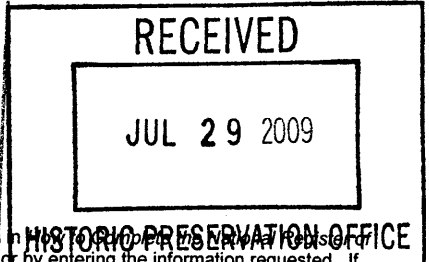
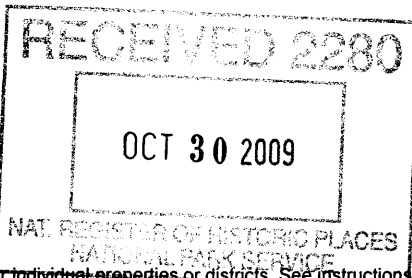


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1075



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 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 Montville Schoolhouse

other names/site number Montville Township Museum, Montville Township Hall, Montville Post Office

2. Location

street & number 6 Taylortown Road not for publication

city or town Montville Township vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Morris code 027 zip code 07045

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 does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. See continuation sheet for additional comments.

Signature of certifying official/Title [Signature] Date 9/11/09

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

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper [Signature] Date of Action 12.11.09

Montville Schoolhouse
Name of Property

Morris Co., NJ
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.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____ 1 _____	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	objects
		_____ 1 _____	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/schoolhouse

GOVERNMENT/town hall

GOVERNMENT/post office

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Other

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls BRICK

roof SLATE

other

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

See Continuation Sheet

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.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria considerations

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

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Education
- Politics/Government
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

1871 - 1958

Significant Dates

1871; 1911-1939; 1942/43-1961

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data

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

Name of repository:

Montville Schoolhouse
Name of Property

Morris Co., NJ
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 0.25 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	551850	45290585	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patricia Sackett Chrisman, Historic Preservation Consultant
organization _____ date December 2008
street & number 53 South Pierson Road telephone 973-313-0643
city or town Maplewood state NJ zip code 07040

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 Township of Montville
street & number 195 Changebridge Road telephone 973-331-3300
city or town Montville state NJ zip code 07045-9498

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetThe Montville Schoolhouse
Morris Co., NJSection number 7 Page 1

The Montville Schoolhouse, a one and one-half story, one-room vernacular red brick schoolhouse, located at 6 Taylortown Road in Montville Township, Morris County, New Jersey, was constructed in 1871 (Photo 1) (Figure 1). It was likely the third school constructed on the site and was associated with William Hixson, the Supervisor of the Eastern District of the Morris Canal. Hixson and his wife Sarah sold the approximately ¼ acre lot on which the schoolhouse stands to the "Trustees of School District 99 at Montville" in 1873 for the nominal fee of \$5.00.¹ Stipulations placed in the deed by Sarah and William Hixson provided that the property was always to be used as a school. Later restrictions in the deed enacted by the Hixson's children stipulated that the school property be used for Township purposes, for the "General Public Good," or the property would revert back to the Hixson family.² These public-spirited provisions set the course for the future of the Montville Schoolhouse, and its significant role in the civic life of Montville Township.

The Montville Schoolhouse was in use as a school from 1871 until 1911, when it was sold to the Township as the result of a vote to purchase land for a new school and "dispose of the old school."³ Since 1911, the building has been used for community and municipal functions. The school also served as auxiliary meeting space for the Montville Methodist Episcopal Church, located directly to the south (Figure 2a & b). It was also used as a meeting space for local temperance meetings. The Montville Schoolhouse was used as the first Montville Township Town Hall from 1911 until 1939, and also served as the community Post Office from 1943 until 1961. In 1961 the Post Office moved to new quarters. As part of Montville Township's preparation for the commemoration of New Jersey's Tercentenary to be held in 1964, the schoolhouse was renovated in 1962, to serve the community as the home of the Montville Township Museum. The Montville Township Historical Society has managed the museum since 1964 (Figure 3). The Montville Schoolhouse is a contributing building in the Capstick Mill Historic District, a locally-designated historic district established in October 1987.

The Montville Schoolhouse is an excellent example of a vernacular, post-Civil War-era school building and remains in a good state of preservation. Typical of school buildings of the mid-to late 19th century, the building is rectangular in plan with the entrance in the gable end (Photo 2). A small wooden cupola with bell was originally located at the front gable (Figure 1). The schoolhouse is constructed of load bearing red brick walls, laid in a common bond with a "header" course every sixth course. The moderately pitched gable roof is surfaced with slate. Windows throughout are original, wood, nine-over-nine, double hung sash, with brick segmental arches and sandstone sills (Photo 3). Both the exterior and the interior of the schoolhouse retain a high degree of physical integrity with only moderate changes made to the building over time, despite three changes of use.

¹ Sarah and William Hixson purchased the lot from William A. Righter & his wife Emma in 1868, Morris County Deeds Book D-7, p. 563. The Hixsons sold the ¼ acre site to the Township of Montville in 1873 for \$5.00, Morris County Deeds Book P-8, p 493.

² Morris County Deeds, Book D-21, p. 1, September 6, 1911.

³ Montville Township Clerk's Records, 1911.

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation SheetThe Montville Schoolhouse
Morris Co., NJSection number 7 Page 2Setting

The Montville Schoolhouse is located in the "Upper Montville" section of Montville Township, in the northeast portion of Morris County (Figure 4). Montville Township is bounded on the north by Pequannock Township; on the east by Pequannock Township and the Passaic River; on the south by the Rockaway River; and on the west by the Rockaway River and Boonton Township. Montville Township is home to approximately 21,000 citizens, and also includes the areas of "Lower Montville," "Towaco" and "Pine Brook." Highway 202 and Route 46 become "Main Road" through the Township. Two major Interstate Highways bisect the township—Hwy 287 extends across the Upper Montville and Towaco Sections and Route I-80 bisects the Pine Brook section. Historically a small farming community, Montville Township is characterized by rolling hills and winding roads. Despite the close proximity of major highways, portions of Montville Township retain a "village" atmosphere. The township has an impressive number of vernacular Dutch stone houses dating from the 18th century that reflect the Dutch settlement history of the area. Several of these buildings have been listed in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places as part of the "Dutch Stone Houses of Montville" Multiple Property Nomination.⁴

The schoolhouse faces west on Taylortown Road, which intersects Main Road (Highway 202), and is surrounded on three sides by an expanse of lawn (Figure 5). An undeveloped wooded area at the rear of the building slopes to the east. The front of the building is sited at the street edge, where an asphalt strip abuts Taylortown Road and serves as a public right-of-way (Photo 2). The asphalt extends along the northwestern edge of the property to become a large parking lot. The former Montville Methodist Episcopal Church (constructed in 1892) is located directly to the south (Figure 2) (Photo 4). The church, which currently houses an upholstery company, has been altered to such a degree that it is no longer recognizable. The local firehouse is located to the south, at the intersection of Main Road and Taylortown Road.

Historic Setting

The area that became Montville began as a small settlement with a couple of mills along what is now Main Road (Route 202). The area was settled primarily by Dutch from Manhattan who purchased land from East Jersey Proprietors and the Native Americans in the late 17th century.⁵ Initially known as "Pequannock," this area remained primarily agricultural through much of the 20th century. In 1829, the Morris Canal arrived in Montville and Towaco. The broader area of Morris County was transformed by New Jersey's first major canal, which had been developed to revitalize the coal and ironwork economy of northern New Jersey.⁶ Because the route of the canal included extreme changes in elevation, the typical series of locks wouldn't work in every situation. Therefore, a new system of "inclined planes" was engineered. Three of these inclined planes were located along the canal route through Montville Township—two in the Montville village area and another in the

⁴ Janet Foster, "Dutch Stone Houses of Montville, Morris County, New Jersey," Multiple Property Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (1990), New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Trenton, N.J.

⁵ *ibid.*

⁶ Richard Veit *Digging New Jersey's Past*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 2002, p. 120.

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Continuation SheetThe Montville Schoolhouse
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Towaco section.⁷ The presence of the canal was likely a boon to the economy of Montville, however the village remained a primarily agricultural economy well into the 20th century.

An 1868 map of Boonton and Montville (Figure 6) depicts "Schoolhouse No. 10." This refers to the building that preceded the present brick schoolhouse. A map of the village center, also dated 1868, provides a more detailed glimpse of Montville village just after the Civil War⁸ (Figure 7). At the time, Montville was a small hamlet of about 30 buildings at the crossroads of several main roads (Main Road, River Road, Taylortown Road and Valhalla Road). The map shows two mills adjacent a millpond to the east of the school and west of the Main Road. The two inclined planes of the Morris Canal, (No. 8 and No. 9), are visible as the canal intersects the center of the village, as well as the office and shops of the Morris Canal Company. The close proximity of the homes of members of the Hixson family to Schoolhouse No. 10 is also apparent. By the latter part of the 19th century, vacant areas of land near the school had become industrial. An 1892 fire insurance map (Figure 8) illustrates the Patterson Manufacturing Company (later the Pennick Manufacturing Company) just across Taylortown Road to the west of the schoolhouse, and to the east, the massive operation of the Columbia Print Works, operated by John Capstick and his sons.

Historic Appearance

The exterior of the Montville Schoolhouse retains a high degree of physical integrity. Although missing its cupola (Figure 1), the simple 1871 schoolhouse of red brick laid in a common bond is easily recognizable today. The cupola, with arched and louvered openings, housed the bell that called the children to school. It was removed at an unknown date. The flared eaves of the cupola depicted in historic photographs are echoed in the form of the existing cornice line and eaves. The original roof was surfaced with slate. Prior to installation of a new slate roof in 2000, the roof was surfaced with asphalt shingles. The school was originally heated by a coal-burning stove and had an interior chimney with a corbelled brick chimneystack, capped by an arched ceramic chimney pot.⁹ The current cinder block chimney on the exterior wall of the rear elevation (Photo 8) was constructed sometime after 1962.¹⁰ There are plans to remove this chimney as part of ongoing restoration efforts. The front door as well as all the windows is original. While occupied by the Post Office (1943-1961), a window on the south elevation was altered and a door was installed (Photo 5).

The Montville Schoolhouse

The main façade of the schoolhouse faces west on Taylortown Road (Photo 2). The building is rectangular in plan, with the gable end facing the street. It is a vernacular structure, constructed of load-bearing red brick walls and is restrained in ornament. The façade is symmetrical. Two nine-over-nine, double-hung wood sash windows flank the entrance. Each window opening is composed of a brick segmental arch and sandstone sill. The front

⁷ *ibid.*

⁸ The map was reproduced by the Montville Township Tercentenary Committee in 1962, and annotated with street names and probably other details, such as the names of the occupants of the houses.

⁹ Herbert J. Githens, *Conditions Assessment Report*, prepared for the Montville Museum, 1998, p. 1.

¹⁰ *ibid.*, p. 1.

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Continuation SheetThe Montville Schoolhouse
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door has a segmental brick arch with glass transom, with a single mullion in the center. The wood six-paneled door has wood paneled surrounds (Photo 5). A light fixture is centrally located above the door. A single window at the attic level, centered within the gable, has a four-over-four, double-hung wood sash window. A simple cornice and frieze board, and projecting eaves with flared ends, define the roof. A wood crossbeam is located at the gable front, just above the attic window. There is a metal roof ornament at the juncture of the eaves at the apex of the gable. Two concrete steps, as well as a ramp installed in 2006, access the front door. Two wood planter boxes to the south of the door were installed at the same time. A similar arrangement is located to the north of the door and is planted with low shrubs and flowering plants.

