

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAR 28 1977
DATE ENTERED AUG 12 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

** Old Monroe School House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER State Route No. 94

approximately 900 ft north of Sparta border

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Hardyston Township

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

13

STATE

New Jersey

CODE

34

COUNTY

Sussex

CODE

037

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

___DISTRICT

X PUBLIC

___OCCUPIED

___AGRICULTURE

___MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

___PRIVATE

X UNOCCUPIED

___COMMERCIAL

___PARK

___STRUCTURE

___BOTH

X WORK IN PROGRESS

___EDUCATIONAL

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

___ENTERTAINMENT

___RELIGIOUS

___OBJECT

___IN PROCESS

X YES: RESTRICTED

___GOVERNMENT

___SCIENTIFIC

___BEING CONSIDERED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___INDUSTRIAL

___TRANSPORTATION

___NO

___MILITARY

X OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Hardyston Township

STREET & NUMBER

Municipal Building

CITY, TOWN

Stockholm

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hall of Records

STREET & NUMBER

Park Place

CITY, TOWN

Newton

STATE

New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (#1375.1)

DATE

Historic Sites Office, DEP ___FEDERAL X STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

P. O. Box 1420

CITY, TOWN

Trenton,

STATE

New Jersey

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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

The Old Monroe Schoolhouse is a simple one story rectangular random fieldstone building abutting (3 to 5 feet from the roadbed) State Highway Number 94, originally the Newton-Vernon Turnpike.

status
The only physical alterations to the exterior of the old stone school can be seen at the main entry-way, where the original doors have been removed and replaced with a long, heavy wooden lintel. Two large "garage type" doors, of wooden construction, were used to replace the original doors. The structure itself is nineteen (19) feet wide and twenty-six (26) feet long. There are two windows on both of the long sides of the building and two windows on the western end of the school. All six windows are 9/6, with wood pinned sashes. The walls of the structure are one and one half feet thick, and are of a random-coursed rubble type of construction. There are large quoins forming the building's corners. The roof is a simple gable with slate shingles. The flooring is random-medium width tongue-in-groove boards. *?*
A single chimney flue rises in the middle of the western end of the building. The late nineteenth century wainscotting (40 inches high) still remains with a narrow top rail forming a cap on top of the wainscotting. Vacant for years, the building is beginning to deteriorate.

The Old Monroe Schoolhouse is located in Hardyston Township in the Hamlet of Monroe, a village that has lost little of its rural character throughout the years. In the Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey (1834) the hamlet was described as follows: "Monroe, p-t [post-town] Hardiston t-ship, Sussex Co., at the cross-roads N.W. of Pimple Hill, 236 miles from W.C. [Washington City], 78 from Trenton, and 9 from Newton; contains a mill, stone and several dwellings. It is surrounded by soil of primitive limestone." The Gazetteer went on to describe Pimple Hill as "a noted eminence of Hardiston t-ship, Sussex co., near the eastern line of the t-ship".

In Monroe, today, there is a post office, two stores, an inn, a municipal building, the old stone school, and approximately twenty private residences.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1819

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Education.

The old Monroe Schoolhouse is the only stone one-room school in Sussex County. It is also the oldest extant schoolhouse in the county. The building was in use in the early 1800's making it more than 155 years old. Recorded in the diary of a Presbyterian minister, Reverend Edward Allen, is an entry that he "attended sabbath school at the Stone School House" on June 6th, 1819. Also shown in Reverend Allen's diary are visits to families in the Monroe area at the time, including an entry of visiting the "Hopkins family", the owners of the property on which the Stone School is located. These first residents of Monroe, the Kimbles, Hopkins, Tuttle, Strubles, and Kays are among the names associated with the beginning of Hardyston Township history as shown in Snell's 1881 History of Sussex and Warren Counties, A. A. Haines' Hardyston Memorial and the early newspapers of the nineteenth century in the greater Sussex County area.

That the residents of Monroe connected with the school should be among the first and most prominent names in Hardyston history is logical since, according to Snell, they settled and built along "the earliest road that traversed the township". This is the present State Route 94, the same road that the Gazetteer lists as one of the first toll roads in New Jersey, the Newton-Vernon turnpike, chartered on January 27th, 1814. Two other houses of the same type of stone construction as the school are located within a few miles of the school, and are dated in the Hardyston Historical Journal as being built in 1822. These two houses, as well as the school, are clearly marked on the 1860 Survey Map of Sussex County, New Jersey.

The early importance of Monroe is further indicated by the fact that it was a rail stop. The Historical Directory of Sussex County (1872) states: "The Midland Railroad, recently completed from New York passes through these three places [Franklin, Hamburg, Hardystonville] as also through Snufftown, a village on the east of the township. In the south-west corner, on a branch of the Wallkill, is a station of the Sussex Railroad called Monroe Corners".

That the old stone school continued in use through the years is verified by Snell's listing of Jennie Shaw as the teacher there in 1880. Later, as shown in the indenture, dated September 28, 1892, between Edward Coyle and his wife Catherine and the Trustees of the Monroe School District No. 63, the old stone school was conveyed to the Trustees for the sum of five dollars. The school continued in use until 1928, when a new school building was erected in Monroe.

There is no lack of evidence that the "Old Monroe Schoolhouse" not only played an important part in the early education of Sussex County leaders, but also in their religious and cultural activities.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Snell, James P.-History of Sussex and Warren Counties, N.J., Everts & Peck, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1881
- Haines, A.A.-Hardyston Memorial, New Jersey Herald Print, 1888
- Barber & Howe-Historical Collections of New Jersey, New Haven, Connecticut, 1868
- Edsall, Benjamin B.-Sussex County Sesqui-Centennial Address, Sept. 2, 1903
- Webb, A.-Historical Directory of Sussex County, N.J., 1872
- The First Sussex Centenary - Daily Advertiser, Newark, New Jersey, 1853

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6/100 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 530820 4551470
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies township lot 4 block 74 and is roughly 100' X 100' in size

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

'Terry Karschner , Historic Sites Section, DEP,
 Trenton 609-292-2023

Richard Kleiss, Chairman, Monroe School House Comm. & Wayne T. McCabe, Sr. Planner

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Hardyston Bicentennial Committee

July, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

RD 1, Box 132

STATE

CITY OR TOWN

New Jersey

Stockholm

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

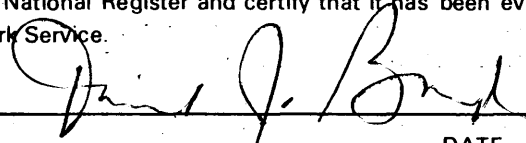
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL XI

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



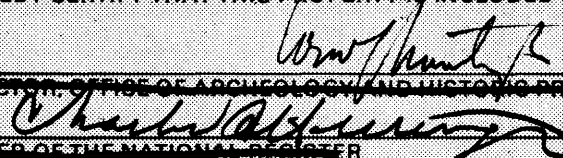
TITLE Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection

DATE

OCT 19 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST: 
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 8/12/77
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 8.11.77

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED	MAR 28 1977
DATE ENTERED	AUG 12 1977

Old Monroe Schoolhouse
Hardyston Township
Sussex County
New Jersey 034
CONTINUATION SHEET 1

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE

1860 Survey Map of Sussex County, N.J., G.M. Hopkins, Philadelphia, 1860
Gordon, Thomas, Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey, 1834 - Reprinted 1973 Polyanthos
Sussex County Democrat (Newspaper)
New Jersey Herald (Newspaper)