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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Sand Brook Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number County Route 523; Sand Brook-Headquarters and Britton Roads not for publication

city or town Delaware Township vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Hunterdon code 019 zip code 08822

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.

R. B. Boony Signature of certifying official/Title Ass + Commissioner Date 7/21/13

NJ DEP State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

[Signature]

7/17/13

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.)

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

ca. 1770 – 1902

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A.

Name of repository:

Sand Brook Historic District

Name of Property

Hunterdon County, NJ

County and State

5. Classification**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
16	8	buildings
2		sites
6	2	structures
		objects
24	10	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)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

DOMESTIC/ secondary structure

RELIGION/ church

FUNERARY/ cemetery

EDUCATION/school

COMMERCE/TRADE/ department store

AGRICULTURE/Storage

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

DOMESTIC/ secondary structure

FUNERARY / cemetery

SOCIAL/ club house

7. Description**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/ I-House

MID-19th CENTURY/ Greek Revival

LATE VICTORIAN/ Gothic Revival

LATE VICTORIAN/ Queen Anne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls STONE

WOOD

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

Sand Brook Historic District

Name of Property

Hunterdon, NJ

County and State

10. Geographical Data**Acreage of property** Approximately 27 acres**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	506911	447993	3	18	507178	447951
	<i>Zone</i>	<i>Easting</i>	<i>Northing</i>		<i>Zone</i>	<i>Easting</i>	<i>Northing</i>
2	18	507137	447974	4	18	506957	447964

 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 Dennis Bertland & Janice Armstrong

organization Dennis Bertland Associates date June 2012

street & number P.O. Box 315 telephone 609-397-3380

city or town Stockton state NJ zip code 08559

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.**Additional items**

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

Property Owner

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

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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

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

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Sand Brook Historic District encompasses a small, mostly 19th century hamlet located on the northwestern edge of the rolling Amwell Valley, which developed around a water power site on a minor stream, the Third Neshanic River (formerly called Sand Brook), and the intersection of two early roads, County Route 523 and the Sand Brook-Headquarters Road. The settlement occupies a ravine cut by the creek in the valley uplands along the southeastern edge of Hunterdon County's central plateau just downstream from the creek's source. Extending southward along a short stretch of the Sand Brook-Headquarters Road from its intersection with Route 523 to just beyond the Britton Road fork, the district includes two dozen buildings along with two bridges, road network, stone retaining walls along the creek and small cemetery. The district encompasses the core of the hamlet between Route 523 and Britton Road, but excludes the former mill site as well as adjoining farmland and modern residential development. District roads follow their original alignments as established in the 18th century.¹ In general, buildings occupy small lots and have fairly short set backs from the road; around the perimeter lots are larger and setbacks are more varied, the development pattern established during the 19th century.² While the creek hollow is more wooded than it was in the 19th century, the surrounding landscape remains more open and agricultural in nature with a mix of farms and modern low density residential development.³ With these exceptions, the district retains much of its historical character, as established by topography, road patterns and building distribution.

Contributing resources in the district consist of sixteen buildings, most of which are 19th dwellings and outbuildings, but also include several former commercial and institutional buildings (church, schoolhouse, general store and shop), which have been converted to new compatible uses. Other contributing resources include two sites (a cemetery and barn ruins), six structures (two roads, two sections of stone retaining walls along the creek, a bridge and a cast iron fence). Non-contributing resources include eight buildings (modern garages, outbuildings, and several modern dwellings) and two structures, a bridge and a fence.

Roads in the district follow their original routes, established in the 18th century, which provided external connections north to the county seat five miles away in Flemington, east to Ringoes from where roads led east and south to the more distant market town of New Brunswick and south and west to the Delaware River at Stockton, only three miles away, where agricultural products could be

¹ Hubert Schmidt, *Rural Hunterdon*, page 162; Hunterdon County Roads, Book 1, page 65.

² Beers, Atlas of Hunterdon, page 65; Pugh & Downing, Civil Engineers, Map of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, 1902.

³ George H. Cook, State Geologist, and C. C. Vermeule, Topographer, "A Topographical Map of the Vicinity of Flemington, Atlas Sheet No. 5," *Geological Survey of New Jersey*, State of New Jersey, 1888.

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shipped down river to Trenton and Philadelphia.⁴ Now paved with asphalt, County Route 523 (Sergeantsville Road) features one travel lane in each direction with painted center and side lines and narrow shoulders. Sand Brook-Headquarters and Britton Roads are narrow, paved, one-lane roads without any line markings. The minimal signage in the district consists of standard road identification and traffic control signs.

The Sand Brook follows its original course throughout the district, and for much of its length between County Route 523 and the Britton/Sand Brook-Headquarters Road intersection, its banks are lined by dry-laid, coursed-rubble-stone, retaining walls, which for the most part probably date to the 19th century.

Sand Brook's buildings are of frame or stone construction, generally simply detailed and range from the early 1800s to the early 1900s in date. The traditional two-story, single-pile, gable-roofed house with interior gable-end chimney and one or two-room plans—termed the I-type by cultural geographers—predominates in the district, comprising five of its nine dwellings (inventory #s 1, 4, 5, 11 and 14; photo #s 4, 8 and 9) and wings of one other (inventory #3 and 6; photo #6). Examples with 2-over-3-bay facades include inventory #s 4 and 14; examples with 3 or 4-bay facades, inventory #s 1, 3 (rear wing), 5 and 9. The main block of inventory #3 may represent a late side-hall-plan variant of the type (photo #6). Sand Brook's traditional houses were enlarged in several ways, typically through linear expansion or the addition of shed appendage or rear additions (inventory #s 1, 4, 9 and 14; photo #s 4, 9 and 10). The district contains one example of a popular house type, the L-shaped house type, common in the region's town during the Victorian era, but less so in rural neighborhoods (inventory # 15, photo #3). Two district houses are of rubble or coursed-rubble construction (inventory #s 1 and 4; photo #s 4 and 9), both of which appear originally to have been stucco clad. Sand Brook's dwellings exhibit little evidence of stylistic embellishment with the exception of two late 19th century houses, inventory #s 3 (main block) and #15 which have porches and other features reflecting Gothic Revival and Queen Anne style influences (photos #s 3 and 6). A few mid/late 20th-century houses are present (inventory #s 10 and 11), and might incorporate portions of earlier buildings.

A number of district houses have modest outbuilding including small barns, wagon houses and privies (inventory #s 3, 4, 5 and 9), and the foundation of a bank barn with perpendicular ell is found at inventory #1.

The Sand Brook district includes several commercial and institutional resources including a former church, schoolhouse and general store/dwelling. Erected ca. 1850, the German Baptist church

⁴ Schmidt, pp. 162, 174 & 178 -181.

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(inventory #2, photo #5) is a modest, well-preserved example of the gable-fronted church type and of traditional stone construction. Its stucco-clad rubble-stone walls exhibit the distinctive flare at the roof eaves, and the stucco has been incised to resemble ashlar stone. The south gable end has paired entries, whose two-vertical-panel doors reveal influences of the Greek Revival style. The side walls each have three large 2/2 sash windows. The panel doors and ashlar scoring provide the austere building with almost its only decorative features. The ca. 1873 frame schoolhouse (inventory #12, photos #11 and 12) exemplifies the gable-fronted one-room schoolhouses that one proliferated through the regional school. The frame building has a central gable-end entry flanked by large 6/6 sash windows and three windows on each side wall. Built shortly after fire destroyed its predecessor around 1900, the Sand Brook Store (inventory #8, photo #7) is a good example of the combination general store/residences occasionally erected by village merchants in the 19th century. The frame, asymmetrically massed, T-shaped building consists of a gable-fronted main block, which housed the store, with cross-gabled ells on both sides that provided residential quarters. The decorative embellishment of the gable peaks and porch reveals Queen Anne style influences. A small, frame, one-room shop (inventory #13, photo #s 3 & 13) evidently dates to the third quarter of the 19th century; it probably served as an artisan shop originally and was used for a short period in the early 1900s as a store and post office.⁵

In the following inventory, each principal structure and site is identified by a number that locates it on the accompanying district map. All primary entries are categorized as either "contributing" or "non-contributing" to the significance of the district. All outbuildings included in the inventory are identified as either contributing or non-contributing with the designation (C) or (NC). Sources used for dating purposes include Samuel Cornell's *Map of Hunterdon County* (1851); S.N. Beer's *Map of Philadelphia and Vicinity*, (1860); F. W. Beer's *Atlas of Hunterdon County* (1873); and Pugh and Down's *Map of Hunterdon County, New Jersey*, (1902). References are included where appropriate to earlier surveys: Hunterdon County's survey (denoted by "HCS) and the Delaware Township Historic Sites survey (denoted by "DTS"). The physical description of resources, for the most, has been limited to what can be seen from the public right-of-way. Where known, sash window material is noted.

⁵ Edgar T. Bush, "Sand Brook Too Has Changed With Time," *Hunterdon County Democrat*, October 15, 1931

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Hiram Moore and wife on April 2, 1851 [Snell, p. 381; Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 102, page 113; Cornell, *Map of Hunterdon County*, 1851]. In 1898, the Amwell and Sand Brook churches united, and for some years thereafter, Sunday morning and evening services were held in the two churches respectively. A regional history published in 1927 suggests that the Sand Brook church was still in use at that time [A. Van Doren Honeyman (ed.), *Northwestern New Jersey: A History of Somerset, Morris, Hunterdon, Warren, and Sussex Counties*, II, page 881]. At a date unknown, the Sand Brook church was closed and since the 1960s, the Sand Brook Historical Association has had principal responsibility for stewardship of the building, which is used as a community center for weddings, funerals and other events and meetings [SandBrook "Mooreite" German Baptist Church, www.sandbrook.org]. The cemetery remains in active use.