The north side elevation (Photo 7) faces an expanse of lawn, and further to the north, an asphalt parking lot, which is bounded by a wooded area. There are three nine-over-nine, double-hung wood windows with segmental brick arches. The sills are sandstone. The random coursed rubble foundation is visible due to a change in grade. A bulkhead opening with two hinged wood doors at the east end of the foundation leads to the cellar.¹¹ Several millstones are stored alongside the building. There is a wood split rail fence at the edge of the lawn.

The rear elevation of the school faces east (Photo 8). The building sits on an expanse of lawn, which slopes eastward toward a densely wooded area. Two nine-over-nine, double-hung wood windows with brick segmental arches and sandstone sills flank a narrow exterior chimneystack, constructed of concrete block and surfaced with stucco. The chimney was relocated to the exterior wall sometime after 1962 and will be removed as part of the current restoration plans.¹² A window well at the southern edge of the exposed random rubble foundation was constructed when the exterior of the building was restored in 1999.

The south side elevation (Photo 6) is adjacent a small grassy area and a wheelchair accessible parking area (Figure 5). The configuration of windows is identical to that of the north elevation, except that the eastern most window was changed to a door, likely during the period of use by the Post Office. The top sash of the window was retained and a four-panel door installed. There is a concrete sill and step. A split rail fence defines the perimeter of the parking area.

Historic Interior

The original configuration of space—a large classroom and a small vestibule—remains unchanged. A partition wall separates the two spaces. There are original four panel doors at the north and south ends of the partition wall (Photo 9). A door in the center (now boarded up) was installed when the schoolhouse was used as a Post Office.¹³ An analysis of paint samples from the interior of the Montville Schoolhouse, determined that there were two finish “campaigns”—that during the original construction and later, perhaps within a decade or more, coinciding with the alterations creating a partition wall between the vestibule and classroom.¹⁴ The paint

¹¹ The bulkhead and cellar doors were replaced in 2000. *Independent News*, October 5, 2000.

¹² Githens, p. 1.

¹³ Noble Preservation Services, Inc. Section A: Summary, Montville Museum, Montville, N.J. (February 2005) n.p.

¹⁴ *ibid.* The report states that these alterations likely occurred within a few decades of the original construction (February 2005).

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Continuation SheetThe Montville Schoolhouse
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analysis indicates that the interior was painted a vivid blue-green; the wainscot, doors and door trim were stained dark brown; and the window sills, trim and chair rails were grained with a faux finish.¹⁵ Although the schoolhouse lacked a high degree of embellishment, it is notable that the original finish of the cornice and picture rails consisted of "bronze powders suspended in varnish."¹⁶ The original interior moldings, trim and wood wainscoting remain intact.

Interior

The interior of the building consists of a large rectangular space, the original classroom, with a vestibule at the entrance (Figure 5). The front door opens into a narrow vestibule approximately four feet deep. A reminiscence of a former student describes the little vestibule as unheated and it remains so today. A steeply pitched set of wood stairs, leading to the attic, is located immediately to the south of the entrance. A doorway at the northern end of the partition wall is the primary entrance into the main room of the building, the location of the museum exhibits. The lower portion of the walls of the vestibule are clad with bead board wainscoting and the upper section is plastered. The ceiling consists of stained bead board.

The former classroom is a large rectangular space that houses the museum's collections (Photos 9 & 10). The walls are surfaced with plaster above wood bead board wainscoting. The bead board ceiling of the classroom is stained, and there are four "schoolhouse"-type light fixtures that date to the 1930s.¹⁷ There are elaborate vents in the ceiling and the wood floors are painted. A metal grate in the center of the room indicates the use of an earlier furnace in the cellar.¹⁸ There is a partition wall with two paneled wood doors (a center doorway is currently boarded up) and wood wainscoting (Photo 7). The wainscoting extends to the sill of the windows on the perimeter walls. There is a broad cornice with two picture rail moldings.

Attic

A series of steeply pitched wood stairs lead from the vestibule to the attic level. The stairway was constructed in 1963/4.¹⁹ The walls and ceilings are unfinished and the floor is plywood.²⁰ The structure of the attic has been reinforced by a series of braces added in 1999-2000.

Cellar

Access to the cellar is by a series of concrete steps from the bulkhead entrance on the north elevation. Apparently, half of the original crawl space was excavated to create the cellar.²¹ The doorway was cut through

¹⁵ *ibid.*

¹⁶ Noble Preservation Services, Inc., n.p.

¹⁷ Kathy Fisher, personal communication, September 10, 2007. According to Dick Seabury, the lights came from his family business—Radio Frequency Laboratories, in Boonton Township. They were originally from an airplane hangar constructed in 1935/36, for that business. The lights were donated to the museum when it was renovated in 1962 and the plant crew donated their labor to install them.

¹⁸ Githens, p. 12.

¹⁹ Minutes of the Montville Township Tercentenary Committee, January 21, 1964. Report discusses construction of the stairway.

²⁰ Githens, p. 13.

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The Montville Schoolhouse
Morris Co., NJ

Section number 7 Page 6

the brick wall and stone foundation and a wood lintel was added above the door. The interior structural system originally consisted of a large girder supported by three timber posts. The structural system has been reinforced by the addition of steel columns and sistering of floor supports. A stone wall extends along the perimeter of the space. Approximately 2/3 of the southern end of the cellar is an earthen floor and the remainder is poured concrete.

²¹ Githens, p. 13.

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Montville Schoolhouse
Morris Co., NJ

Section number 8 Page 1

Significance Statement

The Montville Schoolhouse was constructed in 1871 on a site that had been the location of at least two earlier schoolhouses.¹ In 1873, William and Sarah Hixson conveyed the quarter-acre on which the schoolhouse already stood (and still stands) to "The Trustees of District No. 99 in Montville," for the nominal fee of \$5.00.² The Hixsons lived near the schoolhouse and the neighboring Methodist Episcopal Church (constructed in 1892) and were involved with both institutions. William Hixson was the Supervisor of the Eastern District of the Morris Canal. Restrictions placed within the 1873 deed, and subsequent deeds, played a role in the future disposition of the schoolhouse building. The deed conveying the land from the Hixsons to the Trustees in 1873 had two stipulations: that all orthodox churches would be able to use the grounds for free, and that if the property were not used as a school, the land would revert back to the Hixson family.³ These restrictions insured that the schoolhouse would be maintained as such and allowed for the use of the school as auxiliary space by the Methodist Episcopal Church constructed next door. In 1911, restrictions placed in a new deed for the property by the Hixsons' heirs stipulated that the schoolhouse would always be used for "public purposes" and for the "general public good," or the property would revert to the family.⁴ Because of this latter stipulation, the Montville Schoolhouse remained in public use long after it ceased to be used as a school. The old schoolhouse was used by the township as the first Town Hall from 1911-1939, and the Montville Post Office was located there from 1943-1961. In 1962 the schoolhouse was renovated to house a local historical museum. The creation of a museum was the focus of Montville Township's celebration of New Jersey's Tercentenary—part of a larger statewide commemoration of New Jersey's Tercentenary.

The Montville Schoolhouse is locally significant under National Register Criterion A, for its association with important 19th and 20th century functions of Montville Township. It is a well-preserved example of a vernacular, post-Civil War, one room schoolhouse. The Montville Schoolhouse is also significant to the Township of Montville because the renovation of the schoolhouse, to house the local historical museum, was the culmination of Montville Township's participation in the statewide commemoration of New Jersey's Tercentenary. At the time, the Montville Schoolhouse was reported to be the first municipally owned historical museum in New Jersey, established through the combined efforts of the citizenry and the governing body.⁵

History of Montville Township

Montville Township was formed in 1867, from a portion of Pequannock Township, one of the oldest townships of Morris County.⁶ Pequannock Township was established in 1740 and was at one time much larger than the portion that retains that name today. It was included in the 1695 purchase of land called the "Pequannock

¹The author wishes to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of Kathy Fisher, Chair, Montville Township Historic Preservation Commission, and President, Montville Township Historical Society, who provided valuable primary documents and photographs and conducted periodical research for this nomination.

² Morris County Deeds, Book P-8; page 493, dated May 1, 1873. "Sarah Ann Hixson and her husband Wm. Hixson of Township of Montville to "The Trustees of School District no. 99 at Montville."

³ *ibid.*

⁴ Morris County Deeds, Book D-21, page 1, September 6, 1911. The clause about "orthodox churches" was removed at that time.

⁵ *Morris County Daily Record*, September 22, 1969.

⁶ John L. Kanouse, "Pequannock Township" in *History of Morris County*, (New York: W.W. Munsell & Company, 1881) p. 265.

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The Montville Schoolhouse
Morris Co., NJ

Section number 8 Page 2

Patent," approximately 5,500 acres on the east side of the Pequannock River.⁷ By 1701 the first European settlers began to settle in Pequannock. These early settlers were primarily Dutch. In 1710 and 1711, Dutch settlers purchased land in what is now Montville and gave the name *Uyle-Kill*, or "owl stream," to a brook that runs through the area known as Upper Montville.⁸ Dutch culture was dominant during this early period and services in the Dutch Reformed Church were conducted in the Dutch language through the 18th century.⁹

Settlement throughout the 18th century was slow for this small agricultural community. The first road (now Route 202) was laid out through the township in 1745, followed by River Road in 1749.¹⁰ These early roads connected farms with the first gristmill in the area. References in deeds and road surveys suggest that the first gristmill was owned by Michael Cook, and that it was in existence as early as 1745.¹¹ By the time of the Revolutionary War, the settlement included a "blacksmith shop, a sawmill, and two taverns."¹² One of the taverns was designated "Mandevilles."¹³ This was an inn located in the village center owned by the Mandevilles, a prominent local family. It has been suggested that the name "Montville" comes from the Dutch pronunciation of "Mandeville."¹⁴

Montville Township remained a primarily agricultural economy throughout the 19th century, despite the arrival in 1829 of the Morris Canal—New Jersey's first major canal.¹⁵ George MacCulloch, at the time the president of the Morris County Agricultural Society, conceived of the canal with the intention of reviving the region's ironwork economy.¹⁶ The construction of the canal was accomplished as a private venture through the sale of stock.¹⁷ The northerly route of the canal, which started in Phillipsburg and ended in Newark, covered difficult terrain and drastic changes in elevation (Figure 9). Therefore, the typical system of locks was not sufficient, so the "inclined plane," a set of tracks connecting one level of water with another was developed.¹⁸ Two of these inclined planes were located in the Montville village area.¹⁹ The canal benefited the village economically, as a means to transport goods and produce to the larger cities at the end of the canal, and as an employer of some of its citizens.

⁷ Rev. Garrett Schenck, "Early Settlements and Settlers of Pompton, Pequannoc and Pompton Plains," in *Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society*, v. 3, 1918, p. 52.

⁸ *A History of Morris County, New Jersey, Embracing Upwards of Two Centuries, 1710-1913* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1914), p. 188.

⁹ John Kanouse, "Early History of Montville Township" in *History of Morris County*, (New York: W.W. Munsell & Company, 1881).

¹⁰ Automobile Tour, p. 2.

¹¹ Alex Fowler, "Some Historic Sites and Homes of Upper Montville, NJ.," unpublished ms, 1949 p. 7.

¹² *ibid.*, p. 5.

¹³ *ibid.*

¹⁴ *ibid.*

¹⁵ James Lee, *The Morris Canal: A Photographic History*. (York, Pa: Canal Press Incorporated, 1973), p. 4.

¹⁶ Richard Veit, *Digging New Jersey's Past: Historical Archaeology in the Garden State* (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 2002)p. 120.

¹⁷ Lee, p. 4

¹⁸ Veit, p. 120.

¹⁹ *ibid.*, p. 125.

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The Morris canal was completed to Newark in 1831, and in 1836 an extension to Jersey City was constructed.²⁰ Coal was the primary freight hauled on the canal, but all manner of goods were transported including grain, lumber, cider and whiskey, bricks, etc.²¹ The most prosperous period on the canal was the decade from 1860 to 1870 when the ironworks in northern New Jersey, as well as other areas of intense manufacturing, such as Jersey City and Newark were at their capacity.²² After the railroads became dominant in the 1870s, the Morris Canal lost almost 35% of its coal business to the Morris and Essex Railroad, which was leased to the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad in 1868.²³ In 1870 the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western arrived in Montville Township.²⁴ Again, large-scale industrial development passed Montville by, with the exception of a rubber plant established in 1878, that was later occupied by a textile printing and dyeing works established by John Capstick in 1883 (Figure 8).²⁵ Despite the arrival of the canal and the railroad, Montville remained a sleepy rural village.²⁶

History of Education in New Jersey

There was a great diversity of ethnic groups and religions in New Jersey from the colonial era throughout the 19th century. This was an important factor in why development of a public education policy in the state lagged behind others: Unlike the homogeneous New England colonies, New Jersey's multiplicity of ethnic groups prevented the development of a public education system until the latter part of the 19th century.²⁷ Education was considered the domain of home and church, therefore, children in New Jersey were primarily educated by the religious group that represented the majority of the population in the community.²⁸ The Dutch had a high regard for the education of their youth, both male and female, so that the establishment of schools in New Jersey typically followed a pattern of Dutch settlement.²⁹ The very first elementary schools in New Jersey were in the 17th century Dutch settlements along the Hudson in Bergen County.³⁰

Throughout the 18th century, many schools remained attached to churches. Classes were held in churches or buildings connected with them, such as parsonages.³¹ However, there are a few examples of separate schoolhouses built by individual groups such as the Quakers. In the post-revolutionary era, there were primarily two types of schools supported by the various religious sects: "free schools," that were for the poor, and schools

²⁰ Lee, p. 4.

²¹ *ibid.* p. 4.

²² Viet, p. 121.

²³ Lee, p. 5.

²⁴ Acroterion Historic Preservation Consultants. "Morris County Cultural Resources Survey." Prepared for the Morris County Heritage Commission, 1987, p. 5.

²⁵ *ibid.*

²⁶ *ibid.*, p. 3.

²⁷ Roscoe L. West, *Elementary Education in New Jersey: A History*. (Princeton, N.J.: D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., 1964) p. 1.

²⁸ *ibid.*, p. 11.

²⁹ *ibid.*, p. 4.

³⁰ *ibid.*

³¹ *ibid.*, p. 9.

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for the public that were maintained by a paid subscription.³² Subscription schools were often housed in private homes, and were generally taught by itinerant teachers—frequently graduates of New England colleges.³³

By the 19th century, there was a growing movement in New Jersey that supported the establishment of public schools for all. Public discourse about education in the 19th century was dominated by a campaign for free public education for all children, and improved training for of teachers.³⁴ It was also a response to increasing immigration and concerns that immigrant children wouldn't learn English or be educated. The public realized that for the new democratic government to function well, the citizens would need to be educated.³⁵ This movement recalled Thomas Jefferson's ideas about education in his *Notes on the State of Virginia*.³⁶

The first steps to establishing a public school system in New Jersey began in 1817, when the Legislature established the "State School Fund."³⁷ No appropriations from this fund were made until 1829,³⁸ however as funds were given only to the counties that voted to tax themselves for schools.³⁹ In 1829 an "Act to Establish Common Schools" passed. This law provided for appropriations from the State School Fund, the election of a "Schools Committee" for each township, and for the licensing of teachers.⁴⁰ Another important piece of legislation passed in 1845 allowed for the appointment of a State Superintendent of Schools.⁴¹

In the period following the Civil War, the combined efforts of elected leaders in New Jersey, school administrators, and "friends of education"—the reformers—a new state system for education was developed that emphasized more state involvement.⁴² This expansion of the State into the realms of education was an attempt to deal with illiteracy, and a way to "integrate immigrant children into American society..."⁴³ In 1866, a supplement to the "Act to Establish Public Schools," was approved. This act provided for a State Board of Education, as well as Trustees to oversee the schools.⁴⁴ The appointment of Ellis A. Apgar as State Superintendent in 1866 was the beginning of an era of emphasis on the education of all children.⁴⁵ Ellis Apgar was from Bedminster in Somerset County, N.J.⁴⁶ The son of a wheelwright; Apgar began his career as a

³² *ibid.*, p. 14.

³³ *ibid.*

³⁴ *ibid.*, p. 15.

³⁵ *ibid.*

³⁶ *ibid.*

³⁷ *ibid.* p.16.

³⁸ *ibid.*,

³⁹ Harriet Lipman Sepinwall, "The New Jersey Constitution and the 1875 "Thorough and Efficient" Education Amendment," in *The Journal of the Rutgers University Libraries*, vol.59, (2001), pp. 53-69.

⁴⁰ West p. 17.

⁴¹ *ibid.* 28.

⁴² Sepinwall, Harriet Lipman. "The History of the 1875 "thorough and efficient" amendment to the New Jersey Constitution (Doctoral dissertation, Rutgers University, 1986) p. ii.

⁴³ *ibid.*

⁴⁴ *ibid.*, 125.

⁴⁵ West p. 39.

⁴⁶ 1850 Federal Census for New Jersey. Coincidentally, there was a Willard Apgar living in Montville in the late 19th and early 20 centuries. No direct connection to Ellis Apgar has yet been established.

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schoolteacher in the same county.⁴⁷ Later, as State Superintendent of Schools, Apgar successfully lobbied for legislation for an annual state tax to fund the construction of schools.⁴⁸ Local newspapers indicate that Ellis Apgar was an enthusiastic and active superintendent, even appearing in Montville to lecture on education matters.⁴⁹

In 1867, an "Act to Establish a System of Public Instruction" passed. This act repealed all previous acts, while simultaneously creating an entirely new system.⁵⁰ The act provided for the consolidation of districts, better conditions (financially and academically) for instruction, "increased uniformity of textbooks," and the construction of new school buildings.⁵¹ The State Superintendent was given the authority to provide school funds to the counties based on the number of children in public schools between the ages of five and eighteen.⁵² In addition to money appropriated by the State, the public schools were also funded by interest from surplus revenue as well as a voluntary tax.⁵³ A report was issued annually to the Legislature by the State Board of Education and the Superintendent, and this was used to determine the needs for each county. In the annual report for the year 1867, Ellis Apgar wrote:

Let all the children of the state be gathered in neat, comfortable and convenient and well furnished schoolhouses, with whole souled efficient teachers...we want more vital thinking, we want more intelligent manhood, we want a community so educated every member will be a producer and a value to the State. It is the work of the school-room which is to maintain our institutions, perpetuate and perfect our government...we want public schools in every community...⁵⁴

Apgar discussed the "present school law," and despite the fact that it had been in effect a short time "few can have failed to observe that it has already been productive of some most excellent results."⁵⁵ Apgar's language is the language of reform, and he freely connected education with moral development:

Popular intelligence promotes popular morality...A common school education is the best temperance pledge a man can sign...The schoolmaster is the best reformer we have. Give him encouragement.⁵⁶

The 1867 School Report listed 70 male teachers and 100 female teachers in Morris County, and of those teachers, 35 of the men and 61 of the women were licensed.⁵⁷ Further discussion on licensing found that

⁴⁷ 1860 Federal Census for New Jersey.

⁴⁸ *Public Education in New Jersey*, (Trenton, N.J.: Office of Public Communication, New Jersey Department of Education, 2001), p. .

⁴⁹ *Boonton Times Bulletin*, November 1, 1883.

⁵⁰ West p 41.

⁵¹ *ibid.*

⁵² Sepinwall, p. 130.

⁵³ *Annual Report of the New Jersey State Board of Education for the year 1867* (Trenton, N.J.: "The True American Office, 1868), p. 12.

⁵⁴ *ibid.*, 22.

⁵⁵ *ibid.*, 10.

⁵⁶ *ibid.* 21.

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questions given for the exam were “sufficiently difficult.”⁵⁸ Mr. R. H. De Hart, Superintendent for Morris County, described any failures, “especially on the part of the female applicants,” as “unquestionably due to nervous excitement, a difficulty which will wear off as the new system becomes clear to them.”⁵⁹

Rural or “Country School” Architecture in New Jersey

Schoolhouse building in New Jersey, particularly that of vernacular schools such as the iconic one-room schoolhouse, tended to be constructed according to what had become a “cultural template” of what a schoolhouse should be.⁶⁰ By the 19th century, schoolhouse design, like much residential building, was influenced by architectural handbooks or builders plan books, rather than the result of retaining the services of an architect.⁶¹ These plan books made building elevations, floor plans and architectural details easily accessible to local carpenters and builders.⁶² The plan books did much to spread popular American architectural styles. Typically, what may have started as an architect’s design, complete with Grecian or Gothic details, because of budget limitations, would end up simplified and scaled down.⁶³

In 1831, schoolmaster William A. Alcott wrote an essay on “the Design of Schoolhouses” for the *American Institute of Instruction* (1831).⁶⁴ A floor plan published with Alcott’s essay illustrated the improvements suggested by Alcott, such as arranging desks in rows to allow easy circulation, large windows for light and ventilation and space for storage and display (Figure 10). In 1848, Henry Barnard, an educator and legislator in Connecticut, published a handbook for the design of schools that showed plans and elevations in the latest architectural styles. Barnard went on to become the first U.S. Commissioner of Education as well as the editor of the *American Journal of Education*.⁶⁵ Barnard was among the reformers of the time who believed “a well-built impressive school building would inspire pupils in their learning...”⁶⁶ Barnard strove to give schools a “standard external appearance” but also emphasized the interior space.⁶⁷ Despite the variety in materials, style and location of rural schools, there evolved a very distinctive building type that reflected the interior space similar to that of Alcott’s plan. A floor plan published in the *American Journal of Education* in the 1870s (Figure 11.) reflects further refinements to seating arrangements, and is remarkably like the plan of the Montville Schoolhouse (Figure 5). In this respect, “the form of country schools followed their function, relying on small utilitarian designs, built with inexpensive...materials...”⁶⁸

⁵⁷ Annual Report 1967.

⁵⁸ *ibid.*

⁵⁹ *ibid.*

⁶⁰ Andrew Gulliford, *America’s Country Schools*. (Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1991), p. 165.

⁶¹ *ibid.*, p. 166.

⁶² *ibid.*

⁶³ Fred E. H. Schroeder, “The Little Red Schoolhouse,” in *From Icons of America*, ed., Ray D. Brown and Marshall Fishwick. (Bowling Green, Ohio: Popular Press, 1978).

⁶⁴ Gulliford, p.167.

⁶⁵ *ibid.* Congress created the Commission of Education in 1867.

⁶⁶ *ibid.*

⁶⁷ *ibid.* p. 168.

⁶⁸ Gulliford, p. 171.

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The Montville Schoolhouse fits perfectly into a typology of one-room schoolhouses. The majority of one-room schoolhouses are rectangular and the size typically no more than 30 x 40 feet (the interior of the Montville Schoolhouse is approximately 20' x 30'). This is the "carrying distance of the human voice: the teacher's to keep order, the student's to be heard by the teacher."⁶⁹ This type generally had three to four windows, (typically 9/9 sash) on the side, one entrance on the narrow side of the building, and roofs with a simple gable form.⁷⁰ By the latter part of the 19th century, "a belfry or bell-tower, usually placed above the entrance to the schoolhouse, had become a status symbol for many school districts..."⁷¹

The 19th century education reformers emphasized the interior arrangements of the space of school buildings to provide the maximum comfort, which they felt promoted efficient learning. They advocated "placing desks in rows in the middle of the room, providing more light and air, elevating windows above eye level, allowing space for pictures and educational tools."⁷² While the arrangement of space was similar in schools from district to district, the "quality and quantity of furnishings depended on the district's parents and their finances and commitment to education."⁷³

Following the Civil War, brick one-room schoolhouses were typically built of mass produced construction materials such as standardized bricks, dimension lumber and pre-fabricated millwork.⁷⁴ Like the Montville Schoolhouse, the interiors had hardwood wainscoting—usually up to the level of the window.⁷⁵ The close proximity of the Morris Canal in Montville would have facilitated the delivery and use of these mass-produced building materials for the construction of the school. One-room schoolhouses tended to conform to two basic design tenets—symmetrical placement of door and windows and the front door faced the adjacent local road, "perhaps as a symbol of the buildings access to anyone in the rural community."⁷⁶ The front door of the Montville Schoolhouse opens directly onto Taylortown Road (Photo 2). Brick schoolhouses, like the Montville Schoolhouse, due to "their large numbers, sturdy construction and easy adaptability" helped to "reinforce the popular conception of "the little red schoolhouse."⁷⁷ Easily recognizable, the form of the sturdy one room schoolhouse imparts an impression of order and competence.

History of the Montville Schoolhouse

The chronology of schoolhouses in what is now Montville is a bit confusing. At least two school buildings that predate the Montville Schoolhouse were constructed on, or near, the same site. The earliest school constructed

⁶⁹ *ibid* p. 172.

⁷⁰ *ibid*,

⁷¹ *ibid* p. 174.

⁷² Fred E. H. Schroeder, "Little Red Schoolhouse," in *From Icons of America*, ed. Ray B. Brown and Marshall Fishwick, Bowling Green, OH: Popular Press, 1978.

⁷³ Gulliford, p. 188.

⁷⁴ *Ibid*. p. 165; 185.

⁷⁵ *ibid*.

⁷⁶ *ibid*

⁷⁷ *ibid*.

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in Montville Township however was ca. 1760 in the Pine Brook section.⁷⁸ A wood frame schoolhouse constructed in the first years of the 19th century was likely the first in the Montville village area.⁷⁹

Prominent civic leader Judge John Kanouse was intimately involved with the development of schools in the Township in the mid-late 19th century.⁸⁰ Kanouse was born in neighboring Boonton in 1811. Following his graduation from Union College in Schenectady, New York in 1832, he returned to his home in Morris County and became involved in politics and education. In 1849 he represented the district in the state legislature and was re-elected in 1851.⁸¹ While representing his district, he served on the committee on education and was involved in the development of the laws resulting in free public schools.⁸² In 1847 he became the superintendent of the public schools in Pequannock Township and served in that capacity until 1858. In 1850, Kanouse proposed a bill at a public meeting in Boonton that resulted in the first free school in Morris county (1851), pre-dating the "general free-school law of 1867" by sixteen years.⁸³

In 1876 the Morris County Superintendent asked Judge Kanouse to write a history of the public schools in the Morris County townships of Pequannock, Montville and Boonton, to be part of the education exhibit at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia.⁸⁴ This history was serialized in the *Boonton Times Weekly Bulletin* in 1876.⁸⁵ Later it was incorporated into a history of the three townships that Kanouse was asked to write in 1881, for a volume on the history of Morris County for W.W. Munsell & Company.⁸⁶ Kanouse wrote that "westerly of Montville village, there was no school in Pequannock...the schoolhouse [in Montville village] was built about 1806, a frame building 18 by 24 feet, a few rods south of the present site..."⁸⁷ Deeds, however, reveal that the school was in existence by 1803.⁸⁸ The description offered of this meager building, that of "no paint applied externally or internally," heat provided by an open fireplace at the end of the wall, and desks that "consisted of boards attached in an inclined position to the sides of the room," is fairly representative of the period.⁸⁹

Kanouse continued that "many years ago a new school-house, larger and with seats and desks somewhat improved, was erected on the site of the present one, which did service some twenty-five years..." Deeds

⁷⁸ Kanouse, p.32.

⁷⁹ *ibid*, p.33.

⁸⁰ *Biographical and Genealogical History of Morris County, New Jersey*, vol. II, (New York: The Lewis Publishing company, 1899). All biographical information on Kanouse is from this work and can be found on pages 676-680.

⁸¹ *ibid*.

⁸² *ibid*.

⁸³ *ibid*.

⁸⁴ *ibid*.

⁸⁵ "Centennial History of Educational Work in the Township of Pequannock, and also a History of Educational Work in Montville and Boonton Townships, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey," prepared by John L. Kanouse, at the request of L.W. Thurber, County Superintendent, March 1st, 1876," *Boonton times Bulletin*. The history ran in the March 16, 23, and 30, April 6 and 13, 1876 editions.

⁸⁶ *ibid*.

⁸⁷ Kanouse, p.286.

⁸⁸ Fowler, p.

⁸⁹ Kanouse, p. 33.

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indicate that this second schoolhouse was constructed sometime after 1837.⁹⁰ This is the school referred to as "Schoolhouse No. 10" on the 1868 map (Figures 6 & 7). The approximately ¼ acre where the Montville Schoolhouse stands was part of a larger tract (a little over five acres) purchased by John Righter from Nathaniel and Mary Ann Condict (of the Township of Pequannock) in 1833.⁹¹ John Righter then sold ¼ acre for \$1 to Henry Farand, William Gladson & Nicholas Jacobus, Trustees "for the time being" of the Montville School... "for the special purpose of erecting and maintaining a school house so long as the same shall be used and occupied for that purpose..."⁹²

However "improved" this second school may have been, tabular data included in the Annual School Report for 1866 suggests the poor condition of the schools in Morris County. Kanouse was at the time the Town Superintendent and responsible for preparing the report to the State. In his report, Kanouse wrote that in Pequannock Township (which included Montville) there were 13 public schools.⁹³ Of these, only five were considered well ventilated, only three had "sufficient grounds," seven had no outhouses and three were considered "unfit for use."⁹⁴ Twelve of the schools were wood frame and one was brick (located in Boonton). No new schools were constructed during that year.⁹⁵ In the 1867 Report, the Superintendent mentions the sad conditions that many teachers in the county worked under—"Blackboardless [sic] walls, paneless [sic] windows, smoky chimneys, creaky floors... Defects in our school houses and furniture, are the greatest disadvantages under which our teachers labor..."⁹⁶

In the chronology of schools in Montville Village provided by Kanouse, it indicates that the second school described above was "torn down about fifteen years ago to give place to the present brick structure [the Montville Schoolhouse] which is a neat looking and commodious building, with the most improved furniture."⁹⁷ A more specific date is given in Kanouse's serialized history published in 1876, where he states that the second school "was torn down about five years ago..."⁹⁸ This account is in agreement with a construction date of 1871. Records pertaining to the construction of the Montville Schoolhouse have not yet been found. However, a construction date of 1871 has been determined by examining Annual School Reports for the years 1867-1873. In the school report for the year 1869, the condition of the school in Montville was listed as "poor" with a value of \$300.⁹⁹ The value of the school property remained the same in 1870.¹⁰⁰ The Annual School Report for the school year 1871 details the poor condition of the school (here referred to as Montville No. 99). The value of the property was given as \$200 and the condition of the building listed as "v.p" or "very poor."¹⁰¹ In the School

⁹⁰ Morris County Deeds, Book R-3, p. 115, November we 1837.

⁹¹ Morris County Deeds, Book D-3, page 345. March 22, 1833.

⁹² Morris County Deeds, Book R-3, p. 115, November 1837.

⁹³ Annual School Report, 1866, p. 27.

⁹⁴ *ibid.*

⁹⁵ *ibid.*

⁹⁶ Annual School Report for 1867, p. 124.

⁹⁷ Kanouse, p. 286.

⁹⁸ *Boonton Times Bulletin*, March 23, 1876.

⁹⁹ Annual School Report 1869.

¹⁰⁰ Annual School Report 1870.

¹⁰¹ Annual School Report 1871.

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Report for 1872, the condition of the school was listed as “v.g.” [very good] and the value at \$2500.00.¹⁰² The new brick schoolhouse was probably built during the summer months of 1871 in order to receive the students by the fall.

Plans to upgrade the school began several years earlier. In 1868, Sarah and William Hixson purchased the five-acre tract, including the ¼ acre location of the Montville Schoolhouse, from William and Emma Righter, of Newark, for \$2,500. A manuscript in the possession of the Montville Township Historical Society & Museum, “A Report to the Trustees of the Inhabitants of School District No. 1,” for the school year 1868-69, reveals that a vote was taken in favor of a “free school” and also to raise money to “repair and remodel” the schoolhouse.¹⁰³ At this time there was a recommendation by the trustees that “an addition be made to the schoolhouse either by raising it up to the second story or by an addition to the end and that it be remodeled and furnished in such manner as shall conduce to the comfort and advancement of the pupils...”¹⁰⁴ Further plans for alterations didn’t materialize, and the new schoolhouse was constructed in 1871. That year, the Legislature passed an Act that made the public schools free.¹⁰⁵ The 1871 Act enabled the school districts to tax for school construction, and it is likely that this tax provided funds for the construction of the Montville Schoolhouse. In 1873, William Hixson and his wife Sarah sold the school property to the “Trustees of School District 99 at Montville” for \$5.00.¹⁰⁶ Hixson also served as the Clerk for the School District (Fig.12).¹⁰⁷

William Hixson

William Hixson was born in New Jersey, August 24, 1812.¹⁰⁸ He was married in Warren County, New Jersey to Sarah Ann Young October 18, 1845.¹⁰⁹ In the 1840 federal census for New Jersey, William Hixson is listed as living in Greenwich Township, Warren County in a household that included an adult male between 20 and 30 years of age and a male child between 10 and 15; two adult women (one between 70 and 80; one between 30 and 40) and a female child between 5 and 10. The column for occupation indicates that two adults in the household were employed in “navigation of canals, lakes, and river.”¹¹⁰ This may indicate that William Hixson’s wife Sarah may have also worked on the canal. In the 1850 census William Hixson’s occupation is listed as a “plane tender” in Greenwich Township.¹¹¹ Census records indicate that in 1860, William Hixson, his wife Sarah and several children, were living in Phillipsburg in Warren County and Hixson is listed as a “laborer,” with a very modest personal estate of \$100.¹¹² It seems likely that although listed simply as a “laborer” Hixson was working on the canal—perhaps as a plane tender, or as it has been suggested by Robert Goller, Morris Canal Historian, a foreman on the local maintenance crew which would have been the next in the

¹⁰² Annual School Report 1872.

¹⁰³ School Report, 1868-69, ms. Montville Township Historical Society & Museum.

¹⁰⁴ *ibid.*

¹⁰⁵ West, p. 42.

¹⁰⁶ Morris County Deeds Book P-8, p. 493.

¹⁰⁷ William Hixson was also a trustee of the school board.

¹⁰⁸ Information from grave marker Greenwood Cemetery, Boonton, N.J. Lot 401, Plot 13.

¹⁰⁹ Jonathan Dodd, compiler, *New Jersey Marriages 1684-1895*.

¹¹⁰ 1840 Federal Census for New Jersey.

¹¹¹ 1850 Federal census for New Jersey. William Hixson age 38, Sarah A. 35, Mary M. 4, and John 5.

¹¹² NJ Federal Census Records, 1860. Value of Hixson’s personal estate listed as \$100; nothing listed for real estate.

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progression before becoming a supervisor.¹¹³ Hixson's fortunes certainly improved by the time he and his family were living in Montville. The 1870 census lists William Hixson as "Supervisor on Canal" with real estate valued at \$4000 and a personal estate of \$500. At the time the school was constructed, Hixson was the Supervisor of the Eastern District or Division of the Morris Canal. The canal was divided into sections referred to as "divisions" and each division had a "supervisor." The Supervisor was in charge of the length of the canal from "end to end."¹¹⁴ William Hixson became the "Supervisor of the Eastern Division" after the death of the former Supervisor, John Unangst in 1866.¹¹⁵ This division was called either the "Montville Division" or the "Boonton and Montville Division" and it included the canal from Little Falls, at the Passaic River, westerly to the Rockaway River between Powerville and Denville.¹¹⁶

William Hixson's household in 1870 included his wife Sarah, his son John and his wife Elizabeth; sons Joseph 15 and Benjamin 13, and a laborer by the name of John Daly.¹¹⁷ In the decade following the arrival of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad in 1870, the canal as a means of transporting goods was in eclipse. By 1880, Hixson was no longer employed by the Canal Company, rather he was working as a foreman for the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad.¹¹⁸ His household included his wife Sarah, as well as their son Benjamin and his wife Anna and their two young children Stella and Hettie.¹¹⁹ Sons John H. and Joseph by this time had each established households of their own.¹²⁰

Sarah Hixson died January 30, 1890 of pneumonia.¹²¹ She was described in her obituary as "an amiable Christian lady."¹²² William Hixson died in Hoboken, New Jersey August 8, 1894, at the age of 81.¹²³ The obituary announced his death as "another of the oldest citizens of the village is added to the land of the departed."¹²⁴ At the time of his death, Hixson was staying with one of his sons. In July 1911, the five surviving children of Sarah and William Hixson conveyed to the Township the ¼ acre schoolhouse tract, with revised

¹¹³ Personal communication from Kathy Fisher, Chair, Montville Township Historic Preservation Commission, and President, Montville Township Historical Society, July 8, 2007.

¹¹⁴ *ibid.*

¹¹⁵ *ibid.*

¹¹⁶ *ibid.*

¹¹⁷ 1870 census.

¹¹⁸ *Boonton Weekly Bulletin* August 16, 1894. It is likely the Canal Company no longer employed Hixson by the end of 1878, as there is not mention of his name in connection to the canal after that time, where previously, it was mentioned with frequency (personal communication, Kathy Fisher, March 2008).

¹¹⁹ 1880 Federal census for New Jersey. Also living with them were a niece, Lissie Carhart, John Francisco 15, laborer and an 18-year-old servant, Georgeanna Voorhees.

¹²⁰ *ibid.* John H. 32, Mary E. 35, Sallie 10, Joseph 25, Anna 19, William H. 1.

¹²¹ *Boonton Weekly Bulletin*, February 6, 1891.

¹²² *Ibid.*

¹²³ *Boonton Weekly Bulletin* August 16, 1894.

¹²⁴ *ibid.* "At one time he was a leader in village matters and his opinion and advice were sought after. He took a deep interest in the Sunday services of the Montville Chapel and for a long time before the Chapel was erected he was Superintendent of the Montville Sunday School."

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stipulations. The new restrictions were that the building was to be used for township purposes or it reverted back to the Hixson family and the lands were to be used for the "General Public Good."¹²⁵

William and Sarah Hixson had a strong connection with the formation of the Methodist Episcopal Church, eventually constructed next door to the schoolhouse (Figure 2a & b), and likely facilitated the use of the school for worship space prior to the construction of the church. In 1883 the local paper reported that the "Rev. R.S. Arndt preached at Montville Schoolhouse Sunday afternoon and then 17 probationers joined the church." On July 19, 1890, the Methodist Episcopal Church of Montville was incorporated at a meeting at the "upper Montville Public Schoolhouse" and trustees were elected by the congregation. Among those trustees were John Capstick, Jr., Charles W. Gordon, William Hixson, Wilbur Kayhart, Frederick Lodter, Peter Purcell and Otis Baldwin.¹²⁶ Records for the church begin in 1889 and indicate that the earliest baptisms took place in 1889 at "William Hixson's" and also at the "Schoolhouse" in 1890.¹²⁷ During the 1890s, the school also served as a meeting place for the local temperance society.¹²⁸ In 1891, William Hixson gave a lot to the south of the schoolhouse to the Methodist Episcopal Church of Montville.¹²⁹ The church was dedicated on February 18, 1892.¹³⁰

Later History of the Schoolhouse

A problem frequently cited in the Annual School Reports was the poor sanitary conditions of outhouses, and frequently, a lack of outhouses. The Montville Schoolhouse did not have indoor plumbing (nor does it today). The outhouse was located 25-30 feet to the rear of the school building. A local paper in 1909 reported that the school (at the time known as Schoolhouse No. 1) had been closed for two weeks due to an outbreak of Scarlet Fever in "Oklahoma"—a section of Montville.¹³¹ "Oklahoma" was a pejorative term given to an area of Montville with a high number of immigrant families. When the Board of Education met at the beginning of the school year in 1909, much of the discussion was about the over-crowded conditions of the school, the pressing need to find additional space for school use, and to plan for a new school.¹³² Several weeks later, the Board reported that they had rented the basement of the Methodist Episcopal Church next door for additional space.¹³³

In the spring of 1910, a district-wide election passed a vote on a resolution authorizing the Board of Education to purchase a lot for a new school for \$800 and to construct a school and purchase furniture at a cost of \$7500.¹³⁴ At the same meeting there was a vote passed to authorize the Board of Education to convey the school to the "Montville Township Committee for Township purposes."¹³⁵ From this point, the process moved

¹²⁵ Morris County Deeds.

¹²⁶ Clerks Records, Court of Common Pleas, Morris County, New Jersey.

¹²⁷ The Church Record of the Montville Methodist Episcopal Church.

¹²⁸ *Morris County Daily Record*, Sept. 22, 1969.

¹²⁹ Morris County Deeds, Book L-13, page 598, April 2, 1891. The church was built at a cost of \$2600.

¹³⁰ *Boonton Weekly Bulletin*, February 18, 1892. The church was built at a cost of \$2600. Hixson was on the building committee.

¹³¹ *Boonton Weekly Bulletin*, May 27, 1909.

¹³² *Boonton Weekly Bulletin*, October 7, 1909.

¹³³ *Boonton Weekly Bulletin*, October 21, 1909

¹³⁴ *Boonton Weekly Bulletin*, March 17, 1910, The vote was 58 in favor, 1 opposed.

¹³⁵ *ibid.* The vote was 56 in favor; 3 opposed.

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Continuation SheetThe Montville Schoolhouse
Morris Co., NJSection number 8 Page 13

very quickly. In September 1910, David R. Conklin was awarded the contract to construct the new school building—the entire cost, including purchase of land, construction and furnishing was to be \$7000.¹³⁶ In October, William K. Hewlett was chosen as architect.¹³⁷ The need for rapid completion of the new school was acute, and remarkably, on January 1911, the local newspaper reported that the new school, located just to the east of the old brick Schoolhouse, was nearly complete (Figure 13).¹³⁸ On January 4, 1912, the Board of Health recommended the “upper Montville Schoolhouse [the new school constructed in 1911] be fumigated with Formaldehyde” as well as the Methodist Episcopal Church.¹³⁹ Despite the construction of the new school to relieve overcrowding, the problems with communicable disease in the town persisted.

In September of 1911, the Board of Education of the Township of Montville conveyed the old brick schoolhouse to the Township of Montville.¹⁴⁰ The action was “authorized by vote of the township to buy land & erect new school & dispose of the old school...”¹⁴¹ Sarah and William Hixson’s public-spirited intent that the land be maintained for school purposes, and the furthering of this intent by the restrictions placed on the property by their heirs, that the school be used for “Township purposes,” set the course for the future of the Montville Schoolhouse. In 1911, the Montville Schoolhouse came into Township ownership and the Township Committee met for the first time at “the brick school-house” on January 28, 1911.¹⁴² The building was used as the first Town Hall until 1939. Previous to this time, the Township Committee met in private homes and other public spaces.

The need for a “more convenient and commodious” meeting place for the Township Committee led them to search for a new location for the town hall. The Township acquired the abandoned Lynwood School (on the Main Road in Montville) as the new Town Hall. There was debate about the disposition of the old “Town Hall,”—the old brick schoolhouse. There was a move for the Township to retain ownership of the schoolhouse, however the Board of Education requested that it revert to the Board of Education to serve as a library.¹⁴³ There had also been a request that the old school be used for the Post Office.¹⁴⁴ Because this was a use other than “for Township purposes,” as had been stipulated in the deeds, the Township Attorney felt that the Township would need to get a “release” from the Hixson heirs.¹⁴⁵ On October 2, 1942, the *Boonton Times Bulletin* reported that 75 residents had petitioned the Township Committee to locate the Montville Post Office in the abandoned Township Hall—the old Montville Schoolhouse. The Township Committee unanimously supported leasing the old school to Floyd Smith, the Postmaster of Montville.¹⁴⁶ It became the local Post Office in 1943 (Figure 14 &

¹³⁶ *Boonton Weekly Bulletin*, September 3, 1910.

¹³⁷ *Boonton Weekly Bulletin*, October 13, 1910.

¹³⁸ *Boonton Weekly Bulletin*, January 12, 1911.

¹³⁹ Clerk’s Records, Township of Montville, January 4, 1912.

¹⁴⁰ Morris County Deeds, Book D-21, page 1, September 6 1911.

¹⁴¹ *ibid.*

¹⁴² Clerk’s Records, Township of Montville, January 28, 1911, p. 216.

¹⁴³ *Boonton Times Bulletin*, April 14, 1939, p. 1.

¹⁴⁴ *Boonton Times Bulletin*, March 17, 1939, p. 1.

¹⁴⁵ *Boonton Times Bulletin*, April 7, 1939.

¹⁴⁶ *ibid.*

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15). During this time, one of the windows was changed to a door and all the necessary equipment for processing and sorting the mail was added. When a new Post Office was constructed in 1961, the old school was left vacant.

The New Jersey Tercentenary

In March 1958, three men sent a proposal describing a statewide commemoration of New Jersey's upcoming 300th anniversary to then Governor of New Jersey Robert B. Meyner.¹⁴⁷ John T. Cunningham, a historian and former reporter for *The Newark Evening News*; Dr. Richard P. McCormick, professor of history at Rutgers University; and Roger H. McDonough, the Director of the State Library in Trenton,¹⁴⁸ envisioned the "Tercentenary Celebration" as a means to educate the citizens of the state "of the traditions and achievements" of New Jersey but also as a way of involving them in the continuum of the state's history:

We see the Tercentenary as a rare opportunity for New Jerseyans to look with pride upon a notable history, to reemphasize the strong economic and intellectual role of the state in modern times and to look to the future of New Jersey.

Basic in the celebration, of course, must be a philosophy, a motif. This, we believe, must not be a "backward-looking" spirit, focusing only on 1664. Rather, the approach should be from the past to the present—and thence to the future.

We especially urge that the observance be designed for enduring rather than temporary impact. Surely there is a need for spectacular observance in the form of pageants and special events—all traditional parts of an anniversary—but the Tercentenary should serve also as an occasion for contributions to the preservation and interpretation of New Jersey's heritage.¹⁴⁹

The ideals included in the above Memorandum were received and accepted by the Governor and "embodied in legislation which created the State of New Jersey Tercentenary Commission."¹⁵⁰ The Commission was authorized to begin a statewide program. Its success depended on the many local and county Tercentenary Committees that were appointed by mayors and freeholders across the state.¹⁵¹ The celebration would commemorate New Jersey's colonial beginnings. Initially a part of a larger territory that had once been Dutch Colony, the area we know now as New Jersey was deeded to John, Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret in

¹⁴⁷ *The New Jersey Tercentenary 1664-1964*, Report of the New Jersey Tercentenary Commission, Trenton, New Jersey, 1966, p. 8

¹⁴⁸ *ibid.*

¹⁴⁹ *ibid.* Portion of the Memorandum written by Cunningham, McCormick and McDonough, delineating the ideas for the Tercentenary.

¹⁵⁰ *ibid.*, p. 8.

¹⁵¹ *ibid.*

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Morris Co., NJ

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1664.¹⁵² This new proprietary colony was named for one of the Channel Islands—Jersey—the ancestral home of Carteret.¹⁵³

The Tercentenary observance produced diverse programs and engendered a love of local and state history. Montville Township used the celebration as a catalyst for the creation of the first municipally owned historical museum in the state, and was highlighted in the *1966 Report of the N.J. Tercentenary Committee*.¹⁵⁴ Montville Township's Tercentenary Committee was created by Mayor James Vreeland in February 1962 and Mrs. Thomas A. Murphy was appointed as Chairman of the Committee.¹⁵⁵ Under the leadership of "Teddy" Murphy, the local Tercentenary Committee began planning for what was the first township-owned historical museum in the state.¹⁵⁶

Mrs. Murphy, a relative newcomer to Montville, was raised in Montclair, New Jersey, and had a degree in history from Wellesley.¹⁵⁷ She was inspired by the history and historic buildings of the Township. She had lived in Montville for only four years when "with compelling enthusiasm, she tackled the outsize job, and pulled most of the community into it with her."¹⁵⁸ During an address to the Montville Township Historical Society in 1999, Teddy Murphy recounted the events that led to her involvement in the Tercentenary Commemoration. She told of the dismay she felt when studying American history in school, that New Jersey, despite its pivotal role in the Revolution and subsequent history, "was hardly noticed."¹⁵⁹ When she moved to Montville with her husband and young family, Mrs. Murphy actively sought an historic house to live in, and after realizing the wealth of historic buildings in her new town, wrote a letter to the *New York Times*, detailing "Montville's uniqueness."¹⁶⁰ A reporter from the *Times* came to visit, followed by Montville Township's Mayor, who asked if she would get involved in Montville's Tercentenary plans.¹⁶¹ Initially thinking she was being asked to help with social events, such as "teas and luncheons," Mrs. Murphy soon found out that she was being asked to take on the leadership of the committee.¹⁶² Local individuals, many who were descendents of the Township's earliest families, eagerly joined with Mrs. Murphy and the Montville Township Tercentenary Committee began its work in earnest. It was Mrs. Murphy who noticed the recently vacated old school. She proposed to the Township Committee that the Tercentenary Committee use the building for a temporary exhibit during the period of the commemoration. Rather, the group was given "unlimited tenancy." The clean up and renovation of the old school building was a catalyst for citizen involvement in Montville Township's Tercentenary activities. As there

¹⁵² *ibid.*

¹⁵³ *ibid.*

¹⁵⁴ *ibid.*, p. 108.

¹⁵⁵ *ibid.*, p. 167. James Vreeland went on to become a State Senator and also served on the New Jersey Historical Commission.

¹⁵⁶ *Boonton Times Bulletin*, Dec. 13, 1962. Also, "Fact Sheet", Township of Montville Tercentenary Committee, Montville Township Historical Society & Museum.

¹⁵⁷ *ibid.*

¹⁵⁸ *Daily Record*, "Woman Leads Montville Unit." October 10, 1963.

¹⁵⁹ Mrs. Thomas A. Murphy, address to the Montville Township Historical Society, May 10, 1999, transcript. Montville Township Historical Society & Museum.

¹⁶⁰ *ibid.*

¹⁶¹ *ibid.*

¹⁶² *ibid.*

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was little public money available to accomplish the goal of creating a museum out of the old school, there was an out-pouring of volunteers for both the manual labor and the donation of artifacts associated with the history of the region. The group initiated several fund-raising efforts, including the reproduction of an historic 1868 map that was sold to help raise funds for the renovation of the school.¹⁶³ Not only did the Tercentenary Committee establish "the first municipally owned historical museum in the state," they began to develop a history for the Township, "participated actively in the statewide celebrations agenda, and were widely recognized for our efforts."¹⁶⁴

In its *Quarterly Report*, the Montville Township Tercentenary Committee summed up their accomplishments:

The Tercentenary period in Montville has epitomized the ideal of cooperation between citizens and government—cooperation with local, county, and state agencies and branches of government, the people of Montville have evidenced their knowledge of their community, county and state, contributed to the work of all three, and improved their home place. It has been a demanding task for many, but an unforgettable experience for all. The contribution we feel, will have provided great value to the people of this community and state for many years to come.¹⁶⁵

The museum was honored in the Assembly Chambers of the State House at Trenton, on December 5, 1962, as the first municipally owned museum in the state. The Montville Township Museum officially opened February 24, 1963. Simultaneous to the opening of the museum, the Tercentenary Committee organized the Montville Township Historical Society to continue the committee's projects after 1964, and Harold Dahl served as the first president.¹⁶⁶ Major funds for the project were from appropriations by the Montville Township Committee. The Montville Township Historical Society, founded predominantly by the Tercentenary Committee members, continues to operate the museum today.

¹⁶³ *The New Jersey Tercentenary*, p. 167.

¹⁶⁴ *ibid.*

¹⁶⁵ Montville Township Tercentenary Committee Quarterly Report, October 30, 1964.

¹⁶⁶ Fact Sheet, Montville Township Historical Society & Museum.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property consists of Lot 7, Block 56, in the Township of Montville, Morris County, New Jersey.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes all the property historically associated with the Montville Schoolhouse.

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Photo List

Typical information for all photographs:

Montville Schoolhouse
Morris County, New Jersey
Photographer: Patricia Sackett Chrisman
Date: 2007
Location of negatives: Patricia Sackett Chrisman
53 South Pierson Road
Maplewood, NJ 07040

- Photo 1. Exterior view, facing southeast.
- Photo 2. Exterior view, main (west) façade, facing east.
- Photo 3. Exterior view, window detail
- Photo 4. Taylortown Road, facing south. Former Methodist Episcopal Church just beyond the Montville Schoolhouse.
- Photo 5. Exterior view, entrance detail.
- Photo 6. Exterior view, south elevation, facing north.
- Photo 7. Exterior view, north elevation, facing south.
- Photo 8. Exterior view, rear (east) elevation, facing west.
- Photo 9. Interior view, main exhibit room (former classroom), facing west.
- Photo 10. Interior view, main exhibit room (former classroom), facing east.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

15.03

6
2.42 Ac.

11
12.37 Ac. TOTAL EXEMPTED

7
1.03 Ac.

8
3.73 Ac.

SEE SHEET 18.01

15

SEE SHEET 18

16

SEE SHEET 18.01

Blk. 15.03
Lot 7

Montville
Schoolhouse

Montville Twp.
Morris Co., NJ

15.01

15.02

17

BOULEVARD

LIMIT

SHEET
SHEET

CHEROKEE COURT

MAC LEAY ROAD

BIRCH ROAD

BIRCH ROAD

GLENWOOD DRIVE

VIRGINIA ROAD

BLOCK

DIANNA ROAD

SEE SHEET 18.01

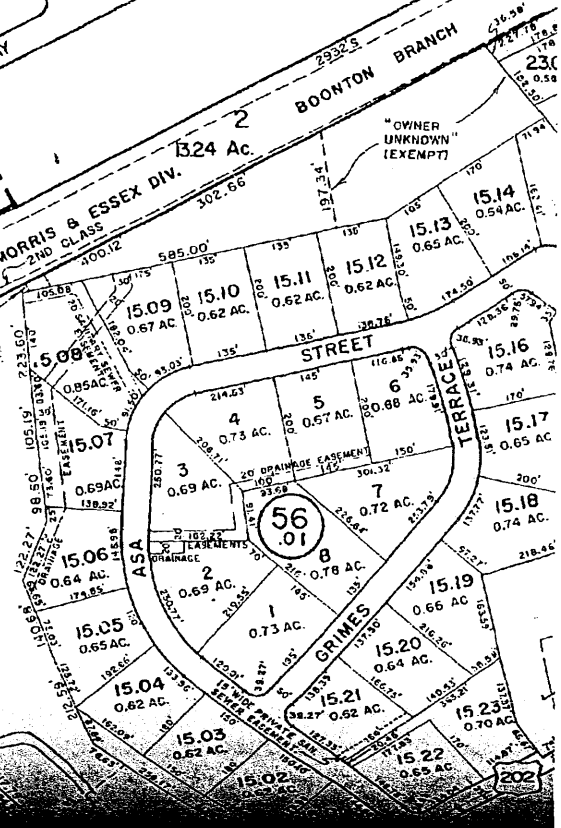
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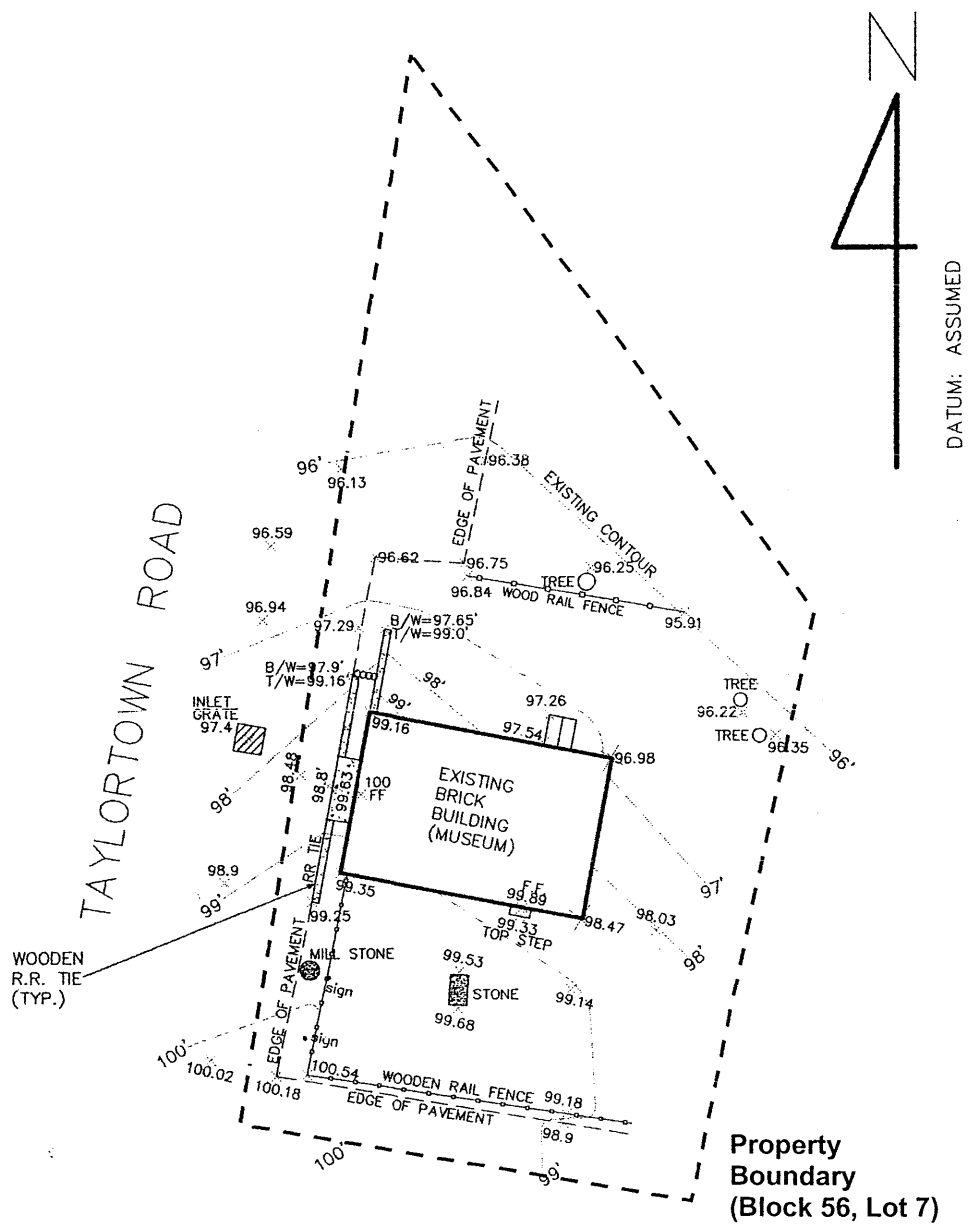
MORRIS & ESSEX DIV. 2ND CLASS

BOONTON BRANCH

CONRAIL - ERIE-LACKAWANNA RY

6
22.74 AC.
1.80 AC. FWA (SCALED)



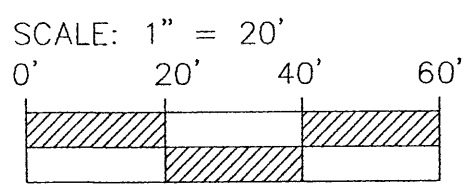


PARTIAL TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY
 FOR
 MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP MUSEUM
 SITUATED IN
 TOWNSHIP OF MONTVILLE, MORRIS COUNTY, N.J.
 BEING KNOWN AS TAX LOT 07, BLOCK 56 AS SHOWN
 ON THE OFFICIAL TOWNSHIP TAX MAP.

N.J.P.L.S. & P.E. LIC. No.31.272

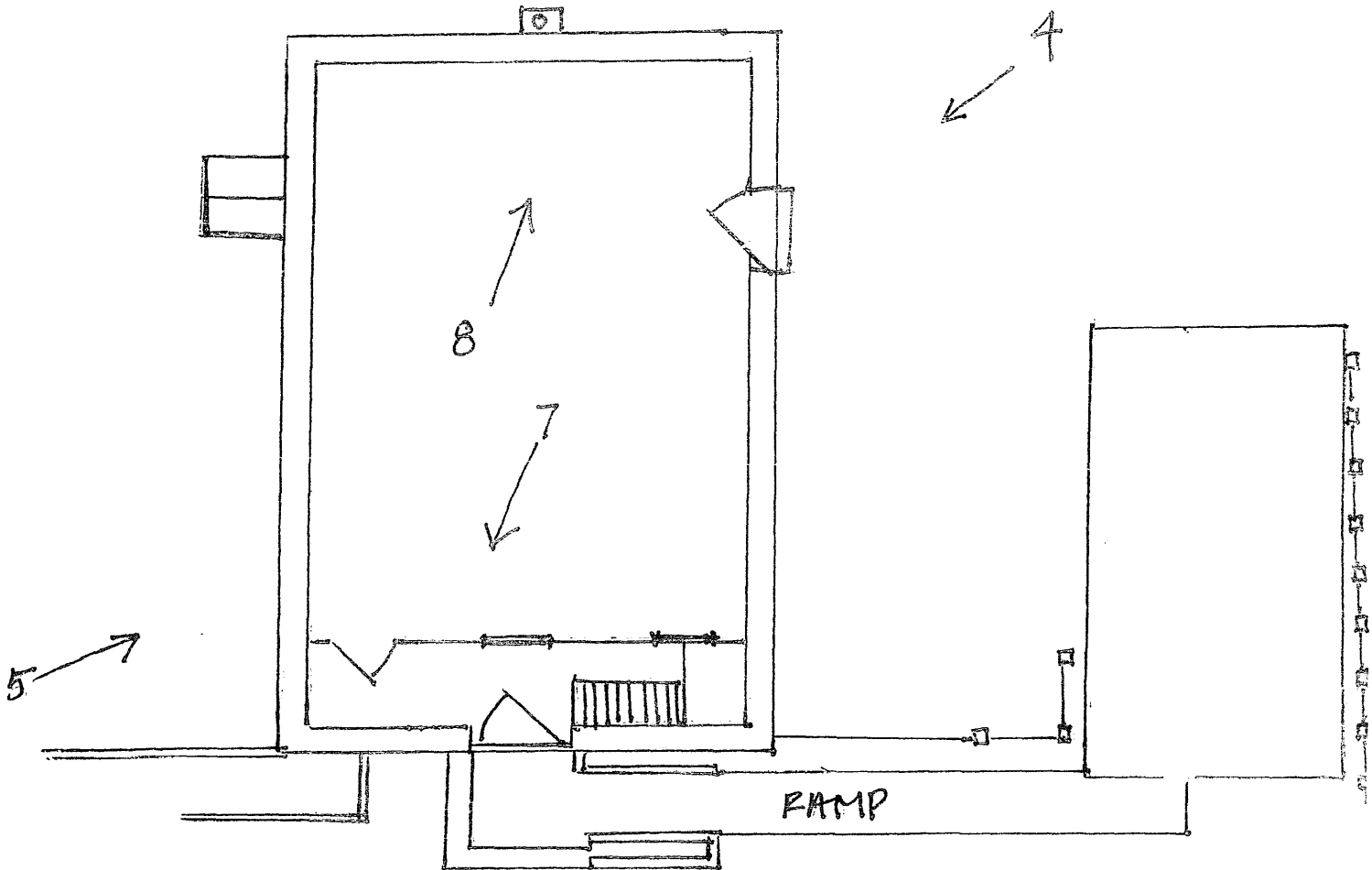
MARK J. MANTYLA, P.L.S., P.E., P.P.
 TOWNSHIP OF MONTVILLE ENGINEERING DEPT.
 195 CHANGEBRIDGE ROAD, MONTVILLE, N.J.
 TEL.: (973)331-3321

DATE: JANUARY 19, 2005





MONTVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE
MORRIS CO., NEW JERSEY



8

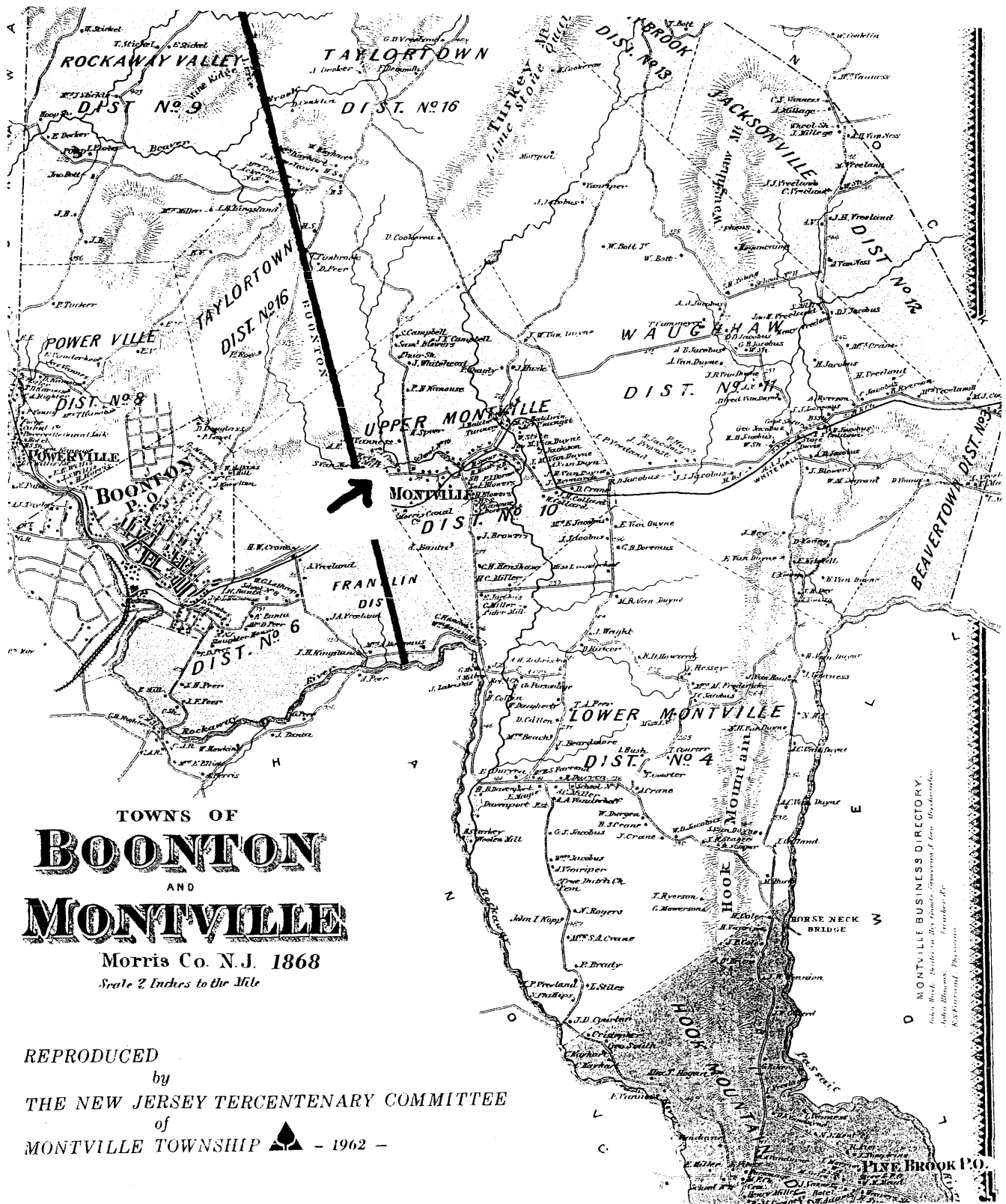


RAMP



TAYLORTOWN ROAD

SCALE APPROX $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1' 0''$



TOWNS OF
BOONTON
 AND
MONTVILLE
 Morris Co. N.J. 1868
 Scale 2 Inches to the Mile

REPRODUCED
 by
 THE NEW JERSEY TERCENTENARY COMMITTEE
 of
 MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP ▲ - 1962 -

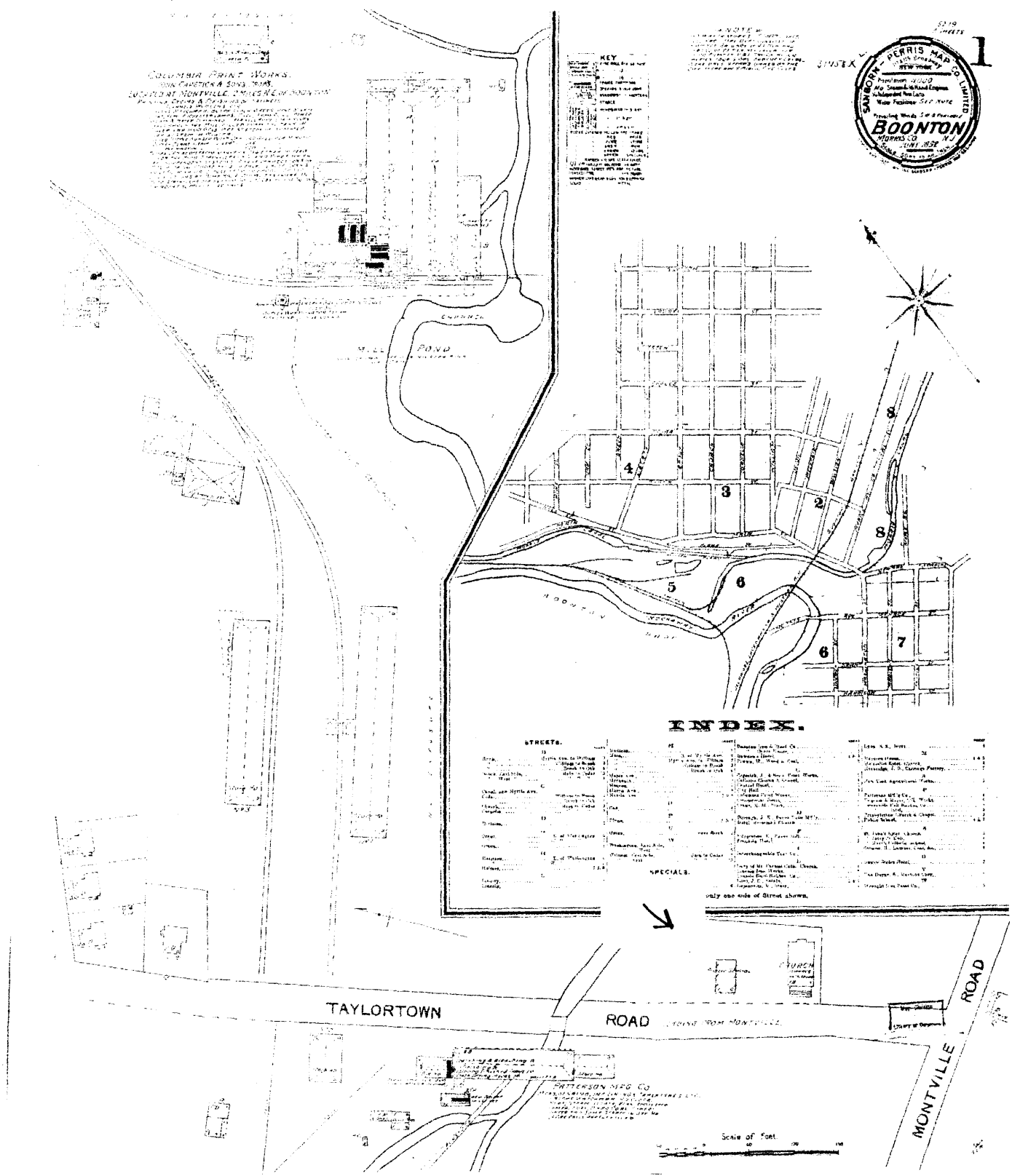
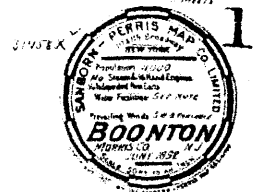
MONTVILLE BUSINESS DIRECTORY.
 John Beck, Editor in Chief. (Morris Co. N.J.)
 John Blumens, Publisher.
 852 Broadway, New York, N.Y.

Map, Towns of Boonton and Montville, Morris County, N.J., 1868.
 Reproduced by the New Jersey Tercentenary Committee of Montville
 Township in 1962.

COLUMBIA PRINT WORKS.
 100K FACTORY & SHOP WORK
 LOCATED AT MONTVILLE 2 MILES N.E. OF BOONTON
 PAULINE DEW & PETERSON ARCHT.
 BOONTON N. J.
 The Columbia Print Works is one of the largest and most modern printing establishments in the State. It is equipped with the latest machinery and has a corps of experienced workmen. It prints and publishes all kinds of books, newspapers, magazines, and other printed matter. It also has a fine stock of type and other printing materials.

KEY

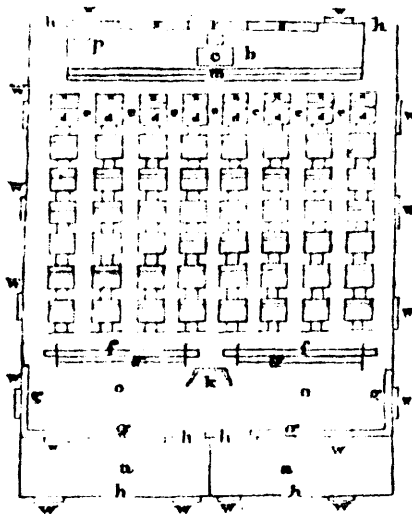
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2	Block
3	Street
4	Water
5	Swamp
6	Gravel
7	Open
8	Wood
9	Other



INDEX.

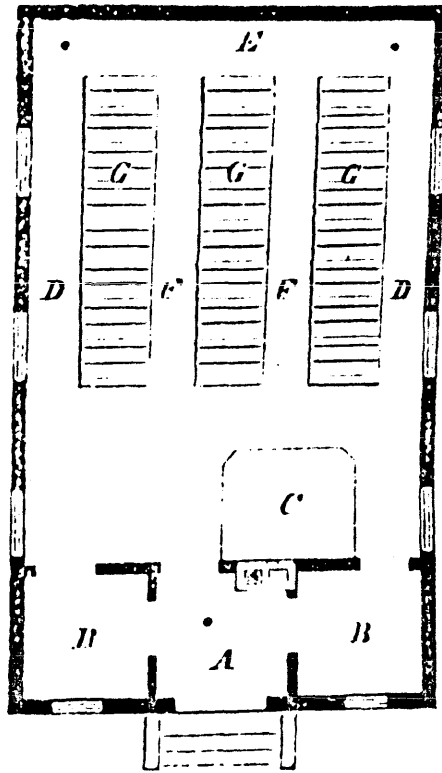
STREETS.	Buildings	Chimneys	Other
Acacia St
Adm. Bldg
...

Sanborn-Perris Fire Insurance Map, 1892.



Floor plan showing suggested furniture arrangement, by William A. Alcott, 1832. (*Essay on the Construction of School-Houses*)

Alcott's floor plan, published in his 1832 "Essay on the Construction of Schoolhouses." Reproduced in Andrew Gulliford, *America's Country Schools* (Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1991).



Floor plan showing seating arrangement propounded by education reformers in the 1870s. (*American Journal of Education*)

Floor plan from the 1870s, published in the *American Journal of Education*.
 Reproduced in Andrew Gulliford, *America's Country Schools* (Washington, D.C.:
 The Preservation Press, 1991).

M. E. Church, Montville, N. J.



Methodist Episcopal Church, Montville, constructed 1892. Photo ca. 1895.
Montville Schoolhouse in background.
Courtesy Montville Township Historical Society & Museum



Methodist Episcopal Church, Montville, constructed 1892. Photo ca. 1895.
Montville Schoolhouse in background.
Courtesy Montville Township Historical Society & Museum



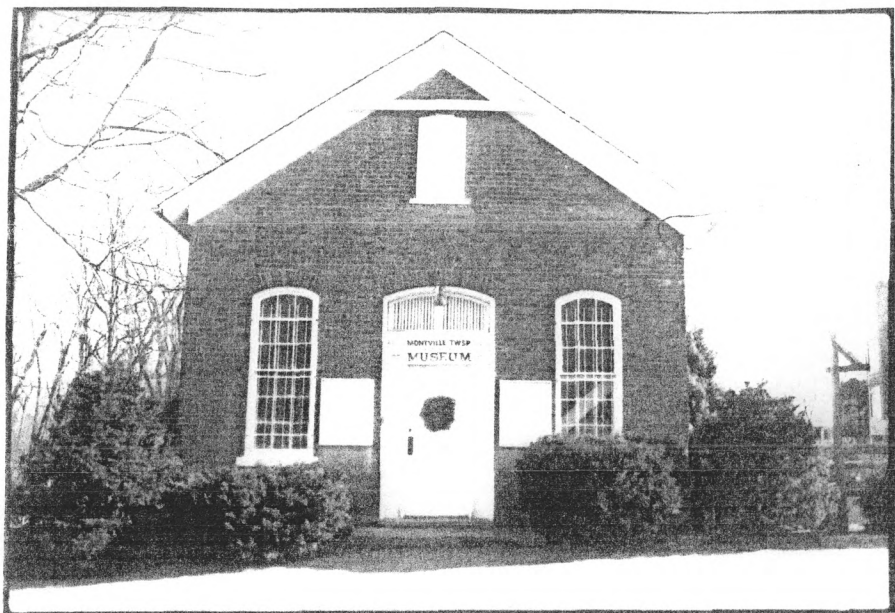
Montville Schoolhouse 1907. Courtesy Montville Township Historical Society & Museum



Montville Post Office ca. 1960. Photo reproduced from *The New Jersey Tercentenary 1664-1964*, Report of the New Jersey Tercentenary Commission



Montville Post Office, ca. 1960s. Identity of boys unknown.
Courtesy Montville Township Historical Society & Museum.



Montville Township Museum ca.1965.
Courtesy Montville Township Historical Society & Museum