



# Hunterdon Historical Newsletter

Vol. 36, NO. 2

Published by Hunterdon County Historical Society

SPRING 2000

## Doric House Open May 20 & 21, 1-4 p. m.

The Society proudly opens the Doric House during Historic Preservation Week for members and the public to visit. The Doric House is opening Saturday 20 May and Sunday 21 May from 1-4 p.m. The Doric House is furnished as a typical gentleman's home *circa* 1850. It was built by Mahlon Fisher as his residence and he also built other Greek Revival style houses in Flemington. Learn more Greek Revival architecture and also about "Mr. Hunterdon" through exhibits and recollections in the Deats Memorial Library.

### Who Is This Man?

He is a man of many faces! Some knew him as "Mr. Hunterdon." We know his history "face" but he pursued other interests as well. He was farmer, businessman, collector of stamps and coins, weather observer, landlord, civic supporter, and author/publisher.

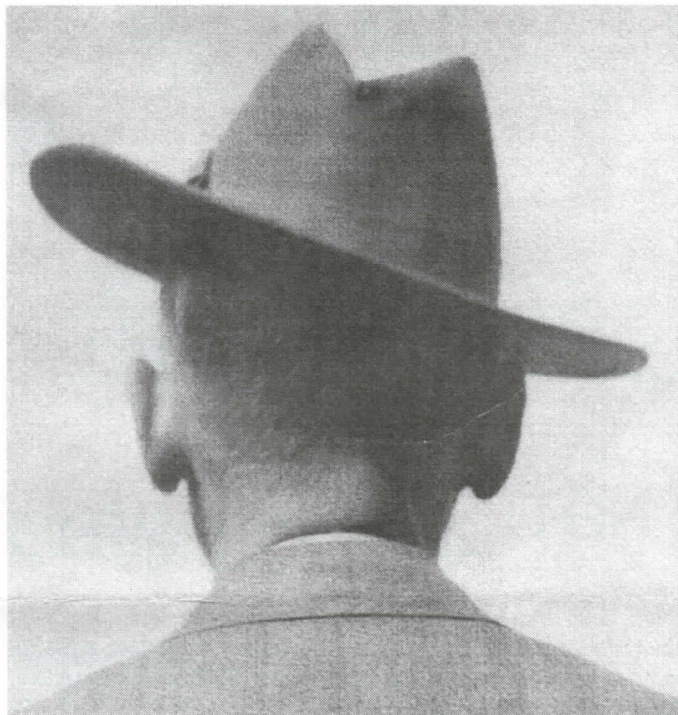
This man, to whom the Society and its patrons are indebted for much of its collection, had several areas of expertise. The Historical Society's Deats Memorial Library is so-named to recognize him — **Hiram Edmund Deats** — who, for seventy-two years, gathered together the threads of Hunterdon County's history and thus preserved a varied resource for local history and genealogy research.

This year May 20 marks the 130th anniversary of his birth. It seems fitting we formally honor his memory, honor it especially on that day, in conjunction with the Historic Preservation Week theme, *Taking America's Past Into The Future*, for it was his devotion on behalf of the Society that gave us much of Hunterdon County's past to preserve for the future! Exhibits will highlight Mr. Deats' activities, historic and otherwise.

### Recollections of Honoree Deats

Anyone who remembers Mr. Deats [he died in 1963], and recalls any anecdotes, reminiscences, etc., is invited to visit the Doric House on May 20 and 21 [1-4 p.m.] and share their memories with some of his family who will be here and as well Society members who may not have known him.

Granddaughter June Abegg Delafield and her sons, Robert and Cliff Zubrycki will be attending. June's mother, Marion Elizabeth Deats Abegg, was the Deats' second child, and the one who remained here in Hunterdon.



### 2000/2001 Calendar

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>April 26</b>    | <b>11th Annual HCHS Volunteer Luncheon</b> — Sergeantsville Inn  |
| <b>May 7</b>       | <b>Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum - Opening Day</b> Tour Museum 1-4 p.m. Sundays thru Oct. 29   |
| <b>May 13-20</b>   | Historic Preservation Week   |
| <b>May 20</b>      | <b>Doric House Open for Tours</b> — 1-4 p.m.   |
| <b>May 20-21</b>   | <b>Plant sale</b> at Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead by Delaware Valley Unit of Herb Society of America Route 29 Lambertville — Saturday 10-4, Sunday 1-4 |
| <b>June 10</b>     | <b>Genealogical Society of New Jersey Spring Meeting</b> Tour NEW Archives building, Trenton For info call: (609)                                    |
| <b>November 19</b> | <b>FALL MEETING</b> — Program to be announced  |
| <b>May 19-20</b>   | <b>Quilt exhibit at Doric House</b> and other locations to welcome Veronica Mitchell's new book documenting Hunterdon County quilts                  |



**HUNTERDON HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER**

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**PUBLICATION COMMITTEE**

Roxanne K. Carkhuff, Editor

**— Library Hours —**

Thursday, 1-3, 7-9 p.m. and by appointment

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**OFFICERS & TRUSTEES**

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**NOTES AND QUERIES**

Address correspondence to Genealogical Committee. One query listing of ten lines free to members, 25 cents per line over ten; non-member rate is 25 cents per line. Remember to enclose a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) with genealogical correspondence if you expect a reply.

