



Hunterdon Historical Newsletter

VOL. 26, NO. 1

Published by Hunterdon County Historical Society

WINTER 1990

New Jersey Celebrates Its Agricultural History *Deats' Plow Finds A Home*

The dream of a New Jersey Agricultural Museum became reality with formal dedication ceremonies 27 November 1989 at Cook College in New Brunswick. The State's rich agricultural heritage is recognized in the building appropriately resembling a barn. The first artifact donated fifty-seven years ago was a Deats Plow made by John Deats and presented by his grandson the late Hiram E. Deats.

The story of the Museum is best told by its director Richard W. Mitchell. The Hunterdon County Historical Society is pleased to present Mr. Mitchell as guest speaker at the Annual Meeting 2 p.m. March 25 at the Flemington Womens Club. Meetings are open to the public so join us for the afternoon.



Feeding time on the Deats farm at Flemington Junction. Mrs. Hiram E. (Eva T.) Deats and unidentified piglets.

Mary Sunderlin Photo, 1915.

1990 CALENDAR

- March 25** **ANNUAL MEETING** –
New Jersey Celebrates Agricultural History
Richard W. Mitchell, guest speaker
Flemington Womens Club 2 p.m.
- June 24** **SPRING MEETING** –
Dinner at the historic Perryville Inn
- November 21** **FALL MEETING** –
Preserving Family Memorabilia
Janet T. Riemer, guest speaker
Flemington Womens Club 2 p.m.

1990 And Counting

It's time as of April 1, 1990, to tally the population of the United States again. The first census of the United States was taken 200 years ago in 1790, because when the constitution was drafted, the founding fathers provided for an enumeration of the United States to be made every ten years to allocate representation in Congress and apportion taxes. This is what we call the Decennial Census and is an official count of the total number of people in our Nation as of April 1. The Census Bureau collects a range of information which is confidential, and is tabulated for statistical purposes.

The number of United States Representatives from each state depended on population, so in August 1790 Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson sent seventeen U.S. marshals out to supervise the first U.S. census. Traveling by foot and horseback some 650 assistants took over 18 months to complete their task, producing 54 pages of data to record that our new country comprised of seventeen states, had 3,929,214 people. Among the seventeen states in 1790, New Jersey with a population of 184,139, ranked ninth.

Enumerations for the period 1790-1840 show the names of heads of families and other family members are accounted for statistically by age group, sex, and race. The 1850 census was the first to record the name of each person, their age, occupation and place of birth. As none are known

Continued on page 591.

HUNTERDON HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER

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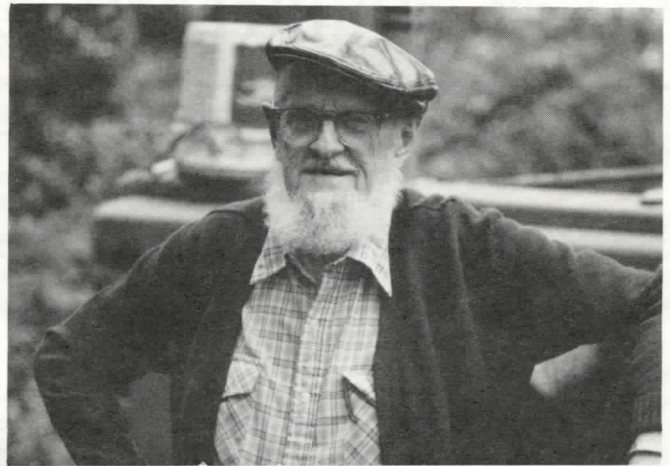
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Do You Have NJ State House Memorabilia?

New Jersey's State House in Trenton is currently undergoing major restoration to restore the historic building. This distinctive building is the second-oldest in continuous use. While it is noted for its architectural and historic significance, it is one of the least-documented Capitol buildings in the United States.

Therefore, a Memorabilia Search Committee was formed to collect data and artifacts relating to the State House. The Committee needs your assistance! They are in search of articles, photographs or furniture associated with the State House, especially items associated with the 1891 Assembly Chambers and the 1903 Senate. Photographs and memorabilia associated with Hunterdon County's local legislators who served during the 1890-1915 period, or other local residents with a "Trenton" connection would be welcome, too. Many of these items may have an honored place in family homes and the Committee would be grateful for the opportunity to photograph and document these items. Of course, donations would be welcome.

If you have any information about such artifacts, please contact the Memorabilia Search Committee by calling (609) 292-4625 or writing to the Committee in care of Office of Legislative Services, State House Annex, 2nd Floor, CN-068, Trenton, NJ.

**EDWARD HOFF QUICK**

WHEREAS, Edward Hoff Quick, born 17 January 1908, husband of Beatrice Amanda Smith Quick and father of Lynn Edward Quick and Wayne Quick died Wednesday, 18 October 1898, and

WHEREAS, his lifelong interest in history prompted him to seek out and preserve local memorabilia, including papers from the Doctor Cornelius W. Larison collection, and which historical interest and knowledge he willingly shared with the community as East Amwell Township Historian from 1982 through 1987, and earned him the unofficial title, "Mr. Ringoes," and

WHEREAS, he was a member of the Hunterdon County Historical Society and served as Trustee and held the office of Recording Secretary from 1956 through 1974, and

WHEREAS, he authored *John Ringo And His Gold, Early Flame Tamers Of Ye Olde Hunterdon, and Recollections Of A Church*, and was a member of the committee which compiled *A History Of East Amwell 1700-1800* And thereby contributed to the preservation of historical information for future generations,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we fondly recall his humor and wit and deeply regret his passing and extend our most sincere sympathy to the members of his family, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this memorial be made a part of the minutes of the Hunterdon County Historical Society and a copy forwarded to the family of Edward Hoff Quick.

/s/

John W. Kuhl, Recording Secretary

Adopted 2 January 1990

The Clinton Linseed Oil Mill

1779-c.1852

Richard L. Porter

Carter Litchfield

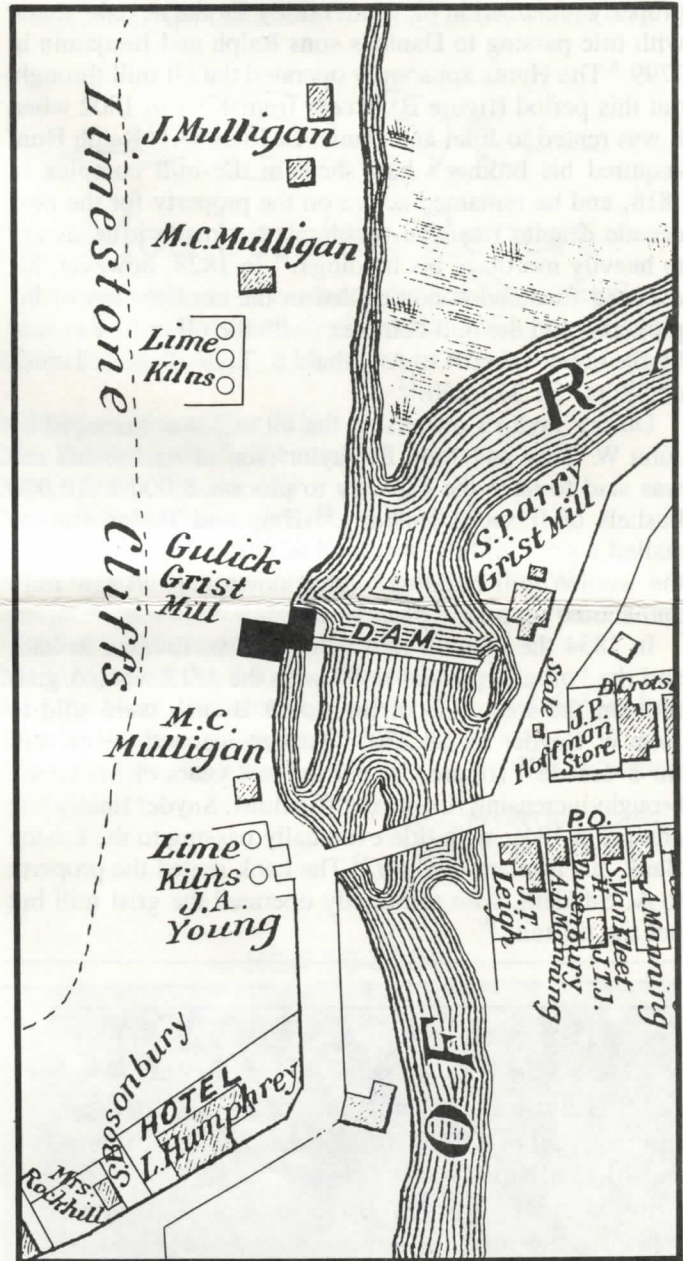
Flax was a major fiber crop in Hunterdon County for more than a century. It was widely cultivated to provide the flax fiber utilized in local textile production from the early colonial period until the Civil War era. Flaxseed was an important by-product of this agricultural pursuit. It could be processed to yield linseed oil, which was used in paints and inks, in the treatment of leather and wood, and as lamp oil.

Water-powered linseed oil mills crushed, roasted, and pressed the flaxseed to extract the oil. Hunterdon County, with its extensive flax cultivation, became the center of New Jersey's oil milling industry in the early 19th century. Approximately one-quarter of the state's linseed oil mills were sited within the county's boundaries; twenty-two have been identified to date. Research for a future book on "Linseed Oil Mills of New Jersey 1732-1955" has recently brought to light many details about the early oil mill at Clinton.

The Clinton oil mill was built in 1779 by Mahlon Kirkbride Taylor on the west bank of the South Branch of the Raritan River just below the mouth of Spruce Run and within the present Borough of Clinton.¹ Taylor (1747-1799) came from a prominent Bucks County family active in milling in northeastern Pennsylvania. He acquired and moved to the existing Clinton mill complex in 1776. This waterpower site had been developed by David McKinney during the previous decade with a grist mill on the east side of the river and a saw mill on the west side.²

In 1780 Taylor described his new water-powered oil mill as a building measuring "26 by 30 feet, with 16 pestles, and as many more may be set a going with a very small expense."³ These "pestles" were no doubt stamping mortars, used for crushing the flaxseed prior to pressing out the oil.³

The approximate location of Taylor's oil mill can be deduced from the detailed map of Clinton published in the 1873 county atlas (figure A). It shows the Gulick grist mill and the Parry grist mill at opposite ends of a dam across the South Branch of the Raritan River. The Gulick grist mill (the present Red Mill at the Clinton Historical Museum Village) is said to have been originally built as a woolen mill by Ralph Hunt in 1812.⁵ The dimensions of the present mill building (45.5 x 36.5 feet for the original section, later enlarged to 45.5 x 58.5 feet) are quite different from those of the oil mill (26 x 30 feet¹). The apparent 19th century construction date and the greater size of the Red Mill strongly suggest that the oil mill was located within an older, smaller, completely separate building. This is quite logical since oil milling was a very dirty operation, incompatible with spinning and weaving. An 1844 deed⁶ indicates that the oil mill was located near the west end



A. F.W. Beers' *Atlas of Hunterdon County* (1873) contains a detailed map of the Clinton mill complex on the South Branch of the Raritan River.⁴ The Gulick grist mill (now the Red Mill at Clinton Historical Museum Village) lies at the west end of the dam, and the Parry grist mill (now the Hunterdon County Art Museum) lies at the east end. The Clinton oil mill was probably located directly beside the Gulick grist mill on either the upstream or downstream side.

of the present dam, suggesting that the oil mill and the surviving building were both powered by the same water-wheel (or two adjacent waterwheels). Hence the two mill buildings were probably contiguous to each other, with the Clinton oil mill located adjacent to the surviving mill building on either the upstream or the downstream side.

In 1782 Mahlon Taylor sold his entire mill complex to Daniel Hunt, who established himself as the leading citizen in what came to be called the village of Hunt's Mills.⁷ The property remained in the Hunt family for the next 46 years, with title passing to Daniel's sons Ralph and Benjamin in 1799.⁸ The Hunts apparently operated the oil mill throughout this period (figure B) except from 1798 to 1802 when it was rented to John and Daniel LaTourette.¹⁰ Ralph Hunt acquired his brother's half share in the mill complex in 1818, and he remained active on the property for the next decade despite financial problems that made it necessary to heavily mortgage his holdings.¹¹ In 1828, however, his exposed financial condition led to the confiscation of his property; and the mill complex (with the oil mill) was sold by the county sheriff to Archibald S. Taylor (one of Hunt's creditors) for \$15,820.¹²

During Taylor's ownership the oil mill was managed by John W. Bray and John B. Taylor (son of Archibald) and was said to have the capacity to process 8,000 to 10,000 bushels of flaxseed annually.¹³ Bray and Taylor also installed a grist milling operation with two run of stones in the woolen mill building,¹⁴ shut down the old saw mill, and started up a new plaster mill.¹⁵

In 1834 the Clinton mill complex was divided in half, and the "oil and plaister mill" with the 1812 woolen/grist mill on the west side of the South Branch were sold to John W. Snyder for \$8,250.¹⁶ Snyder operated the oil mill for a decade¹⁷ (figure C), but the last years of his tenure brought increasing financial difficulties. Snyder finally lost control in 1841, with title eventually passing to the Easton Bank, his primary creditor.¹⁸ The bank rented the property to A. Suydam, who apparently operated the grist mill but not the oil mill.¹⁹

FLAXSEED.

THE subscriber will pay **Two Dollars** per bushel of 56 lbs. for FLAXSEED delivered at his mill in Clinton, New Jersey. This being the standard agreed upon by some fifteen or twenty manufacturers, he does not feel at liberty to break the pledge, as some who seem to think more of their gold and silver than of their word and honor, have done.

J. W. SNYDER.

Clinton, Oct. 26, 1836.

3†

C. In October 1836, oil miller John W. Snyder offered to purchase flaxseed for two dollars a bushel at his mill in Clinton.¹⁷

THE subscriber takes this method to inform the public, that his Oil-Mill is now going, and that he will exchange any quantity of Oil for Flaxseed; will give a Gallon of Oil for a bushel of clean seed, delivered at the Mill. Any person wanting a quantity of Oil, by giving notice may be supplied in a short time.

Lebanon, Hunterdon DANIEL HUNT.
County, April 7 1789. 133 3w

B. In April 1789, Daniel Hunt advertised that his oil mill was in operation and that he would exchange linseed oil for flaxseed.⁹

In 1847 the oil mill and grist mill were acquired by John F. Stiger and John A. Young,²⁰ and the new owners resumed the production of linseed oil for several years. The 1850 census reports that the "Stiger & Young Oil Mill" processed 3000 bushels of flaxseed to produce 5500 gallons of linseed oil and 3000 bushels of oil cake meal annually with one man operating the mill.²¹ The oil mill apparently shut down shortly after the census taker's visit, however; for the property included only a grist mill when Young sold his half share to Stiger in 1854.²²

The demise of the Clinton linseed oil mill was most likely due to a lack of flaxseed, its necessary raw material. During the middle decades of the 19th century, store-bought cottons replaced homespun linens in most New Jersey households. Farmers stopped growing flax and turned to other crops, so little flaxseed was available. As a result, most of the small rural linseed oil mills in New Jersey had ceased operation by the time of the Civil War.

The Clinton oil mill was probably torn down during the third quarter of the 19th century. The outline of the Gulick grist mill shown on Beers' 1873 map (figure A) closely resembles the plan of the present Red Mill (the main 45.5 x 58.5 foot structure). Photographs taken about 1896 and 1906 show only this well known mill building,²³ which survives today as the primary feature of the Clinton Historical Museum Village.

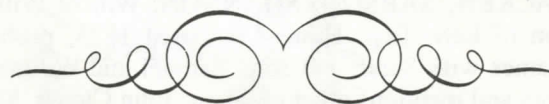
OWNERS OF THE CLINTON LINSEED OIL MILL

1779-1782	Mahlon K. Taylor
1782-1828	Hunt Family
1828-1834	Archibald S. Taylor
1834-1841	John W. Snyder
1841-1847	Various
1847-c. 1852	John F. Stiger & John A. Young

NOTES

1. *New-Jersey Gazette*, Trenton, Feb. 9, 1780, p. 4. *Pennsylvania Gazette*, Philadelphia, Feb. 9, 1780, p. 2.
2. Bye, Arthur E., *A Friendly Heritage along the Delaware: The Taylors of Washington Crossing and Some Allied Families*

- in Bucks County, New York, 1959, pp. 38-39. Hunterdon County Deed Book 1:63, 1761; 1:65, 1763; 1:67, 1764; 1:70, 1770; 1:74, 1776. *New York Gazette*, Aug. 20, 1770 (from Nelson, William, ed., *Extracts From American Newspapers Relating to New Jersey*, vol. 8, p. 227, 1905). There has been some confusion as to where Clinton's early mills were located. From 1763 to 1834 the mill sites on both sides of the South Branch were always under the same ownership; and the pertinent deeds do not mention whether specific mills were located on the east or west side of the river. The tax rolls for 1780 neatly solve this problem, however; for Mahlon Taylor's grist mill was taxed in Lebanon Township (on the east side) while his oil and saw mills were taxed in Bethlehem Township (on the west side).
3. Litchfield, Carter, Hans-Joachim Finke, Stephen G. Young, and Karen Zerbe Huetter, *The Bethlehem Oil Mill 1745-1934: German Technology in Early Pennsylvania*, Kemblesville PA, 1984, pp. 45-51.
 4. Beers, F.W., *Atlas of Hunterdon Co., New Jersey*, New York, 1873, p. 45.
 5. Snell, James P., *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties*, Philadelphia, 1881, p. 544.
 6. Hunterdon County Deed Book 83:102, 1844.
 7. *New Jersey Gazette*, Nov. 28, 1781, p. 3. *New Jersey Journal*, Chatham, Dec. 12, 1781, p. 3. Hunterdon County Mortgage 9:220, 1822.
 8. Hunterdon County Deed Book 12:289, 1799.
 9. *Brunswick Gazette and Weekly Monitor*, New Brunswick, Apr. 14, 1789, p. 2.
 10. Hunterdon County Court of Common Pleas, docket 3675, 1802. Snell, p. 545.
 11. Hunterdon County Deed Book 28:657, 1818. Hunterdon County Mortgages 9:220, 225, 226, 1822.
 12. *Hunterdon Gazette*, Flemington, Dec. 19, 1827, p. 2. Hunterdon County Deed Book 45:45, 1828.
 13. *Hunterdon Gazette*, Mar. 18, 1829, p. 3. Snell, p. 545. Gordon, Thomas F., *Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey*, Trenton, 1834, p. 122.
 14. Gordon, p. 122. ("[Clinton] contains...2 large grist mills, 2 runs of stones each.")
 15. *Hunterdon Gazette*, Dec. 19, 1827, p. 2 ("one oil mill and a saw-mill"). Hunterdon County Deed Book 45:45, 1828 ("an oyl mill and a saw mill"). *Hunterdon Gazette*, Mar. 18, 1829, p. 3 ("Oil Cake Meal and Ground Plaister"). Hunterdon County Mortgage 14:159, 1832 ("an oil mill and a saw mill"). Hunterdon County Deed Book 58:548, 1834 ("oil and plaister mill"). Hunterdon County Mortgage 15:221, 1834 ("the oil and plaister mills").
 16. Hunterdon County Deed Book 58:548, 1834.
 17. *Hunterdon Gazette*, October 26, 1836, p. 3; Aug. 1, 1838, p. 3.
 18. *Hunterdon Democrat*, Flemington, Aug. 17, 1842, p. 3. Hunterdon County Deed Book 76:331, 1841; 78:404, 1842; 83:102, 1844.
 19. *Hunterdon Gazette*, Sep. 12, 1843, p. 3. "An Oil Mill, which with little expense could be refitted for that business."
 20. Hunterdon County Deed Book 88:326, 89:469, 92:51, 1847.
 21. 1850 United States Census of New Jersey, manuscript Industrial Schedules, Hunterdon County, Bethlehem Township.
 22. Hunterdon County Deed Book 108:359, 1854. Lake, D.J. and S. N. Beers, "Map of the Vicinity of Philadelphia and Trenton," Philadelphia, 1860 (lists only grist mill at site). 1860 United States Census of New Jersey, manuscript Industrial Schedules, Hunterdon County, Bethlehem Township (lists only grist mill at site).
 23. Howell, B. D., "Landscapes - Dams #3," photograph 3-37-1, 1896; "Town Mill on West Side of River, [Upstream Side]," photograph 3-40[A], c.1908; "Town Mill on west Side of River, [Downstream Side]," photograph 3-40[B]; (McEldowney Photograph Collection, Grandin Library, Clinton NJ).



Membership Report

A warm welcome is extended to members of the Hunterdon County Historical Society who have joined since November 1989.

Mac Blair, Huntington, TN
 Ms. Barbara Brezak, Trenton, NJ
 Myrna Bush, Toledo, OH
 Mrs. Eleanor Clague, Meadow Brook, PA
 Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Fulper, Lambertville, NJ
 Joseph R. Klett, Hopewell, NJ *Life Member*
 Richard L. Martenis, Lake Orion, MI
 Mark Myers & Joy Moore, Bloomsbury, NJ
 John R. Mort, Pleasant Valley, NY *Life Member*
 Donald Sherman, Glen Rock, NJ
 Jay B. Wright, Fayetteville, NY *Life Member*
 Mrs. Frederick Stothoff
 Membership Secretary

HOW TO JOIN

Hunterdon County Historical Society
 114 Main Street
 Flemington, New Jersey 08822

Please enroll me as a member of your Society

Annual	\$12.00 per year
Family	\$14.00 per year
Contributing	\$25.00 per year
Sustaining	\$50.00 per year
Institutional	\$50 and up per year
Life	\$200.00
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 _____

NOTES AND QUERIES

Address correspondence to Genealogical Committee. Listings 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.

KRESS/KRISS/CRESS: Who were par/o Conrad Kress, Rev. Soldier, b. 1762 in Hunt. Co. Any info on the family would be appreciated. ADD: Doris Schalles, R. D. #1, Box 547, Jersey Shore, PA 17740.

McCRACKEN, SARSON, SHANNON: Will of William Shannon of Leb. Twp. Hunt. Co. dated 1825, probated 1828 names wife Sarah and sons Samuel and William as executors and mentions other children: John Cloyer, Mary, Sarah, Hannah and Nancy. Could William be the same William Shannon who m. Agnes McCracken and who d. in Warren Co. 1888, or a descendant? My grandparents, their dau. Mary Shannon m. William B. Sarson. ADD: Doris Sarson Harris, 208 Indian Creek Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-2526.

MONFORT, STOUT: Need any info on Nancy Stout, b. ca 1792, mar Apr 1811 to Albert/Elbert Monfort in 1st Bap Ch. in Hopewell. Is this the same Nancy Stout that mar Garret Schanck in 1809, same ch, same minister? Need Nancy's father, mother, and/or other info. ADD: James C. Monfort, 718 Brentwood Pl., Los Altos, CA. 94024.

HOCKENBERRY/HOCKENBURY, RYERSON, STRUBLE: Des info re par/o Susan Struble, b. ca. 1800 NJ, prob Hunt or Sussex Co., m. bef. 1844 John Hockenberry. Looking for connex between Ryerson and Hockenberry or Struble in NJ before 1840. ADD: Diane M. Michalek, 12227 2nd Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98168.

DRAKE, HUNT, WITHERSPOON: Des info re par/o Rev. War veteran John Drake of Hunterdon Co. and Charity Hunt whom he married 20 February 1779. By 1787 they rem to Fayette Co. KY. Their son Cornelius married Fanny Witherspoon in Maysville, KY in 1803. ADD: Richard L. Cosby, 205 Cedar Lane, Woodland, CA 95695.

HARNED, SKINNER, POULAIN, VANDERVENTER: Seeking info re these Hunterdon County families. ADD: Mac Blair, Box 567, Huntington, TN, 38344.

DUFFORD: Des info re Adam Dufford (fl. 1758) & fam. Wife, Susannah, maiden name unknown, and chil: Jacob, Eve, Maria, John, George, Henry, Phillip, Susannah Catharina. Need birth, baptismal, death and marriage dates and places. ADD: Russell T. Dufford, Jr., 528 Hayes Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24502.

GREEN, VAN WEY, WHITSELL: Wish to document relationship, if any, between Andrew Whitesell of Pelham, Ontario and Andrew Whitesell (1723-1813) of Sussex Co NJ. Anna Van Wey was first wife of Andrew Whitesell (1754-1813). Des corres/w descendants of her parents. Who were par/o Andrew Whitesell (1723-1816) and his first wife, Margaret Green (1732-1778)? ADD: Enlow Ose, 522 Sydling Ct., Sacramento, CA 95864.

METLER/METTLER: Des info re par/o Philip Metler, b. 19 Aug 1765 NJ, d. 19 Dec 1842 Troy, PA and wife Margaret (maiden name unknown) b. 6 Feb 1771 NJ, d. 12 July 1862 Troy, PA. They were par/o James, b. Troy 1 Jan 1805 and Rosanna D., b. 1810. Were there other chil? ADD: Percy B. Mettler, Villa #1, Jamestowne Colony, Garden City, SC 29576.

DUCKWORTH: Searching for parents, bros & sis/o John Duckworth who married Eleanor Flack in Doylestown, PA 7 April 1830. ADD: Walter B. Duckworth, 9206 Puritan Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19114.

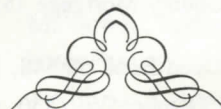
PHILLIPS: Seeking data re ancestors of Thomas Phillips and wife Phoebe, maiden name unknown. Their known chil: Thomas Jr. b. 1783 and Jesse. Assumed chil: John [1757-1831], Matthew, David, poss. Jemima. Some were Loyalists and settled in Gagetown, New Brunswick. Seek to verify or disprove relationship with Maidenhead Twp. Hunt. Co. Phillips family. ADD: Olive J. Fordham, Route 1, Webster Rd., Montague, MI 49437.

ALLEN, BRAY, BUNN, CHAMBERLIN, FOWLER, GRAY, HIXON, HOFF, PETTIT, RITTENHOUSE, WOLVERTON: Des. corres/w anyone researching these Hunterdon Co. families. ADD: Shirley Hoff Goetz, 94 Greenwood Rd., Murray Hill, NJ 07974.

LAKE WARFORD: Was John Lake (died 1808 Alexandria Twp., Hunt. Co.) a grandson of Jan/John Lake (bapt. 1688, died 1752-54) by Jan's son John, or was he descended from Thomas Lake of Amwell? Did Zenas Lake, s/o John who d. 1808, marry — Warford? Zenas had a s Elisha Warford Lake b. 1799. ADD: Jay B. Wright, 416 Brooklea Dr., Fayetteville, NY 10366.

HOWARD, ROSE: Need info re marriage of 3rd ggrpar, William Howard, b. 1774 MD, d. 1861 Ellsworth OH, and wife Mary (Rose) Howard, b. 1782 NJ, d. 1848 Ellsworth OH. Need town and state where they were married 6 April 1802. ADD: Mrs. Ann E. Hilles, 191 W. Bayton St., Alliance, OH 44601.

CRAMER, HAZEN, MULLEN: Would like to exch data with desc/o William Hazen, George and John Cramer and Jacob Mullen, who resided in northern Hunterdon County, 1785-1820. ADD: Anne Willard, 13700 Lyman Lane, Red Bluff, CA 96080.



Asbestos Removal Closes Rutgers Library

The Jerseyana Collections and the Collections of the Genealogical Society of New Jersey at Rutgers University Alexander Library, in New Brunswick, will be unavailable for three months during the coming summer. The Library building will close at 5 p.m. on May 25 and asbestos removal will begin. Although the Library is scheduled to reopen on August 1, you may wish to confirm reopening before scheduling a research visit.

ACQUISITIONS

Artifacts, manuscripts and other material representative of the history of Hunterdon County and the families who resided here are welcome additions to the Historical Society collections. To the donors of recent acquisitions the Society expresses its appreciation.

Hunterdon: A Business and Lifestyle Magazine, Volume 1, Number 1, Fall 1989. Published and donated by Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce, Flemington, NJ.

Framed four-generation family portrait, 22" x 27", of Elizabeth Gardner [1821-], daughter of Moses and Mary [Smith] Gardner, her husband John Myers [1817-] their children and grandchildren; genealogical chart, Genealogy of Gardner and Allied Families: Ancestors & Descendants of Moses & Mary Smith Gardner; genealogical notes compiled by the late Betty Bradbury Vail. Donated by Betty Stanton, Edison, NJ from the estate of the late Edgar Vail.

"Colonial Service 1714/1989," Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Oldwick, New Jersey September 17, 1989.

"In Celebration of 275 Years of Worship & Witness," Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church October 8, 1989.

"Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church 275th Anniversary Dinner" October 1, 1989 Coach 'n' Paddock, Clinton, New Jersey.

Touring Historic Oldwick, September 30, 1989 sponsored by the Museum Association of Hunterdon County. Donated by Misses Marion C. and Helen Waldron, Oldwick, NJ.

The Jerseyana Collection, a List of Holdings in the New Jersey Reference Department of Hunterdon County Library. Donated by the Library.

Seal/Seals, Mitchell and Force, a computerized genealogical report. Donated by John R. Mort, Pleasant Valley, NY.

Laogaland Farm, a history prepared for Ralph & Diana Peters by Marfy Goodspeed, 1989. Donated by Goodspeed House Histories, Flemington, NJ.

Rev. Frazer's Marriages 1768 - 1795 reprinted, with permission, by Bucks County [PA] Genealogical Society from *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, Volume XII, with added every name index by Kathleen Sands, Project Chairperson. Donated by Fred Sisser III, Bridgewater, NJ.

Microfilms, *Hunterdon County Democrat*, November 1976-November 1979, November 1987-June 1989, 18 reels; *Delaware Valley News*, January 1988-December 1988, 3 reels. Donated by H. Seely Thomas, publisher, Flemington, NJ.

Two photographs of the Flemington Children's Choir, 1914; one copy of *Reading Echo*, 1914, signed Olive C. Hortman '14. From the estate of Olive (Hortman) Barnes and Frank Barnes, donated by Thomas H. Dilts, Esq., Somerville, NJ.

One copy *Flemington Where Town and Country Meet* copyright, 1909 and issued by the Flemington Board of Trade. Donated by Mrs. John C. Swartley, New York City, NY.

Some Descendants of Michael Shurts, by Mary Jane Barton Shurts, revised August 1989. *Fengar-Miner Lines* by Mary Jane Barton Shurts, August 1989. Donated by the compiler, Mrs. Arthur B. Shurts, East Lyme CT.

"Map of The Lands of the **Lambertville Homestead Association**, Incorporated 1869 in the Town of Lambertville, Hunterdon County, N.J." Donated by Gloucester County Historical Society, Edith Hoelle, Librarian, Woodbury, NJ.

Photographs, three of the plaque dedicated to the memory of Samuel Van Syckel who built the first successful oil pipe line in the world in September 1865 in Pennsylvania; replica of Drake's first oil well and the Van Syckle marker in Drake Well Park; offices and equipment in Drake Well Park; Reed and Cogswell pump used by Van Syckel to force oil through his pipe line; tombstones of Samuel VanSyckel and wife Margaret Updyke and other family markers located in Mt. Pleasant, Alexandria Township, Milford, NJ.

Photocopies of information relating to Samuel Van Syckel and his participation in the oil industry, his nomination to Pennsylvania Hall of Fame, the Genealogy of the Family of Reinier Van Sickelen, Public Sale notice dated 2 January 1860 advertising the sale of Samuel Van Syckel's household and kitchen furniture. Donated by George W. Van Syckel, Ellwood City, PA.

Representative examples of Christmas cards received by Mrs. Lorena Cole Vincent and family during the years 1920 to 1980, illustrating the evolution of style and production changes over the sixty-year period. Donated by Mrs. Vincent, Centerville, NJ.

The Runkle Family Ben vanD. Fisher, 1899, reprint 1989. Donated by Carter Litchfield, Kemblesville, PA.

Descendants of Johannes Servis (Zerbe) and Allied Lines by Arleen Melvin Smith, November 1989. Donated by Peoria Chapter, DAR, Peoria, IL.

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New Jersey, Roster, 1989, and November 1989 issue, "New Jersey Newsletter." Donated by The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New Jersey, Alice C. Teal, Assistant Secretary, Marmora, NJ.

Plain Language, Volume 2, Number 2, 1989. Donated by the National Society Descendants of Early Quakers, Norman, OK.

The Green Family of Orange County New York and New Jersey by Harold W. Daniels, March 1989. Donated by the author, East Longmeadow, MA.

Somerset County Historical Quarterly, Volumes VII, 1918, and VIII, 1919, reprinted 1989 by Hunterdon House. Donated by Thomas B. Wilson, Lambertville, NJ.

1990 And Counting — *continued from page 584.*

to exist, the 1790 schedules for Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, New Jersey, Tennessee and Virginia were apparently destroyed during the British attack on Washington during the War of 1812. The earliest extant New Jersey schedule is 1830.

Census schedules for 1790 through 1910 are open to the public and are frequently useful to genealogists and historians studying westward expansion of our country, immigration, status of free and slave labor. Whereas the first census taken in 1790 was merely a head count recording the number of persons, male and female, in each household, each successive census has been progressively more detailed. By 1860 the original six questions asked in 1790 had increased to 142 questions. The census has evolved to its present set of questions designed to provide statistics needed while respecting personal privacy. Data collected in successive enumerations is restricted for a seventy-two year period before being open to the public. The 1900 census was fully opened in 1972, followed in appropriate time by the 1910. Plans are being implemented to open the 1920 census March 2, 1992.

The 1870 schedules indicate whether a person was foreign-born and the 1880 schedules add the relationship

of each individual to the head of the family. The major portion of the 1890 census was destroyed or severely damaged by a fire in the Commerce Building in Washington in 1921. The surviving schedules, including for New Jersey only Jersey City in Hudson County, have been microfilmed. An 1890 enumeration of Union veterans and widows of veterans of the Civil War survived the fire. This special 1890 census gives each veteran's name and post-office address.

The computers some of us use daily are an outgrowth of the need to speed tabulation of the census. Organization of data collected in taking the 1880 census required eight years, so by 1890 an electrical tabulating system was invented to handle the job. A young inventor, Herman Hollerith, devised a system for sorting data by a code of holes punched in cards. The Census office saved months of processing time using his invention. Hollerith's punch cards became the basis of modern computers and he subsequently formed a company that became known as IBM.

Participate in the 1990 census by completing and returning your forms by April 1. It's one of the most important activities you can do as a citizen.

— Roxanne K. Carkhuff

Hunterdon County Freeholders – Circa 1902



Connie Maute of Stockton, New Jersey purchased at auction the framed photograph of the Hunterdon County Board of Freeholders and graciously donated it to the Society so it could be preserved and enjoyed by future historians.

Top Row: Andrew [Burbank], J.E. Bowne, George Fulper, Joseph Hoffman, Dick Runkle, G.A. Farley, Jerry Hoffman, Ed Humphrey. Second Row: T.S. Callen, Ed Probasco, Jim Kugler, Henry Treftz, James Wyckoff, M. Barton Culver, Solomon Hawk. Bottom Row: Henry Hawk, George Opdyke, L.C. Potts, [name obliterated], Isaac Creveling, [first name obliterated] Rittehouse, [initials obliterated] Farley, Bob [surname obliterated], [name obliterated].