Additional description: Exterior features include boxed overhanging eaves, scoring of stucco to imitate a regular ashlar pattern, a kick or flare along both side walls below the eaves, a small central brick chimney stack, very large 2/2 sash windows with timber lintels and plain trim and paired gable-end entries with vertical two panel doors, bead-edged surrounds, board lined recesses and timber lintels. The one room interior features plaster walls, plank flooring, wooden pews, and a dais at the rear end.

Outbuildings: A stone-walled **cemetery** is located to the rear of the church (19th century) (C) and contains a variety of 19th & 20th century grave markers. The wall features iron rings preumably used to tether horses.

Contributing

B26 /L29

Photo #5

3

110 Sand Brook Headquarters Road. [HCS SB-6] [DTS SB: 4]. Frame, 2-story, gable-roofed **dwelling** consisting of a 2-bay, single-pile, side-hall plan main block with interior gable-end chimney (brick stack) and a large 5-bay rear ell (which may predate the main block) with lean-to appendage.

Style: Queen Anne embellishment

Date/History: ca. 1870; remodeled and perhaps enlarged late 19th century. The rear ell may have been the original portion of the house and the main block a later 19th century addition. The house does not appear on the 1860 map, but is depicted in the 1873 atlas, where its owner is identified as "J. P. Moore." Moore purchased the property on which this house stands from Hiram and Amanda Moore in 1869 [Hunterdon County Deeds,

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book 142, page 174]. John P. Moore (1811-1889) was the founding elder of the Sand Brook Baptist church and served as its pastor until his death [Snell, page 381; SandBrook "Mooreite" German Baptist Church, www.SandBrook.org]. According to local historians, Moore was apprenticed as a blacksmith, and operated the store and post office there after his marriage to Anna Pierson upon moving to Sand Brook [SandBrook Mill & SandBrook Blacksmith, www.SandBrook.org].

Additional description: Exterior features include vinyl siding, boxed overhanging eaves with frieze, double 1/1 sash windows on the front, 2/2 sash windows elsewhere, louvered shutters, main entry with double glass and panel doors, L-shaped porch with box cornice, turned posts and spandrel brackets, bay window with 2/2 sash windows above paneled spandrels, and a south side entry to the rear ell.

Outbuildings: (1) A stone wall/iron fence borders the front yard (19th/early 20th century) (C); (2) frame, 1 1/2- story, 3-bay, gable-roofed wagon house with side wall entries and rear lean-to (19th and 20th centuries) (C).

Contributing

B26 /L28

Photo #6

4

100 Sand Brook Headquarters Road [HCS SB-9] [DTS SB: 16]. Stone, 2 over 3-bay dwelling with single-pile plan and internal west gable end chimney (brick stack) and a 2 over 3 bay, stuccoed, east gable extension with salt-box.

Style: Colonial Revival embellishment

Date: ca. 1830 – 1850, possibly earlier.

Additional description: Exterior features include a rebuilt box cornice with denticulated frieze, mostly 6/6 sash windows and a central, round-arched entry with brick surround and panel door. The masonry evidently was stuccoed originally.

Outbuildings: Frame, 1-story, gable-roofed wagon house with stone bank cellar 1-story, overhanging eaves, vertical siding, batten doors and a gable-end appendage (19th and 20th centuries) (C).

Contributing

B27 /L28

Photo #9

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- 5 **104 Sand Brook Headquarters Road.** [HCS SB-10] [DTS SB: 2]. Frame, 2-story, 3-bay dwelling with an interior gable-end chimney and a rear, 2-story appendage.

Style: None

Date: ca. 1860 - 1873

Additional description: Exterior features include clapboard siding, overhanging eaves, 6/6 sash windows and a central entry with panel door; the porch has been removed.

Outbuildings: (1) Frame, 1-story, gable-roofed shed (19th century) (C); (2) frame, gable-roofed privy (19th/ early 20th century) (C); (3) Stone retaining walls along creek bank (19th century) (C).

Contributing

B27 /L29

Photo #8

- 6 **Hunterdon County Bridge D-370, Sand Brook- Headquarters Road Bridge over Third Neshanic River.** [DTS SB: 3] Small concrete deck bridge with a 14' span on tall stone abutments with a 30' long, 10 high diversion wall incorporating a drainage pipe. It has splayed and tapering coursed rubble wing walls with large flat capstones, most of which are original.

Style: None

Date: concrete deck, 20th century; stone abutments, 19th century.

Contributing

Photo # 15

- 7 **Sand Brook-Headquarters Road.** One-lane Sand Brook-Headquarters Road appears to follow its original alignment and is paved with asphalt. There are no shoulders or sidewalks and signage is minimal. The segment included in the district extends from Route 523 southward to the southern district boundary.

Style: None

Date: surveyed in 1770 (Hunterdon County Road Returns, Book 1, p. 6); pavement, 20th century.

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Contributing Photo #s 1 & 2

- 8 **106 Sand Brook Headquarters Road.** [HCS SB-11]. [DTS B SB: 1]. **Sand Brook Store.** Frame, 2-story, asymmetrical T-shaped **dwelling/store** consisting of a 1 over 3-bay gable-fronted main block (which houses the commercial section) with a shallow, 1 bay cross gabled projection on its east side at the rear and a 4 bay, single pile ell on its west side at the rear; interior chimneys with stuccoed brick stacks.

Style: Queen Anne influences

Date: ca. 1902, According to a local historian writing in 1931, the combination store and dwelling as erected by Samuel F. Fauss, shortly after its predecessor was destroyed by fire about 1900 [Edgar T. Bush, "Sand Brook Too Has Changed With Time," *Hunterdon County Democrat*, October 15, 1931]. Fauss purchased the property from C.W. Moore, and the building destroyed by fire probably was the "C. W. Moore Store" depicted in the 1873 atlas. The 1851 county map depicts the "J. Servis Store" a little to the south (near the site of inventory #5), and according to the 1931 Bush article, the Servis store was later used as a general work shop by subsequent owner Thomas Dalrymple and was destroyed by fire in 1931.

Additional description: Exterior features include clapboard siding, overhanging eaves with jig-saw cut embellishment at the gable peaks, 1/1 sash windows with cornices and louvered shutters, a central main block entry with double glass and paneled doors, a shed-roofed porch with turned posts, and west ell entry and shed-roofed porch with turned posts.

Contributing

B27 /L30

Photo #7

- 9 **109 Sand Brook Headquarters Road.** [DTS SB: 5]. Frame, 6-bay, 2-story, gable-roofed **dwelling** (probably a 3 or 4-bay I-type with extension) with an interior gable-end chimney, and a frame, 1 ½-story lean-to on its south gable end.

Style: None

Date: mid 19th century

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Additional description: Exterior features include clapboard siding, boxed overhanging eaves, 2/2 sash windows with louvered shutters, and a gabled, 2-bay entry vestibule (enclosed porch).

Outbuildings: [HCS SB-4]. [DTS SB:1a] (1) Frame, 1 ½- story wagonhouse/store house (now converted into a studio) with siding, 6 light windows, sliding batten-doored east gable end entries on both stories and a pent roof across the south side (19th century) (C); (2) Small frame shed with gable roof (20th century) (NC). It originally may have been appurtenant to the Fauss house and store across the road.

Contributing

B25 /L4 & 59

Photo #9

- 10** **115 Sand Brook Headquarters Road.** [DTS S: 6] Frame, 2-story, gable-roof dwelling with gable-end principal façade and a shed-roofed appendage that gives it a salt box profile. It may incorporate an earlier structure.

Style: None

Date: ca. 1950/60s

Additional description: Exterior features include clapboard siding and sash windows.

Outbuildings: Stone retaining walls along creek bank and extending northwards across block 25, lots 56, 1 and 2 (19th century) (C).

Non-contributing

B25 /L3 (retaining walls also lots 56, 1 & 2)

- 11** **117 Sand Brook Headquarters Road.** [DB SB: 7]. Stone and frame, 2- story, 2 over 3 bay dwelling with a south gable end chimney, a frame, 2 bay south gable end extension and a modern north gable end appendage.

Style: None

Date: mid 20th century

Additional description: Exterior features include overhanging eaves, 6/5 and 2/2 sash windows and a shed-roofed front porch.

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Outbuildings: None

Non-contributing B25/56

- 12 **117 Sand Brook Headquarters Road. Sand Brook School.** (District # 93). [HCS SB 2]. [DTS SB: 8]. Frame, 1-story, 3-bay, gable-front, schoolhouse with a 3-bay east gable end principal facade, 3-bay sides and a rear gable end chimney (brick stack).

Style: none

Date/history: ca. 1873. According to local historians, the present building was erected in 1873 to replace its 1831 predecessor [Delaware Township Historic Sites Survey, page IV-18]. This is slightly at variance with the 1881 county history, which states: "the first school house was probably erected about 1790. In 1831 a new one was constructed on its site, of stone 20 by 30 feet. This was repaired in 1871" [Snell, *History of Hunterdon County*, page 377]. Snell apparently took his information from the manuscript 1871 history of Hunterdon County schools which reported that "the first schoolhouse probably was built in 1790 and was rebuilt or rather a new house was erected on the same site in the year 1831. In 1871 the house was repaired. The size of the present house is 20 feet by 23. The building is comfortable but its seating accommodations are below medium" [Conklin, "History of Hunterdon County Schools," pp. 134-35]. This account does not state that the 1831 building was of stone construction.

Additional description: Exterior features include fieldstone foundation, metal roof, clapboard siding, boxed eaves, large 6/6 sash windows with plain trim, a 4/2 sash attic window, and a central entry with double glass and panel doors.

Outbuildings: None

Contributing B25 /L2 Photo #11

- 13 **Sand Brook Headquarters Road (Street address not assigned). Moore Shop.** [HCS SB-5]. [DTS SB: 10]. Frame, 1 and ½ -story, gable-roofed shop with a 2 bay south gable end front and 2 bay sides.

Style: none

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Date/History: ca. 1850-1873. According to local historian Edgar Bush, the building was occupied by Charles W. Moors as a store and post office between 1900 when fire destroyed his nearby store (inventory #8) around 1900 and a replacement was built a few years later [Edgar T. Bush, "Sand Brook Too Has Changed With Time," *Hunterdon County Democrat*, October 15, 1931].