**HOWELL, POWELL, REEDER:** Mary Reeder m. James Powell in Kingwood Twp. HuntCo NJ 7 Oct 1780. Her par were undoubtedly William Reeder and his wife Jemima (Howell?), the only Reeder residents in that location and time. Both the Powells and Reeder's migrated to Hampshire Co. VA/WV in 1787. I seek proof that Mary Reeder Powell was the dau/o William Reeder and his wife. ADD: Robert A. Fettes, 215 Dun Road, Chillicothe, OH 45601-1173 e-mail fetters@bright.net.

**HUNT, SIMPSON:** David Hunt (1774-1813) of Asbury, m. Mary (1771-1839). They named their son Daniel Simpson Hunt (1806-1840). Could Simpson be Mary's maiden name? ADD: Eleanor T. Schott, 90 Village Post Rd., Danvers, MA 01923-2615.

**HENDERSHOT:** Henderson Researchers Reunion 2000 on Wednesday, 27 September to Saturday 30 September at Phillipsburg Inn, at the junction of US 22 and Interstate 78, Phillipsburg, NJ. For details of reunion, bus tour and schedule of events, ADD: Barbara Rudy, 3241 Staunton Ave., Dover, PA 17315, call (717) 764-4488, e-mail BARidy@aol.com, or Evelyn Baer, fawmbae@aol.com or Annette Ely Schumann, e-mail anet6334@aol.com.

**ARMITAGE, BEAVERS, CLIFFORD, McSHANE, MAPLE/MAPEL, MAXWELL, MENOHER, WHITESIDES:** Want to

correspond with anyone working on these families and need assistance in obtaining information about them for an on-going series of family history. The families have been identified as having passed through or settled in Tri-state area served by New Stanton [PA] Historical Society. ADD: Arthur B. Everett, President, New Stanton Historical Society, P. O. BoxBoxBox 655, New Stanton, PA 15672.

**HICE/PRICE:** Seek info re par/o David Price, b. 1/1800 HuntCo. NJ or BucksCo. PA, d. 12/1882 Deer Creek Twp., MercerCo. PA, and his bro Andrew Price who had chil: Elizabeth, Sarah, Nathaniel, William and Nathan. Andrew liv Lambertville NJ 1840s. Julia Ann Hice, b. 1801, Mercer Co. NJ, w/o David Price, dau/o possibly Jacob Hice, liv NJ/PA 1/1838; bro Moses b. 1/28/1838 Easton PA; bro. George A. owned two farms Springtown, NJ area, liv "old place" Water St., Easton, PA 1852, sis Caroline Hice Daughaday (Mrs. John) liv Newark, NJ 1858. ADD: Alice C. McIlrath, 2525 Hillside Ln., SW, Rochester, MN, 55902 [e-mail: donald250aol.com or phone (507) 289-7284.

**SOWDERS, VAN NEST:** Can anyone identify the par/o Helena Van Nest, b. ca. 1780-1785 of Alexandria. She was married at Kingwood 4 April 1803 to John Sowders of Mansfield (now Warren County NJ). Their second son was named Peter which may be a clue to her father. I am searching possible spellings: Van Ness, Van Neste, Van Nuys, Van Etten, Vanatta, etc. ADD: Marily Souders, 296 Garfield Place, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

**METLER, WALQUIST:** Des info re par/o John W. Metler, b. 1 Aug 1844. He served in 21st PA cavalry, enlisting 8 Feb 1865 and his military records note he had lived in Frenchtown, Hunt. Co. Removed at some point to Kansas. Where did he married his wife Gertrude Walquist? ADD: Donald J. Van Houdenous, 15260 S. E. Bevington Ave., Milwaukie, OR 97267-3354.

**CREGER, McDANIEL:** Seek contact/exch with desc/o Peter Creger and wife Elizabeth McDaniel. Known chil: John, Andrew, Mary, Elizabeth and Rebecca. He was son of John Creger and Annie Rodenback. ADD: Mereda M. Metz, 1330 Ala Moana Blvd., #607, Honolulu, HI 96814.





