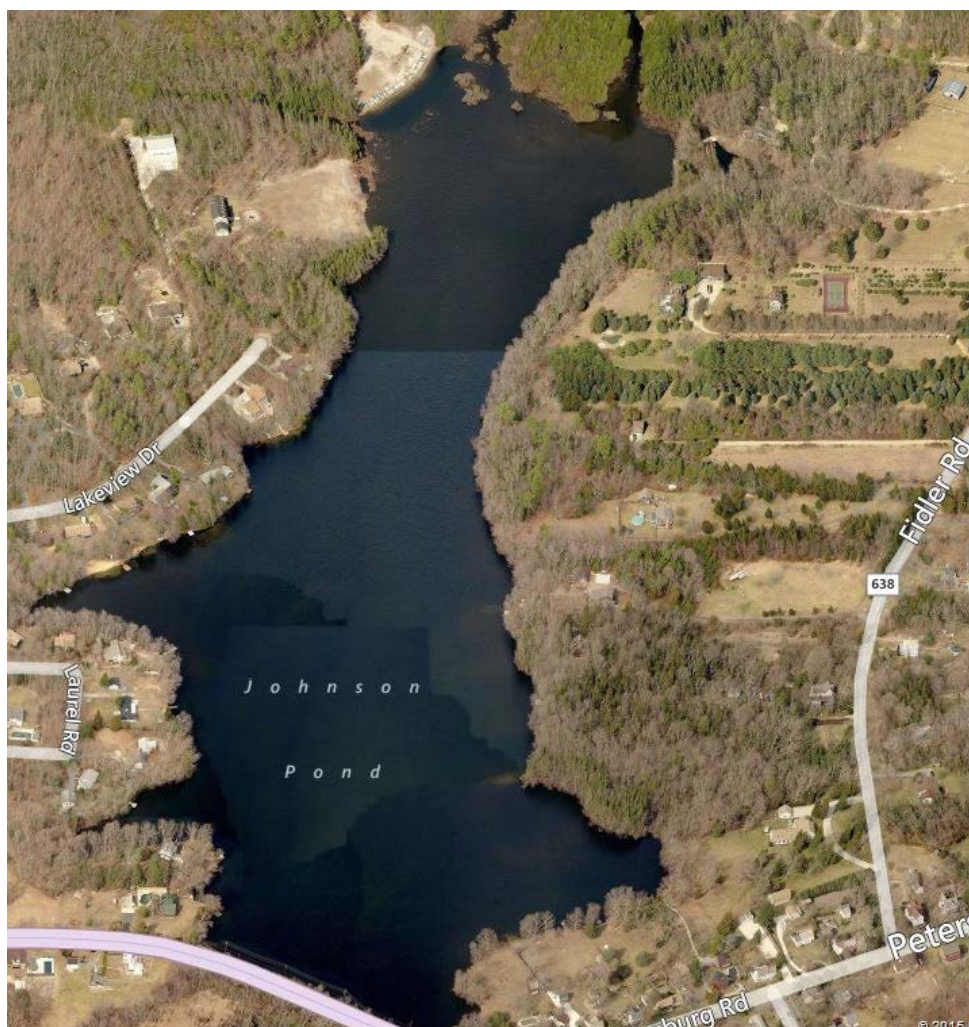


Figure 24: Aerial view of Johnson's Mill Pond.

[Bing Maps, 7-2015]





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DENNIS TOWNSHIP MUSEUM
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SATURDAY

DO NOT
PASS



681

Dennis Township Museum
HISTORY CENTER

SECURITY
EYE
CAMERA





DO NOT
PASS





ACADEMY



DENNIS TOWNSHIP
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL





646







DENNISVILLE
FENCE

OPEN

LS24EVH



HALL

NO
OUTLET

SLOW
CHILDREN
AT PLAY

SPEED
LIMIT
25





HALL AVE
GATZMER AVE





1

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7



DENNISVILLE
METHODIST CHURCH
134
WE ARE SAVED BY
WHAT CHRIST DID
NOT BY WHAT WE DO
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45
WORSHIP 11:00
PASTOR JOHN HARRING

MAIN ST
CHURCH AVE



Capt. John
Douglas
HOUSE
1830

131











NO
STOPPING
OR
STANDING
↔

Dennisville
Historic
Home Owners
Association
Christmas Tour
Dec. 20th
6:00
861-1338

170





Tyler Rd 611 N

611
→



St. Casimir's
Roman Catholic
CHURCH
→
**THRIFT
SHOP**

NORTH
47











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SPEED
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Dennisville Historic District (Boundary Increase)

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Cape May

DATE RECEIVED: 5/06/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/25/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/09/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/21/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000387

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: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 4/21/16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA A, B, C, D
REVIEWER Lisa Deane DISCIPLINE H/S
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 4/21/16

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. #15-1374
Chrono #: D2016-087

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

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

April 12, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Dennisville Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation), in Dennis Township, Cape May County, New Jersey, for National Register consideration.

This nomination has received unanimous 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