Additional description: Exterior features include rough hewn wood clapboard siding, overhanging eaves, metal roof, 6/6, 6/5 and 1/1 sash windows and a batten domed entry.

Outbuildings: None

Contributing

B25/L1

Photo #s 3 & 13

14 **453 Sergeantsville Road (County Route 523).** [DTS SB: 15]. Frame, 2-story, gable-roofed **dwelling** consisting a single-pile main block built in two sections (2-over-3-bay unit and 1-bay north extension) with internal chimney (brick stack) and two rear appendages.

Style: Colonial Revival embellishment

Date: ca. 1873 -1900

Additional description: Exterior features include clapboard siding, rebuilt box cornice, 6/6 sash windows with shutters, inner-bay front entry with glass-and-panel door, front porch with box cornice and turned posts; a semi-hexagonal oriel window has been added on the south side.

Outbuildings: (1) Large frame **shed** with wood clapboard and flat-seam metal roof (mid 20th century) (NC); (2) small frame **shed** with vertical board siding, double leaf wood plank door on strap hinges and a flat-seam metal roof (mid 20th century) (NC); (3) small frame **shed** with wood clapboard and flat-seam metal roof (mid 20th century) (NC).

Contributing

B25 /L58

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-
- 15** **448 Sergeantsville Road (County Route 523).** [HCS SB-1]. [DTS SB: 12] Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, L-shaped **dwelling** with an interior west gable-end chimney (brick stack) and a rear ell.
- Style:** Gothic Revival/Queen Anne influences
- Date:** ca. 1873-1900
- Additional description:** Exterior features include vinyl siding, boxed overhanging eaves, raked front gable window, raked-head gable window, 4/4 and 1/1 sash windows with shutters, glass/panel front door and front porch with turned posts and spandrel brackets.
- Outbuildings:** Frame, 1-story, gable-front **garage** (20th century) (NC).
- Contributing B17 /L16 Photo #3
- 16** **Hunterdon County Bridge D-345, County Route 523 over Third Neshanic River.** Poured concrete abutments and a steel road deck.
- Style:** None
- Date:** 2009
- Non-contributing
- 17** **Britton Road.** One-lane Britton Road appears to follow its original alignment and is paved with asphalt. There are no shoulders or sidewalks and signage is minimal. The segment included in the district extends from Sand Brook-Headquarters Road east to the eastern boundary of the district.
- Style:** None
- Date:** extant by 1770 (Hunterdon County Road Returns, Book 1, p. 6); pavement 20th century.
- Contributing

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NARRATIVE SIGNIFICANCE

Summary Paragraph

The Sand Brook Historic District possesses significance under Criteria A and C in the areas of community development and architecture with a period of significance of ca. 1770 to 1902. The hamlet, exemplifies the smallest of the agglomerate settlements that developed in the region during the 18th and 19th centuries around such focal points as a mill, church, crossroads store or tavern to serve the dispersed agricultural community, but declined as they were bypassed by transportation innovations that channeled economic activity elsewhere and thwarted their further growth. The district's architectural significance derives from its church and schoolhouse, which are among the best preserved local examples of the gable-fronted plan type widely adopted for institutional buildings throughout the region during the 19th century. The stone church also is notable for its stucco-cladding scored to resemble ashlar stone, a rare surviving example of a distinctive but little documented masonry finish treatment occasionally employed throughout the region during the first half of the 19th century. The period of significance begins ca. 1770, the date which for which documentation exists for the community's earliest extant resources, its road network, as well as for Samuel Kitchen's mill, the community's original focal point (no longer extant and located just east of the district). The period of significance ends ca. 1902, the year in which its last major building was erected, the replacement for C. W. Moore's store destroyed by fire around 1900. Notwithstanding the presence of minor modern infill development as well as the loss of some early fabric to modern alterations, the Sand Brook Historic District retains its essential integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. In addition, although Criterion D significance is not claimed, archaeological resources relating to the area's 18th- and 19th-century material culture also may be present in the environs of district buildings and sites.

Community Development Significance

Sand Brook is representative of the small agglomerate settlements that arose throughout New Jersey during the 18th and 19th centuries to serve its dispersed agricultural population. German physician Johan David Schoepf observed the distinctive community type when passing through Maidenhead (Lawrenceville) on his American travels in 1783:

There are in America a number of such places called towns, where one must look for the houses, either not built or scattered a good distance apart, that is, to say, certain districts are set off as Townships (market or town districts), the residents of which live apart on their farms, a particu-

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lar spot being called the town where the church and tavern stand and the smiths have their shops –because in one or the other of these community buildings the neighbors are accustomed to meet. And when later professional men, shop-keepers, and other people who are not farmers come to settle, their dwellings group themselves about the church and the shops.¹

As a recent historical geography of nearby Hopewell Township has noted “the seeds for growth [of these settlements typically] were supplied by geography and transportation features combining with a commercial, industrial, or communal entity.”² When favored by location at the intersection of two well-travelled roads or at an important river crossing, or later along the routes of turnpike, canal or railroad, one settlement might develop into a village of some size, or even a town, while another lacking those benefits remained a small hamlet. The heyday of village life throughout the region occurred during the second half of the 19th century; the early 20th-century witnessed its decline as economic activity and residential development increasingly concentrated in urbanizing centers with the benefit of transportation connections and improvements.³

By the middle of the 19th-century Delaware Township, which then included the Borough of Stockton, contained about one dozen small agglomerate settlements, eight of which had 18th-century antecedents, whose locations reflect regional settlement patterns (water power sites, crossroads, and proximity to river crossing, canal and/or railroad). A ferry across the Delaware River established in the early 1700s at the original New Jersey terminus of the Old York Road (present-day Stockton) and an adjoining tavern appear to have been the first focal points of community development in the area, although little growth occurred there until much later.⁴ Water-powered mills erected at four locations (Prallsville, before 1733; Headquarters, ca. 1735; Sergeant’s Mills, ca. 1754; and Sand Brook, by 1770) were the original loci for those settlements, as were crossroads taverns for two others (Rosemont, ca. 1740; and Segeantsville, 1794) and a church for another (Locktown, ca. 1750).⁵ By the early 1800s Prallsville, Headquarters and Sergeantsville had become substantial hamlets with tavern, store and artisan shops, in addition to mills at the first two, and the construction of the Center Bridge across the Delaware River in 1814 and the Delaware and Raritan Canal along the river in 1832-34 resulted in

¹ Johan David Schoepf, *Travels in the Confederation; 1783-84*, II, page 46.

² Richard W. Hunter and Richard L. Porter, *Hopewell: A Historical Geography*, page 85.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Hubert Schmidt, *Rural Hunterdon*, page 162; What It Takes to Raise a Village –Part One, Goodspeed Histories, <http://goodspeedhistories.com/delaware-township/what-it-takes-to-raise-a-village-part-one/>, February 13, 2012.

⁵ Headquarters Historic District National Register nomination, pp. 8-1 & 8-4; Cover Bridge Historic District National Register nomination, pp. 8-1 & 8-3; Hunterdon County Roads, Book 1, page 65; Rosemont Rural Agricultural District National Register nomination, pp. 8-5; Sergeantsville Historic District National Register nomination, pp. 8-1; James. P. Snell, ed., *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties*, page 378.

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modest commercial development at Stockton, as well as the emergence of a new settlement at Saxtonville (Raven Rock).⁶ Upon the creation of Delaware Township in 1838, Sergeantsville's central location made it the favored place for public business, providing a stimulus for commercial activity there.⁷ The 1851 county map identifies eight hamlets by name (Croton, Locktown, Sergeantsville, Headquarters, Rosemont, Saxtonville, Prallsville and Brookville), and the unnamed hamlets at Sand Brook and Sergeant's Mill are clearly evident.⁸ Two railroads passed through the township in the 1850s (Belvidere – Delaware and Flemington Railroads), and the 1860 county map documents increased development along the Belvidere – Delaware Railroad at Brookville, Stockton and Raven Rock, and names two other hamlets, Sand Brook and Oak Dale, the latter a station on the Flemington Railroad.⁹ No township farm was more than two or three miles from any of these places. By 1873, as depicted by the county atlas of that year, Stockton had emerged as the largest community in Delaware Township, with over sixty buildings including a spoke factory, hotel, school, two churches and several stores, followed by Sergeantsville with about half that number and Brookville and Raven Rock with between one and two dozen buildings. The other villages all had about a dozen buildings or less.¹⁰ Stockton continued to grow throughout the late 19th century and in 1898 incorporated as a borough encompassing the mill hamlets of Brookville and Prallsville. During the first half of the 20th century Stockton, and to a much lesser extent Sergeantsville, remained the economic centers for Delaware Township. The other township villages, including Sand Brook, stagnated or declined throughout the period.¹¹

The location and development of Sand Brook reflect patterns common to 18th and 19th century Delaware Township, as well as the larger region. The community arose at a water power site on a small branch of the Neshanic River (Sand Brook) just off the main road leading from Flemington, which became the seat of Hunterdon County in 1791, to the important Delaware River crossing at Howell's Ferry (present-day Stockton).¹² This proximity of road access and water power is undoubtedly the key factor explaining the community's location and origins. A grist mill on the Sand Brook extant by 1770 and a nearby school house purportedly built about 1790, provided the neighborhood with its original focal points, followed by a church and store in the middle of the 19th

⁶ John W. Barber and Henry Howe, *Historical Collections of the State of New Jersey*, p. 246; Snell, pp. 375-377.

⁷ Sergeantsville Historic District National Register nomination, pp. 8-12.

⁸ Samuel C. Cornell, *Map of Hunterdon County*, 1851.

⁹ S.N. Beers, *Map of Philadelphia and Trenton Vicinity*, 1860.

¹⁰ F.W. Beers, *Atlas of Hunterdon County, New Jersey*, page 65; Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 143, page 68.