# The Welsh Quilt

Elsie Elizabeth Wise

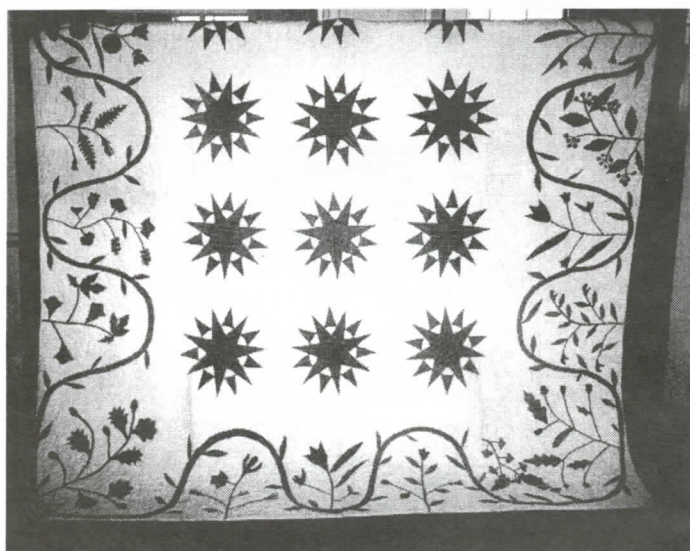
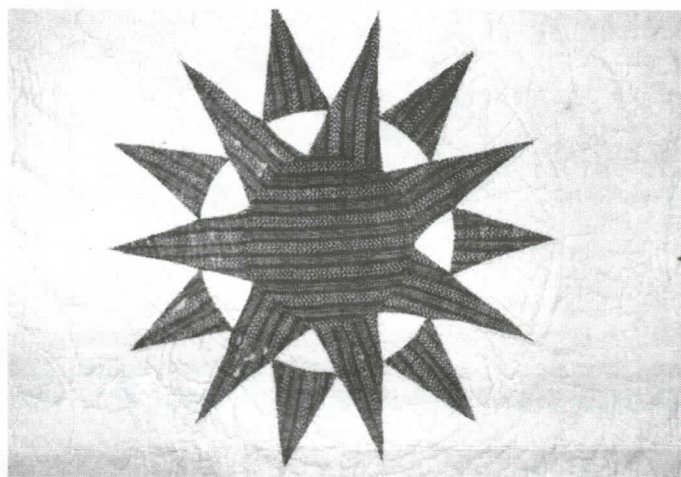
The actual maker of the quilts donated to the Hunterdon Historical Society by Josephine Miller is unknown. We can, however, narrow down the possibilities. The fabrics in the quilts are *circa* 1830 - 1840 so the quilts were probably made between 1830 and 1865. John Jacob Welsh was the first of the family in Tewksbury Township and settled a mile northwest of New Germantown (Oldwick) in 1797. The Welsh homestead in Fairmount was the residence for the Welsh family until the early 1970's. The house, originally a hotel, was built by a man named Crater in 1810. From 1823 to 1830, Jesse Gray ran the hotel and a race track on the flat southwest of the hotel. The property was acquired by the Welsh family after that time.

In all probability the quilts were made by Keziah Lee Fisher (Mrs. John Vandervoort Welsh). Keziah was the daughter of the Rev. George Fisher and his second wife, Sarah Chapman Cooper. Reverend Fisher was a well-known Methodist preacher who came to Tewksbury Township from the Changewater area in 1797. Sarah Chapman Cooper was a relative of the writer, James Fenimore Cooper. Each of Reverend Fisher's wives had ten children. Keziah was probably named for her Aunt, Keziah Leigh (born 1780, died October 21, 1855), the wife of Rev. George Fisher's brother, John. Born in 1829, Keziah Lee Fisher married John Vandervoort Welsh in 1847. She had two sons, William and Jacob and three daughters. The oldest daughter, Mary, was born in 1851 and Sarah in 1855. Both married and moved away from home and would have taken their quilts with them. Emma Jane Welsh who probably been too young. William Welsh, never married. Jacob Welsh married and lived in Brooklyn and returned to the homestead after his wife's death. John Vandervoort Welsh had a sister, Mary Ann Welsh, who married Jeremiah Field. She, too, would have taken her quilts with her. This only leaves Margaret Hull Drake, the wife of William Welsh, and mother of John Vandervoort Welsh.

Margaret Hull Drake was born on May 3, 1798, and died February 12, 1874. Her father was killed or deserted during

the War of 1812 so she and her brother, James, lived with their uncle. James Drake, born July 18, 1808 and died October 23, 1894, was a whaler as a young man. He went to sea in the 20s or 30s for two trips of 3 1/2 years each. In later years he was a shoemaker and lived near the Welsh homestead, east of the Methodist Church, on Route 512.

The Welsh homestead was sold in the early 1970s by Robert E. Welsh's widow, Hazel. As a best guess, the quilts were made by or belonged to Keziah Lee Fisher Welsh.



The Welsh quilt depicting appliques and mariner's compass is pictured above and to the right the compass in detail.

Obituary copied from The Christian Advocate of September 19, 1889:

WELSH.—KEZIAH L. FISHER WELSH, died in Christian triumph, at Fairmount, N.J., July 24, 1889, aged 60 years, 4 months and 22 days. She was a native of Fairmount, and passed fifty-years in view of the site of the church from which she was buried. Her father, George Fisher was a member of the first Methodist class here, and its appointed leader; he became a most devoted and useful local preacher. Scores of his descendants are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and five of his great-grandchildren are in the Methodist itinerancy; his oldest son now living, George, aged 94, resides at Fairmount and was present at his sister's funeral. Sister Welsh's husband donated the present church site, and her father the land for the first church and the cemetery adjoining. When Keziah was 12 years old she attended a camp-meeting with her father at Whitehall, where she experienced religion. She united with the church and walked with God. She was universally esteemed. After years of conflict with disease, she died in Christian assurance. Two sons, three daughters, and her husband are bereaved. Her funeral services were conducted by the writer, assisted John Rutherford, pastor of the Presbyterian church, July 27th, 1889.

Theo S. Haggerty.



## Family Associations

During 1999 the Society received Newsletters and/or announcements from several family associations with Hunterdon County connections which are appreciated. Forward information for future listings in this column to: Family Assoc., Hunterdon Historical Newsletter, 114 Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822.

**APGAR** Apgar Family Association, Inc. — Family Newsletter. For Annual Reunion and membership information contact Mary Apgar, 416 Runyon Ave., Middlesex, NJ 08846 or George Apgar, 218 Kempsey Dr., New Brunswick, NJ 08902.

**BUDD** — The Budd Family Association celebrated its 350th anniversary of The Old House at Catchogue, Long Island, on 14 August 1999. All Budd, Horton, Wickham, Landon and Case descendants are invited to participate. For information contact: Mrs. Dorothy Bartle, 90 Forest Ave., Caldwell, NJ 07005.

**GARY/GEARY** — The Gary/Geary Genealogical Gazette for relatives of Peter S. Gary, Revolutionary War veteran who lived in Somerset County, PA. David L. Geary, Editor, 6224 Rio Hondo Dr., N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87109-3835.

**HOWELL** — The Edward Howell Family Association Newsletter is \$10 annually to Jocelyn Markley, Treasurer, 615 "Q" SW, Ardmore, OK 73401. Genealogist David G. Faris, M.D., P.O. Box 58693, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

**PARKE** — "The Newsletter of the Parke Society" promoting fellowship, genealogical research and the preservation of Parke heritage is published. Information about membership may be had from Mrs. Marjorie C. Isaac, 202 Meadowbrook Drive, Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

**PRALL** — The Prall Association annual dues \$12 to Treasurer William S. Prall, 2296 Roylen Circle, State College, PA 16801. A Newsletter is published quarterly, Richard D. Prall, Editor, 14104 Piedras Rd. NB, Albuquerque, NM 87123.

**RUNKLE** — "Runkle Family Association Newsletter" is published twice yearly. Dues are \$20 and may be sent to Runkle Family Association, P.O. Box 14, Ringoes, NJ 08551.

**SCHWACHAMER-DUPPORD** — The Schwachamer-Dufford Genealogical Society publishes an annual bulletin and holds an annual reunion. For information contact Ruth Hartman, 7 Brenwood Terrace, Middletown, NJ 07748.

**WARFORD** — Annual Warford Family Reunion. For information on future reunions, etc. write Cliff Sorbo, 6605 E. 4th St. N., Newton, IA 50208 (515) 792-8695.

**WOLVERTON** — "Wolvertons Unlimited" is a bimonthly newsletter covering all Wolvertons/Woolvertons in the US, Canada and England, \$8 per year. Contact Glenn Gohr, Editor, 1040 E. McCanse St., Springfield, MO 65803-3613.

## Membership Report

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

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| William C. Cupples, Clearfield, PA          |              |
| Jacob A. Dunaway, Sr., Sidney, OH           |              |
| Dr. Gerald B. Parrow, Jamul, CA             | Century Club |
| Edward V. Grant, Atlantic Beach, FL         |              |
| Donald S. Hall, Rochester, NY               |              |
| Bonita Kallinikos, Lyndhurst, NJ            |              |
| Col. Dennis F. Keegan, Colorado Springs, CO |              |
| Patricia Laubscher, Edgewater, MD           |              |
| Marilyn Lewis, Lewistown, MT                |              |
| Joe & Bonnie Majeski, Allentown, NJ         |              |
| Judy N. Mason, Stevens Point, WI            |              |
| Anna M. Narcavage, Huntington Mills, PA     |              |
| Harriet Boice Parks, Harwich, MA            |              |
| John G. Rohrbach, Bloomfield, CT            |              |
| James E. Stout, Raymore, MO                 |              |

*Mrs. Shirley V. Favier, Membership Chair*

### HOW TO JOIN

**Hunterdon County Historical Society**  
114 Main Street  
Flemington, NJ 08822

Please enroll me as a member of your Society

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Annual        | \$15.00 per year                          |
| Family        | \$18.00 per year                          |
| Contributing  | \$25.00 per year                          |
| Sustaining    | \$50.00 per year                          |
| Institutional | \$50 and up per year                      |
| Life          | \$250.00                                  |
| Patron        | \$1,000.00 or more                        |
| Student       | \$3.00 per year (18 years of age or less) |
| Century Club  | \$100.00                                  |

for which I enclose my remittance in the amount of \$

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_





## Quick-Servis Family Burying Ground

This private cemetery, now in Delaware Township, Hunterdon County, was formerly in East Amwell Township until 1897. It is located a short distance northwest of the village of Ringoes, on the "Trenton Road", Route 579. The yard is presently surrounded by a stone wall in some state of disrepair, built originally in 1848. Before that it was enclosed by a hemlock fence.

In the cemetery, about 150 feet square, there are, in addition to the stones with inscriptions, a number of unmarked graves. The inscriptions were copied 26 May 1918 by Theodore Bellis and Hiram E. Deats. Within the last few years efforts to restore the grounds and stone wall were on-going, directed by the East Amwell Township Historic Preservation Commission, James Davison and other local residents. The group received the 1918 list but to date we are not aware of an attempt to identify surviving stones from the 1918 list.

These inscriptions, as are those from 65 other County cemeteries, are carded into the Society's "Tombstone Inscription File." Commonly used abbreviations include h/o for husband of, wf/o for wife of, wid/o for widow of, dau/o for daughter of, s/o for son of. Notations on the original typewritten list in Mr. Deats' hand are noted with an asterisk \*

A\_\_\_\_, Mar. 21, 1821, 64 years  
 Barcroft, Ambrose, Oct. 28, 1804, 5.8.14  
 Barcroft, Gershom G., Mar. 5, 1854, 46.2.10  
 Barcroft, John, Nov. 18, 1814, 42.8.5  
 Barcroft, Rhoda, wid/o John, and wf/o Richard Hunt, Oct. 18, 1859 in 85th year  
 Barcroft, Susan, wife of Tunis Q., Mar. 25, 1864, 61.5.24  
 Barcroft, Tunis Q., d. in Philadelphia, Dec. 23, 1859 in 58th yr.

C.S. Gulick, Lucretia Ann, see Quick  
 Hoppock, Asher, Apr. 12, 1811, 24.9.10  
 Hoppock, Caroline, Aug. 12, 1823, 13.10.3  
 Hoppock, Elinor (Holcombe)\*, July 9, 1859 in 94th yr.  
 Hoppock, Fanny, dau/o Richard and Sarah, Mar. 5, 1838, 2.9.15  
 Hoppock, Jane Elizabeth, dau/o Richard and Sarah, Apr. 27, 1833, 1.8.15  
 Hoppock, Richard, Apr. 26, 1842, 27.8.24  
 Hoppock, Sarah, wf/o Richard, and dau/o Ezekial and Jane Quick, May 27, 1840, 34.11.27  
 Hoppock Tunis, Nov. 2, 1838, 75.10.22  
 H(oppock)\*, T.  
 Hunt, Rhoda, wf/o Richard, formerly wid/o John Barcroft, Oct. 18, 1859, in 85th year  
 Quick, Abraham G., s/o Jonathan and Lucretia, Jan. 18, 1864, "with the typhus fever", 20.6.10  
 Q(quick)\*, C., Dec. 1771  
 Quick, Catharine, wf/o Tunis, Feb. 7, 1824 in 90th yr.  
 Quick, Ezekial, July 1, 1867, 90.4.25 "erected by Charles Quick"  
 Quick, I., Fe. 6, 1810  
 Quick, Jane, wf/o Ezekial, May 8, 1869, 90.3.13 "erected by Charles Quick"  
 Quick, Jane Elizabeth, dau/o Jonathan and Lucretia A., Oct. 19, 1851, 1.10.4



Quick, Jonathan, Aug. 3, 1877, 66.7.0  
 Quick, Lucretia Ann Gulick, wf/o Jonathan, Jan. 30, 1894, 85 yrs.  
 Quick, Mary, dau/o Jonathan and Lucretia A., May 30, 1843 "of scarlet fever, 3.2.25  
 Quick, Sarah see Hoppock  
 Q(quick), T(unis)\*, 1802  
 Quick, Tunis, Apr. 16, 1811 in 80th yr.  
 Ruleson, Jos. [no inscription]  
 Servis, Elizabeth, wf/o Captain Jacob, Jan. 25, 1831, 70.11.14  
 Servis, Elizabeth Ann, wf/o William, dau/o Ezekial and Jane Quick, Sept. 12, 1845, 42.7.14  
 Servis, Ezekial Quick, s/o William and Elizabeth A., May 25, 1844, 15.1.5  
 Servis, George, s/o Jacob and Elizabeth, Dec. 4, 1857, 67.1.10  
 Servis, Harriet, wf/o William Sr., July 17, 1860, 36 yrs.  
 Servis, Capt. Jacob, Dec. 17, 1818, 53.1.10  
 Servis, Jane Elizabeth, only dau/o William and Elizabeth A., June 21, 1845, 9/1/11  
 Servis, Captain John, s/o Capt. Jacob, act. 20, 1817, 25, 8.1  
 Servis, Johnson, s/o Capt. Jacob "drowned while bathing in the Assanpink Creek near Trenton on the evening of 24th June A.D. 1816", 17.5.24  
 Servis, Joseph, b. Feb. 10, 1824, d. June 1. 1902  
 Servis, Laura, dau/o William Jr., Aug. 12, 1865 in 6th yr.  
 Servis, Mary, wf/o Joseph, Sept. 26, 1891, 76 yrs.  
 Servis, William Sr., s/o Capt. Jacob, b. Feb. 19, 1790, d. Feb. 16, 1869  
 Servis, William, s/o Wm. Sr., b. Sep. 15, 1834, d. Mar. 14, 1867  
 Stevenson, Catharine, wf/o John Esq., Nov. 25, 1837, 71.11.22  
 Stevenson, John, Mar. 12, 1811, 51.1.0  
 T., E., 1777  
 Ten Eyck, John, Sep. 3, 1838, 15.5.0  
 Wikoff, Elizabeth Ann, Sep. 1, 1834, 29.1.6  
 Wikoff, John S., Oct. 18, 1835 in 28th yr.  
 Wikoff, Margaret, wid/o Samuel, Aug. 23, 1849, 64.1.5  
 Wikoff, Samuel, Oct. 17, 1827, 48.10.21



## Acquisitions

Artifacts, manuscripts, family Bibles, and other material 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 appreciation.

Primitive wooden secretary with bookshelves, black iron kettle with lid, wooden chest, pastel summer quilt, star quilt, white coverlet, 3 wool blankets, 2 linen sheets, ink stand and ink vessel. Donated by Mrs. Josephine H. Miller, Iverness, FL.

Copies of *Fourth Annual Report of the Managers Clinton Farms New Jersey State Reformatory for Women. Clinton. Hunterdon County New Jersey, 1916; Seventh Annual Report of the Managers of Clinton Farms . . . , 1919; Eighty Annual Report of the Managers of Clinton Farms . . . , 1920; Ninth Annual Report of the Managers of Clinton Farms, 1921; Tenth Annual Report of the Managers of Clinton Farms, 1922; Annual Report of the Jersey State Reformatory For Women, 1931.* Donated by Division of Archives and Records Management, Joseph R. Klett, Archivist, New Jersey Department of State, Trenton, NJ.

*Whitehouse Station Railroad Siding: Environmental Analysis* for NJ Transit by Clough, Harbour & Associates LLP, Parsippany, NJ, 1999. Donated by Clough, Harbour & Associates.

*Notable WOMEN Throughout History Of Hunterdon County, 2000. Index of Persons, Places and Subjects VOLUME 1 of MORGAGES of HUNTERDON COUNTY. 1766-1793,* compiled by Phyllis B. D'Autrechy, 1990-1991, reprinted 1999. Published and donated by Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission, Flemington, NJ.

Videotape of an interview for local TV to publicize Hunterdon County Quilt Search in November 1999. Donated by Quilt Search Chair Veronica Mitchell, Frenchtown, NJ.

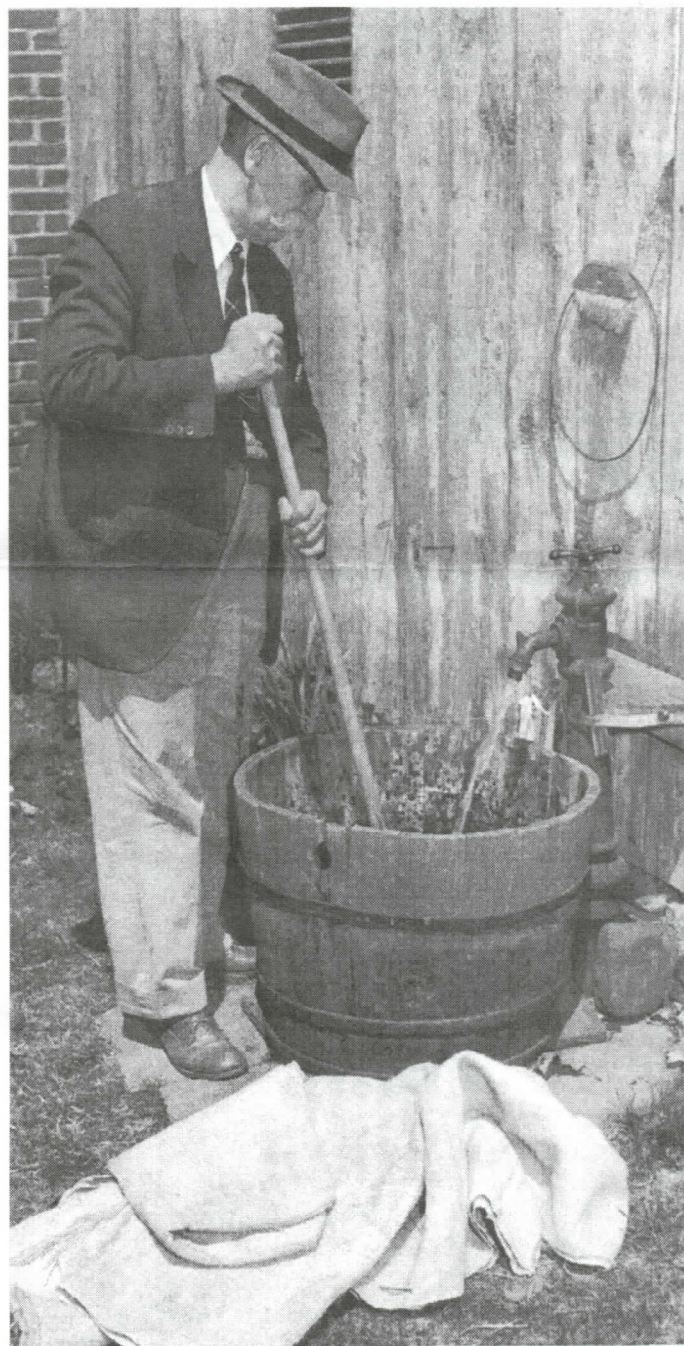
Audiotapes of programs featured on *Jerseytimes*, a public service production of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey: NJ and World War I; War Time NJ; Musical Legacies; Ethnic Enclaves; Agriculture; Delaware River Stories; New Jersey Depression; Natural New Jersey; All Along the Jersey Shore; Obscure But Notable; Dream Communities; Road to Everywhere. Donated by Anne Moreau Thomas, Flemington, NJ.

*The Welsh Quilt Makers*, by Elsie E. Wise, 1999. Donated by compiler, Califon, NJ.

Unidentified account book, 1845, with first nine pages used as a scrapbook. Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Harold O. Van Fleet, Flemington, NJ.

Draft, *Elizabeth VanFleet Vosseller 1879-1939* by Mary Vogel song, 1994. The paper was completed to meet requirements of History of American Education course at Rutgers Graduate School of Education. Donated by the author, Flemington, NJ.

A collection of 49 books about local history. Photographs of Dawlis Mill, East Amwell Township and Edwin Morton Stanton Gimson, the last miller. Donated by his grandson, Harry Rockafellow, Milford, NJ.



USDA photograph by Forsythe, May 1942  
Courtesy of Holcombe-Jimison Museum

Hiram Edmund Deats conserves precious burlap bags during the war emergency, prolonging the lives of the bags. Here he is soaking and washing them in water, after shaking and cleaning residue from them, in preparation for reuse.



# Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

## 26 April 2000 — Sergeantsville Inn

This year the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon was held at the Sergeantsville Inn in the village. The luncheon for volunteers is hosted annually by the Society's Board of Trustees, usually during National Volunteers Week, to recognize the important contribution our dedicated volunteers make to the Society. All of the volunteers donate time and perform a vital role toward fulfilling the Society's goals. This is a way to acknowledge their efforts and thank them.

### VOLUNTEERS

Margaret Covert, Bible Records/Obituary File  
 Shirley V. Favier, Membership Secretary  
 John W. Kuhl, Recording Secretary  
 Helen S. LaRue, Treasurer  
 Shirley Wydner, Photograph Collection  
 Lynn Burtis, Textile Collection  
 Veronica Mitchell, Quilt Documentation  
 John Danziger, Attorney

### Buildings and Grounds

Harold O. Van Fleet, Chairman  
 George Carkhuff      Helen S. LaRue      Margery Van Fleet

### Museum Committee

Douglas D. Martin, Chairman

When the Doric House was open to the public for tours, these volunteers served as hosts and hostesses, prepared and installed exhibits or loaned artifacts for exhibit.



### Hosts/Hostesses

|                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Margaret Gritzmacher | Richard Stothoff        |
| Margery C. Van Fleet | Harold O. Van Fleet     |
| Edna Pedrick         | Mary Elizabeth Sheppard |

### Library Research Assistants

Each of these volunteers spends an afternoon or evening a month on duty in the Deats Memorial Library, assisting patrons with their research and responding to inquiries.

|                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Fred Sisser III   | John W. Kuhl            |
| Edna McIntyre     | Harry Cleveland         |
| Jean Rinehart     | Mary Elizabeth Sheppard |
| Stephanie Stevens | Ralph Lomerson          |

HCHS postcard collection



Circa 1904

**SERGEANTSVILLE.** This village in what is now Delaware Township of Hunterdon probably takes its name from the crossroads store of Joseph, John, and Charles Sergeant, established about 1825. The name of Sergeantsville became official in 1827 when a postoffice was established at the store. A description in Barber and Howe in 1844, reads as follows: "It contains a store, tavern, and a few mechanics; a neat Methodist Church, lately erected, of stone, and stuccoed, and about a dozen dwellings." An 1881 description called it "a pleasant village located in School District No. 95, close to the center of the township." It had 139 people at that time.

### IN HISTORICAL HUNTERDON



Produced by M. Ciavolino, Jr., Flemington





## *Images from the Past*

### **Sylvester Robbins Family *circa* 1895**



HCHS Collections PX 235

Seated: Carrie Dolliver Robbins, Warren Mercer Robbins on grandfather Jonathan Robbins' knee, Isabelle Bird Robbins with granddaughter Elsie Robbins on her lap, Edna Thompson Robbins. Standing: Mary Robbins Vanderveer, Charles Carroll Robbins, Edward Rutledge Robbins, Benjamin Franklin Robbins, Roger Sherman Robbins, William Ellery Robbins, Charity Sidders Robbins.

Identification of everyone was probably recorded sometime after the photograph was taken as the date "189- 5?" is recorded in pencil on the reverse of the photograph. It is unclear whether to read the list left to right or right to left. However, the seated family members seem to be listed right to left as the second name is the female child, Elsie Robbins.

With the arrival of warmer weather, family reunions are being scheduled. The Robbins-Lawshe Reunion was an annual affair, the 21st annual being held in August 1945 at Milford. One of the items of business covered at each Robbins-Lawshe meeting was the maintenance of the Robbins Family Burying Ground located on the Pittstown-Bloomsbury road [Route 579] about 1/4 mile from Hickory Tavern. The inscriptions, with a copy in the HCHS collections, were copied by descendant John Fleming in June 1913 and Sylvester Robbins' father

and mother, Jonathan and Charity (Lomping) Robbins were interred there, he in 1872 and she in 1859.

Family information following is taken from the ROBBINS folders in the "Deats Genealogical Files" at the Society. Sylvester Robbins, son of Jonathan and Charity, was born 14 December 1836 and married 13 January 1858 Sarah Isabella Bird. Sylvester and his wife had seven children:

1) Charles [1858-1907] married first 1887 Edna Thompson who were parents of Elsie Robbins, born 9 Aug. 1892, married second 1906 Mary Elizabeth Sally Mee

2) Benjamin Franklin Robbins [1863-1936] married 1887 Carrie Dolliver who were parents of Warren Mercer Robbins, born 21 May 1890

3) Robert Morris Robbins [1864-1866]

4) William Ellery Robbins [1865-1929] married 1892 Charity Sidders

5) Edward Rutledge Robbins [1870-1941] married first 1897 Katherine Keyser, second 1919 Helen M. Carroll

6) Roger Sherman Robbins [1873- ] married first 1895 Mary Hyler, married second 1905 Hattie Hart

7) Mary Elizabeth Robbins [1879- ] married 1902 Abram Van der Veer.