

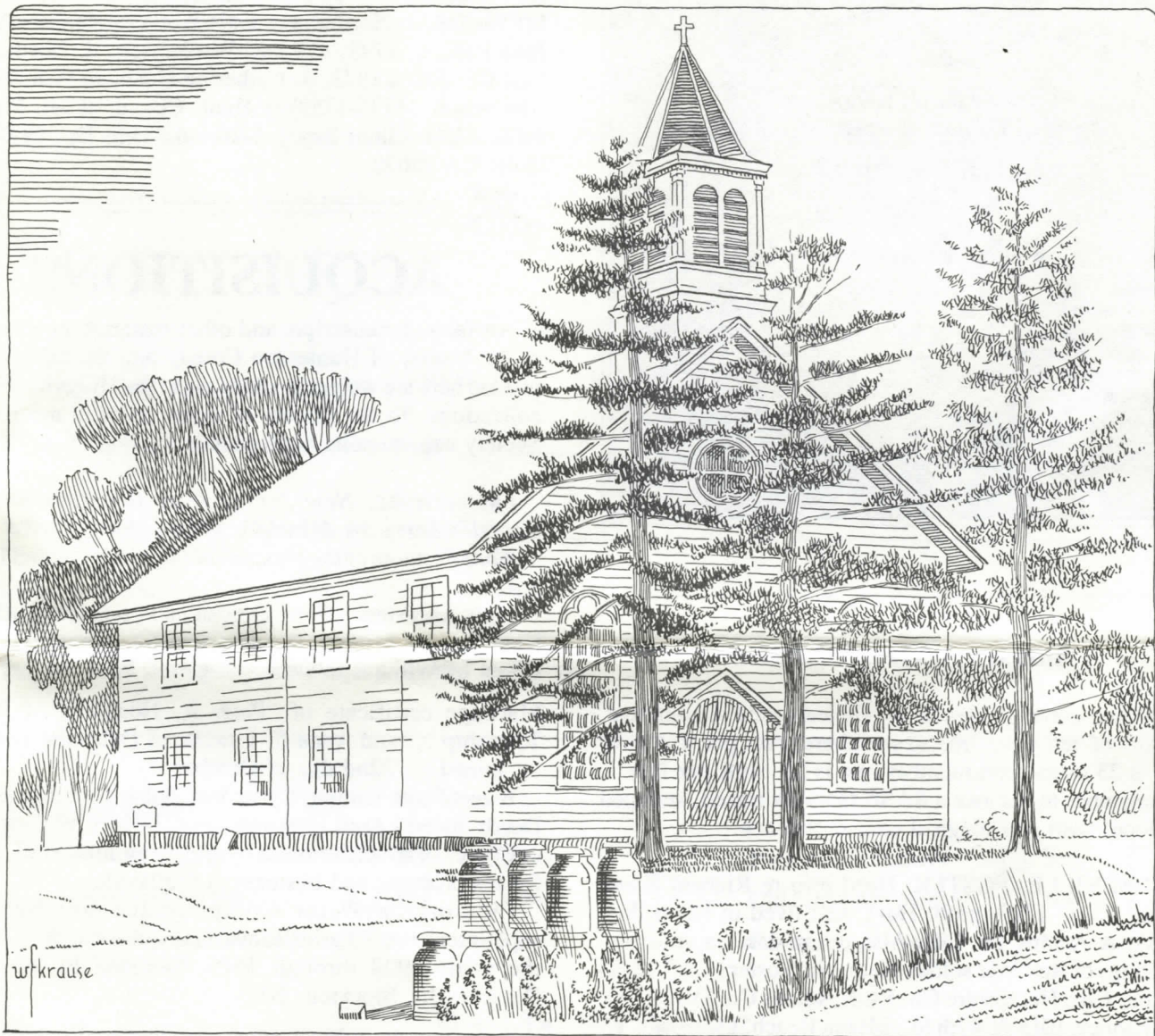


Hunterdon Historical Newsletter

VOL. 25, NO. 2

Published by Hunterdon County Historical Society

SPRING 1989



240 Years – A Church and Its Families

The Hunterdon County Historical Society's Spring Meeting is scheduled for Sunday June 25 at 2 p.m. at Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church. The Church is celebrating its 240th anniversary and our Society is pleased to join in their celebration. Mrs. John (Jane Bellis) Duffy will be the guest speaker and she will present a talk illustrated with slides featuring the history of the Church and its families – Rockefeller, Case, Bellis, Young, Wert, and others.

The Church was founded by German settlers in the Amwell Valley as the Calvinistical High Dutch congregation in 1749 under the Coetus of Philadelphia. In 1810 it joined

with the First Presbyterian Church of Amwell near Reaville and the present Church was erected in 1818. To honor our ancestors who were part of these congregations a short memorial service will be conducted in the adjoining cemetery at 1:30 p.m.

John D. Rockefeller funded the project to erect a wall around the cemetery and he erected a large monument to his ancestor, Johan Peter Rockefeller, one of the early members of the 1749 congregation.

Join Society members Sunday June 25 at the Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church on the Old York Road near Ringoes.

HUNTERDON HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER

Published Fall, Winter, Spring, by the Hunterdon County Historical Society, 114 Main St., Flemington, N.J. 08822

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Roxanne K. Carkhuff, Editor

Phyllis D'Autrechy

Kathleen J. Schreiner

Walter J. Young

- Library Hours -

Thursday, 1-3 p.m. and Saturday 1-4 p.m.

TELPEHONE: 201/782-1091

US ISSN-0018-7850

OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

President	Kenneth V. Myers (1990)
Vice President	Edwin K. Large, Jr. (1990)
Vice President	Richard H. Stothoff (1992)
Recording Secretary	John W. Kuhl (1990)
Corresponding Secretary	Roxanne K. Carkhuff (1992)
Treasurer	Helen S. LaRue (1991)
Phyllis B. D'Autrechy (1992)	Paulene B. Stothoff (1991)
Douglas D. Martin (1992)	Anne M. Thomas (1991)
Herman Kapp (1990)	Wilson McWilliams (1991)

NOTES AND QUERIES

Address correspondence to Genealogical Committee. Listings of ten lines free to members, rate per line over lines is 25 cents; non-member rate is 25 cents per line.

Remember to enclose a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) with genealogical correspondence.

ROUNSEVILLE, FOSTER: Need info re Richard Rounseville, b. ca. 1770, prob. Hunt. Co; lived in Hampshire Co. VA & Adams Co. OH. Also desire data on ancestors & siblings of Rev. War soldier Nathaniel Foster (1760-1841) of Hunt. Co., Hampshire Co. VA & Adams Co. OH. ADD: E.L. Kinney, 1015 W. 47th St., Miami Beach, FL 33140.

HOCKENBERRY/HOCKINGBERRY/HOCKENBURY: Des info re Jacob & Sarah, b. ca. 1770s in NJ, left by 1840; also John & Susan, b. 1800s, left by 1840 for OH, had chil: Jacob, John, Peter, Oakley, William R. all b. 1830s. May have been others, Susan may be 2nd wife. ADD: Diane Michalek, 12227 2nd So., Seattle, WA 98168.

HENRY, FLUMERFELT, CLABINE, DEMOTT, ANDERSON: Seek par/o Margaret Henry (1786-1830) who m. George Flumerfelt (1785-1858) & had 12 chil. Also any info re George whose father may have been Albertus Flomerfelt and mother Mary Clabine. Need their birth, death dates, parents. Also seek par/o William Anderson, b. ca. 1789, m. Margaret DeMott, b. 9 May 1788. Any info re Anderson & DeMott families appreciated. ADD: Rachael H. McCormick, 7451 Cornwall Ct., West Bloomfield, MI 48322.

CAMPBELL, HANN, METTLER, OPDYKE, OSMAN, POLK, REYNOLDS, VASTINE, WOOLVERTON: Seek par, bpl/o: 1) Obadiah Campbell, b. ca. 1740, m. Mary Opdyke Reynolds, mov to Northumberland Co. PA in 1779, d. Nov. 1819. He had bro Daniel who mov from Sussex Co NJ to PA 1789. 2) Catherine Osman, b. 1786, m. John M. Vastine, d. Northumberland Co. PA in 1866. 3) Amelia Jane Polk, b. 1793, m Chas. Woolverton, d. Northumberland Co. PA in 1873. 4) Catherine Hann, m Wm. Mettler who was b. (1735-1759) in Hunt. Co., d. at Mt. Pleasant 1806. ADD: Elinor Brady, 1410 Lake Hills Dr., El Dorado Hills, CA 95630.

**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 items recently received the Society expresses its appreciation.

Lambertville, New Jersey from the Beginnings As Coryell's Ferry, by Alfred G. Petrie, 1949.

Word Pictures of the Hauptmann Trial, by Gabriel Heater, n.d.

"My Ancesters, Their Descendants and Some Of The Kinfolk," by Mildred Reading Guiffre, typescript, 1955. Given by William Johnson, Stockton, NJ.

Marriage certificate of "Peter R. Hoagland of Raritan Township ... and Anna E. Lawshe of Delaware Township ... joined ... 22nd day of October.

A certificate naming Cyrus Van Dolah Commissioner of Deeds, dated 1 April 1896 and signed by John W. Griggs.

Copies of advertisements by and about John Prall, Junior, for his property and business at Prallsville.

Flemington Water Company account books of superintendents Charles Lloyd Fell and Alex. B. Allen for the years 1908 through 1916. Donated by Austin L. Davison, Jr., Stockton, NJ.

Clippings on subject matter relating to Locktown and vicinity circa 1950s. Donated by Marfy Goodspeed, Flemington, NJ.

Mayflower Families In Progress: Peter Brown, Francis Cooke, William Bradford, Edward Fuller, Richard Warren, Degory Priest, Edward Winslow, John Billington, Stephen Hopkins, Myles Standish, publish a definitive record of each Mayflower passenger. Donated by the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New Jersey in memory of Walter H. Kitchel, forty-five year member.

Minutes of the Annual Reunion of the Harrison Family, for the years 1932-1934, 1936-1940 held at Bloomsbury Heights. Donated by Jane W. Ott, Belvidere, NJ.

Obituaries and weddings published in various Somerset and Hunterdon County newspapers for the period 1920-1940 from the scrapbooks of Lillie (Hoffman) Cole (Mrs.

William B.) of Centerville, New Jersey photocopied, alphabetically arranged and indexed by Fred Sisser, III. Donated by Mr. Sisser.

Locker Logic from Hilder's Frozen Food Lockers, 77 Park Avenue, Flemington, New Jersey, 1941. Donated by Bertha Davis, Wrightstown, PA.

Twelve manuscripts concerning the formation and operation of the Wertsville Baptist Church. Donated by Thomas Kenny, Stockton, NJ.

World War II summer and winter Army uniforms worn by Bergen Elwood Dally (1923-1946), photographs, and Army records. Donated by his mother, Mrs. Bergen Dally, Flemington, NJ.

Membership Report

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members of the Hunterdon County Historical Society.

Ms. Linda J. Black, Lambertville, NJ
 Mrs. Grace B. Cronce, Ringoes, NJ
 Joseph R. Klett, Hopewell, NJ
 Marilyn McGantlin, Englishtown, NJ
 Hedy McKown, Califon, NJ
 Hal and Karen Murray, Bloomsbury, NJ
 Savitz Library, Glassboro State College, Glassboro, NJ
 Robert and Joan Schramm, Annandale, NJ
 George Wylder, Clinton, IL

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

.....

1989 CALENDAR

June 25 **SPRING MEETING**, "John D. Rockefeller's association with Larison's Corner church and cemetery." Guest Speaker Mrs. John (Jane Bellis) Duffy at Larison's Corner Church.

Sept. 30 **OLDWICK TOUR**, 2nd Annual Fall Tour sponsored by the Museum Association of Hunterdon County, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Nov. 19 **FALL MEETING.**

FINANCIAL REPORT 1988

Income

Contributions of individuals and Large Foundation	\$11,326.00
Interest on investments and bequests	30,275.10
Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission grant	3,400.00
Membership dues	6,615.00
Sales of books, maps, etc.	1,685.15
Receipts from photocopier	425.35
Royalties - "Marriage Records..."	250.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$53,976.60

Expenses

Wages	\$14,627.76
Payroll taxes	1,394.51
Insurance	3,335.18
Postage & printing newsletters	3,884.60
Utilities	4,140.91
Supplies & services	879.85
Books, maps, microfilms	2,145.10
Doric House maintenance	4,230.96
Office supplies	1,771.29
Dues & meeting expenses	392.18
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$36,802.34

EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENSES \$17,174.26

Note: In 1988 the Society was recipient of \$10,000 bequest from the estate of John N. Apgar.

In 1988 expended from the Norman Wittwer Fund for microfilm and a reader-printer \$7,371.50

Rev. H. W. Hunt's Notices

Addressed to George Clinton Seymour, Esquire, Editor, at Flemington, these several notices were discovered recently among the Archives in the Hunterdon County Clerk's office by Phyllis D'Autrechy who shares them with us.

Marriages

Married by the Rev. H.W. Hunt Mr. Cornelius B. Sheats of Readington to Miss Deborah Little of Bethlehem the 26th October 1840.

By the same the 10th November 1840 Mr. Mansfield Hummer of Lebanon to Miss Amy Bonnell of Bethlehem.

Insert the above in your paper and hand it over to Colonel P.F. Clarke for recording & oblige. H.W. Hunt.

Deaths

Electa Ann daughter of Doctor Needham of Perryville, aged seven months & 5 days. A large concourse of sympathetic neighbors attended the funeral preached by Rev. H.W. Hunt from Job 14.1.2.

Married on the 14th January 1841 by the Rev. H.W. Hunt Mr. Robert Axford of Hackettstown Warren County to Miss June Maria Wilson of Bethlehem Hunterdon County.

By the same on the 3rd of February Mr. William Drake of Bethlehem to Miss Mary daughter of Godfrey Case of Alexandria all of Hunterdon County New Jersey.

By the same on the 6th of February 1841 Mr. Johnson Hummer to Miss Unice Young both of Bethlehem Hunterdon County New Jersey.

Deaths

On the 28th of January 1841 Mr. Godfrey Case aged 74 years of Alexandria a worthy good citizen & member of the Presbyterian Church. The funeral sermon preached from Daniel 12th Chapter 2 and 3 verses.

On the 1st instant February 1841 Henry Rockafellar Esquire aged 94 years. He had been a ruling Elder in the Presbyterian Church of Alexandria more than forty years with good acceptance and great usefulness. He raised 12 children, had 77 grandchildren and 170 great grand children and 17 great, great grandchildren the whole number of descendants 276. The above statement was taken from one of his children collected and made with care about three years since; the number now is believed to be considerably larger.

Married by the Rev. H.W. Hunt Mr. Manuel Severs to Miss Mary daughter of Mr. Peter Young Senr the 20th February 1841 all of Bethlehem H. County.

Deaths

Another revolutionary pensioner gone. Master John Head of Bethlehem aged about 85 years (1841).

Mrs. Matilda A. Housel, wife of Asher S. Housel, the 6th March (1841) after a short illness in the 33rd year of her age. She has left to mourn her early loss a husband, two little daughters and aged parents & large family connections. Mrs. Housel possessed all those qualities to make a happy family, an excellent wife a tender mother, a lovely daughter, an affectionate sister – in the Bethlehem church but we believe our loss will be her eternal gain.

On the 15th March 1841 Mrs. Sarah Beavers aged about 80 years. Long may the Bethlehem church of which she was a worthy communicant remember she was a liberal supporter(sic); and her large family descendants her many lessons of instructions and prayers for their present and eternal happiness. The funeral services of the above were performed by their affectionate pastor, H.W. Hunt.



Form of Bequest

(This form is recommended for use in making a bequest of real property, in a Will or otherwise, naming your society as beneficiary)

ITEM: I bequeath the sum of \$ _____ to the Hunterdon County Historical Society, Flemington, N.J.

ITEM: I bequeath to the Hunterdon County Historical Society, Flemington, N.J., without restrictions title to and full possession of historical materials and objects, (real estate, account books, diaries, Family Bibles, documents, papers, photographs, programs, newspapers, clippings, books, records.) etc.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Witness: _____

NEWSLETTER INDEX FOR SALE

The new index to the *Hunterdon Historical Newsletter* covering Volumes 1 through 24, may be ordered by mail from the Society or picked up at the Headquarters during Library hours, Thursdays and Saturdays 1-3 p.m. Member Marion O. Harris prepares annual revisions of the index to include the previous volume entries. The Society offers the Index for sale for \$5 plus \$1 postage for mail orders.



HONORED BY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY IN MAY 1963.

William J. Lauderdale (center) receives a congratulatory handshake from James C. Weisel on being awarded the gold medallion of the New Jersey Agricultural Society for distinguished service to the State's agriculture. Secretary of Agriculture Phillip Alampi is displaying the medallion.

Farmer Honor Roll

Since the county's formation in 1714, it has been a rural agricultural community. The Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum is dedicated to preserving Hunterdon's rural heritage and last year the Farmstead Museum inaugurated a *Farmer Honor Roll* on which the names of outstanding Hunterdon agriculturists can be inscribed.

Honored agriculturists will have demonstrated a dedicated interest in agriculture in our County and/or performed outstanding service to the rural community or made some important scientific or economic contributions in the field of agriculture.

WILLIAM J. LAUDERDALE

William J. Lauderdale [1886-1968] was in the first group of honorees. He was a West Amwell Township dairy farmer who was at the forefront of any community project or any move to improve agriculture.

He was the first child of Thomas and Alice [Macklin] Lauderdale and resided all his life in the house on Rock Road where he was born 26 November 1886. Bill and his brother Arthur, younger by two years, operated the family farm together after the death of their father until Arthur died in 1934. Therefore Bill and his hired men, dairyman Clifford Holcombe and poultryman Jobie Farlee operated it until Lauderdale's death. Rebecca Hart [1878-1956] married William Lauderdale in 1909. The couple had no children.

Agricultural Activities

Hunterdon County Board of Agriculture and Executive Committee. The executive committee conducted the 1946-47 survey to determine the community's hospital needs which resulted in the building of Hunterdon Medical Center, ground breaking in 1951

Founder, director and treasurer of Flemington Agricultural Auction Market

Founder of the New Jersey Cooperative Breeders' Association

Member New Jersey Farm Bureau

Director Interstate Milk League

President of New Jersey Dairymen's Council

Recipient of the "Award of Merit" from the New Jersey Milk Industry recognizing him for 30 years of leadership

Member of the local governing committee for the Federal Soil Conservation District.

Civic Activities

West Amwell Township Clerk 54 years until his death

Director of the Lambertville National Bank

Trustee of Amwell Methodist "Old Rocks" Church and

Amwell Methodist Church Cemetery Association

Member Amwell Lodge #12, F. & A. M.

Member Hunterdon County Tax Board

Candidate for State Assembly

Hubert Schmidt in preparing *Rural Hunterdon* relied on the valuable farm accounts kept by Thomas Lauderdale 1886-1898 and by his son William 1914-1940. These books were donated to the Hunterdon County Historical Society by Jobe Farlee in 1970.

Contesting The Will

On 28 March 1850, Barbara Martin, a middle-aged spinster, sent her nephew to find Dr. John Manners with a request that he come to the home which she shared with her sister, Susan; brother, William; his wife, Mary Ann (Maxwell); and their eight children.¹ Barbara wasn't feeling well and she wanted to make her will. She needed the help of someone who could write and knew the proper legal terms and procedures.

Dr. Manners found her suffering from dropsy and consumption and immediately drew up the will as she dictated the terms to him.² As well as Dr. Manners, William Maxwell (William Martin's brother-in-law) and Benjamin J. Opdycke, a long-time neighbor, acted as witnesses. Before another 6 months had passed, Barbara was dead.

When the family heard the contents of the will, Barbara's brother, John, and her sister, Mary (Polly) Opdycke, a widow, were so dissatisfied with the will that they filed a caveat or protest against the will in an attempt to have the will declared invalid which would make their share of the estate larger.³

Barbara's father, Lennard Martin, had made his will on 14 October 1843. It was proved 20 July 1844.⁴ He bequeathed to his daughters, Susan and Barbary, the farm on which he lived but excluding a meadow lot which was willed to son, William. The two sisters were also to receive all the household goods and furniture as well as half the livestock especially two cows. William received the other half of the livestock. The farm on which son, John Martin, lived was to be sold and the proceeds from the sale to be divided among Lennard's granddaughter, Mary (d/o William); granddaughter, Barbary Vliet; grandson, Lennard, (s/o John); and the testator's children, John, Susan, William, Barbary and Mary. The bond and mortgage which Lennard held against his son, Jacob, were cancelled. Weighing the bequests to each child, one can imagine that John and Mary felt unfairly treated by their father.

Seven years later, Barbara left a monetary bequest to her namesake and niece, Barbara, daughter of Jacob, who also received some money. Sister, Susan, gained ownership of Barbara's half of the "gilded looking glass," the corner cupboard, the copper tea kettle, the pewter, the cows and the chickens, all inherited from their father. Barbara bequeathed two good gowns to her niece Barbara, and 2 frocks to her niece, Mary, William's daughter. Sisters, Mary and Susan, were to take the residue of the clothing. No bequests were made to brother, John, whereas, brother, William was named executor and given the rest of the real and personal estate. Again, Mary and John were probably displeased with their portions. They set out to prove that their sister was mentally incompetent.

From 13 Dec. 1850 to early January 1851, the Judges of the Orphans Court, Samuel Hill, Robert Foster, Joseph Brown, and Jos. Thompson, heard testimony much of which clarified legal technicalities but some of which gives us a glimpse into the life of Barbara Martin.⁵

She had always lived with her father and continued to live in the same house after his death, always taking her

meals with the family. Mary Martin, William's daughter, testified that her Aunt Barbara had taught all the children their ABC's, would knit, wash dishes, sweep the floor and help with most of the work around the house, although she "was no great hand to sew." Mary testimony continued. She said that Barbara churned, carried wood, hemmed towels and handkerchiefs, could cut her own "victuals" and do "most all the work that is necessary for women to do."

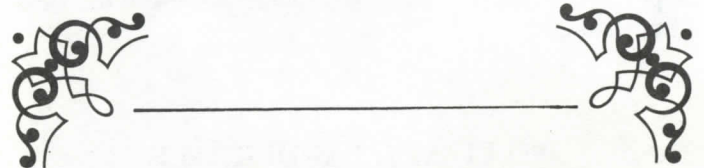
William Tharp, testifying for the executor, said that he'd worked for William Martin in 1848 and lived in the house during that time. Tharp said that Barbara "burned the coffee most part of the time" but helped take care of the children, helped wash the clothes, worked in the garden, picked weeks, fed the chickens and pigs, cut apples and dried them, knit – "nothing else, no work."

After consideration of all the testimony, the four Judges, ruled that Barbara had been mentally competent when she made her will which was finally entered for probate on 4 Jan. 1851.⁶ When she died, Barbara Martin left an estate worth \$611.39.⁷ It included 1 large looking glass, \$3.00; ½ eight-day clock, \$12.00; 1 cupboard and contents, \$6.50; "kitel and puter," \$2.50; poltry, \$3.50; two notes of hand with interest due, \$454.77.

Phyllis D'Autrechy

Sources

1. U.S. Census, Hunterdon County, Alexandria Township. House #374. Family #374. Head of Household: William Martin, aged 40, farmer, b. NJ.
2. Will Book 9, p. 19. Office of the Hunterdon County Surrogate
3. Orphans Court Minutes, Vol. 10, p. 330, Hunterdon County Surrogate
4. Will Book 8, p. 1. Hunterdon County Surrogate
5. Miscellaneous Estate Papers, 1753-1971, Folder 53. Hunterdon County Surrogate
- Orphans Court Minutes, Vol. 10, p. 366.
7. Vol. 10, Inventories, p. 297. HC Surrogate



Oldwick Site of Fall Tour Sept. 30

The village of Oldwick is a fascinating blend of antiques, architecture, history and commerce. A great place to visit on September 30 when the Museum Association of Hunterdon County sponsors its 2nd Annual Historic Hunterdon Tour.

Zion Lutheran Church in Oldwick is considered the home of the oldest Lutheran congregation in continuous existence in New Jersey. The congregation held its first service in 1714 and the present church edifice was built in 1749. It will be one of the sites open to visit on the Tour. For details, and tickets contact the Museum Association at 3 Chorister Place, Flemington, NJ 08822.

MEMBER SURVEY

Are you willing to share your time, talents and knowledge with other members? What are members collecting? Do members have suggestions for future meetings, trips and projects? Take a few minutes to complete and return this questionnaire for the Society's Board of Trustees to use in planning activities for the next few years.

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____

Meetings

1. Are three meetings a year enough? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, how often should the Society meet? _____

2. What topics would you want to see presented? _____

3. Do you have a program you could present? ☐ Yes

Subject _____

4. Would you attend:

Annual bus trip? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Genealogical trip? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Craft demonstrations? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Progressive dinner? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Old fashioned picnic? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Covered dish supper? ☐ Yes ☐ No

What Do You Collect?

- ☐ Ancestors
- ☐ Advertising art
- ☐ Buttons
- ☐ Clocks
- ☐ Clothing
- ☐ Cookware
- ☐ Glassware

- ☐ Local memorabilia
- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Paintings
- ☐ Postcards
- ☐ Pottery
- ☐ Prints
- ☐ Recipes
- ☐ Textiles

Other _____

Would you be willing to loan artifacts from your collection for exhibit? ☐ Yes

Share Time and Talents

Can you demonstrate:

Blacksmithing _____

Colonial cooking _____

Quilting _____

Silhouettes _____

Other _____

The Society needs you!

Volunteers perform many of the duties that are necessary to keep the Society going. I want to help with:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Typing | <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshment committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Filing | <input type="checkbox"/> Calligraphy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogical requests | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library research assistant | <input type="checkbox"/> Mailings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical research |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doric House host/hostess | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housekeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer input |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain artifact records | <input type="checkbox"/> Tombstone hunt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Host dinner course |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibits | <input type="checkbox"/> Handyman repairs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research for exhibits | <input type="checkbox"/> Speaker bureau |

Comments, suggestions: _____



Detach and mail to:

Hunterdon County Historical Society

114 Main Street
Flemington, NJ 08822