¹¹ Iris H. Naylor, *Stockton, New Jersey 300 Years of History*, p. 38; *Farm and Business Directory of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey With a Complete Road Map of Both Counties*, page 74.

¹² Schmidt, page 162; James. P. Snell, ed., *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties*, page 201.

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century.¹³ A road laid out in 1770, the present-day Sand Brook – Headquarters Road, increased the locality's access to the Amwell Valley farmlands, and provided as well a link to another early mill hamlet and an important early east/west road.¹⁴ The 1851 county map depicts the newly built German Baptist Church and the "J. Servis store," along with the mill, schoolhouse and several dwellings, documenting the small community's emergence as a local service center.¹⁵ That these buildings clustered to the west of the mill around the intersection of the two roads instead speaks to the importance of road access to the development of such communities. Although the 1851 map identifies the creek as the Sand Brook and leaves the hamlet unnamed, Sand Brook was in common usage as the name of the community by that time, recognized as such by its selection for the post office established there in 1858.¹⁶ While the 1860 map reveals little change since 1851, a spurt of growth occurred in the next decade, and by 1873 the hamlet had reached its zenith of development, acquiring wheelwright and blacksmith shops and several new dwellings.¹⁷ Comparison of the 1873 county atlas and 1902 county map reveals that number and distribution of buildings in and around the village remained almost unchanged, documenting the lack of growth in the intervening years.¹⁸ The 1888 state geological survey documents the forest lands around Sand Brook were limited to a few scattered wood lots; the remaining lands were open and presumably in agricultural use.¹⁹

Aside from the construction of a replacement store about 1902, no discernible growth occurred until the second half of the 20th century, when a number of dwellings were constructed in and around the community.²⁰ Like many other regional villages and hamlets that were bypassed during the 19th-century canal and railroad building booms when business activity in western Hunterdon County gravitated to the Delaware River towns with those transportation connections, Sand Brook had become an isolated backwater by the early 20th century. The Sand Brook mill ceased operating in the early 1900s, probably before 1914, and while the church functioned until the mid 1920s it also eventually closed, as did the store, the school (1940s) and post office (1959), leaving the hamlet an entirely

¹³ Hunterdon County Roads, Book 1, page 65; Conkling, Cornelius S. "History of Schools in Hunterdon County, N. Jersey," pp. 134-35; Snell, page 377; Cornell, *Map of Hunterdon County*, 1851.

¹⁴ Hunterdon County Roads, Book 1, page 65. The east/west road is present-day County Rote 604, which provides connections to the Old York Road, Hunterdon County's import important early road, at Ringoes and to the Delaware River at Raven Rock.

¹⁵ Cornell, *Map of Hunterdon County*, 1851.

¹⁶ Kay and Smith, *New Jersey Postal History*, p. 78.

¹⁷ S.N. Beers, *Map of Philadelphia and Trenton Vicinity*, 1860; F.W. Beers, *Atlas of Hunterdon County, New Jersey*, page 65; Snell, page 377.

¹⁸ Beers, *Atlas of Hunterdon*, page 65; Pugh & Downing, Civil Engineers, *Map of Hunterdon County, New Jersey*, 1902.

¹⁹ George H. Cook, State Geologist, and C. C. Vermeule, Topographer, "A Topographical Map of the Vicinity of Flemington, Atlas Sheet No. 5," *Geological Survey of New Jersey*, State of New Jersey, 1888.

²⁰ Bush, "Sand Brook Too Has Changed With Time," *Hunterdon County Democrat*, October 15, 1931.

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residential community.²¹ Since the early 20th century, the landscape in and around the village has become more wooded, although considerable open agricultural land remains, especially in its environs. Despite the loss of these institutions and enterprises, the district's intact road network, stream-bank retaining walls, surviving buildings and landscape setting give the district its distinctive historic character and preserve a record of the settlement and subsequent development of one of Delaware Township's representative agglomerate settlements.

Architectural Significance

Although Sand Brook retains an assemblage of buildings that are representative of Delaware Township's 19th-century domestic architecture, two buildings give the district architectural significance, its church and schoolhouse.²² The church and schoolhouse are among the best-preserved local examples of a distinctive institutional building type widely distributed throughout New Jersey, which is characterized by a simple rectangular gable-roofed form, gable-fronted principal façade with one or two entries, symmetrical fenestration pattern and, occasionally, a belfry crowning the front gable. The roots of the type undoubtedly lie in the classically inspired designs of English architects Christopher Wren and James Gibbs that were influencing the church architecture of English America by the middle of the 18th century.²³ The type began to be adopted for churches and other public buildings throughout northwestern New Jersey in the late 1700s, supplanting the earlier meetinghouse type (which, instead, has its entrance on one of the long walls paralleling the roof ridge), and remained popular well into the third quarter of the 19th century.²⁴ The earliest documented example of a gable-fronted church in Hunterdon County is the Presbyterian church erected in Flemington in 1793/94.²⁵ As described by local historians and depicted in a vignette on an 1850 map, the pointed-stone, two-story building featured

²¹ *Farm and Business Directory of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey With a Complete Road Map of Both Counties*, page 74; Bush, "Sand Brook Too Has Changed With Time," *Hunterdon County Democrat*, October 15, 1931; Delaware Township Historic Sites Survey, page IV-18; SandBrook "Mooreite" German Baptist Church, www.sandbrook.org; A. Van Doren Honeyman (ed.), *Northwestern New Jersey: A History of Somerset, Morris, Hunterdon, Warren, and Sussex Counties*, II, page 881; Kay and Smith, *New Jersey Postal History*, p. 78.

²² Buildings of 19th-century date comprise the majority of the district's resources, and their form, construction, detailing, and siting, district buildings are representative of the rural region's 19th century vernacular architecture, its roots in traditional building practices, as well as the impact of formal stylistic influences. Examples of the traditional "I-type" constitutes most of the district's housing stock, and examples of the region's traditional stone construction are present, including such distinctive features as stucco scored to resemble ashlar stone (inventory #2, photo #5). Only a few dwellings exhibit any decorative embellishment, two dwellings of late 19th-century date (inventory #s 3 and 15, photo #s 3 and 6), as does the ca. 1902 store/dwelling (inventory #8, photo #7).

²³ William H. Pierson, Jr., *American Buildings and Their Architects, The Colonial and Neo-classical Styles*, I, pp.131-146.

²⁴ John E. Bolt, Architects, Zion Lutheran Church Historic Preservation Plan, pp. 3-5 & 3-6.

²⁵ Snell, page 310.

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symmetrical front and side elevations, paired gable-end entries and simple Georgian style detailing (pedimented entries and gable, as well as a gable oculus).¹ While a few other examples were built in Hunterdon County during the early 19th century (Lambertville Presbyterian, 1817, United First Church of Amwell, 1818, and Locktown Baptist Church, 1819), the type proliferated after 1830. Over the course of the next four decades, several dozen gable-fronted churches were erected around the county, and a few older meeting houses were remodeled to conform to the type.²

Of Delaware Township's nine extant 19th-century churches, eight are of the gable-fronted type. The earliest and most architecturally distinguished is the Locktown Baptist Church (listed on the NJ and National Registers), which has the Flemington Presbyterian Church's two tiers of windows and paired pedimented entries, but lacks the gable pediment and oculus and features delicate Federal style detailing. Its stonework originally was stuccoed. A stuccoed-stone, one-story, presumably gable-fronted church was erected by Methodists at Sergeantsville in the 1830s, followed by one at Sand Brook, built by a splinter German Baptist congregation ca. 1850, and another near Headquarters, erected by the original German Baptist congregation to replace their earlier church in 1856. These churches were smaller and more modestly detailed than the Locktown Baptist Church, and the two German churches at least featured paired entries. In the 1860s three larger gable-fronted churches with belfry and central entry were erected in Delaware Township (Rosemont Methodist, 1860, Croton Baptist, 1864, and Sandy Ridge Baptist, 1866), and in 1867 the Sergeantsville Methodist Church was enlarged by raising the walls and adding a front extension with central entry and belfry. In 1864 the Christian congregation at Locktown also built a gable-fronted church with central entry to replace its 1832 church (about whose appearance nothing is known). These churches featured Greek Revival and/or Italianate style embellishment, notably at their entries, roof eaves and belfries.³

The Sand Brook German Baptist Church (in. #2, photo #5) is the best-preserved and least-altered example of the gable-fronted church type in Delaware Township. All of the township's other gable-fronted churches have been altered to varying degrees, changes ranging from the only removal of the stucco cladding from the Locktown Baptist Church in the 1970s to the almost complete rebuilding of the German Baptist Church near Headquarters after a fire in 1950.⁴ Not only is the Sand Brook Church the only one of the township's four stone churches to retain its original stucco, the church is a rare surviving example of stuccoed stonework incised to resemble ashlar stone. While little document-

²⁶ Ibid.; J. C. Sidney, *Plan of the Township of Raritan, Hunterdon County, New Jersey*, 1850.

²⁷ Snell, pp. 224, 225, 360 & 378.

²⁸ Bertland Associates, Locktown Stone Church Historic Structures Report, pp. 1 & 2; Delaware Township Historic Sites Survey, page IV-24; Snell, pp. 378 – 383; James Drummond, *Images of America Delaware Township*, pp. 78-90.

²⁹ Bertland Associates, Locktown Stone Church Historic Structures Report, page 13; Drummond, pp. 83 & 88.

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ed, this distinctive treatment appears to have been employed throughout northwestern New Jersey for a variety of buildings during the first half of the 19th century. A contemporary reference to the practice appears in the description of a church erected in Bethlehem Township, Hunterdon County, in 1837 as "a large and neat Presbyterian church, built of stone, stuccoed and penciled."³⁰ Several early 19th-century houses in Washington Township, Morris County have been documented with the ashlar-decorated stucco, although it may have represented a subsequent treatment, as may have been the case with the Union Lutheran Church in Long Valley (Washington Township), a meetinghouse-type church erected in 1774.³¹ A store built in Sergeantsville in 1830, is the only other known Delaware Township example of the practice, and a ca. 1900 photograph reveals that its stucco, removed some years ago, was not only incised but also tinted to create a checkerboard pattern.³²

The gable-fronted type also was adopted for many New Jersey schoolhouses. While the vast majority of the region's early schoolhouses were small, utilitarian, one-room buildings, a number of substantial, one and two-story school buildings reflecting the Wren/Gibbs formula were built in prosperous villages throughout New Jersey during the first half of the 19th century, as well as more modest one-room rural schools.³³ Little is known about Delaware Township's early schoolhouses. The ca. 1780 Van Dolah school near Sandy Ridge is said to have been constructed of logs and measured about twenty feet; the ca. 1796 Reading schoolhouse on the west side of the township purportedly was a stone building with about the same dimensions. At least two octagonal schoolhouses were erected in the township during the early 19th century, one near Sandy Ridge in 1822 and another at Stockton in 1832.³⁴ Of the township's six extant 19th-century schoolhouses, five conformed to the gable-fronted type. The one exception is the stone school erected near Sergeant's Mill in 1830, which had an eaves-wall entry. Four of the five gable-fronted schools date to the third quarter of the 19th century (District 97, Reading's, 1861; District 91, Locktown, 1866; District 94, Moore's, 1866; and District 93, Sand Brook, 1873); the fifth, the Kendall School at Sergeantsville, was erected in 1889.³⁵ Except for the one at Sand Brook, all of the schoolhouses have been converted into residences leaving the Sand Brook School (inventory #12, photo #11) as the best preserved example of a gable-fronted one-room schoolhouse in Delaware Township.

³⁰ Barber and Howe, page 250.

³¹ Stone Houses and Outbuildings of Washington Township, Morris County, New Jersey, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, Section E, page 1; John E. Bolt, Architects, Zion Lutheran Church Historic Preservation Plan, pp. 3-6 & 5-12.

³² Drummond, page 59.

³³ Dennis Bertland Associates, South Branch Schoolhouse Historic Structures Report, page 3-2.

³⁴ Snell, pp. 377 & 378.

³⁵ Ibid.

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Historical Overview

Although the chain-of-title for the mill property encompassing the Sand Brook Historic District can be traced back without break only to the early 1800s when it passed from the ownership of the Kitchen family, something of its 18th-century history can be established from a number of primary and secondary sources. The property apparently formed part of a 2,000-acre tract located in recently established Amwell Township that was surveyed in 1712 for John Haddon, but the devolution of the tract in subsequent decades remains obscure.³⁶ While local historians have claimed that the mill on the Third Neshanic River at Sand Brook was established by Henry Kitchen and his son Samuel as early as 1739, no documentation has been found corroborating that early provenance.³⁷ Henry Kitchen was an Amwell Township resident and landowner at the time of his death in 1745. His will dated June 25, 1745 mentions "the old plantation in Amwell, bought of Samuel Green," which he devised to son Richard, as well as a third of his "land in the great swamp with half of the saw mill" bequeathed to Samuel.³⁸ The area known as the "Great Swamp" in the 18th century was located around what is now Croton, about five miles north of Sand Brook, and a 1764 deed documents Henry Kitchen's acquisition of land there, but the exact location of his saw mill or "old plantation" remains unknown.³⁹

What is certain is that by 1770, Samuel Kitchen owned a well-established mill property at Sand Brook. The 1770 survey for a new road along the course of the present-day Sand Brook-Headquarters Road began in the "great road leading from Benjamin Tyson's Mill to John Ringoes" and ended in the "middle of the great road leading by said [Samuel] Kitchen's mill."⁴⁰ The survey went on to note that "the said Kitchen at the same time agreeing for himself and his successors in interest at his or their cost to build and keep in repair a good bridge over his mill race, or pond." Kitchen's mill evidently was a fulling mill (or accommodated cloth processing in addition to other milling operations). In April, 1771 he advertised for "a sober man that understands tending a Fulling Mill and dressing Cloth in all the

³⁶ D. Stanton Hammond, "Hunterdon County, New Jersey." Map Series # 4, Sheet F. Genealogical Society of New Jersey, 1965. Amwell Township was established in 1708, and the municipality including the Sand Brook neighborhood until 1838, when Delaware Township was created from its northwestern corner.

³⁷ Sand Brook Mill & Sand Brook Blacksmith, www.SandBrook.org.

³⁸ New Jersey Wills 182J.

³⁹ Schmidt, page 14; Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 13, page 35. Henry Kitchen devised the other third parts of his "Great Swamp" tract to his sons, Joseph and Henry, the latter also was to receive the other half of the saw mill. The 1764 deed was for the sale of land inherited by Henry Kitchen, Jr., from his father, which formed part of a 555-acre tract of land in Amwell Township which the elder Kitchen had purchased in 1744, and this presumably comprised the "great swamp" tract referenced in his 1745 will [New Jersey Wills 182J; email communication from local historian Marfy Goodspeed]

⁴⁰ Hunterdon County Roads, Book 1, page 65.

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Branches of the Business,” who was “wanted immediately” and could “be employed on good Terms, in Amwell, Hunterdon County, west Jersey, by applying to the Subscriber at said Mill”⁴¹ Kitchen may have required help due to poor health, since later that year he made his will and died less than two years later. In his 1771 will, he bequeathed all of his real estate and personal property to his wife Mary, as long as she remained his widow, which thereafter was to be sold and the proceeds divided among his children.⁴²

Samuel Kitchen died early in 1773, and in accordance with his will Mary succeeded to his property.⁴³ In February, 1775, she sought to rent the fulling mill, and her newspaper advertisement for that purposed clearly locates the mill at what later became known as Sand Brook:

To be Lett for a year, or certain term of years, a fulling mill, with all the utensils thereunto belonging, situate in Amwell township, Hunterdon county, about four miles from Flemington and five from John Ringoes; being a good part of the county for that business, and maybe entered on the first day of May next. For further particulars, enquire of the subscriber.⁴⁴

The mill property evidently was rented until Mary Kitchen’s death in 1805, for at least part of the time to a family member. Amwell Township tax ratable lists survive for several years between 1780 and 1803, and the two 1780 rolls include only one fulling mill, which was assessed to Joshua Mott, presumably the Joshua Mott who was Mary Kitchen’s son-in-law.⁴⁵ In 1784, the township’s only listed fulling mill was assessed to John Stevenson (who also was taxed for a grist mill), but Joshua Mott reappears on the 1786 role, assessed for one of the two fulling mills listed.⁴⁶ At some point the fulling mill was discontinued in favor of other milling operations. This may be reflected in the 1803 tax role which assessed Solomon Rake for 84 improved acres, along with one saw mill and one grist mill.⁴⁷ Solomon’s name appears immediately after that of his father John Rake, who owned a large

⁴¹ “Wanted immediately....Samuel Kitchen, *The New York Gazette*, April 29, 1771.

⁴² New Jersey Wills 182J.

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ “To be Lett...Mary Kitchen,” *The Pennsylvania Journal*, February 22, 1775.

⁴⁵ New Jersey Tax Ratables, Amwell Township, 1780 (two), 1784, 1786, 1789, 1802 and 1803. Mary Kitchen appears on all on the surviving township tax roles, assessed for either a house lot or as a house holder, but not for a mill. In her 1799 will, Mary Kitchen designated her “son-in-law Joshua Mott,” the husband of her daughter Mary, as one of her two executors, and her inventory dated April 15, 1805 included among assets a “note against Josuha Mott 47.23” [NJ Wills 2149J].

⁴⁶ New Jersey Tax Ratables, Amwell Township, 1784 and 1786. Joshua Mott evidently relocated to Sussex County, New Jersey for some time between 1780 and 1786. In 1784, he advertised a 40-acre lot on Pohatcong Creek in Mansfield Township for sale, which included “a fulling mill and house,” directing prospective purchasers to inquire of the subscriber “on the premises” [“For Sale...Joshua Mott,” *New Jersey Gazette*, August 9, 1784].

⁴⁷ New Jersey Tax Ratables, Amwell Township, 1803.

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farm abutting the Kitchen property on the south, and Solomon's assessed acreage almost matches that of the Kitchen "mill lot" as given in the deed for its sale after Mary Kitchen's death.⁴⁸

In 1806, Samuel Kitchen's surviving executor (John Rockefeller, probably the husband of Kitchen's daughter Margaret) conveyed the 86.25-acre mill lot to Henry Rockefeller (the husband of kitchen daughter Anna) for \$3,733.33, and this deed establishes that the property encompassed most of Sand Brook lying east of County Route 523, including the site of the schoolhouse purportedly erected about 1790.⁴⁹ In 1810, Henry Rockefeller conveyed all of his "rights in the real and personal estate of Samuel Kitchen" back to John Rockefeller, who five years later sold the mill lot and water rights to George Rea for \$6,000, an increase in price that may reflect substantial improvements or inflation of land values resulting from the War of 1812.⁵⁰ Rea subdivided about 27 acres from the northern portion of the property, which he sold to George Egg in 1817, but kept the remainder and operated the mill until his death in 1838.⁵¹

The Egg lot encompassed the land on both sides of the Sand Brook-Headquarters Road, and the stone house on the north side of the Route 523 corner (inventory #1) probably dates to this period. The 1839 deed for the sale of the property by Abraham Covenhoven to John Sheppard exempts the schoolhouse, providing the earliest documentary reference to a school at the location of the extant schoolhouse (inventory # 12). As reported by the district school clerk in 1870, "the first schoolhouse was probably built in 1790 and was rebuilt or rather a new house was erected on the same site in the year 1831."⁵²

George Rea evidently made considerable improvements to his farm and mill, which by the 1830s had been converted into a grist mill. In 1832, Rea brought suit against his neighbor Philip Rake for diverting water from his grist mill on the "Sand Brook."⁵³ The advertisement for the sale of Rea's

⁴⁸ The 1806 deed gives the acreage of the mill lot as 86.25 acres and notes that it borders the land of John Rake [Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 13, page 46]. John Rake died in 1806, and in the following year his sons quit claimed their rights in father's plantation to the executors [Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 14, page 218].

