



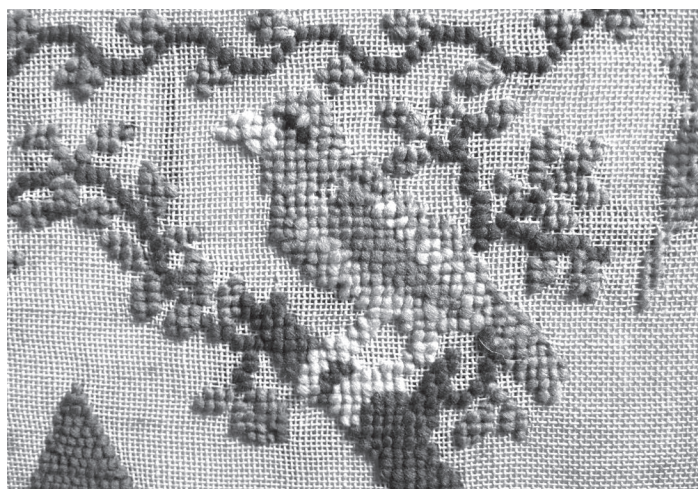
## Fall Meeting November 8, 2009 Schoolgirl Needlework in the Spotlight

Since Society members in the early days did not keep precise records, no one knows who donated four embroidered samplers to the collection, or when they were acquired. Many details about the samplers, and the young teens who created them in the 1820s and 30s, will be revealed by needlework collectors Dan and Marty Campanelli at the Society's Sunday, November 8th public meeting. Their talk begins at 2:00 pm at the Flemington Presbyterian Church, 10 East Main Street, Flemington, New Jersey.

When the Trustees asked the Campanellis to look at the samplers, they enthusiastically took on the task of researching the young women who made them, their families, and the schools where they were educated in the "ornamental branches." Using genealogical data, resources and acquisitions in the Society's collection, books in their extensive personal library, and contact with a living relative of one of the sampler makers, the Campanellis have put together a visual and informative treat for all.

The couple will detail the steps involved with studying the Society's samplers, including a visit to the grave site of one of the girls. They also will share knowledge gained while researching the numerous pieces of needlework in their own large collection of samplers and silk embroideries.

As a gift to the Society, the Campanellis "adopted" two of the pieces and treated them to archival conservation, a skill they learned and have



*This colorful bird was stitched in wool on linen by a local Hunterdon County teen around 1835. Sampler from Hunterdon County Historical Society.*

practiced on their own collection. Documentation of the process will be part of their talk, and the newly-restored samplers will debut on the day of the lecture. In addition, a collection of mid-1700s to early 1800s unfinished embroidery projects from the Society's collection also will be discussed. These decorative bits and pieces were discovered in a tiny wallpaper-covered box during archival processing.

Active in researching the history of their community, the Campanellis joined with Trustee and Franklin Historian Lora Jones in co-authoring an Images of America book on Franklin, scheduled for release in February, 2010.

### **CALENDAR**

<b>Nov 1</b>	Open House, Bouman-Stickney Farmstead, Stanton, NJ
<b>Nov 8</b>	<b>Society Fall Meeting</b> , Flemington Presbyterian Church
<b>Nov 26</b>	Happy Thanksgiving - Society Library will be closed
<b>Nov 27-28</b>	Dickens Days, Clinton, NJ
<b>Dec 5-6</b>	Holiday Craft Show, Prallsville Mills, Stockton, NJ
<b>Dec 26</b>	Happy Holidays - Society Library will be closed

**HUNTERDON HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER**

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Terry A. McNealy, Editor

**Library Hours**  
Thursday, Noon to 4 p.m.  
2nd and 4th Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
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## Membership Report

A warm welcome is extended to those members who have recently joined the Hunterdon County Historical Society.

Michael Alfano, Stanton, NJ  
Eleanor Ball, Avalon, NJ  
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Diane E. Floyd, Panama City, FL  
Carol Haver Frazee, Lebanon, NJ  
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H. Clay McEldowney, Pittstown, NJ  
Barbara McGavock, Johnson City, TN

Harold O. Van Fleet  
Membership Chair

## Acquisitions

Materials representative of the history of Hunterdon County and the families who resided here are welcome additions to the Historical Society’s collections. *To the donors of recent acquisitions, the Society expresses its sincere appreciation.*

Allen, Charles J., “Moses Robins Biography Corrected” (2009) 12 pp. Gift of author.

Aspeling, Roger Lewis, *Listing of Veterans Buried in Historic Mount Hope Cemetery* (2008) Purchased.

*Bible* (Philadelphia, M. Carey, 1810) with Everitt family records; Sidney Lanen Bush, ms. Receipt book/ commonplace book, c.1874-1883; broadside, “Public sale...” Mar. 14, 1928, Edward Sloff, near Larison’s Corner Church; newspaper, *Frenchtown Star*, Feb. 12, 1896; photo, school interior with students and Christmas decorations (from an auction near Ringoes); 2 advertising cards, Hunterdon Store, “Women’s shoes a specialty,” and other items. Gift of Jack Davis.

Blotter, “Domestic Postage Rates Effective October 1, 1932 ... Compliments of Frank C. Dalrymple, Postmaster, Pittstown, New Jersey.” Gift of Joseph Perricone to the Franklin Township archives.

Cheney, Glenn Alan, *Thanksgiving: The Pilgrims’ First Year in America* (2007). Gift of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in New Jersey.

(cont’d page 1065)

## HOW TO JOIN

Hunterdon County Historical Society  
114 Main Street  
Flemington, NJ 08822

Please enroll me as a member of your Society.

Annual	\$15 per year
Family	\$18 per year
Contributing	\$25 per year
Sustaining	\$50 per year
Institutional	\$50 and up per year
Life	\$250
Patron	\$1000 or more
Student	\$3 per year (up to 18 yrs old)

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

ph # \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

I want to volunteer! \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No Thanks

Pfister, Jude M., *The Jacob Ford Jr. Mansion* (2009), a history of Washington’s Headquarters, Morristown. Gift of publisher.

Portraits of Flemington architect Mahlon Fisher, his wife Mary Ann (Stires) Fisher, their son John S. Fisher and his wife Elizabeth (Jennison) Fisher. Gift of the Levegood Team Trust. These portraits are featured on page 1071 of this newsletter.

*Prall Newsletter Index*, Jan. 1990 (v. 5, no. 1) to Fall 2008 (v. 23, no. 4), compiled by Donald and Nancy Vell. Gift of Richard D. Prall.

Reading, David R., *Gov. John Reading (1686-1767)*, a lecture presented to the Hunterdon County Historical Society, 2009. Gift of David R. Reading.

Research notes on Anna Praul who married (1) Aaron Stout and (2) Ambrose Rice. Gift of Berniece E. Cowan.

Sherry, Josephine, collection of scrapbooks, yearbooks, etc. Gift of Michael Manella.

Sinclair, Jesse, articles from the *Milford Leader*, (cont’d page 1066)



# History Rocks!

That’s the theme of the Society’s 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations scheduled throughout next year. Stay tuned for a variety of monthly events sponsored by the Society at different county locations. A sampling of exciting happenings are: cocktail reception *Visions of Hunterdon’s History*; exhibit on slavery at the county library; free concert by “RockRoots” at Deer Path Park; a Tavern Crawl and more. We hope to see you at the festivities!



*Newsies taking a break on the steps of the old County Courthouse in Flemington. They’re selling reprints of the Democrat as a fund raiser for the Society during the “Trial of the Century.” The Lindbergh Trial re-enactments continue throughout October. See page 1068 for info on how to buy your own set of Lindbergh Papers.*

(Acquisitions *cont’d from page 1065*)

1892-1897: “Narrative of the Hunts Living of the Musconetcong,” “Early Proprietors of Holland Township,” “Sketch of Holland Prior to the Organization of the Presbyterian Church,” “History of Holland School,” transcribed by and gift of Kathy Sciarrello.

Telephone directories, 1962-2006, 22 v. Gift of Douglas Martin.

Two bible records of the Swallow families (photocopies, 9 pp.). Gift of Allen Stretton.

## Archive Building Opens

Our new Archive Building at 67 River Road in Raritan Township was debuted to major donors on Friday, June 12th and to the public on Sunday, June 14th. Nearly 360 people toured the 5,200-square-foot steel and concrete structure during the two events and were treated to refreshments at a next-door c.1730-50 house on Friday and on the Archive Building porch on Sunday. No food is allowed in the building.

Select artifacts – portraits, commercial signs, chests, kitchen gadgets, ceramics, manuscripts and more – were pulled from the collection and put on display for the tours. Manuscript Curator Don Cornelius demonstrated how the floating shelf system doubles storage capacity and discussed the ongoing documentation of donations. An unexpected benefit from the tours were three volunteers who are trained in archival documentation.

The building, which provides better, more protective preservation of the Society’s ever-growing collection documenting Hunterdon’s history, is not open to the public.

## Notes and Queries

Address correspondence to the Genealogical Committee, or to our email address. One query listing of ten lines is free to members, 25 cents per line over ten lines; non-member rate is 25 cents per word. Remember to include a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) with genealogical correspondence for the courtesy of a reply.

**PRICE:** Looking for info on Andrew Price of Hunterdon, born about 1785, married to Mary Clausen (1809-1837) and in 1839 married Elizabeth Suydam. He was a boat builder. I would be grateful for any info. Thomas H. Kaechelin Sr., 8 Mulberry Lane, Levittown PA 19054 orthksr22@verizon.net.

**MYER:** Peter Myer was born c.1755, possibly in Germany. He died 1803 in Allegany Co., MD. His parents were possibly Henry and Julianna Snook Myer whose children were Jack, Barbara, Upton B., Enoch and Roseanna. Peter Myer m. Anna Peters and had the following children in addition to Peter: Mary, Henry, Sarah, Margaret, Charity, Philip H., Peter, Rebeca, John, Jacob H. and Anna. Peter Myer moved his family to MD about 1790. Seeking info on Peter Myer and parents before coming to Hunterdon Co. I am trying to locate their origin in Germany. I will gladly share info. Eva Walker Myer, 7359 Peterson Ln., Pensacola, FL 32506 or emyer@cox.net.

# Give A Gift of History

Give a gift with real meaning this holiday season. Give a book about local history. We are selling several new titles at bargain prices, as part of our fundraising effort to pay off construction costs for the new archives building. Several of the books and other items were donated by the Hunterdon County Democrat weekly newspaper. Stop by our library to pick up your copy! For mail orders, please include \$5 for the first book and \$1 for each additional book (unless otherwise specified). Out-of-country checks, please add \$5.

### Address on the Dissolution of Nations

William Paterson (HCHS 1997). Essay on political science written about 1770 by a future Governor of NJ and US Supreme Court Justice. 25 pp., soft cover. \$1

### Atlas of Hunterdon

Beers, Comstock and Cline (1873, reprinted by HCHS 1987). Contains maps of 14 townships and 32 towns. 77 pp., 13”X16”, hard cover. \$40

### Baptists in Kingwood, NJ

Stephen Zdepski (1974). A History of the Kingwood Baptist Church at Baptistown and Locktown and the present Baptistown Baptist Church. 37 pp., illus., soft cover. \$5

### Beneath These Waters

Stephanie Stevens (2009). Chronicles the colorful history of Round Valley from its geological formation and Lenape habitat to summer refuge for early Rev. Patriots, rich fields farmed by some of Hunterdon’s oldest families, and the reservoir that took the land for drinking water and recreation. 70 pp., indexed, illus., maps, soft cover. \$7

### The Centre Bridge

Elmer Roberson (1928). History of the Centre Bridge Company and the covered bridge over the Delaware River that burned in 1923. 10 pp., soft cover. \$3

### The Choyce Compendium

Betty Choyce Sheehan (2006). The Choyces were part of an English migration to Flemington in 1785, along with the Capners, Peter Haward, Isaac Passand, and others. 907 pp., indexed, illus., family charts, hard cover. \$85 plus \$10 shipping.

### Facts and Fantasies of Franklin

J. Edward Stout (1995). Traces Franklin Township’s geographic, political and social roots over the 150 years from 1845 to 1995 when the rural community moved from “the combine to the commuter”. The author’s account of The Peak in Franklin speaks to the fantasies of the title, offering history with a sense of humor. 448 pp., indexed, illus., maps, soft cover. \$20.

### The First 275 Years of Hunterdon County, 1714-1989

Hunterdon Co. Cultural and Heritage Commission (1990). Local history by local experts. 125 pp., illus., maps, soft cover. \$3.50

### Flemington, NJ Map

O.H. Bailey and Co. Reprint of 1883 bird’s-eye view map of Flemington. Approx 20”X25”. \$10

### The Flemington Fair Story

Kenneth V. Myers (1978). 95 pp., illus., soft cover. \$5

### Flemington Fire Department 140th Anniversary

140th Anniversary Parade Committee (1982). Includes the early history of the department, list of chiefs, photos of men and equipment from 1842 to 1982. 118 pp., illus., soft cover. \$5

### The Ghosts of Hopewell

Jim Fisher (2006). The professor’s back! In his second review of the Lindbergh kidnapping, he examines many of the wild new claims about whodunit, how, and why. 200 pp., illus., hard cover. \$20

### History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, NJ

James P. Snell (1881, reprinted by HCHS 2008). The standard classic county history. 2 vol, 864 pp., illus., maps, hard cover. \$89.50 non-members, \$85 members. Plus \$10 for shipping.

### Hunterdon County: A Millennium Portrait

Walter Choroszewski (2006). A special collection of color photographs capturing the essence of the county. Very limited supplies; telephone or email to reserve a copy. 124 pp., illus., hard cover. \$40 for non-members, \$35 for members.

### Hunterdon County New Jersey Fisheries 1819-1820

Phyllis B. D’Autrechy (1993). Historical background on shad fishing and the names and locations of fisheries in the county. 44 pp., indexed, illus., maps, soft cover. \$7.50

### Hunterdon County New Jersey Militia, 1792

Hiram E. Deats (1936, reprinted by HCHS 1994). Alphabetical listings by township of “free and able-bodied white male citizens” between 18 and 45 yrs. 37 pp., soft cover. \$12

### Hunterdon County’s Forgotten Lime Industry

Frank A. Curcio (2006). Winner of the NJ Author’s Award. History of the lime kiln industry in Hunterdon, including background on the process of quarrying, the uses of lime and the major sites of mining in the county. 132 pp., illus., maps, soft cover. \$5

### Hunterdon Gazette Weekly Newspaper

Digital photographic images of the Gazette newspaper pages as well as typed and formatted text of the newspaper items containing people’s names and events of Hunterdon County, with an overall name and key word index. CD format works on both PCs and Macs. CD #1 1825-1834; CD #2 1835-1844; CD #3 1845-1854; CD #4 1855-1866, also contains text of book *Hunterdon Place Names*. \$20 per CD non-members, \$15 per CD members and includes shipping charges.



**Hunterdon’s Role in the Revolution**

Hunterdon County *Democrat* (1976). This large format booklet describes scores of brave local men and women who fought to found a free nation. Many rare old illustrations. 88 pp., illus., maps, soft cover. \$3

**Remember**

Gloria Sipes Paleveda (1997). What if Tom Sawyer had been a girl? A Frenchtown matron tells 14 more tales of life along the Delaware early in the 20th century. 78 pp., illus, \$8

**In Defence of Her Honor**

Dennis Sullivan (2000). The New York press went wild in 1886 at the lurid rape and murder of Tillie Smith. An innocent man was set to hang. This real-life mystery occurred in Hackettstown, on the Centenary College campus. 169 pp., illustrated, soft cover. \$10 for non-members, \$8 for members.

**In the Grip of the Expert**

Egbert T. Bush (1904). Novel by noted Hunterdon County newspaper writer. 277 pp., hard cover. \$7 non-members, \$5 members.

**The Jerseyman: A Quarterly Magazine of Local History**

Hiram E. Deats, ed. (1893-1905). Local history and genealogy, primarily of Hunterdon County. Vols 2-11, 376+ unbound pages, with added table of contents compiled by Roxanne K. Carkhuff. Some early issues may be supplied through photocopies. \$100

**Lindbergh Kidnapping**

Lost for 65 years, then found in a NJ barn! Original cartoon drama traces the “The Crime of the Century.” Fully colorized computer-repaired panels with footnotes. 36 pp., soft cover. \$5 non-members, \$4 members.

**Lindbergh Newspapers**

Time travel in a box - this set of 11 reprinted local newspapers covers the “Trial of the Century.” Rare photos. Depression-era ads are priceless! Great gift for students, history buffs, senior citizens and legal eagles. \$25 non-members, \$20 members.

