

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
New Jersey

COUNTY:
Monmouth

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE
MAY 3 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
The Kings Highway District

AND/OR HISTORIC:
MIDDLETOWN VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Irregular pattern - both sides of Kings Highway^{5th} W of NJ 35

CITY OR TOWN: Middletown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Third

STATE: New Jersey

CODE: 34

COUNTY: Monmouth

CODE: 025

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural Government Park Transportation Comments

Commercial Industrial Private Residence Other (Specify)

Educational Military Religious

Entertainment Museum Scientific

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Multiple

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: New Jersey

CODE:



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: County Clerk's Office Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER: East Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Freehold

STATE: New Jersey

CODE: 34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Historic Sites Section Department of Environmental Protection

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1420

CITY OR TOWN: Trenton

STATE: New Jersey

CODE: 34

STATE: New Jersey

COUNTY: Monmouth

ENTRY NUMBER: MAY 3 1974

DATE: MAY 3 1974

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

HIS E576200
Z18 N4471960
E 576200
N4471580
E 574340
N4471180
E 574370
N4471580

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

1. Richard Hartshorne Home c1675 61 The Kings Highway This is a two story house with a one story wing extending to the east of the house. The foundation of fieldstone and brick is mortared with shells and local clay. The cellar is seven feet deep with fifteen horizontal and six vertical timbers supporting the upper house. Wide floor boards are exposed between the beams in the cellar ceiling. Two ten foot arches of brick and fieldstone form an angular support for the west chimney and one eleven foot arch, running parallel to the cellar wall supports the east chimney. These arches are three to four feet deep. The walls of the house are of brick and beam construction with exterior currently clapboard (formerly shingle) and interior of plaster. Attic beams are massive, numbered and fitted with wooden pegs. One wall in the kitchen is exposed revealing expert mortice work with brick and wood. The main house is rectangular with inside brick chimney at each end. The roof is gable. It is five bayed.
2. Marlpit Hall 1684, 1712 137 The Kings Highway This is a two story house with a foundation of brick and stone. The walls are mud plaster plus hair with restored surfaces except for one room. It has a center floor layout with the stairway toward the rear. There are three chimneys. The windows are 12/12 sash on the first floor and the upper floor has three 6 paned sliding double sashes. The shutters are panelled. The roof is gabled with dormers.
3. The Bowne House 1697, 1808 2 Red Hill Road This is a two story structure with a stone foundation. The walls are frame with wood siding and handhewn shakes outside, brick, wood plaster inside. The windows are 6/6 in the lower story and 9/6 in the upper story. There are Dutch doors front and back. The roof is slate over wood shingles. The shutters are a combination of louvered and panelled.
4. The Murray House 1780 35 The Kings Highway This is a three story house with clapboard siding. There are four corner chimneys. The windows are 6/6 except 3/3 in the center dormer of the third floor. There is a porch the length of the front elevation with Doric columns. The roof is gabled with a center dormer. The shutters are louvered. All hardware in the house is original and brass.
5. Hendrickson-Morford House c.1830 65 The Kings Highway This is a two and 1/2 story house with a foundation of native stone and brick. The walls are full timbered and woodpegged. They are hand split timbers (cedar, three feet long) and clapboard. Brick is used for insulation. The interior walls are of lath and mortar. There are five chimneys. The windows are basically 6/6. There is an open front porch with four Georgian columns. The front door is six panelled flanked by pilasters then leaded glass side windows with festoons. There are unusual moldings both inside and out.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

Founded 1664

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | <u>Settlement</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SETTLEMENT

The Kings Highway District was the heart of the oldest settlement in New Jersey. The support document is the New Jersey Book of Deeds showing Thomas Whitlock's 1664 land claim registered two years before the next claim. Thomas Whitlock divided his claim into thirty six lots. The earliest settlers are listed in the First Towne Book of Middleton.

The Land had been purchased from the Indians and the relations between the natives and the settlers were generally peaceful. The disturbances occasioned by the King Phillip's War did, however, necessitate the building of a blockhouse in 1670. Its foundation is presently the foundation of Christ Church.

The reason for the location of the Village was the fact that here was the junction of three great Indian Trails and the nearby Indian Village of Cha quasitt. These trails and the clearings already made provided both easy access to other sections of East and West Jersey and the advantages of tillable land. Particularly favorable was the easy access to the sea by way of Indian Trails. This stretch of old roadway to the sea became part of The Kings Highway laid out in 1719 by the Monmouth Patentees to join the great colonial route which allowed travel from one settlement to another.

MILITARY

The Kings Highway District was most significant in both the Revolutionary War and the Civil War. Christ Church played an important role in the Revolution. It was the meeting place of Henry Clinton and Lord Cornwallis withdrawing from the Battle of Monmouth. The church itself was used as a hospital during the war.

The Murray House was the scene of a killing of a Revolutionary soldier tilling his lands. Joseph Murray, while on duty with a company at Navesink Highlands to block conveying of produce to British ships had leave to come home to plant corn. Surprised by three armed men, he was killed right out in the field. A later owner of the house was a son of an officer under the first Napoleon.

The owner of the Bowne House was a member of the Governor's "Light Guards" and he served as a Captain in the Civil War from the start.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ellis, Franklin History of Monmouth County R. T. Peck, 1885.
 Salter, Edwin History of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, E Gardner and Sons, Bayonne, N. J., 1890
 Smith, Samuel History of the Colony of Nova Caesaria

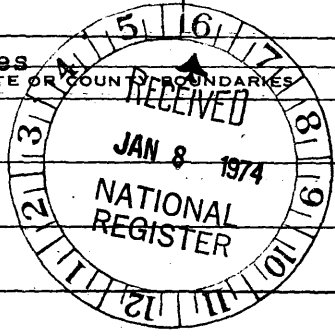
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	40	23	47	74	07	27			
NE	40	23	47	74	06	08			
SE	40	23	35	74	06	08			
SW	40	23	35	74	07	27			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 80 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Staff of Historic Sites

ORGANIZATION: Department of Environmental Protection DATE: October, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1420

CITY OR TOWN: Trenton STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Richard J. Sullivan
 Title: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
 Date: December 20, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AK Mortensen
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 5/2/74

ATTEST:
Wm. Monty
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5.2.74

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 1

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Monmouth	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 3 1974

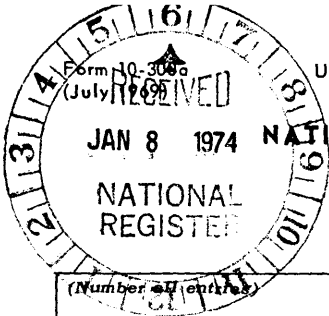
(Number all entries)

7. Description Continued
 The Kings Highway District
 Monmouth County 025
 New Jersey 34

6. Locustwood 1832, 1845 28 The Trail This is a two story structure with a stone foundation. It has a clapboard exterior, brick lined for insulation and a plastered interior. It is a center hall layout with an 1845 addition. The house has a hip roof with five chimneys. The windows are 9/9. The house possesses extraordinary hand carved interior trim and wood work with classic Greek Motifs. The man who did the carving took a full year to complete it.

7. The Academy 1836 53 The Kings Highway This two story structure has a stone foundation. The walls are the original handhewn shingles. The windows are 12/12 throughout. There is a small entrance porch with original pediment and pillars. The tall front double door is original. The shutters are louvered. The cupola at the front elevation is retained in its original state although the bell is lost.





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

(Continuation Sheet) 2

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Monmouth	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 3 1974

(Number of entries)

8. Description Continued
The Kings Highway District
Monmouth County 025
New Jersey 34

The Blacksmith Shop was also known as the wheelwright shop of William Truex. As captain in the Mexican War, Truex (later both Colonel and Brigadier General in the regular army) used his shop as temporary headquarters providing the American forces with many officers who became distinguished. Drilling took place on The Kings Highway. The general forces drilled here became known as the Governor's Light Guards.

POLITICAL

The Bowne House has been associated with political causes as early as 1700 when an arrest for unjust taxes was made. This began the conflict between Lewis Morris, governor, and the people of Middleton. Andrew Bowne and Richard Hartshorne give an account of the incident which appears in Volume 11 of the New Jersey Archives. "The people stood up manfully without regard to consequences to protect their friend Richard Salter, and resist the tyrannical acts of a usurping governor and his pretending officers of the law." As the Rising Sun Tavern, the Bowne House had many famous visitors of the political nature. "Mad Anthony" Wayne is said to have carved his initials behind the bar. This house is also said to have served as a hiding place for runaway slaves.

EDUCATION

The Franklin Academy was one of the earliest private schools in New Jersey. It was built by a local stock company for preparing "boys for college, the study of a profession or any other business they wish to pursue" and girls "for all the useful and ornamental branches of Female Education." The Academy operated as a private school from 1837 to 1851. In 1851, it became the only village operated school and was in continuous use until it was replaced in 1902. It was then used as a public library.

RELIGION/PHILOSOPHY

A group of Baptist men and women who settled in the new Village of Middleton in 1665 organized and constituted the first Baptist church to be established in New Jersey in 1668. In 1707, this church joined with four other churches and established the Philadelphia Association, the oldest association of Baptists in America. The church continued to be innovative when in 1955 it proved very ecumenical by establishing a policy of open communion and it moved toward less restrictive membership requirements as a community church. It is now known as the Old First Church of Middleton.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

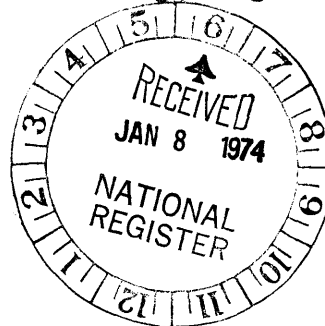
(Continuation Sheet) 3

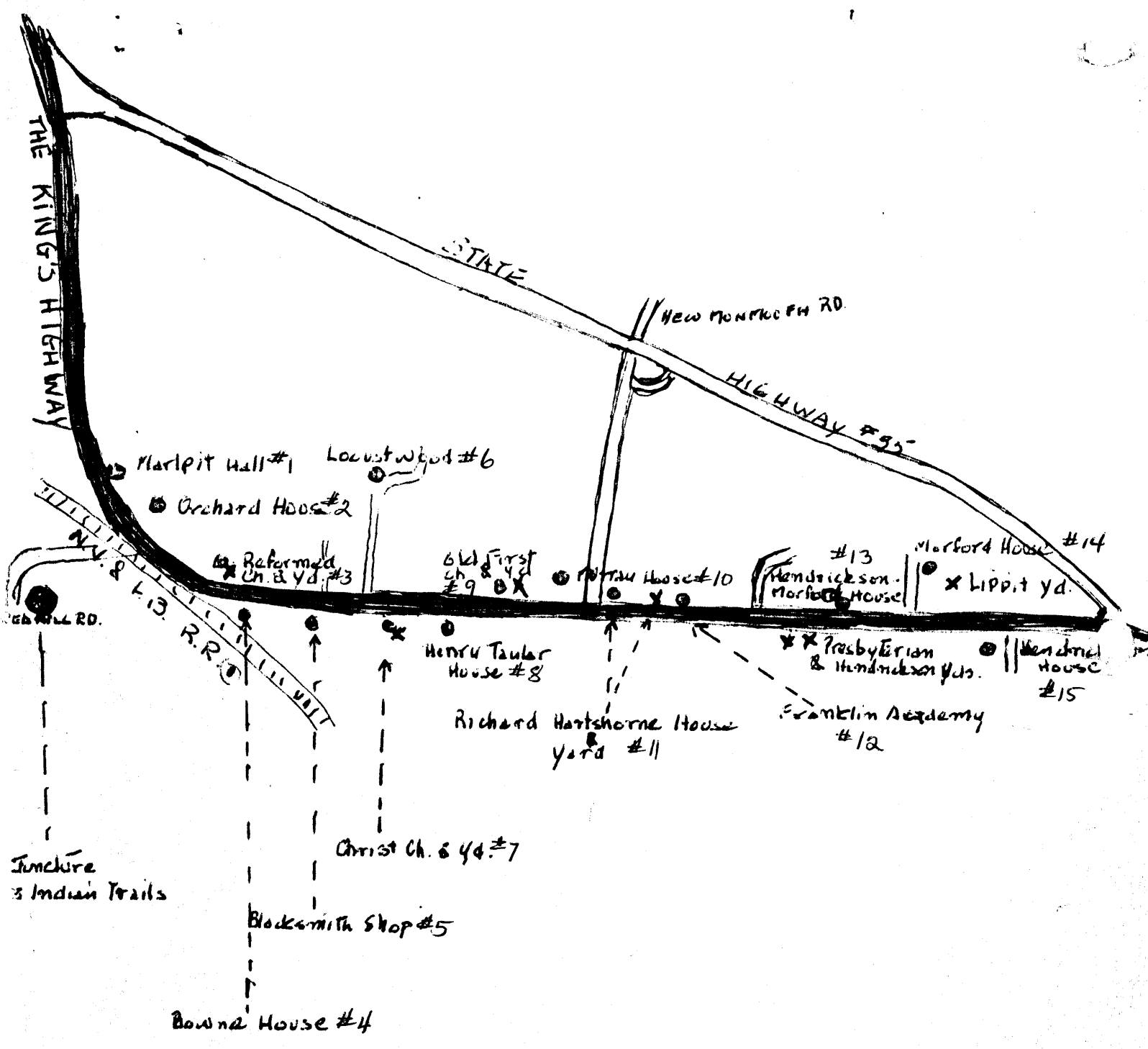
STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Monmouth	
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(Number all entries)

2. Location Continued
The Kings Highway District
Monmouth County 025
New Jersey 34

Beginning at the point of intersect of Kings Highway and 150 feet south of the school proceed directly east 400 feet. Thence proceed parrallel to Kings Highway to a point 200 ft. west of Lenape Trail. Thence proceed north 400 feet. Thence continue east to center of Lenape trail. Thence proceed south to a distance 300 feet north of Kings Highway. Thence proceed east parrallel to Kings Highway, to the right of way of State Route 35. Thence continue Southeast along that right of way across Kings Highway on Route 35, a distance of 300 feet South of Kings Highway on Route 35. Thence proceed west parrallel to Kings Highway to Red Hill Road including the property of 2 Red Hill Road. Thence proceed to point of beginning.





**HISTORIC SITES
ON**

**THE KING'S HIGHWAY
MIDDLETOWN VILLAGE**

- Structures
- ✕ Grave Yards

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
New Jersey	
COUNTY	Monmouth
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 3 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: The Kings Highway District
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Middletown

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
<u>New Jersey</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>Monmouth</u>	<u>025</u>

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

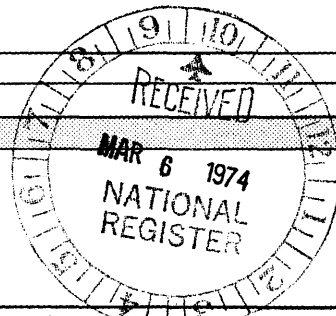
SCALE:

DATE: 1973

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Middletown Village Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Monmouth

DATE RECEIVED: 10/05/99 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/19/99
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 74001177

NOMINATOR: STATE

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 11/5/99 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Accept Name Change

RECOM. / CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER *G Beall*

DISCIPLINE *Historian*

TELEPHONE _____

DATE *11/5/99*

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Middletown Village Historic District
(King's Highway Historic District)
NJ Monmouth County

Section number 1 Page 1

Name Change

Remove the present historic name: "King's Highway Historic District"

Replace with "new" historic name: "Middletown Village Historic District"

Justification for this change

The district described in this nomination encompasses the surviving core of the historic village of Middletown, one of the two earliest villages of Monmouth County. Locally, the district continues to be called the Middletown village district, and it has been so designated under municipal historic preservation ordinance.

The name "King's Highway..." is the name given to the principal road through the district, but the name does not evoke a specific place, because the road extends both east and west well beyond the limits of the historic district, and because "King's Highway" was a name that could have been equally applied to any of the several principal highways of New Jersey from the colonial period.