⁴⁹ Conklin, pp. 134-35.

⁵⁰ Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 17, page 75 and Book 24, page 530. The 1815 deed described the water rights as the "privilege of using water of the brook called the Sand or Rake's brook as heretofore diverted and used for the privilege of working the mill on said lot."

⁵¹ Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 28, page 114; NJ Wills 883J and 2149J; Marfy Goodspeed, "Kitchen Cemetery," *The Delaware Township Post*, December 5, 2009.

⁵² Conklin, pp. 134-35.

⁵³ Phyllis B. D'Autrechy, *Hunterdon County Place Names*, page 54.

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Hunterdon County, NJ

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real estate upon his death in 1838 referred to the property as his "farm and grist mill" and noted that the house and several of the outbuildings had been recently built. The property contained

about 70 acres, 17 acres of which is first rate bottom Meadow, and can be watered from never failing springs; 16 acres of timber; the remainder arable land in a good state of cultivation. The improvements are a large new 2-story stone dwelling house, and a two-story stone kitchen, a good cellar, and lasting water within twenty feet of the kitchen door; a new barn, hovel and wagon house. The grist mill has two runs of stone, likewise a pair of hulling stones, and plaster breaker, and can run the driest of seasons, as it is situated on a lively and lasting stream of water.⁵⁴

Elizabeth Rea, George Rea's daughter, was high bidder at the auction held on December 28, 1838 to sell the property, which according was conveyed to her early in the following year.⁵⁵ Two years later she conveyed the farm and mill to Isaac Vorhees, and the property changed hands once more before being purchased by Hiram Moore in 1845.⁵⁶ Moore evidently concentrated on the farm and rented the mill to various individuals, as he does not appear in census data as its operator.⁵⁷ During the following decades, Moore acquired adjoining property to expand his farm and sold portions of the mill lot on which the hamlet developed, including an acre lot across the road from the school house which was conveyed to trustees for the newly organized German Baptist congregation in 1851.⁵⁸

Germans were well represented among the 18th century inhabitants of the Amwell Valley, including the Moore, Rockefeller and probably the Rake families, and a German Baptist (or "Dunker") congregation is thought have organized and built a church few miles south of Sand Brook around 1750.⁵⁹ In 1849, a splinter group from that congregation organized under the leadership of John P. Moore, and shortly thereafter built a simple stone church (inventory #2, photo #5) on property at Sand Brook acquired from Hiram Moore.⁶⁰ John P. Moore, who led the congregation until his death in

⁵⁴ "Administrators' Sale of Real Estate...late the property of George Rea...November 28, 1838," *The Hunterdon Gazette*, November 28, 1838.

⁵⁵ Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 72, page 292.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, Book 75, page 363, Book 81, page 27 and Book 84, page 1.

⁵⁷ The 1850 census identifies Hiram Moore as a farmer, age 38, owning property worth \$8,000. Nearby households were headed by David Hortman, age 35, and Caleb Woolverton, age 40; both men were millers and neither owned any real estate [US Census, Population Schedule, Delaware Township, 1850].

⁵⁸ Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 241, page 546 and Book 102, page 113.

⁵⁹ Schmidt, pp. 33 & 34; Snell, pp. 380 & 381.

⁶⁰ Snell, page 381.

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1889, made his residence in the house located just east of the church (inventory #3, photo #6), which he presumably built or enlarged, on a lot purchased from Hiram Moore in 1868.⁶¹

Sand Brook acquired several new businesses during the third quarter of the 19th century. In 1849 or 1850, Joseph Servis opened a general store, which as depicted on the 1851 map, was located just south of the Britton Road fork.⁶² Business may have been difficult, since in February, 1851, Servis advertised his intention “to close out his entire stock of goods previous to the first of April.”⁶³ How long he remained in business is unknown, but by 1856 he had relocated to a nearby township. The Sand Brook post office was established in 1858 with Reading Moore as the first postmaster. The location of the post office is unknown, but Moore owned the former Egg/Sheppard lot from 1850 to 1860, and the post office probably was accommodated on his property, perhaps in his house (inventory #1, photo #4) or the small shop on the south side of the road (inventory #13, photo #13).⁶⁴ The 1860 map depicts a new business, the “J. Thatcher store,” located about a quarter mile north of the hamlet on the road to Flemington, which evidently supplanted the Servis store.⁶⁵ This in turn was succeeded by the “new store” established by Charles W. Moore in 1868, which the 1873 atlas locates at the Britton Road fork, property that he had acquired from Hiram Moore in 1868.⁶⁶ In the newspaper advertisement announcing the opening of his Sand Brook store on September 10, 1868, Charles Moore informed the public that he would “keep constantly on hand a good assortment of all kinds of merchandize usually found in a country store” and accept “all kinds of country produce..in exchange.”⁶⁷ The 1873 atlas also documents that blacksmith and wheelwright shops had been established just south

⁶¹ Ibid.; SandBrook Historical Dates & People, www.SandBrook.org; Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 142, page 174,

⁶² Samuel C. Cornell, *Map of Hunterdon County*, 1851. Servis must have opened his Sand Brook Store sometime between October, 1848, when he was the tenant of a farm in nearby Ringoes advertised for sale, and December 25, 1850, when “Joseph Servis, Sand Brook,” was listed in an advertisement as one of the Hunterdon county merchants authorized to sell a brand of patent medicine. [*The Hunterdon Gazette*, October 11, 1848 & December 25, 1850],

⁶³ “Great Bargains in the Market! Selling off at Cost....Joseph Servis, sand Brook, Fed, 5,” *The Hunterdon Gazette*, February 5, 1851, According to one local historian, the building occupied by the Servis store was subsequently owned by Thomas Dalrymple “who used the building for general shop work, especially for making axe handles” and was destroyed by fire in March, 1931 [Edgar T. Bush, “Sand Brook Too Has Changed With Time,” *Hunterdon County Democrat*, October 15, 1931].

⁶⁴ John L. Kay and Chester M. Smith, Jr., *New Jersey Postal History*, p. 78; Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 96, page 593 and Book 122, page 21.

⁶⁵ S.N. Beers, *Map of Philadelphia and Trenton Vicinity*, Philadelphia: C.K. Stone & A. Pomeroy, 1860.

⁶⁶ “New Store at Sand Brook,” *Hunterdon County Democrat*, September 9, 1868; F.W. Beers, *Atlas of Hunterdon County, New Jersey*, page 65; Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 143, page 68.

⁶⁷ “New Store at Sand Brook,” *Hunterdon County Democrat*, September 9, 1868.

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of Moore's store. Around this time, the community's 1831 schoolhouse was replaced by the present building (inventory #12, photo #11).⁶⁸

Sand Brook reached its zenith of development in 1873, and comparison of the 1873 county atlas and the 1902 county map reveals that the community changed little during the intervening years.⁶⁹ The 1881 county history noted that the community was "a small settlement" containing a church, school, grist mill, store, post office, blacksmithy and wagon shop, a description that would have held true twenty years earlier or later.⁷⁰ One notable change was the destruction of C. W. Moore's store by fire around 1900, and its replacement two years later by the extant store/residence (inventory #8, photo #7). During the intervening years, the store and post office purportedly were kept "in the shop on the corner at the east end of the bridge" (inventory #13, photo #13).⁷¹ A 1914 county directory gave the community's population as sixty, a figure that included surrounding farm households. Most of the thirty-six household heads were farmers; the other identified occupations were: carpenter (two), teacher (two), store keeper, postmaster and blacksmith.⁷² Neither miller nor wheelwright were listed, evidence that those businesses had ceased operation. The abandoned mill was subsequently dismantled and its frame put to other uses sometime before the early 1930s; when the wheelwright shop closed is unknown. The blacksmith shop and the general store remained open into the 1930s, but closed sometime thereafter.⁷³

The congregations of the Amwell and Sand Brook Baptist Churches reconciled by the end of the 19th century, and, for some years thereafter, Sunday morning services were at Amwell and evening services at Sand Brook. In 1913, the two churches were formally reunited.⁷⁴ The Sand Brook church apparently remained in active use at least until the late 1920s but eventually was abandoned for regular religious services.⁷⁵ Since the 1960s, the Sand Brook Historical Association has had principal responsibility for stewardship of the building which is used as a community center for weddings, funerals and other social events.⁷⁶ The cemetery remains in active use. The Sand Brook School closed

⁶⁸ Delaware Township Historic Sites Survey, page IV-18.

⁶⁹ Beers, *Atlas of Hunterdon*, page 65; Pugh & Downing, Civil Engineers, *Map of Hunterdon County, New Jersey*, 1902.

⁷⁰ Snell, page 377.

⁷¹ Bush, "Sand Brook Too Has Changed With Time," *Hunterdon County Democrat*, October 15, 1931.

⁷² *Farm and Business Directory of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey With a Complete Road Map of Both Counties*, page 74.

⁷³ Bush, "Sand Brook Too Has Changed With Time," *Hunterdon County Democrat*, October 15, 1931.

⁷⁴ Delaware Township Historic Sites Survey, page IV-14.

⁷⁵ SandBrook "Mooreite" German Baptist Church, www.sandbrook.org; A. Van Doren Honeyman (ed.), *Northwestern New Jersey: A History of Somerset, Morris, Hunterdon, Warren, and Sussex Counties*, II, page 881.

⁷⁶ SandBrook "Mooreite" German Baptist Church, www.sandbrook.org.

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in 1940, during the consolidation of township schools, and the post office was transferred to Stockton in 1959, leaving the hamlet an entirely residential community which it remains today.⁷⁷ Although some development has encroached, the district's historic landscape survives largely intact.

⁷⁷ Delaware Township Historic Sites Survey, page IV-18; Kay and Smith, *New Jersey Postal History*, p. 78.

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Periodicals

Hunterdon Gazette
Hunterdon Democrat
The New York Gazette
The Pennsylvania Journal

Public Records

Hunterdon County Deeds
Hunterdon County Road Returns
New Jersey Ratables
New Jersey Wills
West Jersey Deeds
United States Census, Population and Industrial Schedules

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February 13, 2012

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www.delawaretownshipnj.org
December 5, 2009

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SandBrook Mill & SandBrook Blacksmith
SandBrook “Mooreite” German Baptist Church
www.SandBrook.org
March, 2008

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NARRATIVE BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Sand Brook Historic District is delineated on the attached map entitled "Sand Brook Historic District Site Location and Boundary Map," and is verbally described in the following paragraphs. The site and boundary map was assembled using current municipal tax maps from the Township of Delaware.

The boundary of the district begins in Delaware Township on the northwest side of County Route 523 at a southwest corner of block 17, lot 16, and proceeds north, west, north, east and south along west along the west, south, west, north and east sides of lot 16 to that lot's southeast corner on the west side of Route 523. From there it crosses Route 523 along a straight line to the east corner of the intersection of Route 523 and the Sand Brook-Headquarters Road and the west corner of the block 26, lot 30.

From the last mentioned point the district boundary proceeds northeast along the southeast side of County Route 523 to the north corner of block 26, lot 30, and then turns east and south along the north and east sides of lot 30 to the north corner of block 26, lot 29. From there the boundary runs southeast and southwest along the northeast and southeast sides of block 26, lot 29 to a south corner of that lot on the northeast side of block 26, lot 28, and then runs southeast along the northeast side of lot 28 to east corner of that lot on the north side of Britton Road.

From the last mentioned point the district boundary crosses Britton Road along a straight line to the east corner of block 27, lot 30 on the south side of Britton Road, also a north corner of block 27, lot 31. From that point it continues west, south and east along the north, west and south sides of lot 31 to the southeast corner of lot 31, which point is also the north corner of block 27, lot 28, on the south side of Britton Road. From that point the boundary follows at straight-line continuation of the common boundary between block 27, lots 31 and 28 to the southwest side of Britton Road. It then runs east along the southwest side of Britton Road to a point where a straight-line continuation of the southeast side of block 27, lot 28 intersects the southwest side of Britton Road. The boundary then follows that straight-line continuation to the east corner of lot 28 on the south side of Britton Road, and then proceeds west, north, west and north along south, west, south and west sides of block 27, lot 28 to a west corner of lot 28 on the east side of Sand Brook-Headquarters Road.

From there the boundary crosses Sand Brook-Headquarters Road on a straight line continuation of the west side of block 27, lot 28 to the point of intersection of that continuation line with the southeast side of Sand Brook-Headquarters Road. It then runs north along the southeast side of Sand Brook-Headquarters Road to a point where a straight-line continuation of the southeast side of block 25, lot 4 intersects the southeast side of Sand Brook-Headquarters Road.

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From the last mentioned point, the district boundary proceeds west, north and east along the south, west and north sides of block 25, lot 4 to the southwest corner of block 25, lot 3. From there the boundary follows the west sides of block 25, lots 3, 56 and 58 to the northwest corner of lot 58 on the southeast side of County Route 523. From that point the boundary proceeds northeast along the north side of lot 58 and the southeast side of Route 523 to the north corner of lot 58. From that point the boundary follows a straight-line across Route 523 to the northwest corner of the northwest abutment of the Hunterdon County Bridge D-345. It then runs east along the northwest (upstream) side of the bridge to the southwest corner of block 17, lot 16 on the northwest side of Route 523 and the place of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the Sand Brook Historic District are delineated to include to the greatest extent possible the architectural and historical resources of the hamlet of Sand Brook, with the fewest non-contributing resources. In general terms its boundaries include the small lots along County Route 523 and Sand Brook-Headquarters and Britton Roads that comprise the core of the hamlet. The boundary was drawn to exclude modern development around the perimeter of the district.

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National Park Service**

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Continuation Sheet**

Sand Brook Historic District
Hunterdon County, NJ

PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION:

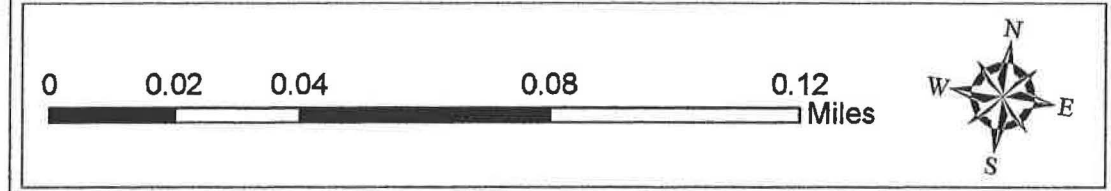
The following information is the same for all of the photographs submitted:

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Photographer: Janice Armstrong
Date of photographs: Winter/Summer 2009
Digital repository: Dennis Bertland Associates
PO Box 315
Stockton, NJ 08559

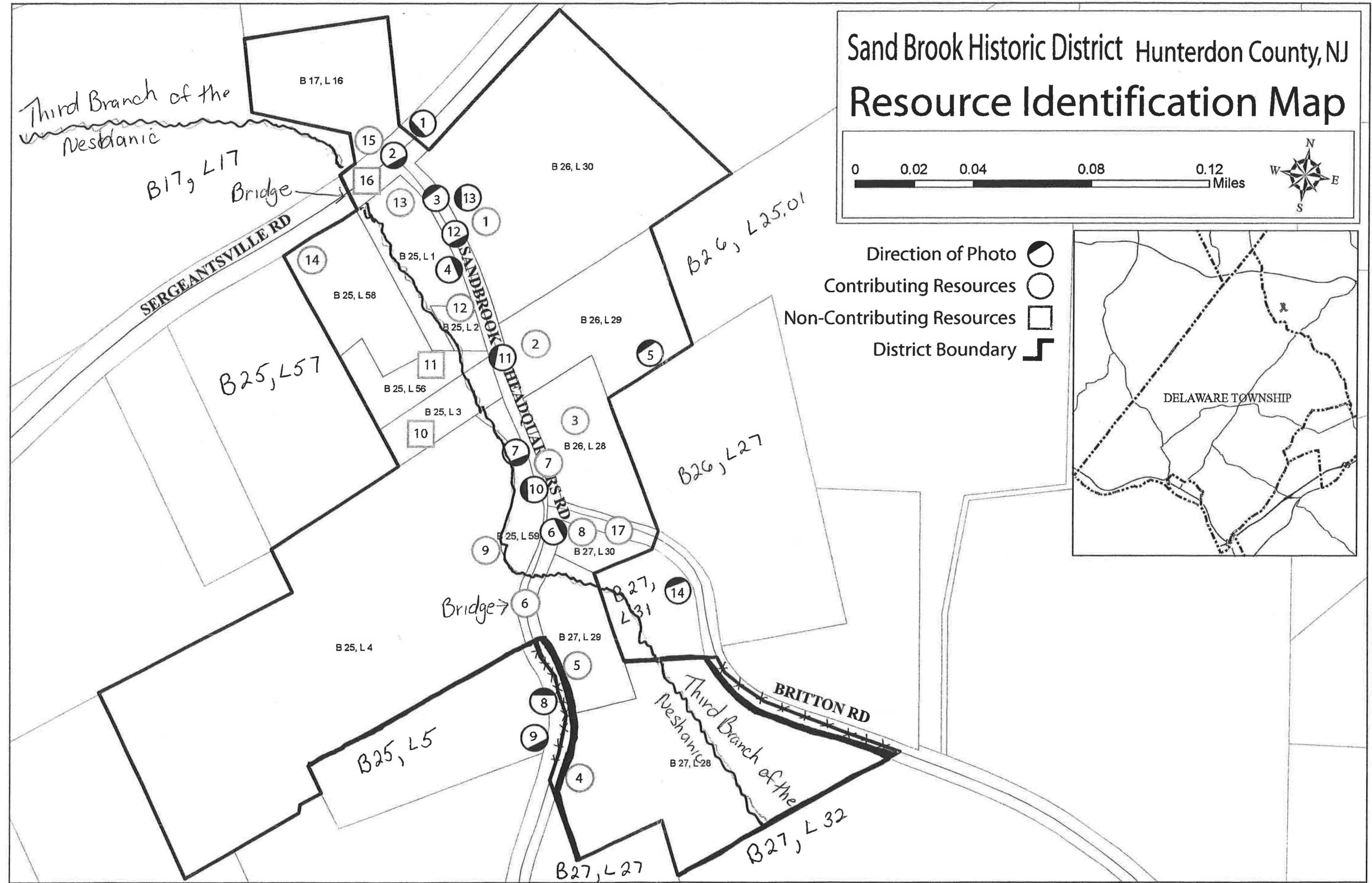
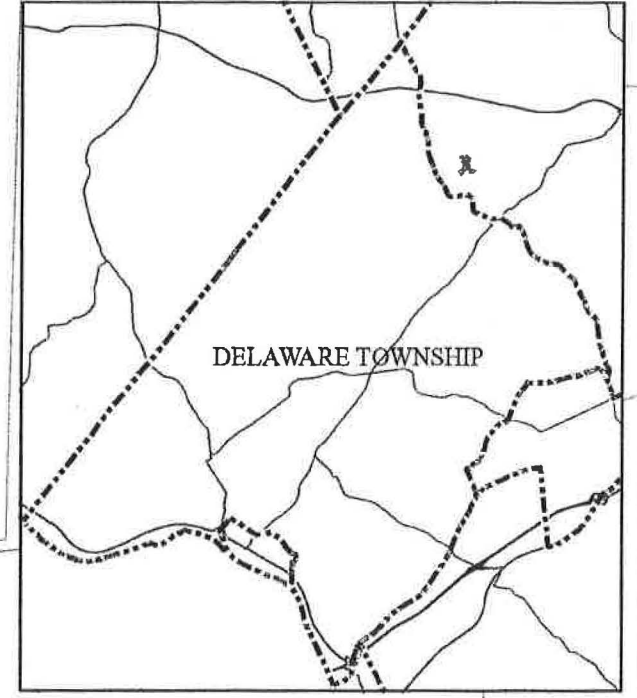
Photograph direction of view:

- #1 Context shot, Sand Brook/Headquarters Rd. at County Rt. 523, southwest view.
- #2 Intersection of Sand Brook/Headquarters Rd. and Britton Rd., south view.
- #3 Context shot, Inventory #s 13 and 15, northwest view.
- #4 Inventory # 1, northeast view.
- #5 Inventory # 2, north view.
- #6 Inventory # 3, north view.
- #7 Inventory # 8, south view.
- #8 Inventory # 5, north view.
- #9 Inventory # 4, south view.
- #10 Inventory # 9, west view.
- #11 Inventory # 12, northwest view.
- #12 Context shot, inventory # 12, south view.
- #13 Inventory # 13, west view.
- #14 Context shot from Britton Rd., north view.
- #15 Inventory # 6, bridge, south view,

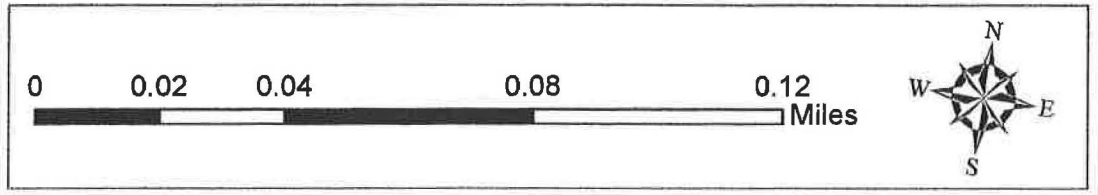
Sand Brook Historic District Hunterdon County, NJ Resource Identification Map



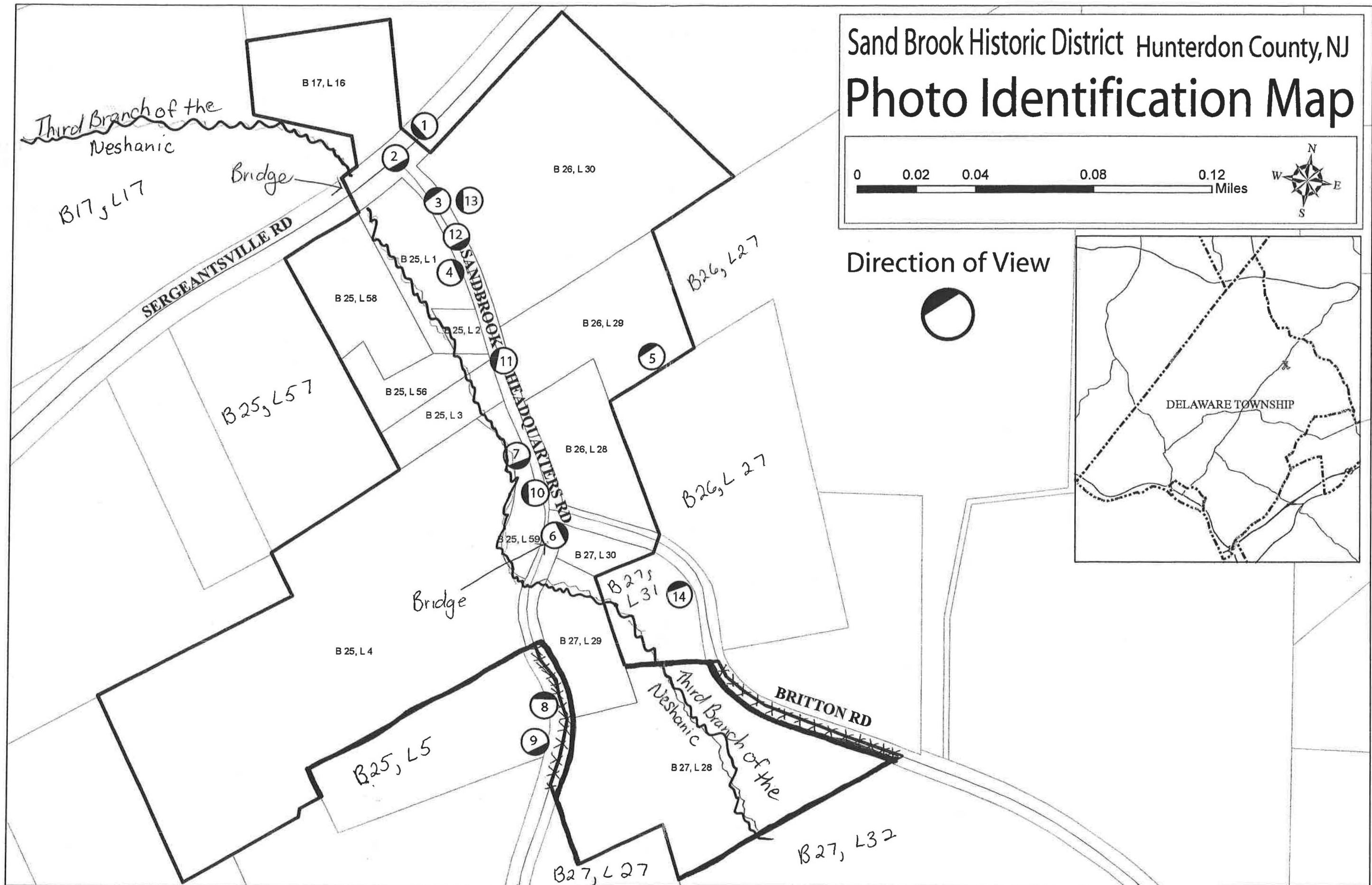
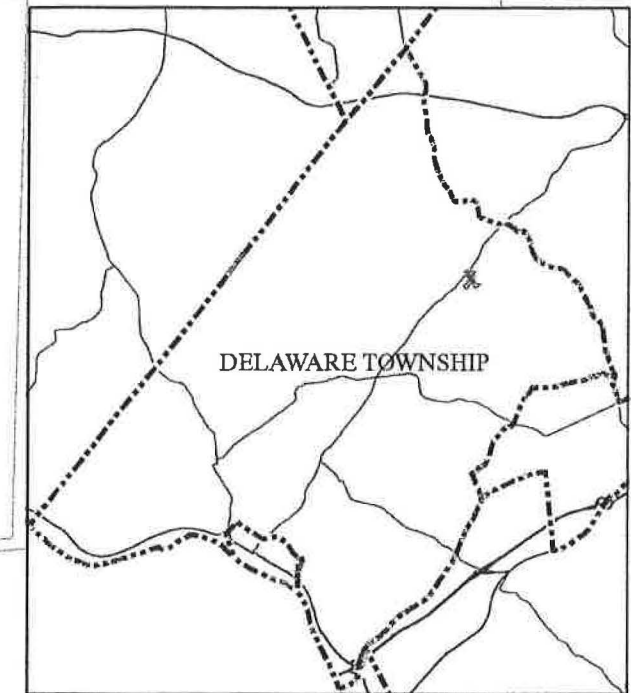
- Direction of Photo
- Contributing Resources
- Non-Contributing Resources
- District Boundary



Sand Brook Historic District Hunterdon County, NJ Photo Identification Map

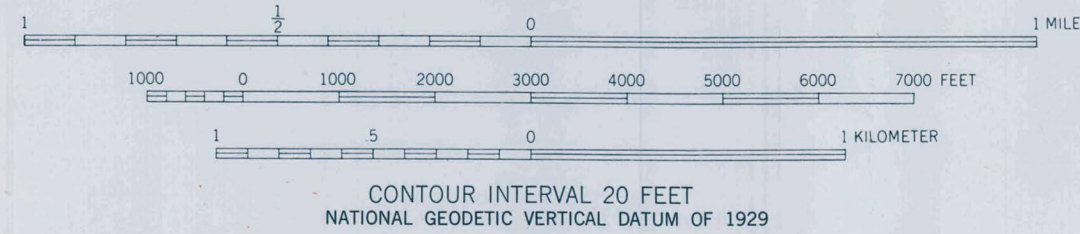
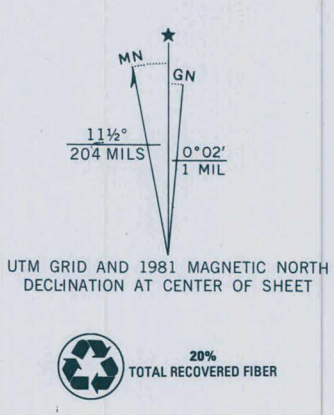


Direction of View





Mapped by the Defense Mapping Agency
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by NOS/NOAA, New Jersey Geodetic Survey, Pennsylvania
Railroad, and SCS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1942. Field checked 1943
Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1954
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grids based on New Jersey
coordinate system and Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18,
shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum. To place on the
predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection
lines 6 meters south and 32 meters west as shown by
dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey
from aerial photographs taken 1975 and other sources
This information not field checked. Map edited 1981
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

STOCKTON, N. J. - PA.
N4022.5-W7452.5/7.5
1954
PHOTOREVISED 1981
DMA 6064 IV NW-SERIES V822









STOP





















SANDSBROOK





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Sand Brook Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Hunterdon

DATE RECEIVED: 5/31/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/18/13
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/03/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/17/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000497

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 7/17/13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Historic district POS c. 1770-1902
community planning dev. + architecture
A+C local level*

RECOM./CRITERIA A+C

REVIEWER [Signature]

DISCIPLINE Historic

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 7/17/13

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

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



State of New Jersey

MAIL CODE 501-04B

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

P.O. Box 420

Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

TEL. (609) 984-0176 FAX (609) 984-0578

HPO Proj. #11-1116-5

Chrono #: B2013-105



CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

February 21, 2013

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

Dear Mr. Loether:

I am pleased to submit the nomination for the Sand Brook Historic District, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, for National Register consideration.

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

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

Sincerely,

Rich Boornazian
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer