

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JAN 29 1980  
DATE ENTERED SEP 29 1980

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Clover Hill Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

Clover Hill

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

intersection Amwell <sup>and</sup> Wertsville-Clover Hill Road NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Hillsborough Township, Raritan Township CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

& East Amwell Township VICINITY OF 13th.

STATE Flemington mi, CODE COUNTY CODE

New Jersey 034 Hunterdon & Somerset 019 & 035

**CLASSIFICATION**

*(also in Somerset County)*

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Multiple - see list of property owners

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hall of Records, County Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Flemington, Somerville

New Jersey

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (#1467.4)

DATE

1975

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Office of Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Trenton

N.J.

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located at the border of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, Clover Hill traverses three municipalities - Hillsborough, East Amwell and Raritan Townships.

John Barber and Henry Howe's Historical Collection of the State of New Jersey, published in 1844, describes the Township of Hillsborough as being about 12 miles long, 5 miles wide, and is bounded N. by the Raritan River, separating it from Bridgewater, S. by Montgomery, E. by Millstone River, dividing it from Franklin, and W. by Amwell, Hunterdon County.

Hanover, James Snell provided a more detailed description in his 1898 History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey: "Clover Hill is on the Amwell Road where it enters Hunterdon County. It contains about fifteen dwellings, a Reformed Dutch church, and a school." Snell also listed Clover Hill under the Raritan Township section of Hunterdon County's history as follows: "Clover Hill in the east portion of the township, is in great part within Hillsborough Township, Somerset County. It contains, however, a hotel, store, church (Dutch Reformed), blacksmith shop, and post office."

Presently, the village of Clover Hill still conforms to its mid-19th century form - with the majority of the structures dating from 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarters of the nineteenth century.

### Condition of Structures

All of the buildings in the historic district are in generally a good state of repair with no exceptions. Presently, many residences are under restoration.

### Inclusive Street Numbers

Due to the fact that the village of Clover Hill is small, in regard to the number of structures within it, there exists no formal street numbering system. For the purpose of coordinating any photographs of structures and their respective location within the historic district, the map has been keyed to the inventory number.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES \_\_\_\_\_ BUILDER/ARCHITECT \_\_\_\_\_

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Clover Hill Historic District is a good representative example of a small New Jersey crossroads village in the 19th century. With its few intrusions, Clover Hill reflects the past quite effectively as a small isolated self-sufficient thriving 19th century farming community.

Settlement

In 1683, John Bennett purchased an irregular plot of land at the northwest tip of Hillsborough Township, embracing what is presently (1975) known as Neshanic and Clover Hill. The tract of land included several hundred acres, extended to the division line between East and West Jersey, and was bounded on the north by the South Branch.

The last quarter of the eighteenth and the first quarter of the nineteenth centuries saw the first few farm structures erected. This was directly due to the fact that by 1720, when Amwell began to be settled, the Amwell Road was extended from Wood's tavern (in the northwest corner of the Harlingen Tract) to Flaggtown, Neshanic, and Clover Hill.

By the second quarter of the nineteenth century the local residents erected a church on the south side of the road leading to New Brunswick on the property of Jacob Nevieus. By 1834 the building was completed and the residents, after deciding to form as a Dutch Reformed Church, petitioned the Classis of Philadelphia for approval as an officially organized branch of the church. Permission was granted the same year as completion of the building.

The middle of the 1800's witnessed the village of Clover Hill develop into a semi-self-sufficient community. There were a few tradesmen; a general store, a blacksmith, a chemist, and a hotel, post office and a school.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Beers, F.W. Atlas of Somerset County, N.J. New York 1873.  
 Barber, John W. and Howe, Henry. Historical Collections of the Site of New Jersey. Newark, New Jersey. 1844  
 Snell, James P. History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, N.J. 1898  
 Leu, Mrs. Albert. The One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Clover Hill Reformed Church of Clover Hill, N.J. 1959.  
 Messler, A. First Things in Old Somerset. Somerville, N.J. 1899.

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 25.6 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME HOPEWELL

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 | 518230 | 4481400

B 18 | 518190 | 4481480

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 18 | 518230 | 4481730

D 18 | 518590 | 4481960

E 18 | 518690 | 4481740

F 18 | 518410 | 4481640

G 18 | 518440 | 4481560

H | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(see attached)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
		Hunterdon	019
		Somerset	035

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Wayne T. McCabe (revised by Terry Karschner, Office of Historic Preservation)

ORGANIZATION

Consultant - Historic Preservation

DATE

March, 1975 (11, 1978)

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 478

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Newton

STATE

New Jersey

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL     

STATE   X  

LOCAL     

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Atty Wilson*

10-26-79

DATE

TITLE Deputy Commissioner

Department of Environmental Protection

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

9-29-80

ATTEST

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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

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RECEIVED	FEB 10 1980
DATE ENTERED	SEP 28 1980

Clover Hill Historic District  
Somerset, New Jersey

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE

Harry & B. Margoshes  
Hockenbury Road R.D. 2  
Neshanic, NJ 08853  
Block 5, Lot 4

Donald J. & R.W. Crum  
Hockenbury Road  
Neshanic, NJ 08853  
Block 5, Lot 5

Donald J. Crum  
Hockenbury Road R.D. 2  
Neshanic, NJ 08853  
Block 5, Lot 6

William Krysovaty  
Three Bridges Road  
Neshanic, NJ 08853  
Block 5, Lot 7

Herbert & L. Gardner  
Box 376 R.D. 2  
Neshanic, NJ 08853  
Block 5, Lot 8

Jack F. & Kathleen Catani  
R.D. 1  
Flemington, NJ 08822  
Block 164, Lot 1

Clover Hill Reformed Church  
RD 1  
Flemington NJ 08822  
Block 164, Lot 2,3,&4

Gary J. & Carolyn S. Keck  
203 Main Street  
So. Bound Brook, NJ 08880  
Block 164, Lot 5

Anthony G. & Rose Mary  
Palus  
Amwell Road R.D. 1  
Flemington, NJ 08822

Mary A. Nevius  
R.R. 1 Amwell Road  
Flemington, NJ 08822  
Block 164, Lot 6

Clover Hill Cemetary Assoc. Inc.  
R.D. 1  
Flemington, NJ 08822

Boyston & Jane Butterfield  
RD 1 Amwell Road  
Flemington, NJ 08822  
Block 21, Lot 6

Russell and Joyce Dilts  
RD 1 Amwell Road  
Flemington, NJ 08822  
Block 21, Lot 7

Ms. Harold Mundy  
RD 1 Amwell Road  
Flemington, NJ 08822  
Block 21, Lot 8A

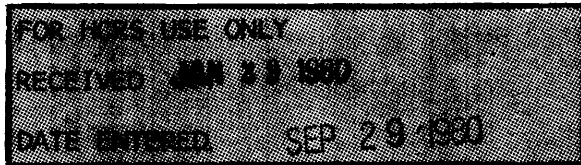
Stanley D. Hart  
RD 1, Box 289  
Flemington, NJ 08822  
Block 21, Lot 9

Martin C. Cushmeyer  
Rainbow Hill Road  
Flemington, NJ 08822  
Block 21, Lot 10

Martin & Esther Strassman  
RD 1 Clover Hill Road  
Flemington, NJ 08822  
Block 77A, Lot 16

Wilbur Everett  
Reaville Clover Hill RD 1  
Flemington, NJ 08822  
Block 77A, Lot 17

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



Clover Hill Historic District  
Hunterdon and Somerset Counties  
New Jersey

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Block 77A, Lots 16 and 17

J. Sharp Farm (in 1873), Raritan Township. Late 18th century. Large farmhouse. Break in roof line indicates this 6 bay structure was built in two sections. The east unit is a clapboard 2 1/2 story 3 bay dwelling with broad gable end chimney having an exposed fireback at the base. The fireback is constructed of brittle red shale as was typical of the region. The windows in the first floor are 9/6 sash and 6/6 sash on the second floor. The roof is gable.