**Marriage Records of Hunterdon Co, NJ, 1795-1875**

Hiram E. Deats (1918, reprinted with additions and corrections, 1986). 348 pp., hard cover. \$25.

**More Records of Hunterdon County, Volume I**

Phyllis B. D’Autrechy, compiler (HCHS 1998). Includes division of lands1795-1876; Orphans Court Minutes 1785-1797; Naturalizations 1803-1876, and much more. 276 pp., full index, illus., maps, hard cover. \$25

**More Records of Hunterdon County, Volume II**

Phyllis B. D’Autrechy, compiler (HCHS 2000). Includes wills and inventories 1818-1825; bastardy cases 1761-1890, and much more. 258 pp., full index, illus., maps, hard cover. \$25

**Old Stones at Oak Summit**

Kenneth V. Myers (1985). Kingwood Presbyterian Church at Oak Summit, Kingwood Township. 20 pp., index, soft cover. \$3

**A Precious Place**

Don Freiday (1997). A local naturalist spins his favorite tales. An engaging flock of stories, whether you’re home by the hearth or out on the trail. 161 pp., illus., soft cover. \$10 for non-members, \$8 for members.

**Raritan Township, NJ Map**

J.C. Sidney. Reprint of 1850 map. Approx. 24”X33”. \$25

**Records of the Kingwood Monthly Meeting of Friends**

James W. Moore (1900). 42 pp., soft cover. \$12.50 non-members, \$10 members.

**The Ride to Pleasant Grove**

Sal Vuocolo (1999). A modern couple, repairing their Lebanon Township home, Hance Farm, follow clues to find the early-1800s family that worked this same land. 160 pp., illus., soft cover. \$8 for non-members, \$6 for members.

**Traditions of Hunterdon**

John W. Lequear (reprint of 1957 edition). A classic! Facts and fancies – from where Washington slept to which ghosts roam the Sourlands. Must reading for history buffs. 210 pp., illus., indexed, soft cover. \$12

**When Leaves Grow Old and Other Poems**

Egbert T. Bush (1916). 32 pp., hard cover. \$6 non-members, \$4 members.

**The Vought Family, Loyalists in the American Revolution**

Donald E. Sherblom (2009). Explores the background of the historic Vought House in Clinton Township that contains rare plaster ceilings and was saved at the last moment from demolition. Also delves into the prominent family that built it, planned raids against neighbors and plotted disruptions of Revolutionary activities. 63 pp., illus., maps, soft cover. \$5

**SMALL PAMPHLETS**

Postage Only \$1 Per Item

**General Washington at Coryell’s Ferry**

Hannah Coryell Anderson (1928, reprinted 1969). 24 pp., illus. \$2.50 non-members, \$2 members.

**Historical and Genealogical Sketch of James Sterling**

Edward Boker Sterling (1893). Hunterdon Historical Series, no. 3. 27 pp., illus., soft cover. \$2.50 non-members, \$2 members.

**History of the Readington School, Formerly Called Holland Brook, 1804-1897**

John Fleming (1898). Hunterdon Historical Series, no. 4. 15 pp., soft cover. \$2.50 non-members, \$2 members.

**Tucca-Ramma-Hacking**

E. Vosseller (1901). Hunterdon Historical Series, no. 5. Tales and traditions from the area where the branches of the Raritan River meet. 21 pp., soft cover. \$2.50 non-members, \$2 members.

**JOHN ROCKHILL’S  
SURVEYOR’S *FIELD BOOK* ABSTRACTED**

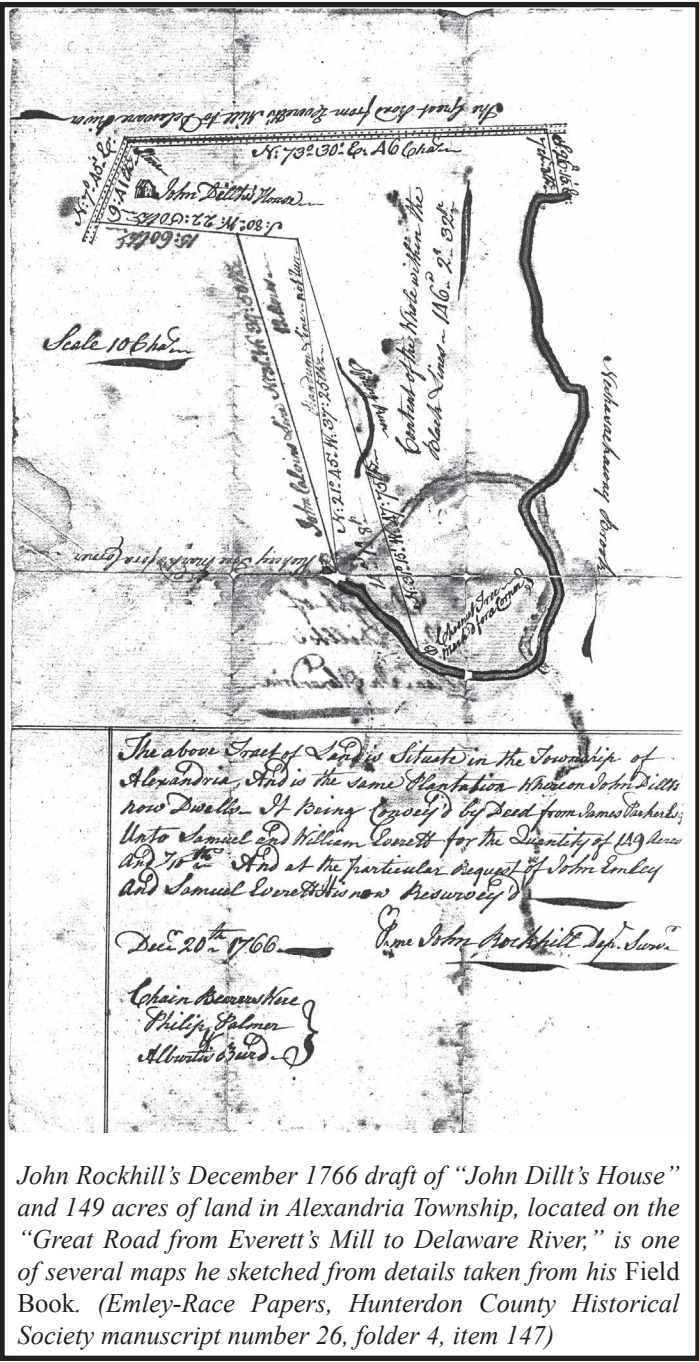
by Fred Sisser III

Of the many historical treasures on file among the collections of the Hunterdon County Historical Society Library is a surveyor’s *Field Book* kept by John Rockhill (1726-1798) of Bethlehem Township. Measuring 4 inches by 6½ inches, and consisting of approximately 250 unnumbered pages, the original book is now among the E. V. Taylor Papers in the Society’s Manuscript Collection (manuscript number 27), and on microfilm (reel number 75).

On the title page of the journal is inscribed “John Rockhill/Field Book Began/Octob’ 15<sup>th</sup> 1761” written in his own hand. John Rockhill is regarded as the first regular physician in Hunterdon County. In addition to his medical profession, he was employed for a number of years as a surveyor to the West Jersey Board of Land Proprietors. In the latter capacity he referred to himself as a “Deputy Surveyor,” and conducted a number of local conveyances in and about Hunterdon County, many of which are contained in his *Field Book*. For further particulars on Dr. Rockhill, see *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey* by James P. Snell (Philadelphia: 1881), pages 218-219; *The Biographical Encyclopedia of New Jersey of the Nineteenth Century* (Philadelphia:1877), pages 446-447; and *Union Township Rural Recollections* compiled by the Union Township Historical Society (Flemington: 1988), pages 1-21.

The Rockhill *Field Book* has recently been transcribed by two volunteers of the Historical Society, Kathy Sciarelllo and Fred Sisser III. In the course of their work, a number of interesting land descriptions were detailed, many of which were conducted in certain Hunterdon County districts whom Rockhill described as “KingWood,” Lebanon, “Tewkesburry,” Bethlehem and “Reading town.” He also surveyed land in old Sussex County (Hardwick, “Mansfield-Woodhouse,” Knowlton and “Grenage”) as well as “Roxburry” in Morris County and “Tenicum” in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

The *Field Book* is unusually rich from a geographical, historical and genealogical perspective. For example, an interesting entry covering all these aspects is described in Rockhill’s jottings of 15 June 1769: “Survey’d the Following Lott of Land Situate in the Township of KingWood . . . being part of a Large Tract belonging to Israel Pemberton Beginning at a stake in the middle of the Great Road leading from William Coolbaugh’s Tavern toward Howell’s Ferry.” Another, made on 12 April 1763, detailed a “Tract of Land



John Rockhill’s December 1766 draft of “John Dillt’s House” and 149 acres of land in Alexandria Township, located on the “Great Road from Everett’s Mill to Delaware River,” is one of several maps he sketched from details taken from his Field Book. (Emley-Race Papers, Hunterdon County Historical Society manuscript number 26, folder 4, item 147)

for John Mullener Which he Sold to Hanis Smith Situate in the Township of Lebanon . . . on the North side of Piscotts Brook Near . . . the Great Road Leading from Grandins to the Landing.”

The book is especially valuable genealogically, as in a “Plantation Situate in King Wood” which in December 1763  
(cont’d page 1070)



FROM THE CURATOR’S DESK

Once again, your curator is happy to report that significant progress has been made in working on the archival holdings of the Society and making them available to the membership and to the public in general. While I have been very busy continuing to catalogue all of the unprocessed material in our holdings, our archival volunteers have been highly successful in adding to those collections that are open for research and protecting those materials already processed.

Recently added items to our collections include a pair of manuscript collections and an additional quantity of bound manuscripts. Archival Volunteer Diane Kinney has recently completed manuscript collection No. 76, the Papers of the Shepherd Star Lodge No. 10 of Frenchtown. This collection includes lodge records, organizational material, a list of members, and other miscellaneous items. In addition to this, Archival Volunteer Erin Brennan has completed manuscript collection No. 77, the Thelma Miller Clippings Collection #1. This collection includes a scrapbook and loose clippings of “Old Ink” articles from the *Hunterdon County Democrat*, with a special emphasis on those materials relating to Three Bridges and surrounding area. Also, Archival Volunteer Shirley Wydner has continued to add to our bound manuscript collection. She has added over 30 items to that collection including the 1878 – 1882 Register of the County Hotel, an 1869 account ledger from the Dry Goods store of Alpaugh, Thatcher, and Arnwine, and an 1810 – 1878 account book for the United First Presbyterian Church of Amwell.

Other important activities include the further preservation and protection of our collections. Archival Volunteer Ralph Lomerson has been very busy: he has completed a survey of the Society’s first 4,400 photographs in our processed collection so that it may be indexed, and he is also surveying our large collection of scrapbooks and wrapping them in acid-free paper to better protect them for future generations. Archival Volunteer Jane Otto has begun an ambitious project of cataloging our vast holdings of unprocessed photographic images so that they may be added to our photographic index and made available for public access and view. Not to be outdone, Archival Volunteer Doug Martin is almost finished organizing the Society’s collection of local business and telephone directories so that they may be used as a genealogical and research tool.

Please join me in thanking these dedicated volunteers for selflessly contributing to your Society’s ongoing mission: the preservation of Hunterdon County’s history for the public’s trust.

Best wishes,

Donald Cornelius  
Curator of Manuscripts

(Rockhill *cont’d from page 1069*)  
Rockhill noted as “being the same place Whereon Joseph King Deceas’d formerly Lived And Which Joseph King and Mansfield Hunt as Executors Sold at Vendue To Joseph Hunt for £5.1.6 p<sup>r</sup> Acre Present when Survey’d, Chain Bearers Thomas Coate and John Coate.” Of the numerous names recorded in the *Field Book*, many afford genealogical hints such as one made on “Fryday Octob<sup>r</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 1767” when “Edw<sup>d</sup> Hunt & his son Richard Hunt” were appointed “Chainbearers” for land surveyed on “Panungachung Mountain.”

The journal is not without personal entries that Conveyancer Rockhill made concerning certain tracts of land. For example in April 1771 he wrote regarding property “on Muskonetkong Hill Near Squires Point”: “I am very clear in [my] Opinion that no One Tree amongst them all [was] ever Marked by any Surveyor before they were marked . . . . There is Yet One tree which I have Omitted giving any Account of that was also Boxed . . . at Delaware River . . . As I verily believe it was the principal Reason to Induce the Councel of Proprietors to give the matter in their favour Because they made a great parade in Carrying the Block of Wood they had Cut Out of the Tree to Burlington in Order to prove the Mark.”

The Sciarello-Sisser transcription of the Rockhill *Field Book*, listing many (but not all) of the coordinates used in the Surveyor’s entries, will be placed on file at the Hunterdon County Historical Society Library in the near future where the entire manuscript also may be consulted on microfilm. Inasmuch as there are many descriptions detailing land and individuals in counties adjoining Hunterdon County, it is the long-range intention to have portions of the transcription published in a periodical with wider coverage of New Jersey.

Archives Building  
Campaign Donors

*The following gifts have been received since the last newsletter was published, and are gratefully acknowledged.*

**Benefactors, \$500-\$999**  
Pat Fisher-Olsen and David Olsen  
Lois K. Stewart

**Patrons, \$100-\$499**  
Max L. Deinzer  
Beverly Hobday and Owen Hooley  
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**Supporters, up to \$99**  
Charles S. Chase

Four Fisher Portraits Donated to HCHS



Mary Ann (Stires) Fisher



Mahlon Fisher



John S. Fisher



Elizabeth (Jennison) Fisher

The Society is especially proud of its headquarters building, the Greek Revival style Doric House, built in 1845 by carpenter Mahlon Fisher, as his residence. Four Fisher portraits of historical importance to Hunterdon County and especially to the Hunterdon County Historical Society, have been donated to the Society by Fisher descendant William Levegood. Mr. Fisher and his family lived in the lovely Greek Revival house at 114 Main Street in Flemington from its erection until 1848 when he moved to Stockton briefly, before migrating permanently to Williamsport, Pennsylvania where he spent the remainder of his life.

In the early 1840s Mr. Fisher built his home in Flemington and several other houses in Greek Revival style, including the double house at 151 Main

Street for brothers John Hankinson Reading and Phillip Grandin Reading; the Richard S. Kuhl house at 21 Mine Street; and the Reading-Large house for John Grandin Reading at 119 Main Street.

The 40” X 30” pastel portraits of Mahlon Fisher [1810-1874] and his wife, Mary Ann (Stires) Fisher [1811-1873] are by an unidentified artist. The oil on canvas portraits of their son John S. Fisher [1835-1876] and his wife, Elizabeth (Jennison) Fisher are by Sarah E. Haskell of Williamsport. Mahlon and Mary Ann were married in January 1834 by Flemington Presbyterian minister, Rev. Charles Bartolette. This artwork makes an attractive addition to the Society’s collection.

Mr. Fisher operated a carpentry shop in Flemington before beginning

to build houses. Likely his need for lumber in both the shop and house enterprises led him to join his brother, Johnson Fisher, in their lumber and grain business in Stockton in 1848 when he left Flemington. By 1855, Mahlon Fisher had moved to Williamsport, Pennsylvania where he was one of the original members of the Williamsport Land Company, became an organizer and director of the Lumbermen’s National Bank, was an organizer and became president of the Susquehanna Boom Company, a position he held at his death in 1874. He was also a principal in the lumber firm and planing mills of Reading, Fisher, and Reading.

The Society thanks William Levegood and family for the donation of the four Fisher portraits and are pleased to have them in Flemington.

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Society is looking for volunteers to help with a variety of short- and long-term projects. There’s an opportunity for anyone with a little free time, and some projects can even be worked on from home. Interested in transcribing records, assisting others in their genealogy research, or helping stuffing envelopes? Send Terry an email at [hunterdonhistory@embarqmail.com](mailto:hunterdonhistory@embarqmail.com) to let us know your skills and availability, and we’ll match you up with a project that best suits your interests.

All ages welcome!

## Images from the Past



*Landsdown Railroad Station, Clinton Township.  
Photo from John A. Peterson, personal collection.*

With the name “Landsdown” clearly visible on the original postcard, this imposing 3-story terminal, along the Lehigh Valley Railroad, stood at the main line’s intersection with a southwestern spur to Pittstown and another towards Clinton to the north. Built in 1883 and razed before WWII, it had become a victim of declining passenger traffic and the San Jose scale which wiped out the freighting of local peaches. Today, only a Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage site sign marks the spot of this once bustling railroad scene.