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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

892

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in the *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 Finesville-Seigletown Historic District  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Location

street & number County Route 627; Mountain, Musconetcong, Mt. Joy & Bellis Roads  not for publication  
city or town Pohatcong and Holland Townships  vicinity  
state New Jersey code NJ county Warren code 041 zip code 08865  
Hunterdon 019 08848

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally.  See continuation sheet for additional comments.

[Signature] 3/4/10  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	Signature of the Keeper _____	Date of Action _____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:) _____	_____	_____

Name of Property

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	
97	52	buildings
5	0	sites
6	0	structures
0		objects
108	52	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**

1

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/ single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/ secondary structure
- AGRICULTURE/ storage
- AGRICULTURE/ agricultural outbuildings
- COMMERCE/ specialty store
- RELIGION/ cemetery & church
- INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility
- TRANSPORTATION/ bridge

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/ single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/ secondary structure
- RELIGION/ cemetery & church
- AGRICULTURE/ storage
- AGRICULTURE/ agricultural outbuildings
- TRANSPORTATION/ bridge

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- COLONIAL/ Georgian
- EARLY REPUBLIC/ Federal
- MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY/ Greek Revival
- LATE VICTORIAN/ Italianate
- LATE VICTORIAN/ Queen Anne
- LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> C. MOVEMENT/ Bungalow
- LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> C. REVIVAL/ Colonial Revival

**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.)

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Continuation Sheet**Finesville-Seigletown Historic District  
Hunterdon & Warren Counties, NJSection number 7 Page 1**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

Located in the Highlands geographical province of northwestern New Jersey, the Finesville-Seigletown Historic District encompasses adjoining villages (Finesville and its smaller eastern neighbor Seigletown) which developed around mill sites on the Musconetcong River, the boundary between Hunterdon and Warren Counties, less than two miles upstream from its confluence with the Delaware River. The district, for the most part, extends linearly along an approximately one mile stretch of County Route 627 on the north side of the Musconetcong, but encompasses a short segment of Mount Joy Road, a crossroad in Finesville, which leads to the bridge over the river, and another short street, Musconetcong Street, which runs along the river between those two roads, as well as a cluster of buildings on the south side of the river on Mt. Joy and Bellis Roads in Hunterdon County. A small cemetery just west of district constitutes a non-contiguous element. The district includes one property, the Seigle Homestead (inventory #62), which is individually listed on the New Jersey and National Registers. The Finesville-Seigletown Historic District encompasses all that survives of the historic villages and adjoining land associated with their development, but excludes adjoining modern residential development. While mostly residential, the district has a cluster of industrial, commercial and institutional buildings near the crossroads and bridge, and a few others are scattered throughout the district. Non-residential uses in the district currently include the two churches, one of the industrial buildings, a winery (which occupies a 19th century farmstead) and a small service station dating to the mid 20<sup>th</sup>-century. Most of the buildings occupy small lots and have short set backs from the road; a few –mostly farmsteads– occupy much larger parcels. The streetscape is rather tight around the Finesville crossroads and in the middle of Seigletown, but is somewhat more open elsewhere. The landscape surrounding the district is mostly open farmland with scattered farmsteads and modern, large-lot residential development.

Roads in the district follow their original routes, which provided external connections westward to the Delaware River at present-day Riegelsville, less than two miles away, where manufactured and agricultural products could be shipped downriver to Trenton and Philadelphia (first by Durham boat on the river and then by canal and railroad) and northeastward several miles to the old New Jersey Turnpike (the present-day Route 78/22 corridor), which linked the market town of Easton, Pennsylvania, and New Brunswick, New Jersey. Although no road survey survives, the main road through the village (County Route 627) is a Colonial-era road in use at least as early as 1774, when Sherk's Ferry was established across the Delaware at Riegelsville. First improved in the 1920s and now paved with asphalt, County Route 627 features one travel lane in each direction with painted center and side lines and no or narrow shoulders; the other streets are paved, single-lane township roads without shoulders. The minimal signage in the district consists of standard road identification and traffic control signs.

Buildings, ninety-seven in number, constitute the most numerous contributing resource type in the district. They are 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century dwellings and various agricultural and domestic outbuildings but also include several early industrial, commercial, and institutional buildings: three industrial buildings, two stores, two churches, a schoolhouse and a tavern, a number of which have been converted to new compatible uses. The district's other contributing resources encompass five sites (the cemetery and the ruins of five buildings), and five structures (three limekilns, a truss bridge, an dam/mill hydro system). The district contains fifty-two non contributing buildings, mostly modern garages and other outbuildings, as well as several modern dwellings

The district is dominated by modestly scaled gable-roofed vernacular buildings of stone or frame construction ranging in date from the late 18<sup>th</sup> to the early the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and exhibiting simple stylistic embellishments characteristic of that era. Most have retained their historic form and a fair amount of early detailing, and, although many have been renovated or enlarged, these alterations do not significantly affect the character of the district. There are also a much smaller number of more recent buildings, mainly outbuildings such as garages and sheds, but also some infill houses.

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which in general are compatible in siting, scale, and form. Most district buildings are closely spaced on small lots and face the road with short setbacks, although around the perimeter of the district and between the two village cores farmsteads and other dwellings are more loosely grouped and have greater setbacks from the road. Several agricultural parcels within and adjoining the district are preserved open space or have protective easements. In general, dwellings in closer proximity to the roads face the road, although there are a number sited perpendicularly for a southern exposure, an orientation characteristic of the region's early architecture. Buildings generally are in good condition and well-maintained surrounding yards similarly are well groomed, often featuring large trees and mature plantings. A distinctive streetscape feature is a series of stone retaining walls in front of some houses on the north side of Route 627 in Finesville, which probably date to the 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The district's dwellings are, in general, simply detailed and are of frame or stone construction, ranging in date from around 1800 to about 1930, a notable exception being the Seigle Homestead, a late 18<sup>th</sup> century house (inventory #62, photo # 13), a rare surviving example of two-story hewn-log construction. The district contains about two dozen early stone dwellings whose masonry, either coursed rubble or stucco-coated rubble masonry, is typical of vernacular regional practices. Representative examples include inventory #s 12, 14, 17, 24, 34, 44, 47, 53, 55, 58 59, 61, 64, 75-81, 83 and 84, photos #s 1, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18 and 19). A few houses, like #s 30 and 59 (photo #'s 9 10), exhibit more carefully cut and dressed, ashlar-like stonework. Except for chimneys, brick was rarely used in the district; the notable exception are a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century I-type dwelling (inventory #77) and is large three-story combination social hall/residence of late 19th century date (inventory #11, photo #1).

A number of different traditional house types are found within the district and make up a substantial portion of the dwellings. The two-story, single-pile, gable-roofed house type with interior gable-end chimneys, termed the I-type by cultural geographers, predominates among the district 19<sup>th</sup>-century housing stock, not doubt a reflection of the influence of the Delaware Valley culture region, where the I-type became ubiquitous in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Examples include #s 13, 14, 24, 30, 44, 58-60, 59, 75-79 81, 83 and 84 (photo #s 3, 9, 18 and 19), of which #s 44, 59, 77 and 84 exemplify the distinctive two-room-plan version with paired inner bay front entries. The former tavern at inventory #80 also conforms to the I-type. There is at least one example of a single pile, two-story dwelling with center hall plan that represents a Georgian transformation of the I-type (inventory #4). Double-pile, 2-story house are much less common, examples include #s 47, 61, 64 and 66 and 68, of which #68 (photo #15) represents a late 19<sup>th</sup>-century example of the Georgian center-hall plan type and #s 64 (photo #14), 66 and 76, side-hall-plan variants. Traditional one and one-half story houses are not common in the district. A small, early one room-plan example survives at #34. It has a bank cellar, like the much large example, #17, which was expanded linearly in three builds. Three other, stone one-room-plan examples serve as kitchen wings for larger houses (inventory #s 17, 19 and 76; one frame house (inventory #35) is two-room plan version. Bank cellar and linear expansion are two distinctive features of many district houses that are also characteristic of much of the region's early vernacular architecture; other examples include #s 14, 30, 44, 53, 61, 62, 79, 83 and 84 (photos #s 3, 5, 11 and 14). Some of these linearly expanded houses probably served as multifamily dwellings; house #83 (photo #19), built in three sections, is a likely candidate.

Dating to the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries is a smaller group of dwellings that represent popular house types, which began to appear in the region by the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and continued to be built well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, eventually completely supplanting the traditional house types. Included in this category is gable-front dwelling type (inventory #85, photo #20) and the hip-roofed type sometime referred to as the "four-square" (inventory #73, photo #17). Another popular house type found in the district is the bungalow, of which there are several early 20<sup>th</sup> century examples (inventory #s 8, 9, 10, 56, 57 and 82).

A number district dwellings exhibit influences of the various architectural styles popular from the late 18<sup>th</sup> to the early 20th centuries. Acceptance of classical ideas of symmetry can be seen in the number of house that have symmetri-

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cal fenestration patterns and center or side-hall plans (inventory #s 30, 44, 53, 59, 64, 68 and 78, photo #s 10, 11, 15 and 18). Georgian style influences also are evident in the window lintels with enlarged keystone on the front of façade of one early 19<sup>th</sup>-century house (inventory #19, photo #5). Federal style influences similarly are evident in the fan-lighted front entry with delicate flanking pilasters and Adamesque patera that graces the early 19<sup>th</sup>-century house (inventory #30, photo #10). The large turned posts gracing the porch of one early 19<sup>th</sup>-century house (inventory #84) may represent a folk interpretation of a classical column (or alternately "folk" Queen Anne style posts). Several mid 19<sup>th</sup> century dwellings feature cross gables that evoke the Gothic Revival style (#s 68 and 86, photo #15), and Italianate style influences are evident in the small porch with simple cornice and molded square posts at #77. House #68 (photo #15), one of the district's largest dwellings (which was owned by one of Finesville's industrial proprietors), exhibits relatively elaborate Gothic Revival and Italianate style detailing, which besides the front cross gable includes bargeboards, paired cornice brackets and full-width front porch with spandrel brackets and robust turned posts. One district house (inventory #32), built as a parsonage for the Methodist church in 1889, reveals Eastlake/Stick style influences. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, detailing associated with the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival style entered the local building vocabulary. One house (inventory #74, photo #17) exhibits Queen Anne-influenced shingle work, turned porch posts and elaborate railing and spandrel brackets, as its roughly contemporary neighbor (inventory #73, photo #17) similarly conforms to the Colonial Revival mode with its pedimented gables, modillion bracketed cornices and Tuscan porch columns. Craftsman influences are apparent in the bungalows at inventory #s 8, 9, 10, 56, 57 and 82, which exhibit such features as broad overhanging eaves and massive porch posts on pedestals.

A number of industrial, commercial, institutional and buildings punctuate the village streetscape. Three 19<sup>th</sup>-century mill buildings survive. Probably the oldest of the three, the woolen factory (inventory #21, photo #6), is a stone, 3-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed building erected by Philip Fine (II) circa 1810, whose coursed rubble stone walls are pierced by fairly large, regularly spaced windows that would have provided the woolen workers much needed light. It shared a mill dam with the Fine grist mill on the south side of the river, which began as a stone, gable-fronted, 2-story mill, probably erected by Philip Fine (I) about 1800, which was extensively rebuilt and enlarged circa 1860 to accommodate a paper mill established by John L. Riegel (inventory #s 16 and 16a). Converted into a knife factory a few years later by Taylor, Stiles and Company, the building again underwent renovations circa 1940. This work, judging by a historic photo and current conditions, retained the earlier buildings' stone walls and fenestration pattern, but introduced a flat roof in place of a gable roof, new windows and stucco siding. The mill dam and portions of a raceway associated with these mills remain (inventory #15a, photo #6). The Seigletown mill (inventory #50) evidently began as a stone gable roofed block, apparently erected as a clover mill in the early 1800s, which was converted into a gristmill and acquired a frame extension in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. While several dwellings may have accommodated stores at one time (inventory #s 12, 13, 17 and 47, photo #s 1 and 4), the district's one extant commercial building is a one-story gable-fronted store of late 19<sup>th</sup> century date (inventory #34), which typical of its gable-fronted type has a wide central entry flanked by over-sized windows and shaded by a full width porch. The front gable features decorative shingling and stick work. The Finesville Hotel (inventory #80) consists of a stuccoed-stone, four-bay, I-type dwelling with four-bay east extension and rear appendage.

A number of institutional buildings also survive in the district. At the crossroads in Finesville stands the Finesville Methodist Episcopal church (inventory #33; photo #8), a stuccoed-stone building that was erected in 1835 as a house of worship serving four congregations and was extensively remodeled in 1879. A rectangular block with gable-end entry and belfry, it conforms to the 18<sup>th</sup>-century gable-fronted meetinghouse formula and reveals Italianate influences in its squat belfry, broad eaves and segmental-arched windows and front entry with molded hood. Because of the sloping ground the basement is fully above grade on the rear, providing a social hall. The district's second church (inventory #70, photo #16), erected by a Christian congregation in 1877, is another stuccoed-stone, gable-fronted building. It has two stories, a low basement providing social hall and a much higher upper story sanctuary. It also exhibits simple

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Italianate style influence, featuring wide eaves with paneled soffit and returns, attenuated windows, and segmental-arched entry with panel doors. The small stone-walled cemetery, a former family graveyard acquired for use by the four congregations in 1835, contains headstones dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. A one-room schoolhouse was erected between the two villages sometime in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century (inventory #69). The stuccoed-stone, 1-story, gable-fronted buildings also retains modest Italianate style detailing, consisting of a round-arched gable window and a broad eaves cornice with returns, but lost its original fenestration upon residential conversion after it was abandoned for school purposes. One district building (inventory #11, photo #1) evidently was purpose to accommodate a social hall and residential use. Erected during the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the brick, three-story gable roofed buildings features a regular five bay fenestration with segmental-arched windows and three entries; the broad eaves cornices originally had brackets that were remove some years ago.

There are a large number of agricultural and domestic outbuildings in the district, most of which date to the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century and are of stone and/or frame construction. Associated with district farmsteads are several stone and frame barn barns, some of which have ells and other appendages and most of which evidently date to the middle decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (inventory #s 4, 17, 20, 41, 53, 61 and 65 are examples, photo #'s 4, 6, 11 and 12). Wagon houses and small barns, with either gable end or side wall entries are found at many of district properties; representative examples, mostly of frame construction are found (inventory #s, 17, 20, 55, 60 72, 85 and 87, photo #'s 4, 6, 20, 21). Other district outbuildings include several stone spring houses (inventory #s 31, 35 and 54); two stone out kitchens (inventory #s 59, which is attached to the house, and 62, photo # 13) and the stone fireplace and chimney surviving from a third (inventory #19, photo # 5); a brick ice house (inventory #69) and at least one privy (inventory #54). Many district houses also have small garages of 20<sup>th</sup>-century date (inventory #s 30, 42, 42, 49, 63 and 82 are examples, photo #'s 9 and 10). The district also contains three small, stone, one-bay limekilns (inventory #s 22, 87 and 88, photo #s 7 & 21), which feature barrel vaulted arched openings on the front.

One final important district resource is the truss bridge spanning the Musconetcong River at Finesville (inventory #15, photo #4). Dating to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, it is a single span, eight-panel Pratt thru truss bridge and the only known example of the work of C. M. Rusling, a bridge builder from Hackettstown.

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). References are included where appropriate to earlier county and township surveys (the Warren County's survey, for example, denoted by "MAAR").

- 1 **Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.49) Moderate-sized, tree-lined **cemetery**. Contains a variety of 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> century **gravestones** c. 1837-1940. Surrounded by a dry laid **fieldstone wall** capped with concrete.

**Style:** none

**Date:** 19<sup>th</sup> to 20th century, c. 1837-1923

**Additional description:**

**Outbuildings:** None

Contributing B115-L13

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2 [site number deleted]

3 [site number deleted]

4 **112-116 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.50) (Chelsea Forge Antiques). Stone, 2 ½ -story, 8-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** consisting of a 5-bay, center-entry unit (with interior gable-end chimneys) and a 3 bay east extension (with interior gable-end chimney); two chimneys have brick stacks and one with stucco stack. House appears to have been stuccoed originally

**Style:** Italianate influences

**Date:** mid 19th century

**Additional description:** Exterior features include flush eaves, 6/6 sash windows with louvered shutters, knee-wall attic story windows with decorative grill, transomed front entry with molded surround, 3-bay front porch with box cornice, spandrel brackets and chamfer-cornered square posts on pedestals.

**Outbuildings:** (1) Frame and stone, 2-story, gable-roofed **bank barn** (now used as commercial space) with a rear, 1-story, gable-roofed appendage, a stone foundation and clapboard siding (mid 19<sup>th</sup>) (C); (2) stone, 1-story, gable-roofed barn with metal roof and side entry (mid 19<sup>th</sup>)(C).

Contributing B115-L14.01

5 **Two house ruins** The roof-less and collapsing ruins of what appears to have been two 2-room-plan I-type dwellings.

**Style:** none

**Date/history:** early 19<sup>th</sup> century

**Additional description:**

Contributing B 115-L16

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- 6      **140 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.64) Frame, 2-story, 2 over 3-bay, gable-fronted **dwelling** with rear and side, 2-story appendage and exterior chimney with brick stack
- Style:** Craftsman embellishment
- Date:** late 19th century.
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, 1/1 sash windows, centrally located front entry door flanked by two 1/1 sash windows; the hip-roofed porch with tapered square posts on cement-block pedestals is an early 20<sup>th</sup>-century, Craftsman style embellishment.
- Outbuildings:** Frame, 1-story, gable-roofed **garage** (Early 20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)
- Contributing B115-L17
- 7      **144 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.63) Frame, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with 2 interior gable end chimneys with brick stacks and rear 1-story, shed-roofed addition.
- Style:** none
- Date:** early/mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- Additional description:** Exterior features include box cornice with returns, aluminum siding, newer 1/1 sash windows, paired inner bay front entries, and a shed porch (late 20<sup>th</sup> century replacement) with square posts.
- Outbuildings:** Frame, 1-story **shed** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)
- Contributing      B115-L18
- 8      **148 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.62) Frame, 1-story, 3-bay, hipped roof **dwelling** with southern side exterior chimney with brick stack
- Style:** Craftsman Bungalow
- Date:** c.1910-30
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, vinyl siding, slightly offset front door flanked by 6/1 and 8/1 sash windows, gable-fronted porch with square tapered posts on masonry pedestals and small rear small, shed roof porch.
- Outbuildings:** Frame, 1-story, 1-bay hipped roofed **garage** (Early 20<sup>th</sup>)(C)
- Contributing      B115-L19

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- 9**      **199 Mt. Joy Road.** (MAAR # 2120.61) Frame, 1-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with east side carport and exterior brick chimney.
- Style:** ranch
- Date:** c.1950s
- Additional description:** Exterior features include modern louvered shutters, a centrally located wood and panel front entry door flanked by an oversized bay window and 2 smaller windows and a concrete front porch with metal railings.
- Outbuildings:** none
- Non-contributing    B 115-L20
- 10**      **197 Mt. Joy Road.** (MAAR # 2120.60) Frame, 1-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with chimney on the west side.
- Style:** ranch
- Date:** c. 1950s
- Additional description:** Exterior features include modern louvered shutters, centrally located wood and panel front door flanked by 2 oversized windows and a concrete front porch with metal railings.
- Outbuildings:** none
- Non-contributing    B115-L20.01
- 11**      **191 Mt. Joy Road.** (MAAR # 2120.59) ("Mechanic's Hall) Brick, 3-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed **social hall/ dwelling** with east and west side exterior chimneys with brick stacks.
- Style:** Italianate influences
- Date:** c.1874-1890. An early 20<sup>th</sup>-century post card view of this building bears the inscription "Mechanic's Hall Finesville, N. J."
- Additional description:** Exterior features include box cornice with returns, segmental arched 2/2 sash windows and a three front entry (occupying the center and end bay) with transoms, panel doors and stone stoops. The MAAR Architectural Survey of 1991 indicates that the building featured paired carved wood cornice brackets, at that date.
- Outbuildings:** none
- Contributing        B115-L21                      Photo # 1

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- 12 **187 Mt. Joy Road.** (MAAR # 2120.58) Stuccoed-stone, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with 2 interior end chimneys (brick stacks) and a rear ell.

**Style:** Craftsman embellishment

**Date:** c. 1810-40

**Additional description:** Exterior features include box cornice with returns, 6/6 sash windows, paired inner-bay front entries, a hipped-roof 4-bay porch with square posts on brick pedestals. The vinyl siding on the front presumably was installed as a protection against moisture penetration.

**Outbuildings:** none

Contributing      B115-L22                      Photo # 1

- 13 **185 Mt. Joy Road.** (MAAR # 2120.57) Stone, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with 2 interior end chimneys, and a small side, 1-story, 1-bay shed appendage; the stone on the front façade is laid in a random ashlar pattern.

**Style:** Georgian/Federal influences

**Date:** c. 1820. This may be the "storehouse" identified in a 1834 deed for property across the road and evidently is located on the small lot acquired by Philip Fine III "the merchant" from his father in 1816 (Sussex county Deeds, Book E2, page 281 and Warren County Deeds, book 12, page 292. The 1874 Beers atlas depicts a 1-story western side addition on a separate lot from the main house; this house is labeled "Store" on the atlas while 181 Mt. Joy Road, which shared the same lot as the main house, is labeled "Res."

**Additional description:** Exterior features include flush eaves, 6/6 sash windows with molded surrounds, small paired 4-pane gable windows, and two front entries (north inner bay and south end bay) with panel doors. A pent roof with cove cornice extends the length of the building front the first and second floors and appears to be an early feature.

**Outbuildings:** Stone, 1-story, gable-roofed **springhouse** with gable-end entry (19<sup>th</sup>)(C).

Contributing      B115-L23                      Photo # 1 & 2

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14 **181 Mt. Joy Road.** (MAAR # 2120.56) Rubble stone, 2-story, gable-roofed, single-pile **dwelling** evidently consisting of a 2-over-3-bay I-type units with interior gable end chimneys (brick stacks) and a 2-bay west extension with interior end chimney (brick stack)s. The house sits perpendicular to the road facing the river.

**Style:** Georgian influences

**Date:** early 19<sup>th</sup> century. According to the 1874 Beers atlas, this building was located on the same lot as 185 Mt. Joy Road and a third building, which is no longer standing. This house is labeled 'Res' on the map while number 185 is labeled 'Store'. The footprint of a west side addition to this house, which no longer exists, also appears on this map.

**Additional description:** Exterior features include flush eaves, 6/6 sash windows with architrave trim, small paired 4-pane gable windows and two recessed front entries with panel doors. The paired "columns" of ashlar quoins aligned with the interior chimney (matching those on the corners of the house) are evidence that it was built in two sections..

**Outbuildings:** Frame, 1-story, gable-roofed **shed** with slate roof (mid 19<sup>th</sup>)(C)

Contributing B115-L24

15 **Mt. Joy Road Bridge.** Single-span eight-panel pin-connected Pratt thru truss **bridge** with stone abutments (NJ Bridge Survey # 10XXH64; (Hunterdon/Warren county bridge # H64W).

**Type:** Pratt through truss

**Date:** late 19<sup>th</sup> century. According to New Jersey Historic Bridge Survey, this is the only known example of the a bridge manufactured by G. M. Russling of Hackettstown, NJ

**Additional description:** Exterior features include inscription on iron panels at both ends of the bridge: "C. M. Russling Hackettstown NJ" and "Warren Committee - Isaac S. Laubach - Moses DeWitt - Henry Walters - Henry Metz".

**Outbuildings:** None

Contributing B117-L2 (Pohatcong) and B4-L12 (Holland)

15a **Mill dam and hydrosystem.** Concrete reconstruction of earlier dam, possibly incorporating earlier stonework. Hydrosystem remnants consisting of raceway along south bank of the river

**Date:** original dam early 19<sup>th</sup> century (present configuration and dam and raceway depicted in 1874 Beers atlas); concrete reconstruction early/mid 20<sup>th</sup> century

Contributing B117-L2 (Pohatcong) and B4-L12 (Holland) Photo # 6

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- 16 **179 Mt. Joy Road.** (Former Taylor Stiles & Co.) Large **factory** consisting of a 2-story, flat-roofed, stuccoed stone main block (3-bays wide and 6-bays deep) with 2-story north appendage (first story masonry, second story frame with asbestos shingle siding) and a large 1-and 1/2-story, stuccoed masonry west addition with appendages.

**Style:** modern Colonial Revival embellishment

**Date/History:** Main block, possibly the mill built c. 1800 by Philip Fine (I), reconstructed and enlarged to south c. 1860 after a fire for conversion into a paper mill; converted into the knife manufactory of Taylor, Stiles and Company c. 1870; 20<sup>th</sup> century renovations including removal of main block gable roof and window replacement. Pre-1924 photograph documents that the main block had a gable-roof, stacked entries on the south gable end, and its present fenestration pattern. The north addition appears to be currently used as a residence

**Additional description:** Exterior features include a variety of windows (metal and wooden multi-pane sashes, pedimented Colonial Revival entry on north addition, and 2-story garage door opening on south side, and various other entries.

**Outbuildings:** Frame, 1-story, 5-bay **garage/shed/workshop** on the opposite side of the road (early 20<sup>th</sup>) (C).

Contributing B12-L3 & B4- L12 (outbuilding)- Holland Township, Hunterdon County  
Photo # 3

- 17 **380 Mt Joy Road.** Embanked, coursed rubble-stone, 1 and 1/2-story, 8-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** built in three sections with two interior gable-end chimneys and two interior chimneys (brick stacks), the basement story is fully above ground on the road front, giving a two-story appearance.

**Style:** Queen Anne embellishment

**Date/history:** c. 1800, possibly earlier in part; enlarged c. 1800-1830. Located across the road from his mill, this probably was the residence of Philip Fine (I) and may have housed his store as well. Recorded in. Holland Township Barn Survey # 20.

**Additional description:** Exterior features include flush eaves, sash windows with louvered shutters, several front entries on basement and first-story level, gable dormers with 6/6 windows, and a 2-story shed-roofed, full-width front porch whose turned posts and railings are c. 1900 replacements.

**Outbuilding:** (1) Stone and frame, 2-story, gable-roofed **barn** with clapboard siding with large, 2-story ell (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (2) frame, 1-story, double-width **wagon house** with corn crib on the north and south sides, paired wagon doors (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (3) stone wall opening to **root cellar** (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (4) frame, 2-bay open wagon house with no roof or siding (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (5) frame **chicken house** (early 20<sup>th</sup>) (NC); (6) concrete batten **silos** (mid 20<sup>th</sup>) (NC); (7) **milk house** with partially collapsed roof (mid 20<sup>th</sup>) (NC).

Contributing B9-L8.07 - Holland Township, Hunterdon County Photo # 4

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18 **33 Bellis Road.** Frame, 1 and 1/2-story, 2-bay, gable-fronted dwelling with 1-story, gable-roofed side appendage.

**Style:** none

**Date/history:** 19<sup>th</sup> century

**Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, novelty siding, 6/6 sash windows and entry with panel door.

**Outbuilding:** None

Contributing B4-L11- Holland Township, Hunterdon County

19 **96 Bellis Road.** Stone, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed dwelling with 2 interior gable-end chimneys (stone stacks) and a, 1 and 1/2-story, gable-roofed rear wing with interior chimney (brick stack).

**Style:** Georgian influences; Craftsman embellishment

**Date/history:** c.1811, perhaps somewhat earlier. This house probably was erect and occupied by Philip Fine (II) soon after acquiring the property from his siblings after their father's death [New Jersey Deeds, Book AV, page 43]. He referred to it as his upper farm in his 1834 will and reserved rooms on the first and second stories for the use of his widow [New Jersey Wills, 4126J]. Holland Township Barn Survey # 18

**Additional description:** The coursed rubble stone work is distinguished by the large-keyed Georgian lintels on the front elevation, as well as large corner quoins. Other features include box cornice flush eaves, 1/1 sash windows with louvered shutters, small paired gable windows, glass and panel door sheltered by a stick-bracketed gable hood. The use of hand-wrought nails in interior construction (communication from preservation consultant Carla Cielo dated 9/14/2009) suggests that the dwelling may have been erected somewhat earlier.

**Outbuilding:** On house lot (1) frame, gable-roofed privy (19<sup>th</sup>) (C); (1a) frame, gable-roofed smokehouse (19<sup>th</sup>) (C) (2) Stone fireplace and chimney remains of out kitchen (19<sup>th</sup>) (C). Across the road (3) Frame, 3-story, gable-roofed wagon house with clapboard siding, 6/6 windows, gable-end entry with large barn doors, fieldstone foundation and stone lined earthen ramp on west side (19<sup>th</sup>) (C); (4) stuccoed stone, 1-story, "pig house" with attic/loft (19<sup>th</sup>)(C).

Contributing B9-L1 (house), B4-L8.02 (barn and pig house) - Holland Twp., Hunterdon

Photo # 5

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- 20** **105 Bellis Road.** Stone, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed barn made into a dwelling with 1 interior and 1 exterior pipe chimney

**Style/type:** Ground-level German barn

**Date/history:** Mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, perhaps earlier; residential conversion late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Property originally associated with the Fine house across the road (inventory # 19); 1860 farm map of Alexandria depicts John Wieder as owner of both. Holland Township Barn Survey # 18

**Additional description:** Exterior features include slate roof, dressed stone corners, casement and picture windows and wood second story deck.

**Outbuilding:** Small, frame, 1-story shed-roofed shed (20<sup>th</sup>) (NC).

Contributing B4-L8.01 - Holland Township, Hunterdon County Photo # 6

- 21** **182 Mt. Joy Road.** (MAAR # 2120.55) Stone, 3-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed woolen mill (converted to residential use) with interior gable-end chimney (brick stack)

**Style:** none

**Date/history:** c. 1807-1810. In 1807, Philip fine (II) purchased a one-acre lot at the north end of the bridge subdivided from the old forge tract by his father and presumably erected the large stone woolen mill around that time or shortly thereafter [Sussex County Deeds, Book Q, page 329]. A frame appendage on the west side was removed in the 1920s.

**Additional description:** Exterior features include wood shingle roof, modern 6/6 windows with wood lintels and modern glass and panel door.

**Outbuildings:** None

Contributing B117-L1

- 22** **Musconetcong Street.** (MAAR # 2120.112) Limekiln with single bay stone arch partially filled in from the rear.

**Date:** early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Additional description:** Height 25 feet, base width 21 feet, top width 14 feet; bay 7-8 feet wide, 8 feet high in front, reduced to 4 feet wide and 5 feet high at the rear.

**Outbuildings:** none

Contributing B116-L10 Photo # 7

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- 23      **33 Musconetcong Street.** (MAAR # 2120.111) Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed, **dwelling** with rear addition and 1-story additions at the north and south ends, one of which appears to be a garage.
- Style: none
- Date: 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, vinyl siding, 1/1 sash windows, one first floor window altered into a multi-pane picture window, the front entry door with later hipped-roof overhang.
- Outbuildings:** None
- Contributing      B116-L12
- 24      **23 Musconetcong Street.** (MAAR # 2120.110) Rubble-stone, 2-story, 2-bay, gable-roofed, I-house plan **dwelling** with 1 interior end chimney (brick stack) and 2-story rear frame addition the width of the house. the exterior originally was stuccoed, incised to create an ashlar stone pattern.
- Style: none
- Date: c. 1830-50
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves and returns, rubble stone, altered 12/12 sash windows with solid shutters, and affront entry with transom and panel door.
- Outbuildings:** none
- Contributing      B116-L13
- 25      **19 Musconetcong Street.** (MAAR # 2120.109) Frame, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed, I-type **dwelling** with 1 interior gable-end chimney (brick stack) and a rear 2-story frame addition.
- Style: none
- Date: mid/late 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, vinyl siding, 1/1 sash windows, paired inner bay front entries, and shed-roof porch; the porch has been reworked and a modern "picture" window installed.
- Outbuilding:** Frame, 1 -story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **garage** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)
- Contributing      B116-L14

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- 26        **15 Musconetcong Street.** Frame, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with side 1-story appendage  
**Style/type:** Bi-level  
**Date:** late 20<sup>th</sup> century  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include vinyl and brick siding and gable porch with 2-story columns  
**Outbuilding:** none  
Non-contributing B116-L15.01
- 27        **13 Musconetcong Street.** (MAAR # 2120.108) Frame, 1-story, cross-gabled **dwelling** with interior chimney with brick stack and 1-bay attached garage.  
**Style:** none  
**Date:** mid/late 20<sup>th</sup> century  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include vinyl siding and multi-paned windows.  
**Outbuilding:** none  
Non-contributing        B 116-L15
- 28        **11 Musconetcong Street.** Frame, 1-story, gable-roofed **dwelling** with exterior chimney with brick stack and 1-bay garage appendage to one side.  
**Style:** Cape Cod  
**Date:** mid 20<sup>th</sup> century  
**Outbuilding:** none  
Non-contributing        B116-L16
- 29        Finesville **Park.** 2-acre township-owned park with ball field and playground.  
**Date:** Land acquired from Taylor Stiles & Co. by township in 1951 and developed as a park.  
**Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-story, gable-roofed **snack bar** (late 20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)  
Non-contributing        B116-L17

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- 30 **184-188 Mt. Joy Road.** (MAAR # 2120.54) Stone, 2-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** consisting of a 4-bay I-type unit with interior gable-end chimneys (brick stacks) and a 2-over-3-bay south extension; rear appendage.

**Style:** Federal influences

**Date/history:** In 1814, Philip Fine (II) "merchant miller" sold this small lot just north of the woolen factory to their son Philip Fine (III), "merchant," for \$65, and the latter presumably erected this house shortly thereafter [Sussex County Deeds, A2, page 499]

**Additional description:** Exterior features box cornice and flush raking eaves, 6/6 and 9/6 sash windows with architrave trim, three front entries (the middle one of which may replace a window), and a shed-roofed, full-width front porch with square posts. The main entry in the western section has a distinctive Sussex County Deeds, A2, page 499 Federal style treatment comprised of a fanlight, panel doors and elaborate surround comprised of paneled flanking pilasters with patera above them.

**Outbuildings:** (1) Frame, 1-story, 1-bay **garage** (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (2) block and frame, 1-story **shed** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC); (3) block and frame, 1-story, 1-bay **garage** 20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)

Contributing      B116-L18, 19, 20      Photo # 9 & 10

- 31 **190 Mt. Joy Road.** (MAAR # 2120.53) Frame, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with an eastern side stuccoed chimney and a 2-story rear addition.

**Style:** none

**Date:** mid/late 19<sup>th</sup> century

**Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves and returns, a first floor facade clad in masonry, vinyl siding, 1/1 sash windows, 2 double sash windows with original fenestration pattern on the second floor, an altered offset front entry door, and a hipped-roof porch with metal railing and posts extends across the front elevation.

**Outbuildings:** Stone, 1-story, 1-bay, gable-roofed **springhouse** with side entry

Contributing      B116-L21

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- 32      **196 Mt. Joy Road.** (MAAR # 2120.52) Methodist Parsonage. Frame, 2-story, 2-bay, cross-gabled dwelling with center stuccoed interior chimney
- Style:** Stick/Eastlake/Queen Anne influences
- Date:** 1889
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves with circular exposed rafter ends, slate roof, a western clapboard-sided half house with front and small side gables with windows. The first and second floor front sash windows are doubled and the side includes a 2-bay fenestration pattern. The eastern clapboard and fish scale-sided half of the house is gable-roofed with a steeply pitched roof extending down over a front porch and a small rear addition. Many of the windows on both sides feature large square panes of glass surrounded by smaller panes.
- Outbuildings:** none
- Contributing B116-L1.01
- 33      **150 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.51) United Methodist Church. Stuccoed- stone, 1-story, 3-bay, gable-fronted church with basement story fully above grade on the rear or south elevation
- Style:** Greek Revival/Italianate influences
- Date:** 1835 and extensively remodeled in 1879. A stone above the entrance reads: "Finesville M.E. Church Erected A.D. 1879" Set at the main intersection in the Village where the Union Church once stood, as evidenced by the 1874 Beers map. According to the 1881 Warren County history [page 601] the old Union Church of 1835 was extensively renovated to create the present church.
- Additional description:** The Greek Revival style full entablature with returns at the roof eaves conceivably could survive from the 1835 church. Other exterior features, Italianate in feeling and dating to the 1879 renovations, include the squat belfry with a pedimented cornice, segmental-arched windows and double-doored front entry with elaborate hood moldings. The stained glass 1/1 sash windows probably date to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The bell hanging in the belfry bears the following inscription: "Cast by the Clinton H. Meneeley Bell Co., Troy, N.Y. A.D. 1882".)
- Outbuildings:** none
- Contributing B116-L1      Photo # 8

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- 34 **152 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.107) Frame, 1 ½ -story, 2 over 3-bay, gable-fronted **commercial building** with stone embanked cellar; abutting its east side is a stuccoed-stone 1 and ½-story, 3-bay, one-room-plan unit with interior gable-end chimney (brick stack) and embanked cellar.

**Style:** Stick/Queen Anne influences

**Date:** stone section, early 19<sup>th</sup> century; frame section, late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Additional description:** Exterior features of the stone section includes overhanging eaves, a centrally located front entry door flanked by a pair of 6/6 sash windows; the ghost of a 1-bay entry porch can be seen on the front wall. The larger frame section typical of its gable-fronted commercial type has a wide central entry flanked by large windows and shaded by a full width porch with turned posts. The front gable features decorative shingling and stick work; the flanking windows may be replacements of large display windows.

**Outbuildings:** none

Contributing B116-L2

- 35 **158 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.106) Frame, 1 ½ -story, 2-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with 1-story, 1-bay north side addition with interior end chimney with brick stack.

**Style:** none

**Date:** mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Additional description:** Exterior features include aluminum siding, small upper story windows, 1/1 sash windows with shutters, 3 entry doors (western door is panel and 2 eastern doors are glass and panel) and a shed porch with square posts that extends the entire length of the building.

**Outbuilding:** (1) Stone, 1-story, 1-bay **springhouse** (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (2) block and frame, 1-story, 1-bay gable-roofed garage with gable-end entry (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)

Contributing B116-L3

- 36 **Route 627.** 1 ½-story, 4-bay **garage.** Garage for 159 Route 627 (#84)

**Style:** none

**Date:** late 20<sup>th</sup> century

Non-contributing B116-L4

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37 **170 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.105) Frame, 1-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with an exterior chimney with brick stack and a north side 1-story addition

**Style:** Craftsman influences

**Date:** c. 1910-30

**Additional description:** Exterior features include clapboard siding, two dormers, two porches (one surrounding the front door with lattice posts and one on the southern side).

**Outbuilding:** 1-story, 1-bay **garage** with batten doors and gable-end entry (early 19<sup>th</sup>)(NC)

Non-contributing B116-L5

38 **180 Route 627.** Masonry, 1-story, 4-bay, flat-roofed **commercial building**

**Style:** none

**Date:** c. 1950

**Outbuilding:** none

Non-contributing B116-L6

39 **182 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.104) Frame, 2-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed, single-pile **dwelling** with a 1-story rear addition and exterior chimney with brick stack on the north side.

**Style:** Colonial Revival embellishment

**Date:** late 19<sup>th</sup> century, possibly earlier

**Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves with returns, aluminum siding, 1/1 sash windows, central front entry and porch with box cornice and Tuscan columns.

**Outbuilding:** 1-story, 2-bay **garage** (Early 20<sup>th</sup>)(C)

Contributing B116-L6.01

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- 40**      **188 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.103) Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with exterior north side chimney and rear, 2-story appendage.
- Style:** Gothic Revival embellishment
- Date:** mid/late 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, , clapboard siding, 1/1 sash windows, central front entry, and porch which retains portions of an elaborate tracery bargeboard at its eaves and brackets.
- Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-bay, gable-roofed **garage** (20<sup>th</sup> century)(NC).
- Contributing      B116-L7
- 41**      **194 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.102) Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-fronted **dwelling** with central chimney (brick stack) and 2-story, gable-roofed east addition
- Style:** none
- Date:** mid/late 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, vinyl siding, 1/1 sash windows, end-bay front entry door and an L-shaped porch whose square posts are replacements.
- Outbuilding:** (1) Frame, 1 1/2-story, gable-roofed **bank barn** with board and batten siding and a stone foundation (mid 19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (2) frame, 1-story, 1-bay **garage** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC).
- Contributing      B116-L8
- 42**      **198 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.101) Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with interior stucco-stacked chimney on the north side and a rear 2-story gabled addition.
- Style:** none
- Date:** mid 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves with returns, asbestos siding, 2/2 sash windows with louvered shutters, end-bay entry with double glass-and-panel doors and an L- porch whose square posts and railings are replacements
- Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-story, 1-bay, gable-roofed **garage** (20<sup>th</sup> century)(NC)
- Contributing      B116-L9

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- 43**      **210 Route 627.** Frame, 2-story, 3-bay dwelling with 2-story rear addition with interior chimney.  
**Style:** Gothic Revival influences  
**Date:** late 19<sup>th</sup> century  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include a front cross gable, vinyl siding and 1/1 windows.  
**Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-bay garage (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)  
Contributing    B116-L11
- 44**      **226 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.100) Stone, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed, 1-house plan dwelling with bank cellar above grade on the rear, interior-end chimneys (stuccoed stacks) and rear and side frame appendages on the ground story  
**Style:** Georgian/Federal influences  
**Date:** c. 1810-30  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include flush eaves, 6/6 sash windows, small paired gable windows, paired inner bay front entries with panel doors, and a modern shed roofed porch with square posts..  
**Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-story structure built into the side of the sloped property partially collapsed (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC).  
Contributing      B117-L4
- 45**      **230 Route 627.** Frame, 1-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed dwelling with attached garage turned into interior living space and an exterior chimney with brick stack.  
**Style;** ranch  
**Date:** c. 1950-70  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include clapboard siding, 1/1 sash windows, two picture windows and a glass and panel door.  
Non-contributing    B117-L4.01

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- 46      **232 Route 627.** Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with rear 2-story appendage and a large exterior chimney with brick stack.  
**Style:** None  
**Date:** late 20<sup>th</sup> century  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, clapboard siding and 8/8 sash windows.  
**Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-story **garage** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)  
Non-contributing    B117-L3
- 47      **238 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.99) Stone, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with 2 stucco-stacked interior end chimneys, 1 chimney with brick stack, and rear (north), frame, 1-story addition  
**Style:** Georgian/Federal influences; Colonial Revival embellishment  
**Date:** c. 1810-30; date "1828" inscribed on a stone set in the second floor front façade  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include box cornice with returns, , 6/1 windows, paired 3/1 gable windows, inner bay front entry with glass-and-panel door; the hipped-roofed porch with box cornices and Tuscan columns on stone pedestals and railing are early 20<sup>th</sup> century additions.  
**Outbuilding:** None  
Contributing        B117-L5
- 48      **240 Route 627.** Frame, 1-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with exterior chimney with brick stack.  
**Style:** Ranch  
**Date:** mid/late 20<sup>th</sup> century  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include clapboard siding and extra large windows.  
**Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-story, 1-bay **garage** with gable-end entry (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)  
Non-contributing    B 117-L6

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- 49      **246 Route 637.** Frame, 1-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling**  
**Style:** Ranch  
**Date:** mid/late 20<sup>th</sup> century  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include vinyl siding, and shed overhang porch above the front entry do with square posts and railings.  
**Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-story, 2-bay **garage** with gable-end entry (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)  
Non-contributing    B117-L7
- 50      **250-254 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.98) Stone and frame, 2-story, 2-bay, gable-roofed **mill** (converted to residential use) with interior chimney with brick stack and 2-story, 2-bay frame side addition with interior chimney with brick stack  
**Style:** none  
**Date:** early 19<sup>th</sup> century; frame addition added mid/late 19<sup>th</sup> century  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include an original western rubble stone section that functioned as a gristmill in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and features altered 6/6 double sash windows with large stone lintels, a later shed roof porch with square posts and railings, a 2-bay side fenestration pattern and a 2-story rear frame eastern side addition that follows the roofline of the original structure and includes 1/1 sash windows and shed roofed porch.. The building was converted into a multi-unit dwelling in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.  
**Outbuilding:** The adjoining **mill race** remains extant (19<sup>th</sup> century; C).  
Contributing        B117-L9, 10,11
- 51      **256 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.97) Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** consisting of a 2-bay section with interior gable-end chimney (stuccoed stack) and a 1-bay extension north side frame addition.  
**Style:** none  
**Date:** early/mid 19<sup>th</sup> century  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include box cornice with flush raking eaves, clapboard siding, 1/1 sash windows, glass-and-panel door and later front and rear shed porches with square posts.  
**Outbuilding:** None  
Contributing        B117-L8

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- 52      **287 Route 627.** Frame, 1-story, **dwelling** with attached garage and interior chimney with stone stack  
**Style:** Ranch  
**Date:** mid/late 20<sup>th</sup> century  
Non-contributing    B110-L13.01
- 53      **269 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.96) Stone, 2-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with 2 interior end chimneys with brick stacks, and a rear, frame 2-story addition and 20<sup>th</sup> century chimney and rear, stone, 2-story, 2-bay addition. Evidence that this house was constructed in two sections includes wider spacing of and narrower window trim on the front elevation's 2 northern bays and a discernable break in the stone between the northern and southern sections.  
**Style:** none  
**Date:** c. 1810-40  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, 6/6 sash windows, and a central front entry with transom and glass-and-panel front door.  
**Outbuilding:** (1) Frame and stone **bank barn** with masonry addition now used as a commercial winery (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (2) large, frame, 1-story, gable-roofed **commercial building** used for wine making (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)  
Contributing    B110-L13.02 & 13.04    Photo # 11
- 54      **287 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.118) Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with interior gable-end chimney (brick stack) and rear 2-story appendage.  
**Style:** none  
**Date:** mid/late 19<sup>th</sup> century  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include clapboard siding, sash and picture window with louvered shutters, shed-roofed porch with round columns.  
**Outbuildings:** (1) Stone, gable-roofed **spring house** with 6-pane window, panel door and cupola (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (2) frame, gable-roofed **privy** (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (3) Frame and masonry, gable-fronted, 2-bay **garage** built partially into the bank with sash window (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC).  
Contributing    B110-L12

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55      **255 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.95) Stone, 3-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed **buildings** (probably a barn, renovated for residential use) with interior gable-end chimney

**Style:** none

**Date:** mid 19<sup>th</sup> century

**Additional description:** Exterior features include slate roof, 1/1 sash windows and glass and panel door.

Contributing      B110-L14.01

56      **251 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.94) Frame, 1-story, 3-bay, hipped-roof **dwelling**

**Style:** Craftsman influences

**Date:** c. 1910-30

**Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, vinyl siding, 1/1 sash windows with louvered shutters, a gable dormer centrally located above the facade, glass and panel door with side lights and a shed porch with square posts extending across the full front elevation.

Contributing      B110-L15

57      **249 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.93) Frame, 1-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with a stuccoed exterior chimney and a rear, 1-story addition

**Style:** Craftsman influences

**Date:** c. 1910-30

**Additional description:** Exterior features include vinyl siding, offset front door, a small octagonal window and larger picture window and large pent-roofed porch with square posts extending across the full front elevation

Contributing      B110/L16

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- 58      **247 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.92) Stone, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed, I-house plan **dwelling** with southern interior end chimney, exterior furnace chimney and 2-story, 2-bay rear frame addition.
- Style:** none
- Date:** c. 1810-40, possibly earlier
- Additional description:** Exterior features include flush eaves, 2/2 sash replacements, inner bay entry with glass-and- panel entry door, and a hipped-roof porch with square posts.
- Outbuilding:** (1) Frame 2 -story, gable-roofed **barn** (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (2) frame 1 ½ -story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **garage** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)
- Contributing      B110-L17
- 59      **245 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.91) Stone, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed, single-pile **dwelling** with an interior-end chimney (brick stack) and rear 2-story addition with out kitchen appendage..
- Style:** Georgian/Federal influences
- Date/history:** c. 1810-30. Upon the death of Jacob Seigle in 1840, the 108-acre remainder of his farm was divided among his three sons, Abraham, Thomas and William R., his widow retaining the right to occupy half of "his stone mansion house," along with use of the yard and out kitchen [Warren County Deeds, Book 19, page 117].
- Additional description:** Exterior features include box cornice, flush raking eaves, , 9/6 sash windows with molded trim; and paired inner-bay entries with panel-lined reveals, matching panel doors and transoms.
- Outbuilding:** none
- Contributing      B110-L18
- 60      **243 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.90) Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with interior gable-end chimney (brick stack) and a later rear, 2-story, gable-roofed addition
- Style:** none
- Date:** mid 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, vinyl siding, 1/1 sash windows, a centrally located front entry door, and a full width 1-story shed-roofed porch with square posts.
- Outbuilding:** Frame 1 ½ -story, 2-bay, gable-roofed **barn** (19<sup>th</sup>)(C)
- Contributing      B110-L19

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- 61**      **237 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.89) Stone, 2-story, 7-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** built in two parts: a 3-bay western section and 4-bay eastern extension; interior gable-end chimneys and interior chimney at junction of two sections; 1-story rear greenhouse addition. It may have been stuccoed.

**Style:** Victorian embellishment

**Date:** early/mid 19<sup>th</sup> century

**Additional description:** Exterior features include flush eaves, 6/1 windows with modern panel shutters, and front inner-bay entry with glass and panel door. A Victorian semi-hexagonal bay window above the entry is support by a 3-bay shed-roofed porch with square posts.

**Outbuilding:** Braced-frame, 2-story **bank barn** with gable end entry (19<sup>th</sup>)(C).

Contributing      B110-L20.01      Photo # 12

- 62**      **235 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.88) Seigle Homestead. Hewn- log, 2-story, 2-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with a bank cellar, 2-room, double-pile plan, and interior gable-end chimney; 2-story, 2-bay frame, gable-roofed side addition with interior chimney (brick stack) to the west

**Style:** Georgian influences

**Date:** late 18<sup>th</sup> century, traditionally c. 1793, the year property was acquired by Benjamin Seigle; addition c. 1990s. Individually listed on NJ/National Registers of Historic Places.

**Additional description:** Exterior features include bank cellar of irregular and rough coursed limestone, clapboards on the south wall and the two gable ends with stone chinking, 6/6 sash windows, rear lower east entry, front cellar entry at ground level.

**Outbuildings:** (1) Stone, 1-story, shed-roofed **out kitchen** with bake oven (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (2) frame 1 -story, gable-roofed **shed** (19<sup>th</sup>)(C)

Contributing      B110-L22      Photo # 13

- 63**      **225 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.87) Frame, 1-story, cross-gabled **dwelling**

**Style:** Craftsman

**Date:** c. 1910-30

**Additional description:** Exterior features include cross gables with a shed dormer on its hipped roof, 6/1 windows and engaged porch.

**Outbuildings:** Frame, 1-story, 2-bay gable-roofed **garage** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)

Contributing      B110-L23

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- 64      223 Route 627. (MAAR # 2120.86) Stone, gable-roofed **dwelling** consisting of a 3-bay, side-hall plan main block and a one-room-plan, 1 ½ -story east wing; both with interior gable-end chimneys (brick stacks).
- Style:** Federal influences
- Date:** c. 1810-40
- Additional description:** Exterior features include flush eaves, 1/1 and 6/6 sash windows, a recessed entry with paneled reveals and door, and shed-roofed porch with turned posts on the wing.
- Contributing      B110/L24.02      Photo # 14
- 65      Braced-frame, 2-story, **bank barn** with southern side 2-story addition (originally associated with #64, now on a separate lot).
- Date:** mid 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Additional description:** Exterior features include hand hewn timber barn with stone foundation and three Dutch batten doors
- Outbuildings:** Two **frame sheds** (20<sup>th</sup> century)
- Contributing      B110-L24
- 66      213 Route 627. (MAAR # 2120.84) Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with a cross-gabled rear addition.
- Style:** Queen Anne embellishment
- Date:** mid/late 19<sup>th</sup> century; possibly earlier and remodeled
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves and a steeply pitched roofline, aluminum siding, 1/1 sash windows with shutters, double-leaf front door, and a hip- roof porch with spindle frieze, spandrel brackets and turned posts..
- Outbuilding:** Frame, 2-story, 2-bay, gable-roofed **garage** with an overhang above the first floor and 6/6 windows.
- Contributing      B110-L25

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- 67      **209 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.85) Frame, 1-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with a southern 1-story addition.  
**Style:** ranch  
**Date:** late 20<sup>th</sup> century  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include vinyl siding, central entry, and two dormers.  
**Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-story, 3-bay **garage** (20<sup>th</sup>) (NC)  
Non-contributing      B110-L26
- 68      **203 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.83) Frame, 2-story, 5-bay, double-pile, center-hall-plan **dwelling** with interior end chimneys (brick stacks) and rear appendage  
**Style:** Gothic Revival/Italianate influences  
**Date:** c. 1860-1886  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include central cross gable, patterned slate roof, cornice with paired brackets, clapboard siding, 2/2 sash windows with hood moldings, central entry with double doors and full-width front porch with spandrel brackets and robust turned posts.  
**Outbuildings:** (1) Large frame 2-story, gable-roofed **barn/carriage house** with tower, partial slate roof, 8/8 windows and side 2-story, 2-bay appendage with 6/6 sash windows, glass and panel door and shed-roofed porch with decorative trim and turned posts (19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (2) frame, 1-story, 2-bay, gable-roofed **garage** with gable-end entry and arched doors, which were recycled from the house (20<sup>th</sup>)(C); (3) 1-story gable-roofed brick **ice house** with panel arched door and metal roof (19<sup>th</sup>)(C)  
Contributing      B110-L27      Photo # 15
- 69      **199 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.82) Stuccoed-stone, 1-story, gable-fronted **schoolhouse** (converted to residential use) with interior chimney with brick stack  
**Style:** Italianate influences  
**Date:** mid 19<sup>th</sup> century; remodeled c. 1950.  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include box cornice with returns and a round-headed gable window; the original windows and entry were replaced when the buildings was remodeled, at which time the entry was shifted to the north side and a gabled porch with square posts added.  
**Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-story, 2-bay, gable-fronted **garage** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)  
Contributing      B110-L28

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- 70 **191 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.81) Christian Church (now Calvary Bible Fellowship Church). Stuccoed-stone, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-fronted **church** with a 1-story rear shed addition.

**Style:** Italianate

**Date:** 1877

**Additional description:** Exterior features include a broad eaves cornice with paneled soffit and returns, attenuated windows, and segmental-arched entry with panel doors. The interior features an above grade basement meeting space with full height windows. It has two stories, a low basement providing social hall and a much higher upper story sanctuary.

Contributing B110-L29 Photo # 16

- 71 **187 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.80) Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-fronted **dwelling** with a central chimney with brick stack and gable-roofed 2-story addition

**Style:** Queen Anne influences

**Date:** c.1890-1910

**Additional description:** Exterior features include vinyl siding, 1/1 sash windows, a transomed 1-bay entry with glass-and-panel door.

**Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-story, 1-bay **garage** with doors with strap hinges (19<sup>th</sup>)(C)

Contributing B110-L30

- 72 **185 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.79) Frame, 1-story, **dwelling** built in 3 sections

**Style:** none

**Date:** mid/late 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Outbuilding:** (1) Frame, 2-story overhang-type **barn** with shed-roofed hay mow and a stone foundation. (Late 19<sup>th</sup> century c.1870)(C); (2) large 1-story gable-fronted **barn** with metal roof (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC); frame, 1-story **animal shed** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)

Non-contributing B110-L31

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- 73      **183 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.78) Frame, 2-story, hip-roofed **dwelling** with interior brick chimney and a rear 1-story appendage.

**Style:** Colonial Revival

**Date:** c. 1890-1910

**Additional description:** Exterior features include clapboard and fish scale shingle siding, pedimented cross gables, modillion bracketed cornices, 1/1 and multi-light sash windows with panel shutters, the first and second floors each include 3-bay windows, entry with double glass and panel door, a wrap-around porch with Tuscan porch columns and turned balusters.

**Outbuilding:** Frame, 1-story, gable-fronted **garage** with shed-roofed appendage (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)

Contributing      B110-L32      Photo # 17

- 74      **181 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.77) Frame, 2-story, cross-gabled **dwelling** with interior center chimney with brick stack

**Style:** Queen Anne

**Date:** 1890-1910

**Additional description:** Exterior features include corner eave trim, clapboard and fish scale shingle siding, a pyramidal roof, 1/1 sash windows, multi-light sash windows in gable, a stone foundation, a side hall entry and a front porch with turned posts and decorative lattice railing that extends the width of the façade. A second floor window has been replaced with a vent.

**Outbuilding:** Frame and masonry, 1-story, 2-bay, gable-fronted **garage** with 9-pane window (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC).

Contributing      B110-L33      Photo # 17

- 75      **179 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.76) Stone, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed, I-house plan **dwelling** with an interior-end chimney with brick stack and a later rear frame, 2-story, hipped-roofed addition

**Style:** none

**Date:** early/mid 19<sup>th</sup> century stone portion; late 19th century, frame addition

**Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves with returns, stucco over stone, a centrally located and altered front door flanked by a pair of 1/1 sash windows, and a full length 1-story shed porch with square posts and railings across the front elevation.

**Outbuildings:** Frame, 1-story, 1-bay, hipped-roofed **garage** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)

Contributing      B110-L34      Photo # 17

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- 76 **173 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.75) Stone, and frame **dwelling** consisting of a 2-story, 3-bay, double-pile, side-hall-plan main block with interior chimney and a 2-over-3-bay, stone, 1 and 1/2-story west wing with interior gable-end chimney (brick stack) and a later rear frame, 2-story, hipped- roofed addition

**Style:** Italianate influences

**Date:** c. 1800-30, perhaps earlier, stone portion; mid/late 19th century, frame main block

**Additional description:** Exterior features include in the gable-roofed stone section 6/6 sash windows on the first floor, a gable-fronted overhang above the centrally located altered door, two 3-pane eyebrow windows above the first floor windows, and a small frame addition across the rear. The late 19<sup>th</sup> century frame section features gable-roofed roof with returns, 6/6 sash windows, clapboard siding, and a gable-fronted overhang above the offset and altered front door with support brackets.

**Outbuilding:** Frame **shed** has been constructed over the earlier stone foundation of a carriage house which was served by an alleyway along the back of the property (20<sup>th</sup>) (C).

Contributing B110-L35

- 77 **171 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.74) Brick, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed, I-house plan **dwelling** with an altered interior-end chimney with brick stack

**Style:** Italianate influences

**Date:** c. 1850-74

**Additional description:** Exterior features include flush eaves, rubble stone, 2/2 sash windows, a small hipped-roof porch with square posts extending over the dual entry front doors. Alterations to the house include the replacement of one of the original front doors with a window. Retains evidence of its original brick patterned stucco siding on the front and southern sides. Elaborately carved Italianate-style bracketing noted in earlier site visit is gone.

**Outbuilding:** none

Contributing B110-L36

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- 78      **169 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.73) Stone, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed, I-house plan **dwelling** with an interior-end chimney with brick stack and a frame, 2-story, 2-bay side appendage.
- Style:** Colonial Revival embellishment
- Date:** c. 1830-60
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves and returns, rubble stone, original 6/6 sash windows, paired inner bay front entries with transoms, and a later full-width hipped roof front porch with Tuscan columns. Originally sided with brick patterned stucco.
- Outbuilding:** The **stone foundation** remains of a former carriage house which was served by an alleyway along the back of the property (19<sup>th</sup>)(C).
- Contributing      B110-L37                      Photo # 18
- 79      **163 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.72) Stone, 2-story, 6-bay, gable-roofed, I-house plan **dwelling** with interior-gable-end chimneys (brick stacks) and southern rear 1-story addition
- Style:** none
- Date:** c. 1830-60
- Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves with returns, vinyl siding, 6/6 sash windows, two centrally located front entry doors flanked by a pair of windows, and a rebuilt shed porch with square posts and railings. This house was served by an alleyway located along the rear of the property.
- Contributing      B110-L38

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- 80**      **159 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.71) Finesville Hotel. Stone and frame, 2-story, gable-roofed **dwelling** consisting of a stuccoed-stone, 4-bay west portion with interior gable-end chimneys (brick stacks); a frame, 4-bay east extension with chimney with interior gable-end chimney (brick stack) and a rear addition behind the northern section

**Style:** Queen Anne embellishment

**Date:** c. 1810-40; subsequently enlarged.

**Additional description:** Exterior features include on the southern section a side-gable with overhanging eaves and returns, stucco over stone, 4-bays with altered 2/2 sash windows with louvered shutters, small paired 4-pane gable windows, a panel door with transom, and a later hipped roof porch with square tapered columns and railings which extends across to the first bay of the northern section of the home. This northern section has a side-gable with overhanging eaves and returns, two front entry doors, a second floor which extends over an additional porch with turned posts and decorative brackets, inset into the structure, fish scale and clapboard siding.

**Outbuildings:** 2 frame **sheds** (NC)

Contributing      B110-L39

- 81**      **155 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.70) Stucco over stone, 2-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed I-house plan **dwelling** and 2 interior end chimneys with brick stacks

**Style:** none

**Date:** early/mid 19<sup>th</sup> century

**Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves with returns, original brick-patterned stucco, 1/1 sash windows with louvered shutters, a centrally-located front door, and a 2-story, 5-bay porch with square posts and stick-style railings. The basement in the front elevation is above street level and includes a full height door with exterior access from the structure.

**Outbuilding:** none

Contributing      B110-L40

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- 82**      **151 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.69) Frame 1 ½-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with side gable and dormer.  
**Style:** Craftsman  
**Date:** c. 1910-30  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include 6/1 sash windows, glass and panel door with side lights and an engaged shed-roofed porch with square tapered columns on stone piers.  
**Outbuilding:** Frame, 2-bay **garage** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)  
Contributing    B 110-L42
- 83**      **149 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.68) Stone, 2-story, 7-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling**, built in two sections: a 3-bay, I-type east unit with interior east gable-end chimney (brick stack) and a 4-bay west unit with interior gable-end chimney (the exceptional wide spacing between the central bays of the west half may indicate that it was divided into two units; 1-story rear appendages).  
**Style:** modern Colonial Revival embellishment  
**Date:** c. 1810-30. The 1874 Beers atlas indicates that this property was divided into two residential units.  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include flush eaves, 1/1 sash windows with panel shutters and doors with Colonial Revival surrounds.  
**Outbuilding:** Block and frame, 1-story, 2-bay **garage** (20<sup>th</sup>)(NC)  
Contributing    B113-L12                      Photo # 19
- 84**      **141 Route 627.** (MAAR # 2120.67) Stuccoed-stone, 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed, I-type **dwelling** with interior gable-end chimneys (brick stacks)  
**Style:** none  
**Date:** c. 1810-30  
**Additional description:** Exterior features include plastered cove cornice, flush raking eaves, small paired gable windows, , 9/6 sash windows, paired inner-bay front entries with transoms and glass-and- panel doors with transom, and a shed-roofed porch with robust turned posts (possibly original fabric) and stone foundation wall enclosing a storage area accessed by a brick-arched entry with batten doors.  
**Outbuilding:** Small frame **shed** (19<sup>th</sup>)(C)  
Contributing    B113-L14

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85 139 Route 627. (MAAR # 2120.66) Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-fronted, **dwelling** with a exterior block chimney and a southern 2-story, 2-bay gable-roofed addition with an enclosed porch and a further 1-story addition.

**Style:** none

**Date:** late 19<sup>th</sup> century

**Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, 1/1 sash windows, a centrally located glass and panel front entry door with sidelights, and a shed porch with square columns.

**Outbuilding:** Frame, 2-story, gable-roofed **barn** with stone foundation (19<sup>th</sup>)(C)

Contributing B113-L15 Photo # 20

86 137 Route 627. (MAAR # 2120.65) Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, single-pile **dwelling** with 2 interior brick chimneys; a southern side 1 1/2 - story, 3-bay addition with cross-gables; a 3-story rear addition that rises slightly above the original structure; and 1 frame, 1 1/2 -story, 1-bay attached garage.

**Style:** Gothic Revival influences

**Date:** late 19<sup>th</sup> century; enlarged later 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Additional description:** Exterior features include overhanging eaves, clapboard siding, central cross gable, 6/6 sash windows, a transomed central front entry door, and a shed-roofed porch with original bracketing, turned posts and square railings extending the entire length of the facade. The small octagonal window on the second floor front is modern fabric.

**Outbuildings:** none

Contributing B113-L16

87 135 Route 627. Frame, 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed **dwelling** with exterior chimney.

**Style:** none

**Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Outbuildings:** (1) Frame and masonry, 2-story, gable-roofed bank **barn** with sash windows (late 19<sup>th</sup>)(C); (2) frame, 1-story, gable-roofed wagon house/garage (late 19<sup>th</sup>)(C); stone, 1-bay **lime kiln** 19<sup>th</sup>(C).

Contributing B113-L17 Photo # 21

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88           **Mountain Rd. Limekiln** with single bay stone arch.

**Date:** early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Additional description:** none

**Outbuildings:** none

Contributing           B113-L11

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.)

- X 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.
X 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
ARCHITECTURE
INDUSTRY
ENGINEERING

Period of Significance

c. 1756-1930

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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 Record #

Primary location of additional data

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

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of property Approximately Acres 195

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 Zone Easting Northing
2

3 Zone Easting Northing
4

[X] 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 and Janice Armstrong
organization Dennis Bertland Associates date July 2009
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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### **SUMMARY PARAGRAPH**

The Finesville-Seigletown Historic District possesses significance under Criteria A and C in the areas of community development, architecture, industry and engineering for the period beginning circa 1751 with the establishment of Chelsea Forge ironworks on the Musconetcong River, around which the adjoining villages later developed, and ending circa 1930, by which year the main road through the community had been straightened and improved, and the community had lost most of its businesses and institutions. Finesville and Seigletown exemplify the small agglomerate settlements that developed throughout the region during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries around a focal point such as a water power site to serve the dispersed agricultural population, whose moderate later growth later reflected their limited access to 19th-century transportation innovations. The district's architectural significance derives from its assemblage of modest, mostly stone and frame buildings whose construction, form, detailing and spatial organization are representative of the rural region's vernacular architecture during the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, as well as the presence of a rare example of two-story log construction, the Seigle Homestead (inventory #62), which is individually listed in the New Jersey and National Registers. Industrial significance stems from its mill buildings, particularly the woolen mill, which embodies the small-scale manufactories that once proliferated around the region but eventually could not compete with operations possessing better transportation connections. It possesses significance in the area of engineering because of its late 19<sup>th</sup>-century Pratt through truss bridge (inventory #15), a good example of its type and the only known example of the work of C. M. Rusling, a bridge builder from Hackettstown, New Jersey. Archaeological resources relating to the area's 18th- and 19th-century material culture and industrial development also may be present in the environs of district buildings and sites.

### ***Historical Background***

European settlement of the lower Musconetcong Valley began during the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and the Chelsea Forge ironworks, established in 1751-53 at a water-power source on the Musconetcong River, became an early locus of activity for the surrounding neighborhood. By 1780, the forge—served by a road along the north side of the Musconetcong (now Route 627) leading to Shank's Ferry on the Delaware River at present-day Riegelsville—had developed into in a small hamlet, which in addition to the ironworks contained a saw mill, tavern, store, blacksmith shop and several dwellings. Although the forge ceased operations around a decade later, several new small-scaled industries established by members of the Fine and Seigle families soon replaced the defunct enterprise. They included two gristmills, along with clover, plaster, oil and fulling mills, a woolen manufactory, a distillery and a pottery,. The community acquired a school in the early 1800s, a church in 1835 and a post office under the name of Finesville in 1846. By the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup>-century, Finesville had grown to contain about two dozen dwellings and Seigletown, then know as Middleville, which clustered around a store, grist mill and pottery, perhaps half that number. Sometime before 1852, a new schoolhouse was built between the two villages. The Belvidere Delaware Railroad, constructed in the 1850s, provided some local economic stimulus, and about 1860 John L. Riegel opened a paper manufactory in the rebuilt gristmill on the south side of the Musconetcong, which two years later relocated to a site adjoining the new railroad on the banks of the Delaware River about 1.5 miles southwest of Finesville. A few years later, the community acquired a more long lasting enterprise, the Taylor, Stiles and Company cutlery manufactory which took over the former paper and woolen mills. Over the next several decades, the adjoining villages experienced only limited development, growing to include a dozen or more new dwellings, another store and a second church. The latter was erected next door to the schoolhouse, furthering the physical and social linkage between the two villages

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which gradually grew together becoming one community. Well into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Finesville and Seigletown continued as a service center for the surrounding rural neighborhood, prospering modestly as evidence by scattered new construction from that era. However, as it was bypassed by new 20<sup>th</sup>-century highways and its industries and businesses closed, the community became an increasingly isolated residential backwater, which helped to preserve much of its distinctive 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century character.

The district's resources are mostly dwellings, but also include several institutional, commercial, and industrial buildings, as well as a truss bridge and a cemetery. In general, they are well preserved with relatively few modern alterations. Collectively they possess architectural significance. Their materials form, construction, detailing and siting provide a representative illustration of the rural region's essentially vernacular architecture in the late 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. In the Seigle Homestead (inventory #62, photo #13, a rare example of hewn-log, corner notched construction, and one of only two known surviving two-story log house in New Jersey, the district possesses a resource of exceptional significance.<sup>1</sup> It also retains a large collection of early stone dwellings and other buildings, illustrative of such traditional construction as coursed rubble or stucco-coated rubble masonry, typical of vernacular regional practices. Representative examples include inventory #s 12, 14, 17, 24, 34, 44, 47, 53, 55, 58 59, 61, 64, 75-81, 83 and 84, photos #s 1, 3 5, 11, 18 and 19). Several houses, like #s 30 and 59, exhibit more carefully cut and dressed, ashlar-like stone work, less common in the region. While the district contains several examples of one-and-on-half story traditional house types, two-story house predominate, of which the I-type is most common, a reflection of the district's location in the Delaware Valley culture region where the type became ubiquitous in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Examples include #s 13, 14, 24, 30, 44, 58-60, 59, 75-79 81, 83 and 84 (photo #s3, 9 18 and 19). Of particular interested are dozen or more examples of a distinctive two-room-plan version with paired inner bay front entries (inventory #s 44, 59, 77 and 84 are good examples). Two other features characteristic of the region's early architecture can be singled out: bank cellars and linear expansion. Examples include #s 14, 30, 44, 53, 61, 62, 79, 83 and 84 (photos #s 3, 5, 11 and 14). Some of these linearly expanded houses probably served as multifamily dwellings; house #83 (photo #19), is a likely candidate. These early house exhibit simple, limited stylistic embellishments, although dwellings owned by village proprietors, not surprising, often reflect more awareness of contemporary architectural fashions and the ability to afford them, like the elaborate Federal style entry gracing the c. 1814 house of Philip Fine (III) "the merchant" (inventory #30, photo #10).

A smaller number of district houses are representative of the popular house types adopted by local builders in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, supplanting earlier tradition forms. They included gable-fronted types that gained popularity during the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (inventory #85), the "four square" (inventory #73, photo #17) and the bungalow examples (inventory #s 8, 9, 10, 56, 57 and 82). The later two types appearing in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Most district houses are modes variations of traditional or popular forms, indicative of a village of relatively prosperous workers, small entrepreneurs, and a few farmers at the village outskirts, and exhibit simple stylistic embellishment. One exception is a large Victorian house (inventory #68, photo #15) the home of the most prominent industrial proprietor during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, and a reflection of his position in the community.

<sup>1</sup> Rosemont Rural Agricultural District National Register nomination, 2009, pp. 8-7 & 8-8.

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A number of industrial, commercial, institutional and buildings punctuate the village streetscape, reflective of the district's history as a modest service and industrial center that developed at an important water power site. Of the three 19<sup>th</sup>-century mill buildings that survive, probably the oldest and most notable of the three is the woolen factory (inventory #21, photo #6) erected by Philip Fine (II) c. 1807-1810, perhaps in response to opportunities created by 1807 Jeffersonian embargo. The rubble stone walls of the 3-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed building are pierced by fairly large, regularly spaced windows that would have provided the woolen workers much needed light. It is one of few known surviving examples of the textile mill that were built in New Jersey during the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>2</sup>

Contributing to the collective significance of the district's architecture are the numerous outbuildings, among the most distinctive of which are a half dozen stone and frame barn barns (inventory #s 4, 17, 20, 41, 53, 61 and 65 are examples), several stone spring houses (inventory #s 31, 35 and 54), and a few out kitchens (inventory #s 19, 59 and 62). The district's three small stone arched one-bay limekilns (inventory #s 22, 87 and 88, photo #s 7 & 21) reflect the importance of lime production for local farmers.

The truss bridge spanning the Musconetcong River at Finesville (inventory #15, photo #4) is of note as a locally significant work of engineering. Dating to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, it is a single span, eight-panel Pratt through truss bridge and the only known example of the work of C. M. Rusling, a bridge builder from Hackettstown.

Although buildings and structures of individual note within the district are relatively few, as a collection they are evocative of a hardworking rural community, and reflect the region's vernacular architectural traditions and stylistic preferences over a long period. Reflecting its location in the western New Jersey Highlands, the architecture reveals primary influences from the Delaware Valley cultural region. The relative similarity in scale and lack of pretension of the buildings provide visual clues about the cohesive nature of the community.

### ***Historical Overview***

European settlement of the western New Jersey Highlands was initiated by both pioneer agriculturalists of English, Scotch-Irish, Dutch and German stock, some of whom were freeholders but mostly squatters on the vast tracts of land throughout the region acquired by absentee owners under New Jersey's system of proprietary landholding, along with a few entrepreneurs who sought to exploit the region's iron ore deposits.<sup>3</sup> Land titles to the site of the district can be traced back to three early 18<sup>th</sup>-century proprietary surveys, two on the north side of the Musconetcong River and one to its south. The northern portion of the district (now in Pohatcong Township, Warren County) straddles the boundary between a 750 acre tract surveyed for Elizabeth Backon (or Beacon as named in other documents), as executrix for her son John Beacon, in 1715 and an adjoining 650-acre lot surveyed for Andrew Heath in 1716 (their common boundary being roughly aligned with the southernmost

<sup>2</sup> Dawlis Mill/Spring Mills Historic District National Register nomination, pp. 7-8, 8-18 & 81-19. The Fine woolen mill bears a striking resemblance to the stone woolen mill in the Dawlis Mill District in southern Hunterdon County, which dates c. 1811-1824 and retains its dye house.

<sup>3</sup> Peter O. Wacker, *Land and People: A Cultural Geography of Preindustrial New Jersey: Origins and Settlement Patterns*, pp. 127, 213-16 & 220; D. Stanton Hammond, "Hunterdon County, New Jersey, Sheet C", Map Series #4; James P. Snell, (ed.) *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey*, pp., 415-416; Sussex County Deeds, Book B, page 179.

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stretch of Mt. Joy Road).<sup>4</sup> The Beacon tract was divided between John's heirs in 1748, and shortly thereafter, a 52.5-acre lot subdivided from its southwest corner, or a portion thereof, was purchased by Marcus Hulings.<sup>5</sup> In 1751, Hulings, conveyed an undivided third interest in the lot, which encompassed a valuable water power site on the Musconetcong, to Samuel Morris, a prosperous Quaker entrepreneur from Whitemarsh, Pennsylvania, whose brother David evidently acquired another third part around the same time.<sup>6</sup> By 1753, an iron forge had been established on the lot, probably by the Morris brothers and an unknown third partner.<sup>7</sup> Abraham Evans obtained a third interest in the property from Samuel Morris in 1761, and Jonathan Thomas evidently acquired another third before 1763.<sup>8</sup> When Evans and Thomas advertised their two thirds interest for sale in January, 1763, the property featured the following substantial improvements:

A Forge with three Fire-places and Bellows, in good Repair, a good stone House, two Stories high, with two Rooms on each Floor; likewise a good Saw-mill, almost new; with a Log Dwelling-house, coal-house, and stables.<sup>9</sup>

While the exact location of these improvements remains unknown, the manner in which the forge lot was subdivided into three equal portions in 1793 suggests that they were clustered near its southwest corner, and the reference to the "Chelsea Forge dam" in the boundary description given in the 1797 deed for one of the three lots similarly suggests that the dam, at least, was located approximately one hundred yards upstream from the present dam.<sup>10</sup>

A 267-acre parcel subdivided from the southeast corner of the Heath tract, which adjoined the forge lot, was acquired in 1758 by Thomas Hunt from Thomas Lott, who had received title to it in 1737 from a grandson of Andrew Heath. Shortly thereafter, according to local historians, Hunt's son Edward settled on the property, which remained in the family until the early 1800s.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>4</sup> West Jersey Surveys, Book A, page 185; Sussex County Deeds, Book B, page 179; NJ Wills, Liber 1, page 375

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> West Jersey Deeds, Book AL, page 393; *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, May 3, 1753.

<sup>7</sup> A 1753 newspaper advertisement placed by Samuel Morris for the sale of his deceased brother's interest in the property describes it as "a certain iron forge," and provides the first documentary evidence of its development for that purpose [*The Pennsylvania Gazette*, May 3, 1753]. Historian Charles Boyer concluded that since the 1751 conveyance from Hulings to Morris made no mention of an iron works, the forge probably was established sometime between 1751 and 1753, when the newspaper advertisement first documents its existence. [Charles S. Boyer, *Early Forges Furnaces in New Jersey*, page 55]. The third owner may have been Thomas Potts, another Pennsylvania Quaker; see pages 9 & 10 and footnotes 31.

<sup>8</sup> West Jersey Deeds, Book AL, page 393; *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, January 6, 1763.

<sup>9</sup> *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, January 6, 1763. Jonathan Thomas apparently conveyed his interest to Abram Evans shortly thereafter, since when the two-thirds interest was offered for sale again a few months, only Evans name appeared on the advertisement [*The Pennsylvania Gazette*, May 5, 1763].

<sup>10</sup> Sussex County Divisions, Book A, page 22; Sussex County Deeds, Book C, page 280. The boundary description of this 1797 deed begins "at the Musconetcong at the corner post below the said Chelsea Forge dam," which point, when matched to the boundaries of the adjoining lot to the west subdivided from the forge tract (see West Jersey Deeds, Book AV, page 431) must have been about 100 yards upstream between from the location of the present mill dam and bridge. A 1799 deed for the same property refers to "corner post below the old Chelsea Forge dam" [Sussex County Deeds, Book C, page 423].

<sup>11</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book R<sub>2</sub>, page 306; Frank Leary, *Pohatcong: the Prologue*, pp. 40, 41, 51 & 52. Leary gives both 1758 and 1759 as the date of Lott/Hunt deed

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The portion of the district on the south side of the river lies within the boundaries of a 16,565-acre property surveyed for Colonel Thomas Byerly, a West Jersey Proprietor, in 1714. After Byerly's death in 1725, the property passed by inheritance to Sir Robert Barker, an English soldier, but to satisfy a claim against Byerly's estate, it was subdivided and the L-shaped southeast portion sold at auction in 1749. Despite various legal and managerial difficulties, the 7,308-acre remainder which came to be known as the Alexandria Tract and encompassed the western half of what is now Holland Township, Hunterdon County, was retained by Sir Robert until his death in 1789.<sup>12</sup>

Settlement on the Alexandria Tract evidently occurred some years before Sir Robert began to exercise control over the property in the 1760s.<sup>13</sup> When Barker's agent, New York City merchant William McAdams, engaged in 1764, first visited the property, he found forty families residing there who not only questioned Barker's title to the land but as squatters

had no object in view besides getting whatever they could by constant plowing where they had any prospect of reaping and by cutting down the Timber to convert it into charcoal for the two Neighboring Forges - We had great reason to think the Owners of the forges did everything in their power to prevent the settlers from coming under Lease which would deprive them of getting wood at a very low price.<sup>14</sup>

The recalcitrant settlers, after some effort by McAdams, were brought under lease. Although there was considerable change in the makeup of Sir Robert's tenantry over the years, some names appeared repeatedly on his rent rolls, and more than a few 19<sup>th</sup>-century residents of the area, including the Fine family, could trace their descent from early settlers on the Alexandria Tract. Names on the tenant lists indicate that the settlers had varied ethnic backgrounds, but included many of German origins.<sup>15</sup>

Chelsea Forge undoubtedly was one of the offending ironworks that benefited from Sir Robert's stolen timber.<sup>16</sup> Throughout the New Jersey Highlands during the 18<sup>th</sup> century prodigious quantities of timber were consumed in making the charcoal necessary for the operation of the region's iron forges and furnaces.<sup>17</sup> The owners of Chelsea Forge presumably did not rely entirely on charcoal obtained from the Alexandria Tract squatters, Abraham Evans having purchased an adjoining 500-acre tract in 1760, which the second of his 1763 newspaper advertisements described as "chiefly Woodland, well timbered."<sup>18</sup>

In the late 1760s the Highlands iron industry entered a time of economic difficulties that would be exacerbated by the Revolutionary War, which created some demand for iron for war material, but deprived the

<sup>12</sup> Richard P. McCormick, "The West Jersey Estate of Sir Robert Barker," *Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society*, LXIV (July 1946), pp. 120-129 & 154; James P. Snell (ed.), *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey*, pp. 414-15.

<sup>13</sup> McCormack, pp. 123-125; Snell, *Hunterdon*, page 415.

<sup>14</sup> James Parker, "Abstracts of W. McAdams Proceedings on Sir Robert Barkers Tract," 1765, James Paper Papers, as quoted in Peter O. Wacker, *The Musconetcong Valley of New Jersey*, page 115.

<sup>15</sup> McCormack, pp. 7-11; F. W. Beers, *County Atlas of Hunterdon, New Jersey*, page 36; F. W. Beers, *County Atlas of Warren, New Jersey*, page 72; Snell, *Hunterdon*, page 415. Philip Fine, local progenitor of the Fine family, first appears on the 1767 list of Sir Robert Barker's tenants [Snell, *Hunterdon*, page 415].

<sup>16</sup> There were only two iron forges operating on the lower Musconetcong River in 1765 near the Barker Tract, Chelsea Forge and Greenwich Forge, founded c. 1750, which was located two miles upstream from Chelsea [Wacker, *Musconetcong Valley*, page 108].

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 114-116.

<sup>18</sup> *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, May 5, 1763. The 500-acre tract stretched westward to the Delaware River.

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ironworks of British markets. The situation did not improve after the war. Instead, the late 18<sup>th</sup> century was “a period of retrogression in which the industry reverted from an export commercial focus to a primarily local market”<sup>19</sup> The American iron industry had relatively high costs of labor and fuel as compared to its foreign competitors, and foreign iron began to undersell the American product. Furthermore, the quality of American iron often was not as good as that of made in Europe. Consequently, a number of the Highland’s forges and furnaces failed during the period.<sup>20</sup>

The later history of Chelsea Forge appears to reflect these conditions. The property and its management changed hands repeatedly; its owners suffered financial difficulties, and by the early 1790s, if not before, the forge had ceased operation. Abram Evans was unsuccessful in selling his interest in the property in 1763, and mortgages he had given to George Taylor and Samuel Flowers, proprietors of the nearby Durham Furnace (located in Bucks County, Pennsylvania), were eventually foreclosed. While Taylor and Flowers may have acquired an interest in the property as early as 1766 (as suggested by their advertisement for the sale of a third share of the forge lot, along with the adjoining 500-acre tract in that year), it was not until 1776 that Taylor and Flower’s heirs deeded Evans’ former property to Moses Yamans, Christian Butts, and William Butts of Berks County, Pennsylvania.<sup>21</sup> “Moses Yamans, and Company” was leasing the Forge as early as 1773, when Yamans advertised for the return of a runaway English indentured servant, and court papers purportedly document that the company had acquired another third interest before 1775.<sup>22</sup> According to historian Charles Boyer, commissaries for the American army during the Revolutionary War purchased iron from Chelsea Forge.<sup>23</sup> Whatever success he may have had with the enterprise, Yamans soon sought to divest himself of the property, offering the forge and adjoining tract for sale in 1780.<sup>24</sup>

Yaman’s 1780 newspaper advertisement for the sale of Chelsea Forge suggests that a number of improvements had been made to the property since the 1760s, including the construction of several houses and the establishment of a tavern and store:

there is on said tract a forge with two fires and one hammer, called and known by the name of Chelsea Forge, a saw-mill, three convenient dwelling-houses, one of which is stone, two stories high, with fireplaces at each end, and in which a tavern has been kept for a number of years past; the other two of frame and square logs well finished, with convenient fireplaces, a smith’s shop, store and counting-house, barn, stables, and a number of log-houses sufficient for the hands necessary for carrying on the works, all of which are in good order and repair.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>19</sup> Wacker, *Musconetcong Valley*, page 104.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 10, 105 & 15. The cost of labor was much greater in America than in Europe, and widespread deforestation around the forges and furnaces made fuel much more expensive than it had been previously.

<sup>21</sup> *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, October 10, 1766; *West Jersey Deeds*, Book AL, pages 393 & 399. The 1766 advertisement described the forge as containing “two fineries and a chaffery.” Other improvements included the saw mill, “a coal house and houses for the workmen, with a good stone house for the owner or manager.” The adjoining tract, said to contain 511 acres, had only “a small improvement, the rest [was] woodland.”

<sup>22</sup> *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, May 26, 1773, Boyer, page 56.

<sup>23</sup> Boyer, page 57.

<sup>24</sup> *New Jersey Gazette*, April 5, 1780.

<sup>25</sup> *New Jersey Gazette*, April 5, 1780. The adjoining tract, reduced to 450 acres, also had been improved. While half the tract was still “wood-land and mostly well timbered,” the remainder of the property was “cleared and under good fence, part of which is rich

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The sale also included "700 cords of wood cut and put up," along with "all the tools and implements necessary for carrying on the works." That Yamans was willing to accept "bar iron or loan office certificates" as payment may reflect some urgency on his part for the sale.

In 1781, Yamans and his partners found a buyer, George Ross, proprietor of the Bloomsbury Forge (located about five miles upstream from Chelsea), who paid £1,000 for their third share of the forge and £500 for the adjoining tract.<sup>26</sup> Ross does not appear to have operated Chelsea Forge, which was leased and subleased during the next few years, Richard Backhouse, lessee of Durham Furnace, taking over in 1783.<sup>27</sup> The establishment of Shenk's Ferry across the Delaware River at present-day Reigelsville shortly after 1774 facilitated communication between Chelsea Forge and Durham Furnace.<sup>28</sup> It was during Backhouse's tenure that in 1785 the Philadelphia firm of Jones and Lownes had occasion to criticize the iron produced by both Chelsea and Greenwich Forges, informing Backhouse (who operated both forges) that his iron was "very flawey" and that their competitors had acquired better iron at a lower price from other manufacturers.<sup>29</sup> Around the same time, George Ross evidently became financially overextended and, defaulting on a judgment for the nonpayment of a debt in late 1785, lost his undivided third share of the forge lot at a court-ordered sheriff sale, at which local entrepreneur and mill owner William McCullough was high bidder at £122.<sup>30</sup> Even taking into consideration that McCullough may have gotten a sheriff-sale bargain, the dramatic drop in price in four years must reflect the decreasing viability of the Highland's iron industry. Chelsea Forge apparently remained in operation at least until 1788 or 89, under the management of John Anderson.<sup>31</sup> In any case, the enterprise probably had been abandoned by 1793, when the forge lot was divided by court order for its owners and subsequently sold.<sup>32</sup>

While the ownership of the other two thirds of Chelsea Forge remains obscure, the 1793 advertisement for the sheriff's sale of a portion of the partitioned forge lot documents that it belonged to heirs of Thomas Potts, deceased, at that time. To satisfy the nonpayment of costs associated with the division, the sheriff offered two lots of land and containing 23 acres, 3 quarters and 34 perches, being part of a tract known as the Chelsea Forge, being part of Thomas Pott's share of the said tract now in the hands of John Rockhill and Elizabeth his wife, the late Elizabeth Potts, administrators of the said Thomas Potts.<sup>33</sup>

bottom adjoining the river; there is on the premises three good new log houses, at one of which a ferry across the Delaware was designed to be kept, near which place is a valuable shad fishery."

<sup>26</sup> West Jersey Deeds, Book AL, pages 393 & 399; Boyer, page 108. The deed for the adjoining 500-acre tract described it as "all that the remaining part which was not heretofore disposed of to Thomas Potts."

<sup>27</sup> Boyer, page 58. Other known managers of the forge during this period included Daniel Cahill, who apparently leased it from Ross, followed by John Stotesbury and John Anderson, who probably sublet it from Bakehouse. Both Stotesbury and Anderson were sons-in-law of Hugh Hughes, owner of Greenwich Forge, and the operators of these various iron works appear to have been financially much involved [Boyer, pp. 58 & 78-80].

<sup>28</sup> Wacker, *Musconetcong Valley*, page 137.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*, page 105.

<sup>30</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book B, page 4. McCullough did not take title to the property until November 11, 1786.

<sup>31</sup> Boyer, pp. 58 & 79-80. Boyer gives 1784 as the year in which Anderson came to Chelsea Forge, but two dates for the year in which he left.

<sup>32</sup> Sussex County Divisions, Book 2, page 22; *New Jersey State Gazette*, September 11, 1793; New Jersey Deeds, Book AV, page 431; Sussex County Deeds, Book C, page 280.

<sup>33</sup> *New Jersey State Gazette*, September 11, 1793. In the 1793 division, John Rockhill drew lots 1 and 3 and William McCullough drew lot 2. The map of the partitioned property that accompanies the division reveals that lot 3 consisted of two separate parcels, a 21-

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When Potts acquired his interest in the Forge property is unknown, but it must have been no later than the early 1770s. The 1774 Greenwich Township tax roll (the only one surviving for that municipality, which then included what became Finesville) assessed Thomas "Pots" for 52 acres of land, thirteen "horses & cattle," one servant or slave, and one riding chair (a one-horse carriage). The next entry is for William "Posts" [?], who was assessed for 500 acres of land, seventeen "horses and cattle," a forge with two fires and a saw mill. There can be little doubt that these two entries refer to Chelsea Forge.<sup>34</sup> According to genealogical sources, one of Thomas Potts' sons was born at Chelsea Forge in 1773, and Thomas died before August 13, 1777, on which date Elizabeth Potts was granted administration of his estate.<sup>35</sup> If Thomas Potts was directly involved in the operation of the iron works, as family sources maintain, this does not appear to have been the case in 1774. Whether or not the 1793 sheriff's sale took place, Thomas Potts' heirs were able to retain or regain ownership of their share of the forge lot.

In the 1790s, the Chelsea Forge lot and adjoining portions of the Beacon and Barker tracts became the property of two families of German origins, the Fines and Seigles. Unlike the Fine family, Benjamin Seigle was a newcomer to New Jersey when he purchased a 207-acre farm subdivided from the former Beacon tract and abutting the Chelsea Forge lot in 1793, for which he paid £1,000.<sup>36</sup> A resident of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, he belonged to the considerable eastward migration of Germans from Pennsylvania, especially Bucks and Northampton Counties, in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century as land became available in the Musconetcong Valley and vicinity.<sup>37</sup> Seigle was accompanied by his adult son Jacob, who in 1797 purchased for £150 the 14-acre lot which had been assigned to William McCullough in the 1793 partition of the Chelsea Forge tract and presumably included some portion of the improvements associated with the forge.<sup>38</sup> Benjamin Seigle died in

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acre parcel at the east end of the forge tract and a 2-acre parcel at the forge tract's southwest corner. Since the forge tract presumably was divided into three equal shares, one can conclude that the forge buildings were clustered near the southwest corner of the tract and split between the three shares [Sussex County Divisions, Book 2, page 22].

<sup>34</sup> New Jersey Tax Ratables, Greenwich Township, Sussex County, 1774. The acreage of the two assessments corresponds to those of the forge lot and the adjoining woodland tract given in deeds [West Jersey Deeds, Book AL, pages 393 & 399], and the description of the improvements as a forge with two fires and a saw mill similarly matches that given in the 1780 newspaper advertisement for the property [*New Jersey Gazette*, April 5, 1780]. The 1781 deed for the sale of the adjoining 500-acre tract describes it as "all that the remaining part which was not heretofore disposed of to Thomas Potts" [West Jersey Deeds, Book AL, pages 393].

<sup>35</sup> New Jersey Wills 1035J; W. W. Munsell, *History of Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania*, page 305. According to the biographical sketch of his grandson, George H. Potts, appearing in the Schuylkill County history, Thomas Potts was the youngest son of John Potts, whose Quaker ancestors had settled in Pennsylvania in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Thomas married Elizabeth Lukins, daughter of William Lukins, about 1750. In result of this marriage, he received "a handsome fortune" and "removed to the Musconetcong Valley, in New Jersey, where he purchased a large estate, on which he created a forge and furnace and conducted, until his death in 1777, an extensive and successful iron manufacturing enterprise." This source also states that his son Hugh H. Potts "was born at the Chelsea Iron Works, on his father's estate, in New Jersey, in 1773." After her husband's death, Elizabeth Lukens Potts married Dr. John Rockhill of Pittstown, NJ. Her daughter Gaynor Potts married Dr. Rockhill's son, John Clayton Rockhill [Munsell, *Schuylkill County*, page 305 & Snell, *Hunterdon*, page 522].

<sup>36</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book B, page 179. Seigle, a resident of Richland Township, Bucks County, PA, purchased the farm from the heirs of Thomas Craig, who (as recited in the deed) had acquired the same in 1753, from Peter Melick, who earlier that year had acquired the property Joseph and Mary DeCow, two of John Beacon's heirs.

<sup>37</sup> Wacker, *Musconetcong Valley*, page 51. Land became available for purchase due to the breakup of large holdings tracts such as the Alexandria Tract and various forge properties, along with the out migration of local residents to the western frontier.

<sup>38</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book C, page 280. This long narrow L-shaped lot of 14 acres bordered the river and was flanked by the other lots created in the 1793 partition of the forge that were set off for the Pott's heirs. Since this lot presumably constituted one third

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1798, bequeathing his entire estate to Jacob, except for household goods, two cows and a "riding horse" left to his widow Charlotte, along with "possession of one half of my dwelling house, and the use of my ten-plate stove and the profit of the one half of my plantation, as long as she remain[ed his] widow."<sup>39</sup> Seigle's estate inventory includes livestock and farming equipment, evidence that he engaged in farming, and the presence of "carpenter tools" worth £3, which suggests that he also may have practiced that trade. Although its exact age is unknown, the two-story log house on the property (inventory site # 62) may well have been his residence.<sup>40</sup> Early in the year after his father's death, Jacob Seigle conveyed both his father's farm and the 14-acre lot to his widowed mother for £1,200. Described in that deed as a potter, Jacob evidently pursued that business for many years thereafter.<sup>41</sup> An 1821 deed indicates that by that time, if not originally, the pottery, which may have used water-power to grind clay, was located near the family homestead on a lot bordering the river.<sup>42</sup>

Jacob Seigle also apparently operated a saw mill on the family property. Late in 1799, he successfully settled a dispute with Philip Fine over water power rights, the two men entering into a formal agreement in which Fine recognized Seigle's right

to erect the said mill dam to such a height as is necessary to enable him in low water to carry on his saw mill, provided that [it]...does not overflow and injure more of the ground of said Philip Fine than has been usually overflowed.<sup>43</sup>

Seigle may have acquired his water rights by his purchase of McCullough's third part of the Chelsea Forge lot which apparently bordered the "old Chelsea Forge dam."<sup>44</sup> However, in 1800 Charlotte and Jacob Seigle sold 85 acres subdivided from the east end of their farm to Judah Roberts, and that deed documents that the dam and race serving the Seigle saw mill was located well upstream from the old forge dam.<sup>45</sup> An agreement made between Charlotte Seigle and Judah Roberts two years later suggests that the Seigles planned to expand their milling operations, and by 1821 a clover mill had been established, although it is not known if the latter was in addition to or a replacement of the saw mill.<sup>46</sup>

of the value of the forge property and was smaller than the other two lots, it must have include at least some of the forge buildings or improvements.

<sup>39</sup> New Jersey Wills, 7985S

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.; Seigle Homestead National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, November, 1976, page 8-1.

<sup>41</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book C, page 423. Jacob appears to have marketed his pottery over a wide area. The rare survival of an 1808 receipt documents the sale of two loads of earthenware worth \$53.18 to a store in the village of Log Goal (present-day Johnsonburg), located about thirty miles north of the Seigle pottery [M. Lelyn Branin, *The Early Makers of Handcrafted Earthenware and Stoneware in Central and Southern New Jersey*, page 85].

<sup>42</sup> Warren County Deeds, Book 3, page 310. The 1850 industrial census indicates that the Seigle pottery employed water power at that date [United States Census, Products, of Industry, Warren County, Greenwich Township, 1850], and early deeds indicates that the Seigles' had developed an extensive hydrosystem by the early 1800s, which could well have been used for the pottery; see the following paragraphs and footnotes 41 and 42.

<sup>43</sup> Hunterdon county Special deeds, Book 1, page 396.

<sup>44</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book C, page 423.

<sup>45</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book D, page 41. Excepted for the conveyance was "the dam on the Musconetcong [and] the race running out of said dam for the use of the saw mill" or any other mill the grantors might choose to build and reserved to the grantors "the free privilege of making the said race twenty-nine feet wide."

<sup>46</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book D, page 152; Warren County Deeds, Book 28, page 332. The 1802 agreement gave Roberts the right "to take one third part of the water out of the said Charlotte Seigle's Mill Race, which may be taken out of [the] Musconetcong, provided that [he did] not take out the said water or sink a race any deeper than the Bottom of the said Charlotte Seigle's old Mill Race at

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Jacob Seigle and his wife Miriam had at least three sons who grew to adulthood and settled on the family property. Charlotte Seigle sold a four-acre lot located on the north side of the road at the east side of the farm to her grandson Abraham in 1815, and in 1821, Jacob conveyed two lots locate between the road and the river to his sons William and Thomas, William receiving title to a 5.5-acre lot "with a certain pottery manufactory" and Thomas, a 2.64-acre lot "with a certain clover mill and the one half of the mill race."<sup>47</sup> William and Abraham Seigle conducted the pottery in 1820, according the industrial census of that year, which described the enterprise as a "small common Pottery Ware manufactory" consisting of a "shop kiln mixing establishment [and] wheel for turning" that employed three "hands" and produced \$700 worth of pottery ware during the past year.<sup>48</sup> While the pottery has not survived, two stone houses on that lot (inventory #s 44 and 47), one of which bears an 1828 date stone, probably were erected by William Seigle. According to the 1881 county history Thomas Seigle built the clover mill, which may well survive as the stone portion of the former grist mill now standing on the "clover mill" lot (inventory #50).<sup>49</sup> Jacob Seigle evidently erected the "stone mansion house" (inventory #59), where his widow was living in 1841.<sup>50</sup>

By the 1790s, Philip Fine (1744-1810), one of Sir Robert Barker's tenants as early as 1767, had prospered sufficiently to be able to acquire almost seven hundred acres of land stretching along the south bank of the Musconetcong River.<sup>51</sup> This property comprised two of the thirty lots into which the Alexandria Tract was surveyed during the spring of 1789, a few months before Sir Robert's death: lot #9, a 413-acre parcel which Fine purchased from Barker's trustee James Parker in 1794 for £1,000, and lot #16, the adjoining downstream parcel opposite what became Finesville containing 282 acres, which he acquired from Parker three years later paying £838.<sup>52</sup> Fine, who was the tenant of lot #9 in 1789, may have established his residence on lot #16 upon pur-

a certain split Limestone Rock marked with the Letters AB on the North side in said race" and provided that he did "not injure the said Charlotte Seigle's water works which is or may be erected" and that he agreed "not to erect any grist mill, to Grind Manufacture [or] Chop any country work, neither to erect any Sawmill" and to "keep the one third part of the said Seigle's mill dam... in good repair."

<sup>47</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book G2, page 329; Warren County Deeds, Book 3, page 310 and Book 28, page 332. Charlotte Seigle presumably died between 1815 and 1821, upon which event her only son Jacob regained title to the remainder of the family property.

<sup>48</sup> United States Census, Products, of Industry, Sussex County, Greenwich Township, 1820. Materials used include 18 tons of clay, 500 pounds of red lead, 3 pounds of magenta, 1 pound of verdigris and "sundry other materials" at a cost of \$130. Other expenses included \$360 for wages, \$72 for "contingent expenses" and \$50 for 20 cords of wood. the census enumerator included the following note: "this establishment not taken into my abstract bein[g] to[o] unimportant."

<sup>49</sup> Snell, Warren, page 603.

<sup>50</sup> Warren County Deeds, Book 19, page 117.

<sup>51</sup> Snell, *Hunterdon*, page 415; D. Stanton Hammond, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, Sheet C. Map Series #4; Andrew D. Melick, *The Story of an Old Farm, Or, Life in New Jersey in the Eighteenth Century*, page 636. Most of the limited genealogical information available on the fine family comes from the latter work.

<sup>52</sup> Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 5, page 241 and Book 32, page 166. Several months before his death in September 1789, Sir Robert Barker conveyed the title of his New Jersey landholdings to three trustees to avoid possible legal difficulties over the transfer of the property to his heirs. Trustee James Parker, a large New Jersey landholders and businessman, who had served as Sir Robert's agent and power-of-attorney since 1784, was given sole authority to arrange for the sale of the lands and receive all monies. Parker, who had recently won a protracted legal struggle with the tenants over Sir Robert's right to the property, had the Alexandria tract re-surveyed into thirty farms in the spring of 1789, the new lines evidently corresponding generally to pre-existing boundaries, and attempted unsuccessfully to dispose of it as two lots at public auction in the fall of that year. Over the course of the next decade, however, he was able to sell most of the farms separately to various individuals, some of them, like Philip Fine, former tenants [ McCormick, pp. 127-155; D. Stanton Hammond, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, Sheet C. Map Series #4]

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chasing that parcel in 1797.<sup>53</sup> According to a local historian writing in 1889, “near the close of the last century [Fine] built a saw and flour mill on the south side of the Musconetcong creek, at Finesville, at his death continued by his son,” and another contemporary source claims that he “erected and conducted a store on the opposite side of the stream in Hunterdon County.”<sup>54</sup> The long stone house facing the bridge in Finesville (inventory #17), built in several sections, could easily have accommodated both store and residence and was convenient to the grist mill, which purportedly stood across the road on the riverbank on the site of its successor (inventory #16).<sup>55</sup> Fine expanded his landholdings northward across the Musconetcong River in 1796, purchasing the two other lots created in the Chelsea Forge partition, which presumably included some of the abandoned forge buildings and improvements.<sup>56</sup>

Fine’s acquisition of the land on both sides of the river at the site of the old forge enabled his family to more fully exploit the water power there, and by the time of his death in 1810, a number of enterprises had been established under his auspices or those of his sons and grandsons. As documented by an 1810 application for a tavern in the riverside hamlet, they included “Mr. Philip Fines Merchant Grist Mill, Saw Mill, Fulling Mill, wool carding Machines, Distillery, Store, etc.”<sup>57</sup> Philip Fine died within weeks of the application’s date, and the “Mr. Philip Fine” referenced must have been his son, Philip, Jr. (1763-1834), who had purchased most of lot #9, including the mills and stone house, from his father in 1803.<sup>58</sup> At least some of the mentioned enterprises, notably the wool processing works, evidently were located on the other side of the river. In 1807, Philip, Jr., purchased a one-acre lot at the north end of the bridge subdivided from the old forge tract by his father and presumably erected the large stone woolen mill there (inventory #21) around that time or shortly thereafter.<sup>59</sup>

The industrial schedule of the 1820 United States Census indicates that the Fine grist and woolen mills were substantial operations for their time and place. Philip Fine had \$10,000 invested in his “Manufactory [in] Alexandria,” which utilized three sets of grinding stones and four bolting machines and employed two men to process 13,000 bushels of grain into “superfine wheat flour, rye flour & kiln dried corn.” The wheat flour was

<sup>53</sup> McCormick, page 150; Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 5, page 241. Fine evidently moved from lot #9 sometime after 1789, since that parcel was tenanted by Christian Tinsman, when he purchased it in 1794 [Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 5, page 241]. Fine’s 1797 deed for the purchase of lot #16 names no tenant, and it is possible that he was already in occupancy [Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 32, page 166].

<sup>54</sup> Melick, page 636; James P. Snell, *History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey*, page 602.

<sup>55</sup> Snell, *Warren*, page 602.

<sup>56</sup> New Jersey Deeds, Book AV, page 431. Conveyed to Fine by John Clayton Rockhill and his wife Gaynor Potts, daughter of Thomas Potts, the property comprised a narrow 17-acre lot on the west side of the forge lot and a 21-acre lot at its east side, which lots flanked the 14-acre lot assigned to William McCullough.

<sup>57</sup> Sussex County Tavern Licenses, John Fine, Jr., 1810.

<sup>58</sup> *Ibid.* The application is dated July 25, 1810, and Philip Fine died about eight weeks later on September 14, 1810 at the age of 66. Robert F. Ehret (comp.), “Tombstone Inscriptions Taken from Cemeteries in Warren County, New Jersey and Nearby Counties Copied from the Original Notebooks of Mrs. Elva M. Rosebery,” vol. I, pp. 130 & 169; Melick, page 671; Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 7, page 220. The property was described in the 1803 deed as containing 269 acres and “being part of a larger tract of land ... known and distinguished [as] ... lot #16.” Lot #16 was described in Fine’s 1797 deed of purchase [Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 32, page 166] as containing 285 acres, and the location of the excepted 16 acres is unclear, due to the poor boundary description of the 1803 deed. While the description seems to exclude land along the river, a later deed clearly states the mills formed part of the land conveyed by the elder Philip Fine to his son Philip on April 4, 1803 [Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 58, page 434].

<sup>59</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book Q, page 329.

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valued as 40 to 50 cents per barrel and the rye, 20 to 75 cents per barrel.<sup>60</sup> Although no production totals were given, the business clearly conformed to what was then known as a "merchant mill," which produced flour for market sale from purchased grain, and not a local mill doing "country work" for neighborhood farmers grinding their grain into flour and feed.<sup>61</sup> Like other local merchants and industrialists, Fine probably shipped his flour downriver by Durham boat to the Philadelphia market; as late as the 1840s his sons held the lease of a "store house" on the banks of the Delaware.<sup>62</sup> Fine's "cloath [sic] manufactory" on the north bank of the Musconetcong River (in what was described as the "small village of New Burgh") processed 2,100 lbs. of wool (300 lbs. "merino" and 1,800 lbs. "common") valued at \$1,050 into cloth worth \$3,400. His equipment, not all of which was in use, included four looms, four carding machines, one "puking" machine, three spinning machines, two "fulling stocks," one "press stock," one shearing machine, two "tenter bars" (one broad and one narrow), two copper dye kettles, a "large stove for heating Press plates," two "common stoves," and a "press for drying wool." His workforce consisted of six men and four boys and girls. Production encompassed 300 yards of "drugget," 400 yards of "fine satinet," 1,500 yards of "common satinet" and 1,200 yards of unspecified cloth. However, given his costs of \$1,800 for labor and \$450 for contingent expenses, Fine realized a profit of only \$140.<sup>63</sup> This perhaps resulted from the economic downturn following the end of the War of 1812, during which the American woolen industry was especially hard hit by low-priced English woolens flooding the market after 1815.<sup>64</sup>

The tavern licensed in 1810 probably was the old Chelsea Forge tavern, which was located on the north side of the Musconetcong, most likely on the western of the two forge lots acquired by the elder Philip Fine in 1796. Philip Fine, Jr., received a Sussex County tavern license each year from 1798 to 1802, and one can conclude that he took over the old tavern after his father acquired the property and gave it up when he purchased his father's mills and farm on the south side of the river.<sup>65</sup> The 1810 licensing petition, made by "John Fine, Jr.," (the eldest son of Philip Fine, Jr.), makes reference to the "great necessity for the occupation of the old tavern stand."<sup>66</sup>

<sup>60</sup> United States Census, Products, of Industry, Hunterdon County, Alexandria Township, 1820. Raw materials included 7,000 bushels of wheat, 3,000 bushels of rye and 3,000 on corn. Wages cost the owner \$400 and contingent expenses, \$3,000, but the operation's profit or loss can not be determined since the census taker gave the cost per barrel of flour, but not the number of barrels of flour produced. However, the census taker did note that "the establishment [was] in good repair and admirable for its Manufactures."

<sup>61</sup> Wacker, *Musconetcong Valley*, page 121.

<sup>62</sup> *Ibid.*, page 131; "Great Sale of Mill Property and Town Lots, *Hunterdon County Democrat*, October 4, 1848.

<sup>63</sup> United States Census, Products, of Industry, Sussex County, Greenwich Township, 1820.

<sup>64</sup> Hubert G. Schmidt, *Agriculture in New Jersey*, page 161. Equipment standing idle in 1820 included one spinning machine, one carding machine and one hand shear. The production was given as 300 yards of "drugget," at 80 centers per yard, 400 yards of "fine satinet," at \$1.25 per yard, 1,500 yards of "common satinet" at \$1.00 per yards and 1,200 yards of "cloth" at \$1.00 per yard. Fine's capital investment was given as \$1,050, although this may be a mistake, since that is the same figure given for the cost of raw materials.

<sup>65</sup> Sussex County Tavern Licenses, Philip Fine, Jr., 1798, 1799, 1800, 1801 & 1802

<sup>66</sup> Sussex County Tavern Licenses, John Fine, Jr., 1810; Melick, pp. 636 and 671; New Jersey Wills, 3458J and 737J. John Fine, Jr., evidently continued to operate the tavern until at least 1823, and, although the son of Philip Fine, Jr., he evidently was named "junior" in the tavern license application to distinguish him from his uncle John Fine [Sussex County Tavern Licenses, John Fine, Jr., 1810, 1811, 1812-1819 & 1821-23].

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The elder Philip Fine conveyed substantial portions of his property to his two sons, Philip and John, in the decade before his intestate death, and the brothers acquired most of the remainder from their fellow heirs.<sup>67</sup> In 1811, Philip, Jr., paid \$3,439.80 for three tracts belonging to his father's estate, a 68-acre tract subdivided from lot #9 (the remainder of which was conveyed to his brother John), along with the two Chelsea Forge lots acquired by his father in 1796.<sup>68</sup> The 68-acre tract, combined with adjoining portions of lot #16 already in his possession, apparently constituted what Fine referred to his "upper farm" in his will, and the stone I-type dwelling located there (inventory #19) was probably was built and occupied by him or other family members around this time.<sup>69</sup>

The next decades witnessed the modest growth of the adjoining mill hamlets and the beginning of their transformation into what eventually became almost one contiguous village. Development first focused along the road leading north from the bridge (Mount Joy Road) and around its intersection with the "road to Hunts Ferry" on the Delaware River (County Route 627).<sup>70</sup> In 1814, Philip Fine (II), "merchant miller," and his wife Catherine of Alexandria Township sold a small lot just north of the woolen factory to their son Philip Fine (III, 1790-1845), "merchant," of Greenwich Township for \$65, and the latter presumably erected the stone house on that lot (inventory #30) shortly thereafter.<sup>71</sup> In the following year, Philip and Catherine sold an adjoining lot of about fifteen acres to their eldest son John (1785-1839). He paid the substantial sum of \$1,397.00 for the property, which the deed described as "the place where the said John Fine now lives" and which evidently encompassed the tavern kept by him beginning in 1810.<sup>72</sup> John Fine eventually replaced the old Chelsea Forge tavern. According to the 1881 Warren County history, he erected a hotel "of which he was the landlord for many years. It is still standing, and occupied now as a dwelling" (inventory #80).<sup>73</sup> William Hunt, who had inherited a farm adjoining the Chelsea Forge tract from his father George in 1786, subdivided and sold at least eight small lots around the crossroads between 1816 and 1820 to members of the Fine family and other individuals.<sup>74</sup> A lot located on the west side of Mt. Joy Road acquired by Philip Fine (III), in 1816, evidently

<sup>67</sup> On April 4, 1803, the same day that Philip Fine, Jr., received title to lot #9, his younger brother John acquired a 215-acre parcel subdivided from lot #9, for which he paid his father £854 [Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 7, pp. 220 & 224]; New Jersey Deeds, Book AV, page 431.

<sup>68</sup> New Jersey Deeds, Book AV, page 431. John Fine (1768-1826) evidently occupied and farmed the Hunterdon County lands he that had belonged to his father and which, in turned, passed to his descendants [Melick, page 636; Hunterdon County Wills, 3458J; Matthew Hughes, *Farm Map of Alexandria Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey*, 1860].

<sup>69</sup> New Jersey Wills, 4126J. The house might date from somewhat earlier; see inventory listing #19.

<sup>70</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book F2, page 281.

<sup>71</sup> Sussex County Deeds, A2, page 499; Melick, page 671; St James Lutheran Church (Phillipsburg, NJ), baptismal records; Ehret (comp.), "Tombstone Inscriptions, vol. I, page 130. After the death of his father, Philip Fine, the "merchant miller," was often referred to in documents s Philip Fine, Sr., to distinguish him for his son, the "merchant." The latter, the third Phillip Fine, who thereafter was referred to as Philip Fine, Jr., or Philip Fine, Esquire in documents shall be referred to as Philip Fine III in this narrative and his father as Philip Fine II.

<sup>72</sup> Sussex County Deeds, A2, page 15; Sussex County Tavern Licenses, John Fine, Jr., 1810-1819 and 1821-23.

<sup>73</sup> Snell, *History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey*, page 602. Historic maps indicates that fine's tavern was located at inventory site #80 [Michael Hughes, *Farm Map of Greenwich Township, Warren Co., N. J.*, 1860; F. W. Beers, *County Atlas of Warren, New Jersey*, 1874, page 84].

<sup>74</sup> New Jersey Wills, 417S; Sussex County Deeds, Book P2, page 328. Hunt conveyed lots to Philip Fine, Jr., and his sons Philip and Godfrey, Andrew Sailor, Joseph Curling and Frederick Snyder [Sussex County Deeds, Book F2, page 281, Book G2, page 339, Book I2, page 50, Book L2, page 202, Book 92, pages 16 & 62 and Warren County Deeds, Book 12, page 292.