The west unit is narrower than the eastern section, but projects an identical linear appearance. There is a gable end chimney in the west end, but it is not exposed. The windows are spaced closer together than the east unit, but are also 9/6 and 6/6 sash. There is a center doorway. A modern one-story leanto wing extends out from the west gable end. A one story 20th century porch protects the center 3 bays of the house. Interior not accessible, but evidence suggests the east unit was built first. (photo #1)

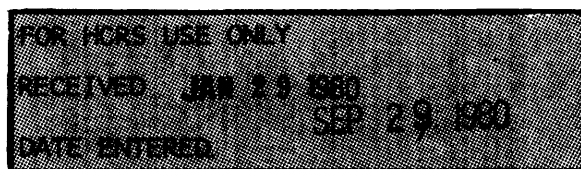
On the property is an English form barn with center sliding door and animal pens to either side and lofts above. Attached to the main barn is a smaller 1 1/2 story frame unit. The barn is sheathed with late 19th century novelty siding and is painted flat red. (photo #2)

Block 21, Lot 6

J.M. Housel House (in 1873). East Amwell Township. Mid 19th century. Two story L-form frame dwelling. Three bay, side entrance. Gable roof. Modern one/one window sash. Stone foundation with concrete facing. Asbestos shingles. One story modern enclosed leanto porch in elbow of L and rear one story masonry flat-roof addition. Exterior cinder block chimney. Seriously altered. (photo #3)

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

Clover Hill Historic District  
Hunterdon and Somerset Counties  
New Jersey



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 11

Block 21, Lot 7

Mr. J. Wilson House (in 1873). East Amwell Township. Mid 19th century. Simple 2 1/2 story frame dwelling. I-form with flat-roofed two story wing at rear. Main unit has a 5 bay, center entrance front facade. Second floor windows in front are 6/6 sash, but first floor windows are 2/2 Victorian sash. Center door has a narrow transom. Gable roof. Stone foundation. Center brick chimney.(Photo #4)

Block 21, Lot 8A

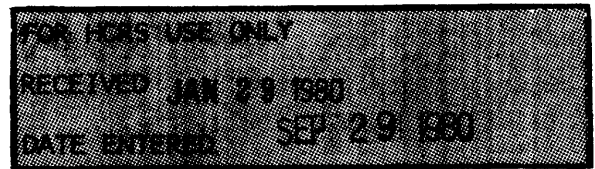
J. Servis House (in 1873). East Amwell Township. Mid-19th century. Two story frame dwelling with aluminum siding. Originally 3 bay, side entrance, but currently only the second floor conforms to that arrangement; the first floor fenestration having been altered. The windows on the second floor are 6/6 sash. There is an exterior cinder block chimney on the west gable end. A 1 1/2 story frame shed is in the rear of the property.(Photo #5)

Block 21, Lot 8

J.B. Bartow House. East Amwell Township. c. 1870. Two story, I-form L-shaped clapboard dwelling. Three bay, side entrance. Gable roof with corbelled gable end chimney. Rear kitchen wing forms L-shape. Windows are one/one sash. One story front porch with sawn ornamentation. Inset of L in rear enclosed by one story modern addition. Frame shed in rear of property.(Photo #6)

Block 21, Lots 9 and 9A

J.B. French House (in 1873). East Amwell Township. Second quarter 19th century. Vernacular Greek Revival. Two and one-half story, L-shaped, I-form clapboard dwelling. Front has 5 bays, center entrance with one story enclosed portico. Gable roof with slight return, entablature beneath the eaves, corner pilasters, 6/6 sash windows on second floor and 9/6 sash on first floor. Detailed cornice. Stone foundation.(Photo #7)



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

Clover Hill Historic District  
Hunterdon and Somerset Counties  
New Jersey

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Block 21, Lot 10

G.J. Schenk Farm. East Amwell Township. Second quarter 19th century. Greek Revival vernacular. This farmhouse has two major sections - a 2 1/2 story, 3 bay, side hall unit and a two story, 4 bay unit attached to the west gable end. The 2 1/2 story section has a gable roof with end chimney, entablature beneath the eave, corner bay and 6/6 sash windows with cornice and louvered shutters. The doorway is typical Greek Revival with narrow sidelights and transom. A single Victorian porch projects over the front facade. The wing is longer, but narrower and has much simpler details, but is probably of the same construction period. The windows are 6/6 sash, but small panes. The entablature is quite simple. A one story porch projects out along the entire 4 bay facade. On the property is a small frame barn with vertical board clapboarding. (Photos #8, 9, 10)

Block 164, Lot 1

J.W. Garhart Store and Post Office (in 1873). Hillsborough Township. c. 1870. At the intersection of the Wertsville-Clover Hill and Amwell Roads, this 2 1/2 story commercial building has a modern one story enclosed front portico. The original building was a simple 2 1/2 story frame structure, identified as a store and post office only by 1873 map. Extensively altered, the exterior now has asbestos singles. The windows are 2/2 sash. (Photo #11)

Block 164, Lot 2

Dutch Reformed Church, 1834. This is a two-story structure of wood frame construction. The foundation is of random-coursed rubble construction. There are three lancet windows on each side of the building and two round topped windows on the front (one on either side of the main entry-way). All of these windows are two stories tall. There are also two short round-topped windows directly above the main entry-way. The siding is of narrow width clapboard with the exception of the center section on the front of the building. This section is sided with a "fish scale" type of clapboard. The cupola presently to be found on top of the belfry replaced the steeple that was blown down in the 1880's. The roof is a simple gable type with asphalt



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

Clover Hill Historic District  
Hunterdon and Somerset Counties  
New Jersey



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

shingles. The four corners of the main section of the building have short spires typical of the Gothic Revival style of architecture. (Photo #12)

Block 164, Lot 3

E. Bartow Farm / John Cruser House. c. 1840, 1845, 1870. This two story wood frame house was constructed and added to at three different stages. The foundation is a combination of random coursed rubble and coursed rubble construction. The siding is random width horizontal clapboard (presently covered with a simulated wide clapboard siding). The porch is a late 19th century addition. The windows of the first and second floor (in the front) are all 6/6. There are kneewall windows on the third floor. There are no shutters. The remaining windows on the structure consist of a combination of 6/6, 4/4, one/one, 4/1 and 16/4. There are two brick chimnies at either end of the structure. The roof rafters are rough sawn with a vertical saw and are pinned at the ridge line with wooden pins. The roof itself is a simple gable style and has asphalt shingles. There is a wing protruding at a right angle from the rear center of the main portion of the building. This is a one and a half story wood frame addition with a gabled roof (asphalt shingles) that is perpendicular to the main roof's ridge line. The siding on the addition is random width clapboard. (Photo #13)

Block 164, Lot 4

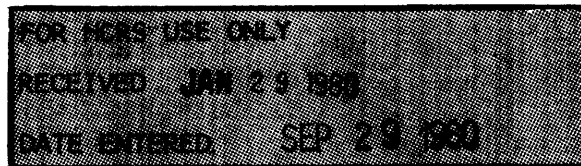
Modern one story ranch house.(Photo #14)

Block 164, Lot 5A

Jacob Nevieus House, c. 1835, 1866. This is a two and a half story structure and was the first parsonage of the Clover Hill Dutch Reformed Church. The original section of the house was the back two rooms and was itself two stories. The house today has a random coursed rubble foundation with a combination of hand hewn and vertical sawn floor beams for the first floor.

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

Clover Hill Historic District  
Hunterdon and Somerset Counties  
New Jersey



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

Some of the hand hewn floor beams obviously were taken from another structure as there are indications of mortice and tenon construction that is not employed in this structure's construction. The walls are of heavy beam construction and the original section of the house has brick nogging. All of the windows are 4/4 and all have shutters. There is a small six lite window at either end of the building under the gabled eaves. There is a full gabled dormer extending from the center of the main gabled roof to the front of the building. At the center of the face of the dormer is a squared window set on its corner with four fleur-de-lis windows within it. The entire roof is shingled with slate. The porch is a last quarter of the 19th century addition. (Photo #15)

Block 164, Lot 6

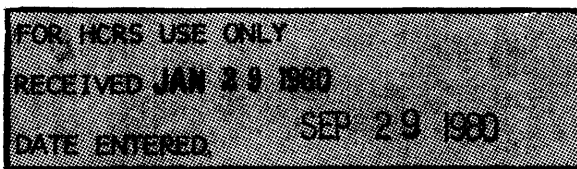
Modern dwelling.

Block 4, Lot 4

Late 19th-early 20th century. Simple 2 1/2 story frame dwelling with 2 bay gable end front. Full length front one story porch. Exterior brick chimney on the side. Aluminum sided, (Photo #16)

Block 4, Lot 5

Mid-19th century, later additions. This is a 2 1/2 story frame dwelling which was built in several stages. The first unit appears to be the west 3 bays. The first floor of this section is protected by a late 19th century porch. Windows all modern sash. Low pitched gable roof. Cross gable. Corbelled brick chimney.



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

Clover Hill Historic District  
Hunterdon and Somerset Counties  
New Jersey

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

Block 4, Lot 6

Empty lot at present.

Block 4, Lot 7

Mid-19th century. Two story frame dwelling with asbestos shingles. Presently a 5 bay fenestration, but east bay is a later addition. The original building was probably a double house as evidenced by the two doorways in the original 4 bay front. The doors<sup>DR</sup> both have transoms. The windows on the second floor of the original unit are still primarily 6/6 sash. The first floor east window is 2/2 sash. The west window on the first floor is a 9/6 sash, but with several broken lites. Gable roof; brick chimneys on gable ends. Addition in the rear.

Block 4, Lot 8

Young House, c. 1773, 1810, 1900. This is a two story wood frame house of heavy timbered construction. Five bay, center entrance. The foundation is of coursed rubble construction. The siding is simulated wide clapboard. All of the windows are 6/6, both first and second floor. There are louvered shutters on all windows. There are two chimneys: one at the west end of the house and the other slightly in toward the center of the house from the east end. The cellar beams are hand hewn.

The rafters are vertical sawn and are wooden pinned at the ridge line. There is no ridge pole used in the roof construction. The roof itself is a simple gable with asphalt shingles.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 5 No.

Several properties are open and have no structures upon them. They do, however, lend themselves to the rural, 19th century atmosphere of the Historic District.

Number of Structures and Intrusions Within the District

There are a total of 23 structures within the historic district: one church (Dutch Reformed); 16 residential structures; and 6 out-buildings. There are only 2 intrusions within the historic district (one of which is the present parsonage).

Distinctive Qualities and General Description of District During Period of Significance

Until two decades ago, when modernization came to the village of Clover Hill, the community laid dormant for close to one hundred years. This small country hamlet, settled initially in the last quarter of the eighteenth century, still retains the flavor of a mid-19th century community. The community life primarily centered around the church, farming and the small shops kept in the village.

Of those establishments located in the village were: a blacksmith shop, general store, post office, a hotel, and a local chemist (drug store). There were also barns for storage of local stagecoaches, which traversed the area.

The village of Clover Hill typified the small rural community that was to be found in the early and formative years of the Township of Hillsborough.

General Description of Natural and Man-Made Elements in District

The historic district of Clover Hill encompasses approximately 21 acres and 23 structures within its boundaries. This constitutes a gross density of one structure per acre.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 6 No.

The present land use to be found within the historic district is a single-family residential, institutional, and open space.

The single prominent geographical feature to be found in the Clover Hill district is that the entire district sits atop a high knoll of land, with a sweeping vista in all directions. This heightens the feeling of ruralness which has for almost two centuries been found in the village of Clover Hill.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 8

No. 2

The following is a statistical report published by the township concerning the district schools for the year ending August 31, 1879 (only those statistics concerning Clover Hill School are herein reproduced):

Total received from all sources for public school purposes	\$400.72
Present value of the school property	\$800.00
Children of school are residing in district	80
Average number of months the schools have been kept open	11.5
Children enrolled in school register during the year	71
Seating capacity	60

The obvious fact of overcrowding in the Clover Hill district school was not uncommon in the late 1800's. The township's total seating capacity for all of the schools together was 670 with the total number of school age children residing within the districts equaling 941.

During the early part of the 1900's the village of Clover Hill reverted to a quiet cross-roads community whose primary industry was agriculture. This is how the village will be found today with the exception of a general decrease in the amount of farming being done.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE No. 3

Religion/Philosophy

A meeting of the inhabitants of Clover Hill and vicinity was held on April 13, 1833 at the home of John V. Hall for the purpose of taking the necessary preliminary measures for the construction of the building for a place of worship, either at or near the village. The meeting was called to order and Jacob Williamson was elected chairman and Anthony Case secretary.

It was moved that the church be erected on the south side of the road leading to New Brunswick, on the land of Jacob Nevieus; and that the dimensions of the building were to be forty-two by fifty feet.

The building committee was named and a subscription list drawn up. A total of \$3261.43 was pledged by ninety-eight subscribers, and during the following year the building was erected.

With the building ready for use, the decision was made (by a vote of 50 to 30) to be a Reformed Dutch church. The Classis of Philadelphia, having been informed of the wishes of the local residents to be organized as a church and a congregation met in Clover Hill on September 4, 1834 to officially organize the church, and on October 5, 1834 the Reformed Dutch Church of Clover Hill was formally dedicated.

After a year of searching unsuccessfully for a pastor the church had issued a call to Rev. Garret C. Schenck, who accepted and was installed as the first minister.

Minutes of the consistory meeting of April 4, 1840 indicate that a meeting was held to consider the destitute state of the church. At this meeting the decision was made to unite with the First Presbyterian Church of Amwell, and to become Presbyterian in organization form. The union took

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE No. 4

place on May 26 1840, the Rev. David Hull, who had been called to the Presbyterian church in 1837, acting as pastor for the combined congregations. The union lasted until 1862, when on October 23, the Rev. G.P. Van Wyck resigned due to poor health and Clover Hill Church decided to resume its former type of organization form.

On April 15, 1863, a petition was sent to the Classis of Philadelphia that the Clover Hill congregation wished to return to the Reformed Dutch church, and during the same month Mr. William B. Voohees was sent a call. Upon accepting he became the first pastor after the dissolution of the union between the two churches.

One of the major projects in the year 1866 for the congregation was the addition to the original parsonage. These improvements were made, among these the painting of the church, at a cost of \$80.

During a severe wind storm, on Wednesday, April 29, 1885, the steeple toppled over, and the church suffered extensive water damage, with repairs totaling \$1500. The present cupola was erected soon after.

For nearly seventy years the church remained unchanged, with the exception of new ministers. The major project, undertaken in 1953, was the construction of a new seven room parsonage and the sale of the old parsonage. In that year also occurred the transfer of the Clover Hill Church from the Classis of Philadelphia to the Classis of Raritan, and the changing of the church's name to Clover Hill Reformed Church instead of the Reformed Dutch Church of Clover Hill.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE No. 5

The outside of the church was painted in 1954, and in 1955 a study that the pastor might use was built on the eastern side of the building. In 1958, a new roof was put on the church.

Concise Statement of significance

It was in the village of Clover Hill that settlers, having come inland from New Brunswick, Perth Amboy and Millstone, established their homes, and farms and businesses. Clover Hill played an important role of commerce in the township, inasmuch as it was the first community encountered by travelers and merchants coming from Hunterdon County and going to either Millstone or New Brunswick. The Reformed Dutch Church has one of the oldest consistories in the township, dating from 1834.

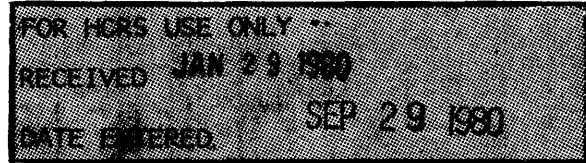
Restoration and Preservation Activities

There presently exists a very active Historic Commission that is playing a vigorous part in the decision making proceses that have any affect on the historic districts within the township. The Township of Hillsborough has had historic district zoning for several years and was recently revised. Many citizens that reside within the historic districts take great pride in the fact that this area of the region has the history that it does and so make a special effort to maintain their homes and barns.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

Clover Hill Historic District  
Hunterdon and Somerset Counties  
New Jersey



**CONTINUATION SHEET** Verbal Boundary ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE

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Beginning at the NE corner of Block 164, Lot 6, Hillsborough Township and Amwell Road proceed South along said lot to Lot 5. Continue South along said lot to the Southeast property corner, thence proceed West along the same property line to Lot 3, along the rear of Lot 3 to Lot 7A, along the South property line of Lot 7A to the Hunterdon/Somerset County boundary. Thence, proceed West across the road to the property line of Block 21, Lot 10 of East Amwell Township. Thence, proceed South along the property line to the Southeast corner of Lot 10. Thence, proceed West along said property to the Southwest corner and North to the Southwest corner of Block 21, Lot 6. Thence, proceed North to Amwell Road along the property line of Lot 6. Thence, proceed East along said road to the point where the road and the North-South property line of Block 77A, Lot 17 of Raritan Township would intersect if the property line were extended across the road. Thence, proceed North along the West property line of the said property its Northwest corner. Thence, proceed along the edge of the road to the Southeast corner of Block 77, Lot 16. Thence, proceed East into Somerset County to the Southwest corner of Block 4, Lot 8. Thence, proceed North to the Northwest corner of Lot 8. Thence, proceed East along the rear property lines of Lots 8, 7, 6. Thence, proceed North along the property line of Lot 4 forty feet. Thence, proceed East parallel to Amwell Road to Hockenbury Road. Thence, proceed South along said road to the southern edge of Amwell Road. Thence, proceed East along this road to point of beginning.

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

980

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Clover Hill Historic District  
Somerset and Hunterdon Counties  
New Jersey

The sense of the Clover Hill Historic District is very much in evidence at the present time.

While a number of the buildings have been modified with asbestos and aluminum siding, it is quite feasible to effectively restore most of these structures. The changes are not permanent and the massing and fenestration are essentially intact. Even with the alterations the district has a 19th century aura.

The boundaries are clearly defined by the extent of the small village itself. West and east of the district is a selection of modern ranch houses while the north and south boundaries are primarily agrarian (with several modern ranch houses) contrasting with the small village concept. The buildings within the municipal boundary of Hillsborough Township are within the locally zoned historic district.

T. Karschner  
9/1980

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Clover Hill Historic District  
Somerset and Hunterdon Counties  
New Jersey

There are twenty-one properties in the Clover Hill Historic District. Eighteen major structures are within the boundaries. (two are 18th century; four are second quarter 19th century; two are third quarter 19th century; one is late 19th or early 20th century; two are modern; and there are three empty lots).

Most of the buildings are in a good state of repair with minimal alterations. A few buildings, however, have been changed considerably over the years. These alterations include new chimneys, modern siding and storm windows and doors. In spite of these changes, the overall massing and fenestration has been preserved and with some effort these buildings could be nicely rehabilitated.

Over half of the buildings are within a locally zoned historic district ordinance in Hillsborough Township. The ordinance provides for review and certification of changes to these buildings.

T. Karschner  
6/1980



○ -- PHOTOGRAPH

— DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

RARITAN TOWNSHIP

HILLSBOROUGH TOWNSHIP

HUNTERDON COUNTY  
SOMERSET COUNTY

77A

4

22

18

17

16

HOCKENBURY ROAD

3

5

4

6

7

2

1

ANWELL ROAD

13

16

11

15

6 7 8A 8

9

2

3

4

5a

6

10

10

8

7a

5

Block 21

164

EAST ANWELL TOWNSHIP

CLOVER HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT

SCALE: 1" = 200'

WEAVERSVILLE - CLOVER HILL ROAD