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had a mercantile use, since an 1834 deed for property across the road references "a post in the road fronting the storehouse," and one of the stone dwellings on the west side of Mt. Joy Road (inventory #13) may well have housed Fine's store.<sup>75</sup> A number of the stone dwellings located on these lots (inventory #s 2, 12-14, 81, 83 & 84) probably date to this period, although at least one of them (inventory #14), located on the riverfront lot acquired by Philip Fine (III) in early 1820, may be earlier.<sup>76</sup> Experiencing financial difficulties that the sale of these lots evidently did not resolve, William Hunt conveyed the remainder of his farm to trustees in March, 1820.<sup>77</sup> In the following year, the trustees sold the farm (inventory #4) to Philip Fine (III), who made it his "homestead farm."<sup>78</sup>

By the 1830s, the name Finesville had supplanted "New Burgh" for the settlement around the Fine mills, reflecting the family's dominant role in its economic and social life, continued by the third generation.<sup>79</sup> Perhaps the earliest published use of the place name appears in the 1834 New Jersey gazetteer which describes Finesville as a "small village on the Musconetcong Creek...[that] lies in a very narrow but fertile valley; [and] contains a grist mill, saw mill, and oil mill, a woolen manufactory, 1 tavern, 1 store, and from 15 to 20 dwellings."<sup>80</sup> Shortly before his death in 1834, Philip Fine (II) divested himself of most of his real estate, selling his 192-acre Alexandria property with its "grist mill, oil mill [and] saw mill," along with the woolen "factory" and other property on the north side of the river, to his three sons, Philip (III), Christopher and Henry M. Fine, who evidently formed a partnership to operate the mills at that time, if they had not done so already.<sup>81</sup> The "upper farm" with house reserved for his widow (inventory #19) was sold by Philip Fine's executors to Solomon Wieder in 1843, ending that property's association with the family.<sup>82</sup> John Fine died in 1839 possessed of the considerable property in the village, and his estate inventory reveals that he no longer operated the tavern, but received rental income and was engaged in agriculture and commercial activities.<sup>83</sup> In addition to the "tavern and shop," his rental property included three houses and shops, one of which evidently was a blacksmithy, and "the house and storehouse," the latter rented to his son John M. Fine.<sup>84</sup> It is possible that the community had two stores as early as this time.

The community experienced institutional development in the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.. While there evidently had been a private school in the vicinity as early as 1811, when Methodist bishop Francis Asbury "sat down in Godley's schoolroom and taught the people," local residents had to travel miles to attend

<sup>75</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book F2, page 281 and Warren County Deeds, Book 12, page 292.

<sup>76</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book P2, page 66.

<sup>77</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book P2, page 328 and Book R2, page 306.

<sup>78</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book R2, page 306; New Jersey Wills, 735U.

<sup>79</sup> The 1820 census reference to the location of Philip Fine's woolen mill as the "small village of New Burgh"[ United States Census, Products, of Industry, Sussex County, Greenwich Township, 1820].

<sup>80</sup> Thomas Gordon, *Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey*, page 141.

<sup>81</sup> Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 58, page 434 and Warren County Deeds, Book, 12, page 292. The estate inventory of Philip Fine (III), who died in 1845, included "1/3 stock in mill" and "1/3 machinery in factory, and his will directs his executors to assume "management of the co-partnership business in which I am engaged" [New Jersey Wills 735U]."

<sup>82</sup> Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 79, page 366.

<sup>83</sup> New Jersey Wills, 498U.

<sup>84</sup> *Ibid.* The inventory listings for "2 pair blacksmith bellows, vise, anvil & tools" and a "blacksmith account" are evidence of his ownership of a blacksmith shop. Ownership of "half a Durham boat & tackle" and a long list of book accounts with various individuals is suggestive of commercial activity. Agricultural pursuits are documented by the listings for livestock, farm equipment and "10 acres of wheat in ground."

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church until 1835, when four denominations organized, acquired property and erected a "union church" at Finesville.<sup>85</sup> On October 24, 1835, John Fine and his wife Ann conveyed a lot located on the southeast corner of the crossroads to the trustees of "school number one" and representatives of newly formed Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran and Christian congregations "for the erection of a house of worship."<sup>86</sup> There may already have been a school on the property, as the deed excepted from the transfer "as much as [was] already conveyed...to the inhabitants for use as a schoolhouse." On the same day the old Hunt family graveyard (inventory #1 ) was deeded to trustees "as a burial ground for the four congregations belonging to the house of worship (about being erected) in the said village."<sup>87</sup> In 1845, Finesville acquired a short-lived post office, and by 1852, a new schoolhouse had been erected at a site midway between the two villages (inventory #69).<sup>88</sup>

Bypassed by the region's 19<sup>th</sup> century turnpike and canal building booms and receiving only limited railroad connections in the 1850s, the adjoining villages grew only modestly in the middle decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, while continuing as a service center for the surrounding agricultural community. Writing in 1844, Barber and Howe described communities seemingly little changed during the past ten years except for the addition of the church: "Finesville, where there is a church, open to various dominations, near the SW. corner of the township...[is a] small manufacturing village ...containing about twenty dwellings...Middleville [as Seigletown was then called, is] a smaller place."<sup>89</sup> The 1860 Greenwich Township map shows about twenty-three dwellings in Finesville and twelve in Middleville, and the 1874 Warren County atlas depicts the larger village with twenty eight houses and the smaller settlement with eleven, documenting the minor residential development that occurred.<sup>90</sup> Houses were built during these years along the north side of the main road through Finesville (Route 267) and on newly opened Musconetcong Street.

Commercial and industrial activity continued throughout the middle decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century at roughly earlier levels, while property changed hands, old businesses closed and new ones opened—all relatively small scale operations. Upon the death of Jacob Seigle in 1840, the 108-acre remainder of his farm was divided among his three sons, Abraham, Thomas and William R., his widow retaining the right to occupy half of "his stone mansion house" (inventory #59).<sup>91</sup> By 1850, William R. Seigle had turned his pottery over to his son Benjamin and opened a store, which the 1860 township map suggests was located in or adjoining the 1828 stone house (inventory #47). Census data indicates that the pottery used water-power to grind the clay, had a wood-fired kiln and employed from two to four workers. The value of its annual production of glazed earthenware

<sup>85</sup> Elmer T. Clark (Editor-in-Chief), *The Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury*, page 671. While local historians have placed Godley's school at Finesville, the editors of Asbury's journals located it about two miles west at Hunt's Ferry on the Delaware River [Frank Leary (editor), *Pohatcong: the Prologue A History of the people of Pohatcong*, page 73]. Philip Fine the elder and many of his descendants belonged to Saint James Lutheran Church (the "Straw Church"), which is located about miles northeast of Finesville. The alternative for residents of the lower Musconetcong Valley was Greenwich Presbyterian Church, about five miles northeast of Finesville. Snell, *History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey*, page 601.

<sup>86</sup> Warren County Deeds, Book 14, page 16.

<sup>87</sup> Ibid. Book 14, pp. 14 & 20.

<sup>88</sup> John L. Kay and Chester M. Smith, Jr., *New Jersey Postal History*, page 134; D. McCarty, *Map of Warren County, New Jersey*, 1852. The post office established on February 6, 1845 under postmaster Lewis Osmyn was discontinued less than a year later on January 5, 1846.

<sup>89</sup> John W. Barber and Henry Howe, *Historical Collections of the State of New Jersey*, pp. 489 & 490.

<sup>90</sup> Michael Hughes, *Farm Map of Greenwich Township, Warren Co., N. J.*, 1860; F. W. Beers, *County Atlas of Warren, New Jersey*, 1874, page 84.

<sup>91</sup> Warren County Deeds, Book 19, pages 115, 117, 120 & 122.

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ranged from \$1,500 in 1850 to \$2,500 in 1870, and the business changed hands at least twice between those years. Three machines had been installed by 1870, at which time production included pots, pipes (probably drain pipes), tanks and dishes, mostly red glazed but also including some brown or black glazed wares.<sup>92</sup> The pottery remained in operation until at least 1886, when it was owned by the estate of William R. Seigle, but closed sometime thereafter.<sup>93</sup> Thomas Seigle sold the mill lot to Jesse Gruver in 1847, after which he appears to have concentrated on farming as did his brother Abraham.<sup>94</sup> By 1850, the clover mill had been converted into a grist mill (inventory #50), which the industrial census of that year indicates was a small scale operation (conducted not by its owner, but by Jesse Jacoby) with an annual production of 1,000 bushels of "toll grain" worth \$800 and one employee.<sup>95</sup> The mill changed hands several times in the next decades, during which time its production greatly increased, for which the closing of the Fine grist mill may have created the opportunity. In 1860, the mill was owned and operated by Nathan Druckmiller who, with two employees, produced 30 tons of wheat flour valued at \$1,900 and 120 tons of corn and oat grain worth \$3,600. By 1870, the production of the "merchant mill," then owned by Thomas Holden, had grown to 2,000 bags of flour worth \$6,500 and 7,000 bags of feed worth \$14,000.<sup>96</sup> Holden may have been responsible for the frame addition which almost doubled the size of the mill, which in 1870 operated with four "runs" of millstones. Isaiah M. Jacoby was the owner in 1881, at which time it was described as doing both "merchant and custom work."<sup>97</sup>

The deaths of brothers and partners Philip (III) and Christopher Fine in 1845 precipitated the sale of the family mills and other property. In 1848, the "lower farm" in Alexandria Township (inventory #17) was sold by their surviving brother Henry M. Fine and the other heirs to John L. Riegle, who also was the high bidder at the court-ordered auction of the sale of the "homestead farm" of Philip (III) on November 13, 1849 (inventory

<sup>92</sup> United States Census, Products of Industry, Warren County, Greenwich Township, 1850, 1860 & 1870. Using water-power to grind the clay and wood to fire the kiln, the pottery, when operated by Benjamin Seigle in 1860, annually produced common earthenware worth \$1,500 from raw materials (clay and wood) costing \$270. Seigle had \$2,000 invested in the enterprise and four employees whose monthly wages collectively cost him \$80. Abraham Seigle, Benjamin's brother, was the proprietor in 1860, when the pottery's annual production of red glazed earthenware was valued at \$1,500; raw materials (red lead, clay and wood) cost the proprietor \$340 and wages for his two employees \$52 per month. In 1870, the pottery's proprietor, Thomas Walton, realized \$2,500 from his production (which included pots, pipes, jugs and dishes). The pottery operated twelve months, utilized three machines and employed four men at an annual labor cost of \$1,000; raw material costs include \$50 for clay, \$160 for lead and \$5 for manganese. See Branin, *The Early Makers of Handcrafted Earthenware*, pp. 86 & 87 for a more detailed discussion of the pottery during this period.

<sup>93</sup> Snell, *History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey*, page 603. Kern and Weaver. *History and Directory of Warren County, 1887*, page 555.

<sup>94</sup> Warren County Deeds, Book 28, page 135.

<sup>95</sup> United States Census, Products of Industry, Warren County, Greenwich Township, 1850. In 1850, mill proprietor Jesse Jacoby had a capital investment of \$3,000 and one employee (who received \$25 monthly wages). Snell, *History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey*, page 603. According to Snell, Thomas Seigle's clover mill "was sold to one Grover, who converted it into a grist mill."

<sup>96</sup> United States Census, Products of Industry, Warren County, Greenwich Township, 1860 & 1870. In 1860, the mill produced 30 tons of flour valued at \$1,900 from 1,500 bushels of wheat and 120 tons of grain worth \$3,600 from 5,500 bushels of corn and oat. Owner Nathan Druckmiller had a \$5,800 capital investment in the business and his monthly labor costs were \$50 for two men. Druckmiller sold the property to Thomas Holden in 1864 [Warren County Deeds, Book 81, page 514]. In 1870, Holden's "merchant mill" had four "runs" of millstones and employed two men, whose wages cost \$700 for the year. Holden's capital investment was \$10,000. Raw materials included 5,000 bushels of wheat worth \$6,000; 300 bushels of rye worth \$300, 10,000 bushels of corn worth \$10,000 and 500 bushels of oats worth \$225.

<sup>97</sup> Snell, *History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey*, page 603. John Holden sold to mill to Jacoby in 1871 [Warren County Deeds, Book 81, page 514].

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#4).<sup>98</sup> The two mills and other village property were sold at an earlier court-order auction held January 1, 1849, the advertisement for which described the improvements in some detail. "The large *Merchant Mill*" in Hunterdon County was

built of stone with three sets of Burr stones and all the necessary machinery of the most recent improvements and in first rate order with a good corn kiln, also an oil mill and plaster mill, built of stone, with all the machinery and fixtures necessary...[and] two thirds of the water power...together with a cooper shop, wagon house, sheds, etc.<sup>99</sup>

Also stressed were the 15-acre property's location near the "Delaware river and canal, and the contemplated Belvidere and Trenton Railroad" and the exceptional value of the Musconetcong River waterpower which would accommodate another mill on the site. "The large Woolen Factory" on the other side of the river, discussed next in the advertisement and seemingly the less valuable asset, was

built of stone, three stories high, with water power and machinery, all in ample order, about 5 acres of excellent land with two dwelling houses and other outbuildings...The property is admirably located for a safe and profitable business, either by country custom or otherwise, or could be advantageously used for any other manufactory purposes.<sup>100</sup>

The two mills and storehouse lease on the Delaware were struck off to Solomon Wieder, who evidently was acting as a straw bidder, since the same day he received title to the property he conveyed it to the three sons of Philip Fine (III), John, S, Isaac C. and Jacob Y. Fine, for \$9,025.<sup>101</sup> Isaac C. Fine assumed the operation of the woolen factory, which he called the "Finesville Satinett Factory" in the May, 1849 advertisement announcing his business and offering custom services.<sup>102</sup> The 1850 census indicates that the business employed five men to processed 10,000 pounds of wool into cloth worth \$4,700. However, despite the promise of the new railroad, Isaac Fine apparently was unable to succeed with the business. While able to purchase the factory from his brothers in 1851 for \$4,000, three years he was forced to convey all his property to trustees "for the benefit of his creditors," who sold it at auction in 1855 to the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Easton for \$3,225.50. The bank, in turn, conveyed the title to Alexander Wilson, who owned the property until 1871, during which time it presumably was rented or stood idle.<sup>103</sup>

After its destruction (or damage) by fire, the Fine grist mill on the south bank of the Musconetcong was rebuilt as a paper mill (inventory #16), whose proprietors included John L. Riegel, the founder of what became Riegel Paper Corporation. According to Riegel company history, Amos Davis, a Pennsylvania entrepreneur, joined Riegel and four other partners to organize Amos Davis & Company in 1861 and that company completed

<sup>98</sup> Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 94, pages 354, 357 & 359; Warren County Deeds, Book 33, page 172.

<sup>99</sup> "Adjourned Sale of Mill Property and Woolen Factory," *Hunterdon Democrat*, December 20, 1848

<sup>100</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>101</sup> Hunterdon County Deeds, Book 107, page 514; Warren County Deeds, Book 34, page 190.

<sup>102</sup> "Finesville Satinett Factory,...Isaac C. fine, May 16, 1849, *Hunterdon Democrat*, May 30, 1849. Fine announced that he planned to "manufacture Satinett as the following price, viz: Merino, thirty-three cents per yard; common, thirty cents per yard; Blanketing, thirty cents per yard" and that "Wool for manufacturing will be taken in, and when manufactured, returned to [various local] stores."

<sup>103</sup> Warren County Deeds, Book 39, page 474, Book 41, page 574, Book 44, page 225 and Book 81, page 297. The 1860 county map identifies the property as "Woolen Mfty," but identification of any proprietor is unclear [H. F. Walling, *Map of Warren County, New Jersey*, 1860].

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the reconstructed of the old grist mill as a paper mill in 1862 at a cost of \$27,000.<sup>104</sup> However, there is evidence that the paper mill was in operation by 1860. The 1860 map of Alexandria Township identifies the former Fine mill property a "paper mill Davis & Company," and the 1860 industrial census includes a listing for the "Fines Ville Paper Mill."<sup>105</sup> In that year, according to the census, the mill turned 75,000 pounds of rags worth \$3,000 into 40,000 pounds of book paper worth \$4,800. Its proprietors had a capital investment of \$40,000, and employed six men and seven women, with an average monthly wage cost for men of \$185 and \$70 for women, the operation utilized one paper machine, a "6 horse engine," and "3 rag engines," all water powered. Unlike the capital strapped Fines, Riegel had considerable resources at his disposal (he was a director of the successful Warren Foundry and Machine Company of Phillipsburg, New Jersey, and had recently inherited his father's extensive mill property at nearby Riegelsville) and was well position to start a new venture that took advantage of the both the Musconetcong water power and the recently opened railroad along the east bank of the Delaware River.<sup>106</sup> The 1.5 mile distance of the Finesville to the railroad was a disadvantage for shipping bulky rags and paper, and in 1866 the Finesville mill was closed and the equipment moved to a new mill in Riegelsville, under the sole ownership of John L. Riegel.<sup>107</sup>

A few years later, Finesville acquired a more long lasting enterprise, Taylor, Stiles and Company, cutlery manufactures, which took over the former paper and woolen mills. The company's three partner Frederick S. Taylor, Augustus Bundy and Francis Stiles purchased the woolen mill from Alexander Wilson for \$3,500 in 1871 and over the next few years acquired considerable other property in the village.<sup>108</sup> The 1874 Warren County Atlas indicates that the cutlery factory occupied the former Riegel paper mill, a large building on the south side of the river west of the bridge (inventory #16).<sup>109</sup> The 1880 census described the firm as producing "edge tools" worth \$26,000. The firm employed twelve men, and its yearly expenses for labor were \$6,000 for labor. Raw materials cost \$12,000. The works ran on a turbine wheel providing 65 horse power.<sup>110</sup> In 1894, the firm was making "machine knives," and in 1918, it was described as a "manufactory of paper mill machinery," which employed eighteen men.<sup>111</sup> Some years later, the firm undertook substantial renovations to its buildings; work was also done to the mill dam during this period. While its ownership changed hands on more than one occasion and its facilities and product line evolved over time, the company continued to operate in Finesville until 1970.<sup>112</sup>

<sup>104</sup> *50 Years of Paper Making, A History of the Warren Manufactory Company*, page 4. It is unclear how much damage the purported fire did to the mill, since a photograph of the building predating the 1920s which appears in *50 Years of Paper Making* reveals a stone, gable-fronted building of traditional design that could have been erected in 1800 as well as 1860.

<sup>105</sup> Hughes, *Farm Map of Alexandria Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey*, 1860; United States Census, Products of Industry, Hunterdon County, Alexandria Township, 1860.

<sup>106</sup> Snell, *History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey*, pages 561 and 603. The Belvidere and Delaware Railroad, which followed the east bank of the Delaware river northward from Trenton to Belvidere, passing through Riegelsville at the mouth of the Musconetcong River less than two miles downstream from Finesville, was completed in 1854 [Ibid., page 487].

<sup>107</sup> *50 Years of Paper Making*, page 4. Riegel's company eventually established paper mills at four villages in the vicinity: Riegelsville, Hughesville, Warren Glen and Milford.

<sup>108</sup> Warren County Deeds, Book 81, page 297.

<sup>109</sup> F. W. Beers, *County Atlas of Warren, New Jersey*, page 84.

<sup>110</sup> United States Census, Products of Industry, Hunterdon County, Alexandria Township, 1880.

<sup>111</sup> Cornelius Clarkson Vermule, Report of Water Supply, Water Power, the Flow of Streams and Attendant Phenomena. Geological Survey of New Jersey, Final Report of the State Geologist, Vol. III, page 11; *The Industrial Directory of New Jersey*, 1918, page 195.

<sup>112</sup> H. Leedom Lefferts, Jr., "Northwestern New Jersey An Inventory and History of Historic Engineering and Industry" page 103; Warren Count Deeds, Book 101, page 37, Book 183, page 635; Interview with Robert Schlichter, parts & service department, J. H.

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The community experienced additional moderate development as it continued as a local service center throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. By 1881, while the Fine tavern and Seigle store had closed, the community had acquired a second church and a few new businesses and dwellings. In the 1870s, the four congregations forming the Union church terminated their arrangement. While the Presbyterians and Lutherans joined other nearby churches of those dominations, the Christians began construction of a church (inventory #70) in 1877 on a donated lot located next door to the schoolhouse, furthering the physical and social linkage between the two villages. Additional physical linkage was provided by the construction of houses in the vicinity, most notably the large house (inventory #68), evidently built by John Butler sometime after 1860 and purchased by Francis Stiles, a partner in Taylor, Stiles and Company, in 1886.<sup>113</sup> In the following year, the old Union Church was offered for sale and acquired by Isaac S. Laubach. Extensive necessary renovations were undertaken quickly and on June 25, 1879, the building was dedicated as the Finesville Methodist Episcopal Church (inventory #33). Work included a belfry, in which a bell, bearing date 1882, was installed. In 1889, the Methodists erected a parsonage on a donated lot just south of the church (inventory #32).<sup>114</sup> Some years after 1874, the three-story brick building (inventory #11) was erected on an empty lot across the street from the parsonage. Identified as "Mechanics Hall" on a c. 1909 postcard, the building evidently accommodated a social hall, probably on its top story.<sup>115</sup> In 1881, Finesville had a blacksmith shop and a wheelwright shop, kept by Robert Butler and Jacob Seyler, which were joined by 1886 by a carriage factory, possibly an offshoot of the first two. The blacksmith and wheelwright shops at least were housed in the old woolen factory, which at that time had a large frame appendage on its south side.<sup>116</sup> A tinsmith, Charles Gano, evidently also operated in the building.<sup>117</sup> The post office, probably associated with one of the community's two stores (kept by Samuel Warner and John R. Cyphers in 1881), was reestablished at Finesville in 1888, and operated until 1968.<sup>118</sup> There was a limekiln in the village as early as 1816, and limekilns continued to operate there throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century (inventory #s 22, 87 and 88).<sup>119</sup> The earlier bridge over the Musconetcong at Finesville was replaced by the truss bridge in the late 1800's; the truss bridge evidently survived a devastating 1896 flood which destroyed the house the house of Philip Tinsman at Finesville.<sup>120</sup>

While the Taylor, Stiles and Company flourished in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and the Jacoby grist mill continued to serve neighborhood farmers, the importance of the community's as a place of local business declined. By 1910, besides its two industries, the Finesville's only business of note was a general store kept by C. C. Fine.<sup>121</sup> The blacksmith/wheelwright business in the old woolen mill closed, and a fraternal organization, the Order of Red Men, took over the building, acquiring title to the property in 1919.<sup>122</sup> While stating that

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Day & Company, May 7, 2009. Taylor, Stiles & Co. closed its Finesville plant about 1970 and moved operations to Cleveland Ohio. The firm was purchased by J. H. Day and Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, in the 1980s.

<sup>113</sup> "13th Annual Tour of Historic Pohatcong," 2007, site #7; Snell p.602.

<sup>114</sup> Snell, *History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey*, page 601; *100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Finesville United Methodist church, Finesville, New Jersey* (no date), pp 1-3.

<sup>115</sup> Postcard inscribed "Mechanic's Hall, Finesville, N. J." dated about 1909.

<sup>116</sup> Snell, *History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey*, page 602.

<sup>117</sup> Leary, page 93.

<sup>118</sup> Kay and Smith, *New Jersey Postal History*, page 134.

<sup>119</sup> Sussex County Deeds, Book 12, page 50; F. W. Beers, *County Atlas of Warren, New Jersey*, page 84.

<sup>120</sup> Leary, pp. 81, 92, 106 & 107; NJ DOT Historic Bridge Survey, inventory # 10XXH64.

<sup>121</sup> Leary, page 119; George Cummings, *History of Warren County*, page 243.

<sup>122</sup> Leary, page 109; Warren County Deeds, Book, 215, page 209.

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“manufacturing industry would be welcomed,” the 1918 *Industrial Directory of New Jersey* first touted the community as “an exceedingly picturesque and healthful place; very desirable for both summer homes and permanent residences.”<sup>123</sup> Some residential development did occur and continued throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The community’s only large employer in 1919, Taylor, Stiles and Company then had a work force of twenty-one men and manufactured “paper mill machinery,” presumably serving the four nearby Riegel paper mills as well as other customers.<sup>124</sup> No doubt to remain competitive, Taylor, Stiles and Company improved its facilities, upgrading the mill dam with a concrete capping and undertaking renovations to its plant, work which included the remodeling of the 1860s mill to its present appearance.<sup>125</sup>

Despite the continuance of Taylor, Stiles and Company, the 20<sup>th</sup> century witnessed the community’s gradual disintegration as a service center. The improvement and paving of local roads beginning in the early 1900s and the construction of state highways several miles to the north, east and west in the 1920s, coupled with the proliferation of automobiles and trucks during the period, lessened the dependence of neighborhood residents on local services and negatively impacted local enterprises. The county road through Seigletown and Finesville was improved in the 1920s, at which time the abandoned Seigle pottery was torn down; the frame addition at the old woolen mill also was demolished in the 1920s.<sup>126</sup> The Christian Church closed in 1949, as did the Finesville School around the same time, as township schools were consolidated, and the community lost one of its major remaining facilities with the closing of the post office in 1966.<sup>127</sup> The adjoining villages acquired one new community facility in 1951, when the township purchased two acres along the river in Finesville and created a park and playground.<sup>128</sup>

Finesville and Seigletown exist today as a largely residential community whose 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century rural character and setting survives substantially intact. Although nearly all non-residential uses in the villages have disappeared, the buildings that housed them mostly remain, and its two churches are still in use for religious purposes.<sup>129</sup> Many houses have been renovated in keeping with their historic character, and other buildings have been adaptively reused for as residences and, in the case of the barns at one property (inventory #53), a winery. Several large parcels around the adjoining villages are protected by open space easements, helping preserve the agricultural and rural character of the district setting. The adjoining villages retain much of their 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century character. Local officials and residents alike recognize the special qualities that establish the historical character and significance of Seigletown and Finesville and make the district a worthy candidate for listing on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places.

<sup>123</sup> *The Industrial Directory of New Jersey*, 1918, page 195.

<sup>124</sup> Ibid.

<sup>125</sup> Judging by its character the remodeling of the old mill, probably occurred around 1940, improvements to the mill dam may have been made much earlier, and according to one source “the concrete was replaced in 1950” Amy Hollander, “History of Finesville, New Jersey,” no page number].

<sup>126</sup> Leary, page 58; Amy Hollander, “History of Finesville, New Jersey,” no page number.

<sup>127</sup> Leary, pp. 137 & 140; Kay and Smith, page 134..

<sup>128</sup> Ibid., page 140.

<sup>129</sup> Interview with Robert Schlichter, parts & service department, J. H. Day & Company, May 7, 2009. Taylor, Stiles & Co. closed its Finesville plant about 1970 and moved operations to Cleveland Ohio. The firm was purchased by J. H. Day and Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, in the 1980s.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Finesville-Seigletown Historic District  
Warren and Hunterdon Counties, NJ

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Finesville-Seigletown Historic District  
Warren and Hunterdon Counties, NJ

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National Park Service

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New Jersey Tavern Licenses

New Jersey Tax Ratables

New Jersey Wills.

West Jersey Deeds

Warren County Deeds

Warren County Road Returns

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Population Schedules, Greenwich Township, Warren County, 1850, 1860, 1870 & 1880

Products of Industry, Alexandria Township, Hunterdon County, 1820, 1850, 1860, 1870 & 1880

Products of Industry, Greenwich Township, Sussex County, 1820.

Products of Industry, Greenwich Township, Warren County, 1850, 1860, 1870 & 1880

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Finesville-Seigleville Historic District  
Warren and Hunterdon Counties, NJ

Section number   10   Page   1  

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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Finesville-Seigleville Historic District is delineated on the attached map entitled "Finesville-Seigleville Historic District Site Location and Boundary Map," and is verbally described in the following paragraphs. The site and boundary map was assembled using municipal tax maps and topographic maps from the Counties of Warren and Hunterdon.

The boundary of the district begins in Pohatcong Township, Warren County on County Route 627 at the northwest corner of Block 15, Lot 14.01 following the property line east to the Musconetcong River. It then turns north following the river and crossing the river into Holland Township, Hunterdon County at the southwestern corner of Block 12, Lot 3. The boundary follows the south boundary of this lot to Bellis Road where it makes a slight turn south for a short distance. The boundary crosses Bellis Road heading southeast following the property line of Block 9, Lot 8.07 to the northeast and then northwest back to Bellis Road. The boundary follows Bellis Road in a northeast direction to the southwest corner of Block 116, Lot 1, turns east and then northeast following the property line across Bellis Road to the northeast corner of Block 4, Lot 8.01 turning northwest along Block 4, Lot 8.01 northern property line to the Musconetcong River. The boundary follows the Musconetcong River north to the northern point of Block 4, Lot 3.01 and crosses the Musconetcong River and County Route 627 back into Pohatcong Township, Warren County.

The boundary follows the boundary of Block 110, Lot 12 to the northwest, then south-west and southeast back to County Route 627. The boundary continues on the western side of County Route 627 to the corner of Block 110, Lot 13.02 and then northwest to the rear or western corner of Block 110, Lot 13.02. The boundary turns in a southwesterly direction following along the rear or northwesterly boundary of Block 110, Lots 13.02, 13.01, 14, 18, 20.01, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, and 42 to Mountain Road.

The boundary turns west along the north side of Mountain Road to the southeast of Block 113, Lot 11.01 where it turns southeast to the place of beginning at Pohatcong Township, Warren County on County Route 627 at the northwest corner of Block 15, Lot 14.01.

A cemetery is a noncontiguous part of the district located on County Route 627 just south of the district boundary on Block 15, Lot 13.

United States Department of the Interior  
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Finesville-Seigleville Historic District  
Warren and Hunterdon Counties, NJ

Section number 10 Page 2

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## BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the Finesville-Seigleville Historic District are delineated to include to the greatest extent possible the architectural and historical resources, with the fewest non-contributing buildings. The boundary follows property lines or lines of convenience across lots to encompass resources related to the district and exclude unrelated resources. On the northwest the southeast side of the district, the boundary was drawn to exclude lots that were developed later than the period of significance.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Finesville-Seigletown Historic District  
Warren and Hunterdon Counties, NJ

Section number 10 Page 3

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## UTM Coordinates:

The coordinates of the six vertices of the polygon represented on the USGS map accompanying this nomination are as follows:

Zone = 18

1. Easting: 485025; Northing: 4494525
2. Easting: 485255; Northing: 4495270
3. Easting: 486230; Northing: 4496350
4. Easting: 486580; Northing: 4495685
5. Easting: 485595; Northing: 4494760
6. Easting: 485270; Northing: 4494465

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Finesville-Seigletown Historic District  
Warren and Hunterdon County, NJ

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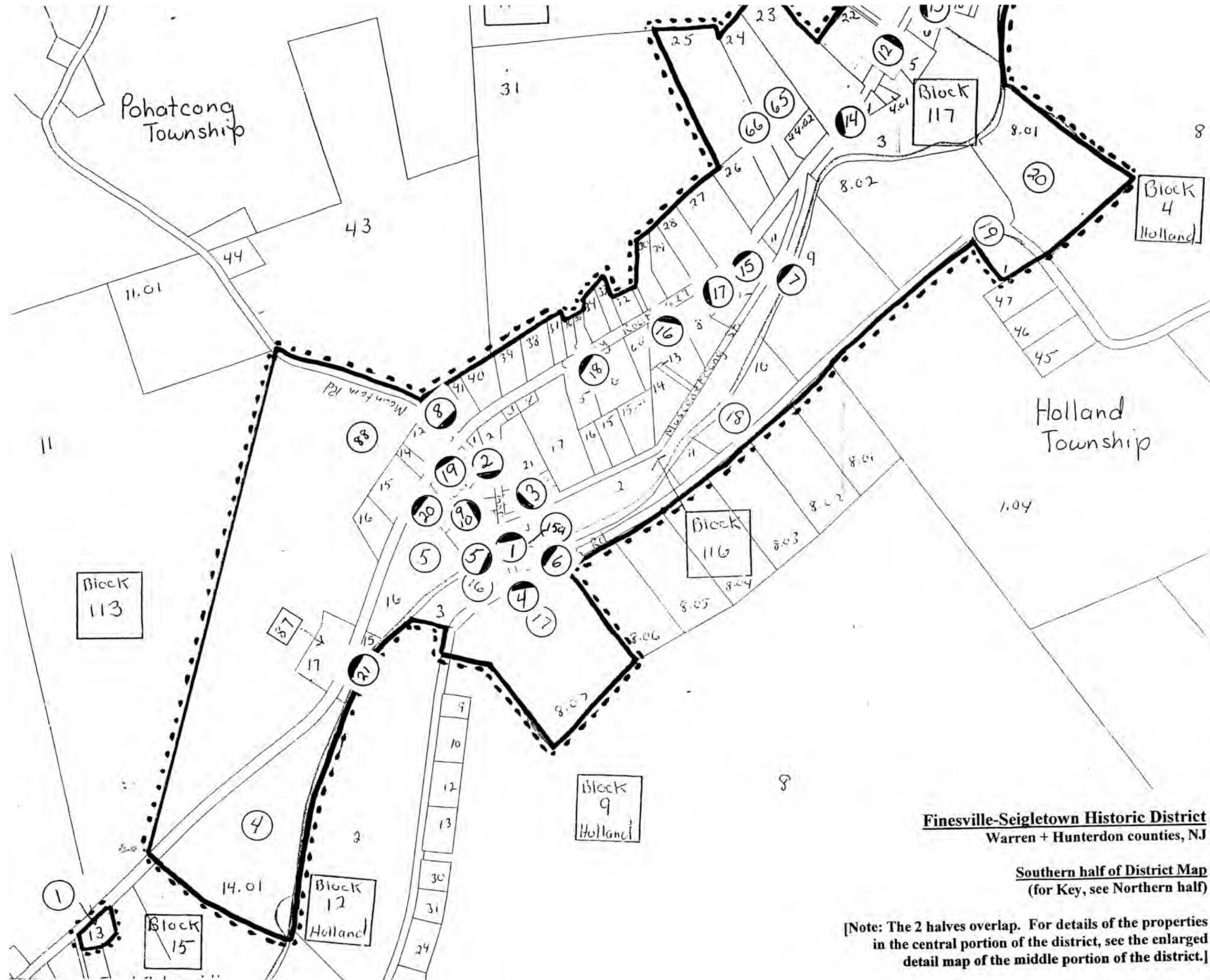
**PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION:**

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

Name: Finesville-Seigletown Historic District  
Location: Pohatcong Twp., Warren County and Holland Twp., Hunterdon Co., NJ  
Photographer: Janice Armstrong  
Date of photographs: Summer/Fall 2008  
Digital repository: Dennis Bertland Associates  
PO Box 315  
Stockton, NJ 08559

Photograph direction of view:

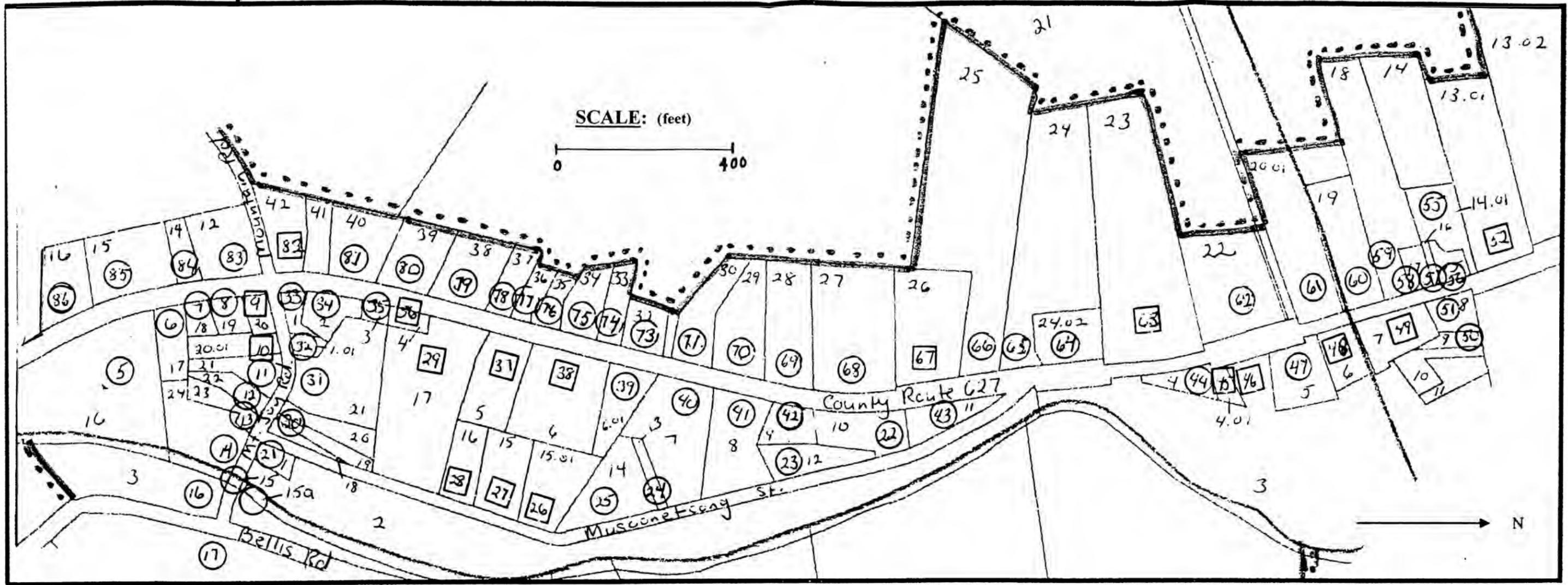
- #1 Sites # 11, 12, 13, north view.
- #2 Site # 13, south view.
- #3 Site # 16, southwest view.
- #4 Site # 17, north view.
- #5 Site # 19, north view.
- #6 Sites # 20 and 15a, east view.
- #7 Site # 22, north view.
- #8 Site # 33, southeast view.
- #9 Site # 30, northwest view.
- #10 Site # 30 door detail.
- #11 Site # 53, west view.
- #12 Site # 61, northeast view.
- #13 Site # 62, east view.
- #14 Site # 64, southwest view.
- #15 Site # 68, northwest view.
- #16 Site # 70, northwest view.
- #17 Sites # 73, 74, 75, southwest view.
- #18 Site # 78, north view.
- #19 Site # 83, northwest view.
- #20 Site # 85, west view.
- #21 Site # 87, west view.



**Finesville-Seigletown Historic District**  
Warren + Hunterdon counties, NJ

**Southern half of District Map**  
(for Key, see Northern half)

[Note: The 2 halves overlap. For details of the properties in the central portion of the district, see the enlarged detail map of the middle portion of the district.]



**FINESVILLE-SEIGLETOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT**

**HUNTERDON & WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**SITE LOCATION & BOUNDARY MAP**

(CENTRAL PORTION  
of DISTRICT)

INVENTORY SITE #s

CONTRIBUTING

②

NON-CONTRIBUTING

③

**FINESVILLE-SEIGLETOWN  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  
HUNTERDON & WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**SITE LOCATION & BOUNDARY MAP  
PHOTOGRAPH IDENTIFICATION MAP**

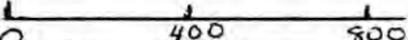
**DISTRICT BOUNDARY** 

**INVENTORY SITE #s**

**CONTRIBUTING** 

**NON-CONTRIBUTING** 

**PHOTO # AND DIRECTION OF VIEW** 

  
1 inch = 400 feet



**(NORTHERN PORTION  
of DISTRICT)**

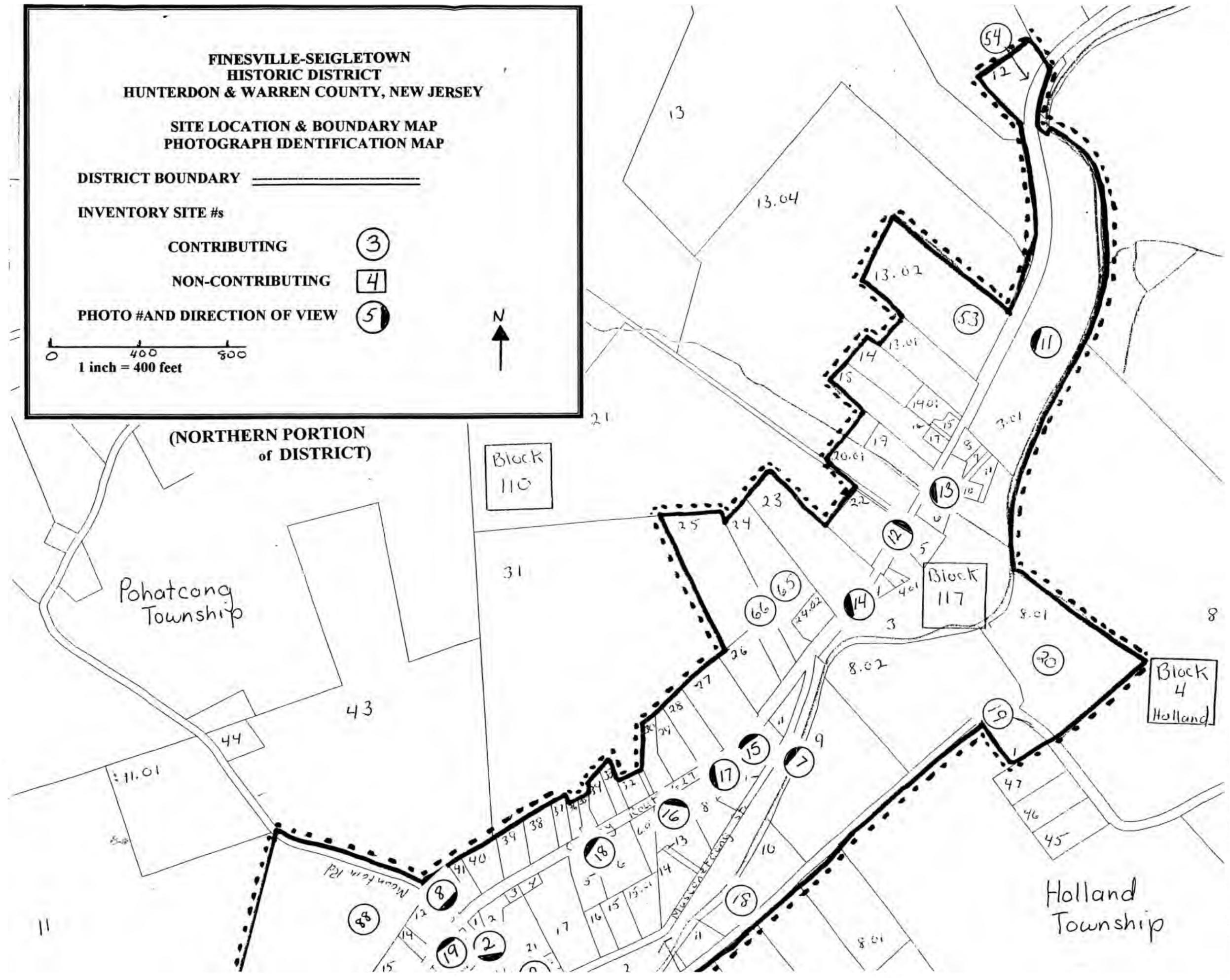
Pohatcong  
Township

Block  
110

Block  
117

Block  
4  
Holland

Holland  
Township



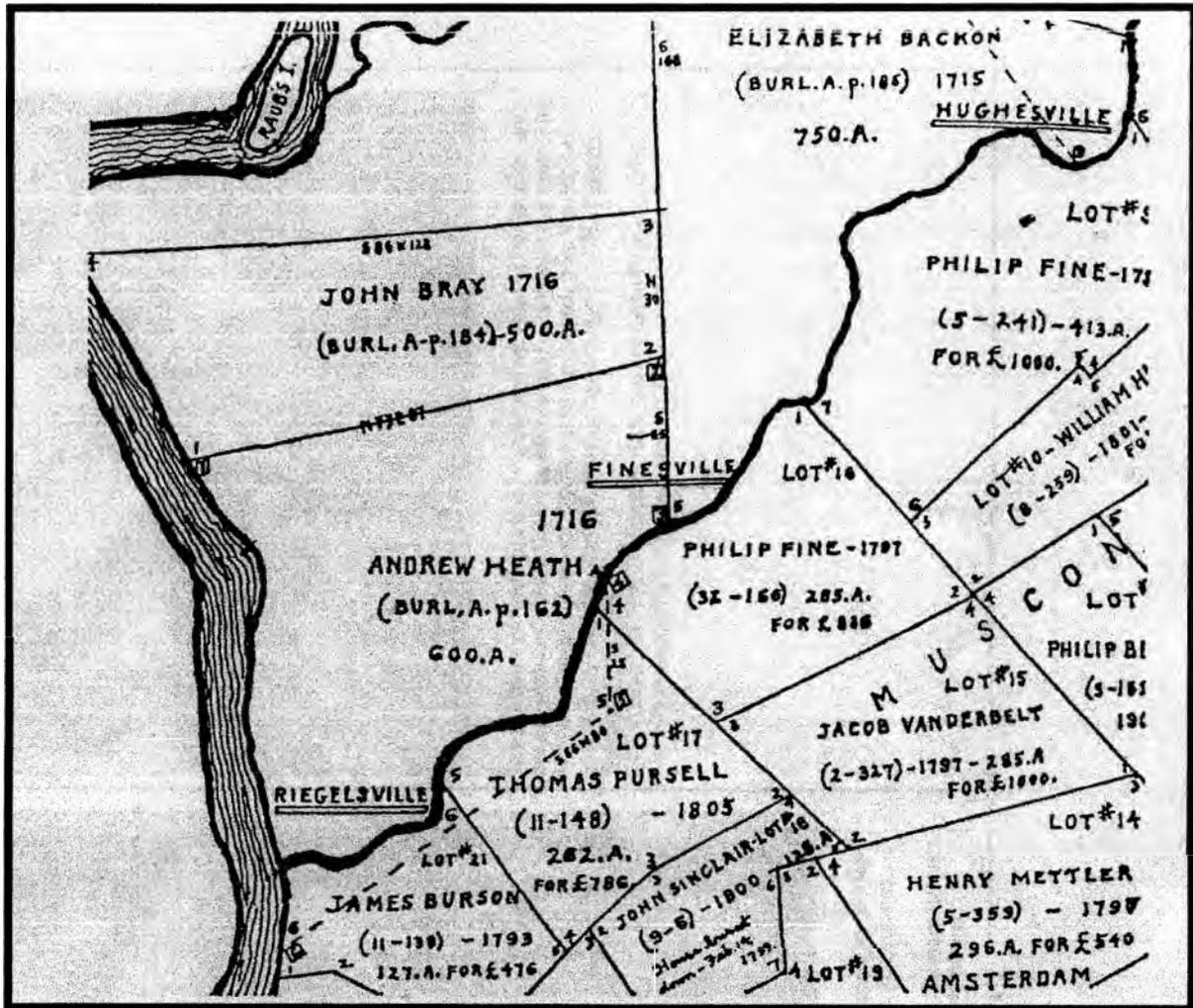


Figure 1. Hammond, D. Stanton. "Hunterdon County, New Jersey, Sheet C", Map Series #4." Genealogical Society of New Jersey, 1965.

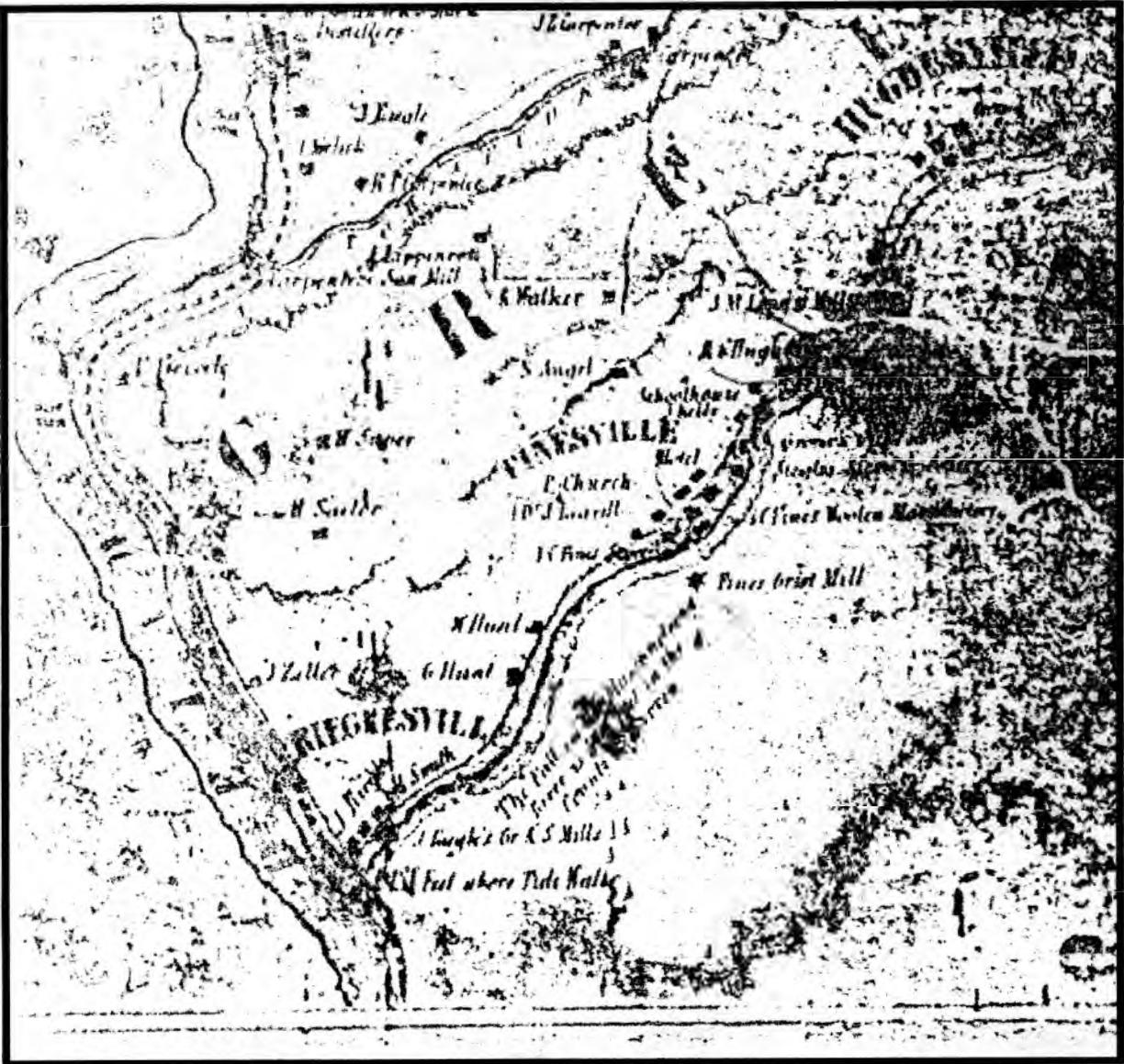


Figure 2. Cornell, Samuel C. *Map of Hunterdon County, New Jersey*. Philadelphia: S. C. Cornell and Lloyd Vanderveer, 1851.

Finesville-Seigletown Historic District  
Warren County + Hunterdon County, NJ

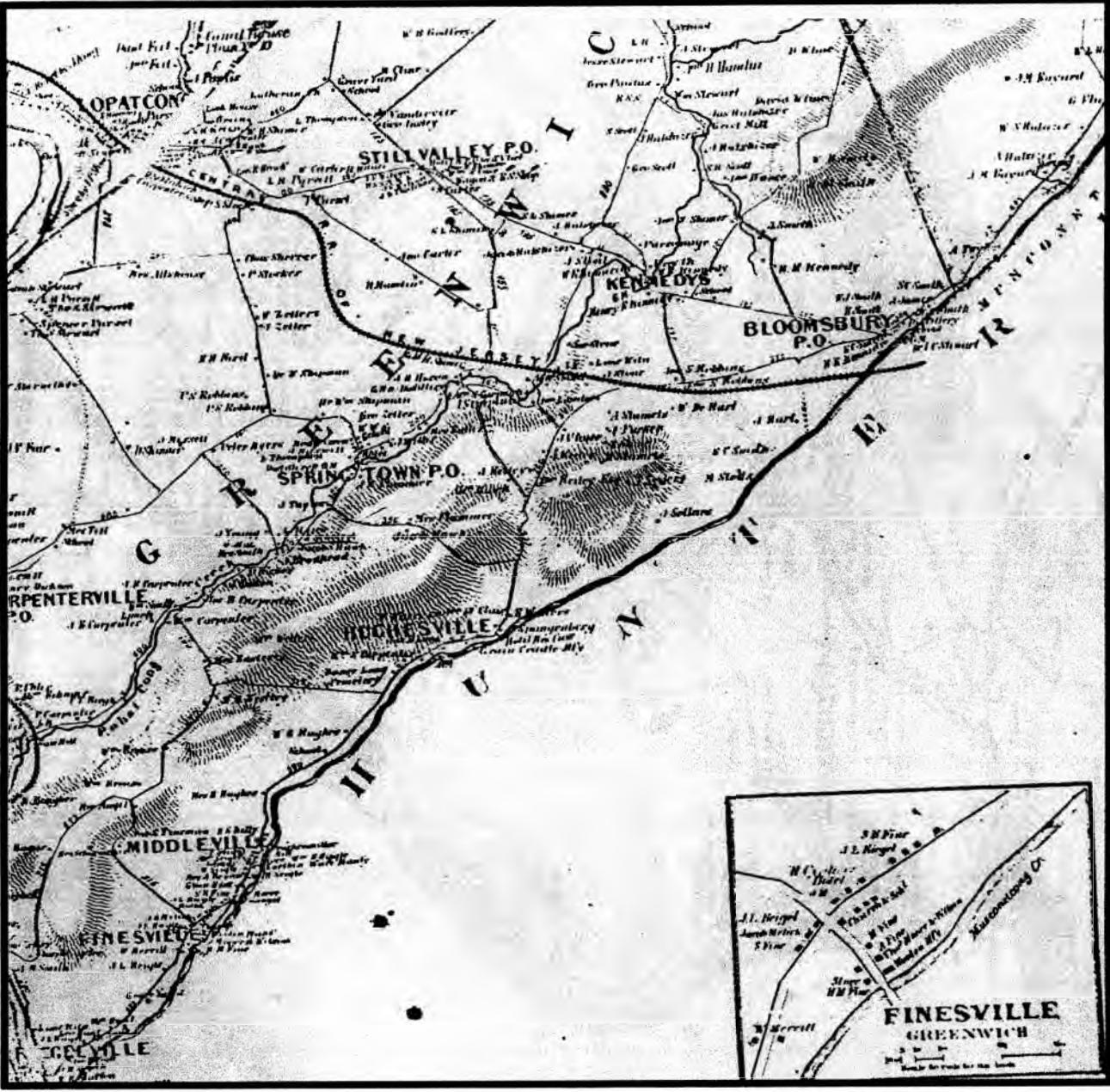


Figure 3. Walling, H.F. *Map of Warren County, New Jersey*. New York: Smith, Gallup & Co., 1860



Figure 4. Hughes, Matthew. *Farm Map of Alexandria Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey*. Philadelphia: Matthew Hughes, 1860.

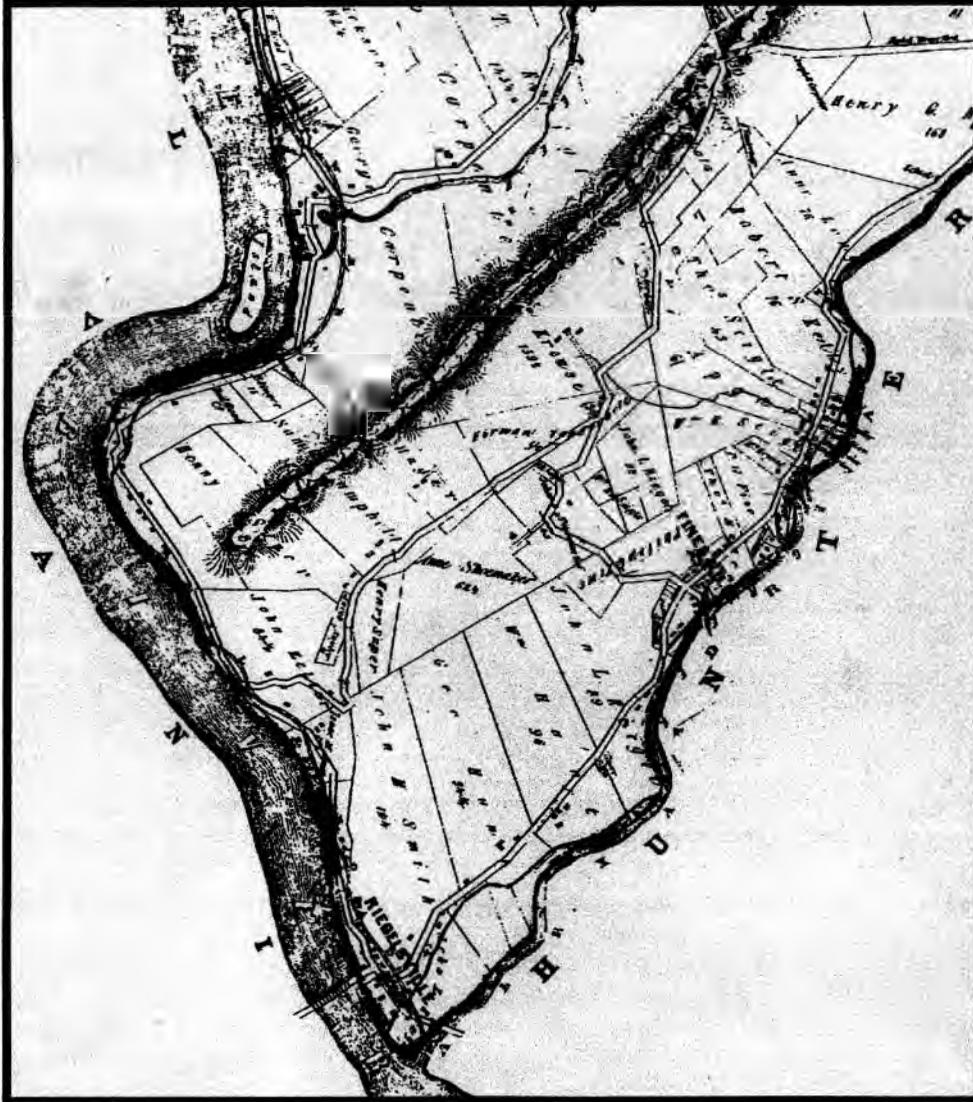


Figure 5. Hughes, Michael. *Farm Map of Greenwich Township, Warren Co., N. J.* Philadelphia: Michael Hughes, 1860.



Figure 6. Beers, F. W., *County Atlas of Warren, New Jersey*. New York: F. W. Beers & Co., 1874.

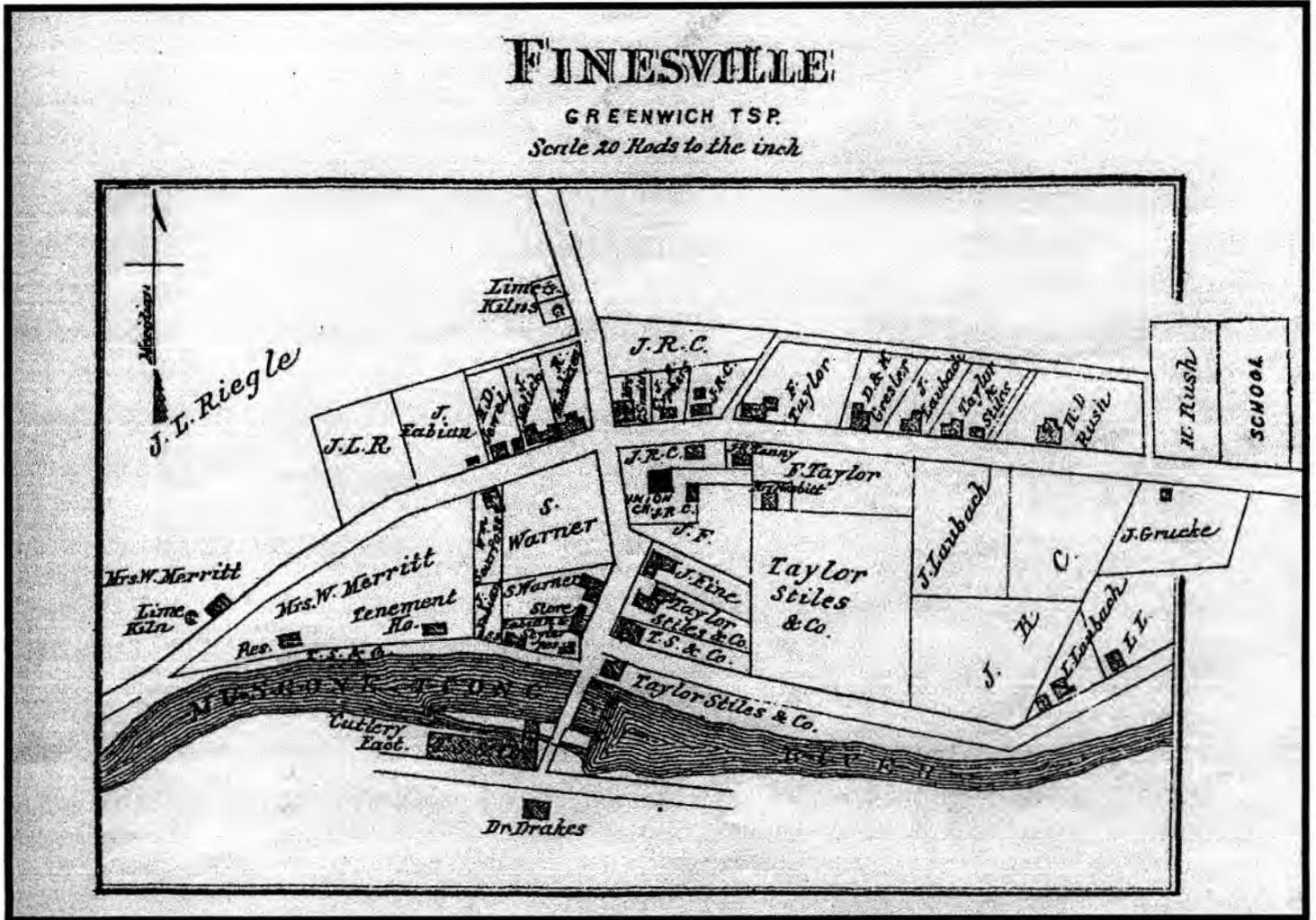


Figure 7. Beers, F. W., *County Atlas of Warren, New Jersey*. New York: F. W. Beers & Co., 1874.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Finesville--Seigletown Historic District  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Warren

DATE RECEIVED: 9/29/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/26/10  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/10/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/13/10  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000892

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 11.10.10 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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.







































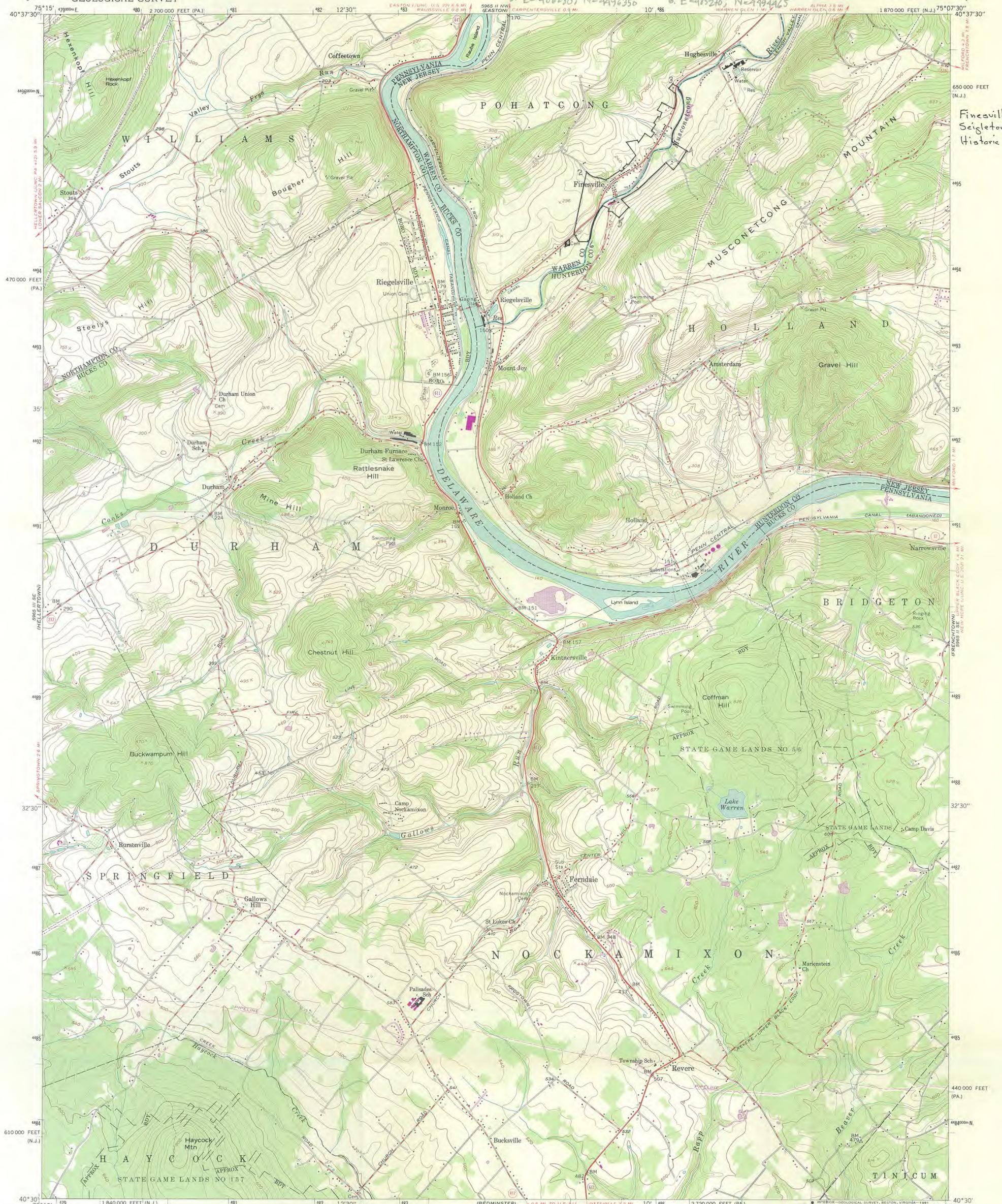




UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

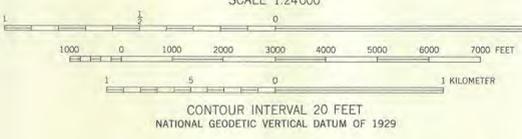
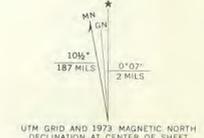
Finesville-Seigletown Historic District  
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 2. E=485255; N=4495270  
 3. E=486230; N=4496350  
 4. E=486580; N=4495685  
 5. E=485595; N=4494760  
 6. E=485270; N=4494465

RIEGELSVILLE QUADRANGLE  
PENNSYLVANIA-NEW JERSEY  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Finesville-Seigletown  
Historic District

Mapped by the Army Map Service  
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS and USC&GS  
 Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods  
 Field check 1942. Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1956  
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grids based on Pennsylvania coordinate system,  
 south zone, and New Jersey coordinate system.  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
 zone 18, shown in blue  
 Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey in  
 cooperation with State of Pennsylvania agencies from aerial  
 photographs taken 1968 and 1973. This information not field checked  
 There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of  
 the National or State reservations shown on this map



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

RIEGELSVILLE, PA.—N. J.  
 40075-E2-TF-024  
 PHOTOINSPECTED 1990  
 1956  
 PHOTOREVISED 1968 AND 1973  
 DMA 5965 II SW—SERIES V831

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
 DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The difference between 1927 North American Datum and North  
 American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) for 7.5-minute intersections  
 is given in USGS Bulletin 1875. The NAD 83 is shown by  
 dashed corner ticks

TOPO QUAD RIEGELSVILLE (PA) 901  
 Your Price \$5.00

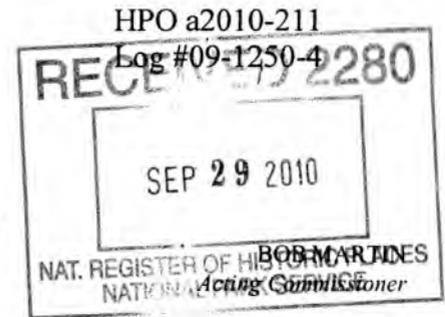


## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES  
Office of the Assistant Commissioner  
P.O. Box 404  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
TEL: (609) 292-3541  
FAX: (609) 984-0836

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*



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 Finesville-Seigletown Historic District, in Warren 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, Acting Administrator, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, P.O. Box 404, Trenton, New Jersey 08625 or call him at (609) 633-2397.

Sincerely,

Amy Cradic  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer