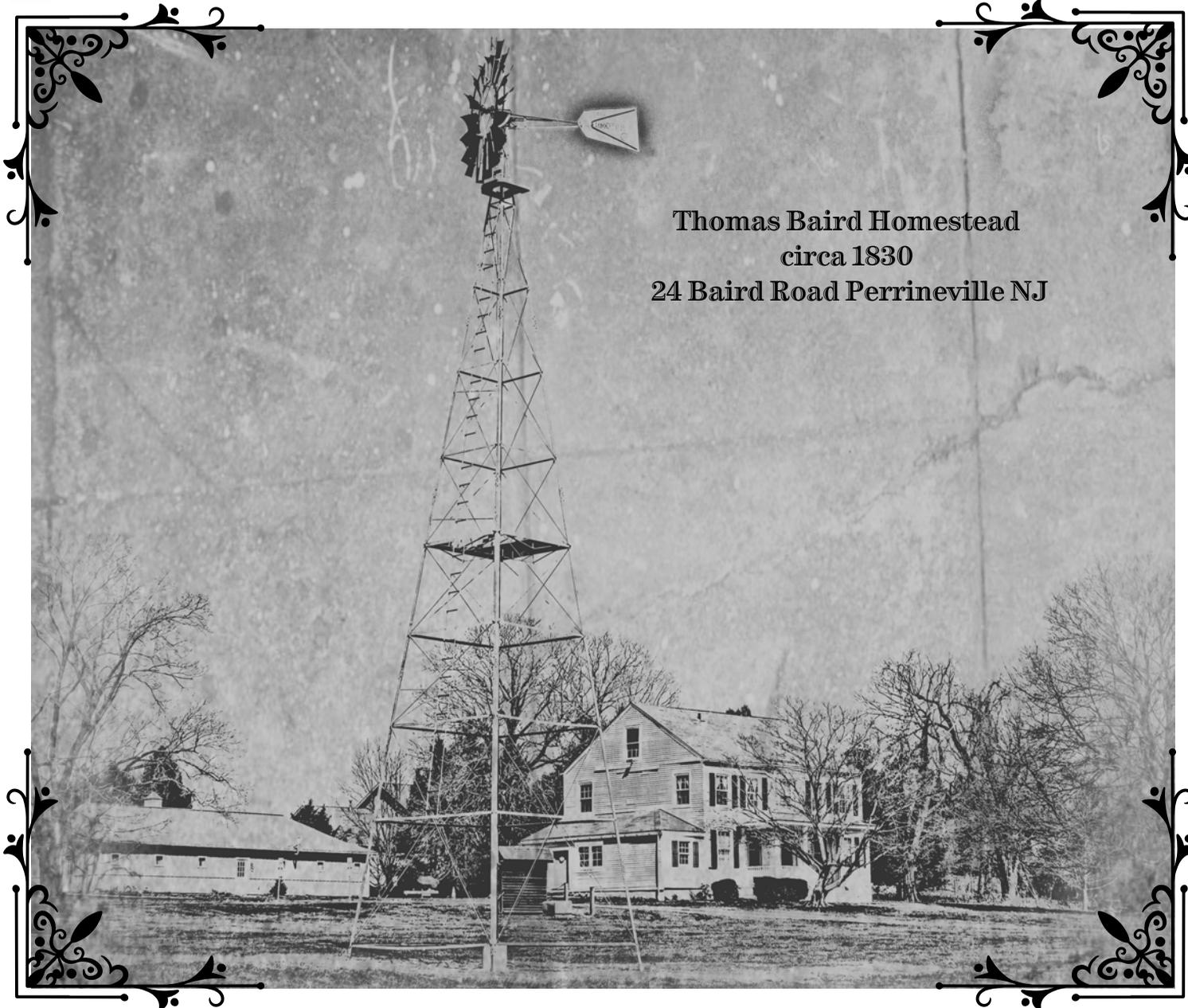


Friends of Millstone Township Historic Registered Properties proudly Presents



Thomas Baird Homestead
circa 1830
24 Baird Road Perrineville NJ

2024

PICTURE

THE

PAST



Cover: Thomas Baird Homestead Windmill

The windmill era in rural Monmouth County was popular in the late 1800s through the early 1930s.

It became a sign of a prosperous farm. It was advantageous to have the wind do the work of pumping water out of the ground in sufficient quantity to water the livestock and supply the farmhouse. Thomas proudly operated a windmill on his farm. Today we appreciate our predecessors and their ingenuity to use wind power to lighten their workload and take advantage of the potential free, clean energy. "Everything old is new again" - Jonathan Swift. Today we are greatly increasing our use of wind to create electricity.

J. Percy Van Zandt of Montgomery Township was the first owner of the windmill, where it supplied water to both the J. Percy Van Zandt Co. and to Percy's home. In 1990 it was donated to the NJ Museum where it stood for 25 years. When they closed their doors, the Friends were proud recipients of this treasure.



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FRIENDS OF MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP HISTORIC REGISTERED PROPERTIES

The Friends of Millstone Township is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to the furthering of public interest in the conservation, preservation, and appreciation of the history of Millstone Township and Monmouth County. It provides the community with educational activities, exhibitions, and hands-on programs. Further, it provides research resources for the history of the Township, as well as identifying artifacts and property significant to our history. The restoration and care of our historic properties in the Township takes great effort and extensive fundraising. We can only achieve our goals with volunteers and donations from members of the community. Although these are township-owned properties, we are responsible for utility bills and program costs. We fundraise all year to raise enough money to match available grants. Please donate your time to help us save the past. Visit us at savinghistorywithfriends.org

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We hope this Calendar brings an enjoyable journey into the Township's past. These yearly calendars are a fundraiser for us. Please consider a donation to help us with future calendars and events through out the year. Checks can be made out to MTHRP and mailed to PO Box 216, Perrineville, NJ 08535. Your donation is tax deductible.

Thank You!

The information in this calendar, although accurate for its day, is never exactly accurate or complete. *History never reveals all of its secrets!*

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More information on our Township can be found in Jean E. Mount's book; HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MILLSTONE, It can be found in local libraries.

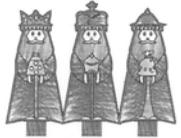
A special acknowledgement to our sponsors throughout these pages, who have helped us cover the cost of printing to make this calendar possible. Please THANK them by considering their business for your future needs.

Wishing all Health and Happiness this New year!

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Taking reservations for next years calendar- text 609-578-8966

Today's Clarksburg Cultural Center and Park

The Clarksburg United Methodist Church, located on the old Shewsbury Road today known as Stagecoach or Route 524, began construction in 1844, the same year Millstone Township was incorporated. Both the church property and the school land were owned by David Bowman, founder of the church. He once owned the tannery, featured in (Aug/Sept), a store that was on the west side of the church and was the first postmaster for our new township.

The one-room 1850 school house located at 510 Stagecoach Rd in Clarksburg, was sadly removed in the Spring of 2023. However, the Township received a grant from the Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Development Grant to replicate the building, combining the church property and school property so it can better serve the community as one park. The new building and property will provide additional amenities such as parking, sidewalks, interpretive signage, access to water, ADA bathrooms, and a bicycle repair station.

The new building will have a similar footprint that honors the original red color with a front porch, half moon window, and bell tower cupola. Inside will be a meeting room, decorated with a large collection of the Township's historical photos collected over the years.



JANUARY



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>A-Norton Septic Contracting anortonseptic servicesnj.com 732-360-0808</p>	<p>1 NEW YEAR'S DAY</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>15 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BIRTHDAY</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>KIDDIE ACADEMY, EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE 5 Allyson Way Allentown NJ 08501 kiddie academy.com/ upper-freehold</p>		



The home is located at 137 Stagecoach Rd.

The building was sold in the early 1970's and made into a residential home.

In the Hamlet of Ely, a group of devoted Christians decided they needed a church. With an acre of land, donated by C. Allen Ely it was constructed in 1905-1906 and named St. Paul's Methodist Church. Reverend Francis A. Fielder was the builder. The Trustees were; Benjamin W. Anderson, Thomas C. Britton, George and John Hart, Andrew John Moore, Jacob J Preston, and Robert Childs.

In 1906 the building was dedicated, but the name was changed to Blakeslee-Gaskill Methodist Church of Ely, honoring the memory of two boys that drowned in the sawmill pond in 1901. The boys were Walter E. Blakeslee 11 years old and Raymond S. Gaskill age 10. The sawmill was on the dammed pond. Today it's a trickle of water running through wetlands just before Sawmill Rd.

In 1910 a bell was purchased from James Murphy for \$250, with funds given by Simpson Memorial M.E. Church of Long Branch. It was rung for the first time on Sunday, October 16.

The small area from the corners of Stillhouse Rd and Stagecoach Rd to Sawmill Pond Rd, once had a Tavern built before the Revolutionary War, named Burnt Tavern. This area was then called Burnt Tavern for many years, renamed Ely and finally Charleston Springs. The Hamlet, over its years, tried to stay alive by re-inventing itself to attract travelers. It was a busy little area, with homes, a school, tavern-hotel, store, and later a post office and of course, a church.



Meet Mrs. E Anderson, who was the driving force in raising funds for the church construction. She walked miles to visit friends and neighbors collecting donations.

Photo donated by Ron Anderson



FEBRUARY



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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ASH WEDNESDAY
VALENTINE'S DAY

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PRESIDENTS' DAY

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BY the subscriber,

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for which 7 and 9 dollars per cord, will be paid at his Tan Yard, in Upper Squan-cum.

SAMUEL M'INTIRE.

November 23. 1837. —47.

Advertisement 1837

McIntire owned the Tannery in 1847 see Aug/Sept.



Barney Feltman owned and operated the Clarksburg Inn from 1899 to 1937. He was also the constable and tax collector. He was known for his red bowties and his "colorful" personality.



Decker, the Jack,

New Jersey License Certificate
Number 361,

—IS STANDING AT—

B. Feltman's

Hotel Stables,

Clarksburg, - N. J.

If you want to raise mules come before 7 a. m., or after 5 p. m. Fee \$10, with return privilege for the season.

Imay-4t*

CLARKSBURG, N. J.

Dance

Clarksburg Grange Hall
Thursday Evening, September 29, '32
Music by Wildcat Orchestra.
Admission—50 cents.
Refreshments free.
OLD COMMITTEE.

Sept. 22—1t

An inventor claims to have discovered a way in which two persons can see each other at a distance, while using the telephone. If this sort of thing goes on, language will become obsolete; for somebody will invent an improved wireless telepathy for thought transference, so we will not even have to talk!

Monmouth Democrat Freehold NJ Feb 13, 1902



MARCH



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>CHRIS MORRIS CMORRIS@UNI-TELGROUP.COM IT WIRING SECURITY AV DESIGN BUILD</p>	 OFFICE:732-888-1440 CELL:609-658-6990 800 RIKE DR STE B MILLSTONE TWP	All Fur Paws Animal Hospital 609-208-3300 34 Trenton-lakewood Rd Millstone Twp	 Vesuviosnicksplace.com		1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 SAINT PATRICK'S DAY	18	19 1ST DAY OF SPRING	20	21	22	23
24 PALM SUNDAY ----- 31 EASTER SUNDAY	25	26	27	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY	29 GOOD FRIDAY	30

"Uncovering the Disboro Marker"

In 1795 the U.S. Congress requested Thomas Jefferson to authorize a survey for the purpose of mapping the coastline of New York and New Jersey. Work began in 1816 by Mr. Ferdinand Rudolph Hassler, the first superintendent of the U.S. Coast Guard. He established a Triangulation System that eventually expanded across the entire nation.



in 1839 a ceramic cone was buried by Hassler as a control point for this system, on the highest hill on John Disboro's farm today known as Disbrow Hill Road. In 1982, a group from the Professional Land Surveyors Association of NJ revisited the site. Many weeks of battling bugs, briars and a heavily wooded hill, they found this important part of the first complete survey of the east coast. 18 inches below ground, they removed the original ceramic cone that was installed 143 years ago, and set a new brass disk marker in concrete. The cone is now with the National Geodetic Survey Center, part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Corbin, Va.



Federal Survey Marker on Disbrow Hill Road



Top: Ralph Poust, Wendy Lathrop, Fred Czepiga, Harold Neal, Ralph Poust

This information was generously provide by Wendy Lathrop PLS,CFM,CFS a licensed land Surveyor, and Pat Donahue's story from the Hightstown-East Windsor Historical Society spring 2022 newsletter. The exact location is not disclosed to protect the privacy of the homeowner. The public does not have access to Federal markers. Access is only granted to surveyors who need to use it as part of their work.



APRIL



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

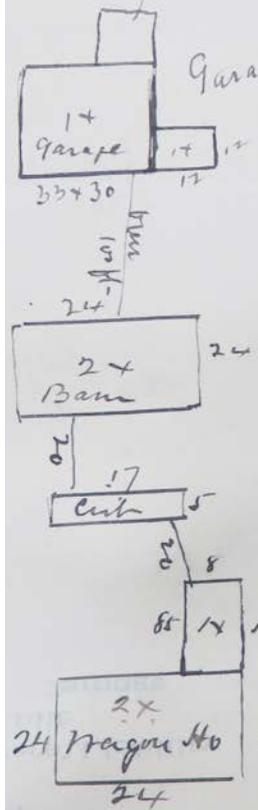
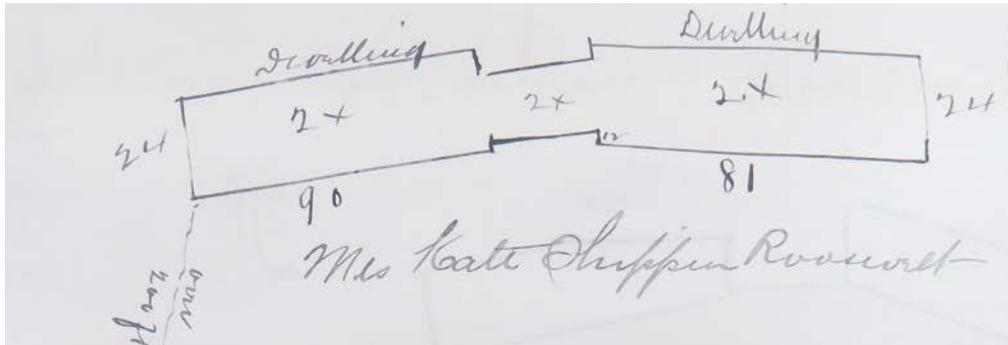
FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>KIDDIE ACADEMY, EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE</p> <p>5 Allyson Way Allentown NJ 08501</p> <p>kiddie academy.com/ upper-freehold</p>	1 April Fool's	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Passover EARTH DAY	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30		<p>Millstone Remodeling Residential Handyman Services 35+yrs in residential remodeling Mike Sayrafe 732-684-1344  NJ Lic#13vh0556800</p>		

One Mansion, Shared by Two Famous Families:

Tucked into the woods on Disbrow Hill Road, heading west, almost to the boundary line of Millstone Township, was a private road leading to a large tract of land and mansion, called Merdlemouth. In the early 1900's this was one of the summer homes belonging to Mrs. Kate Shippen Roosevelt, wife of Hilborne L. Roosevelt, first cousin to Theodore and Franklin D.



Family and friends, would travel by train to Hightstown from New York to enjoy the fresh air of the country. Kate's sister had a farm next door called Applebrook. Her daughter, Dorothy, and son-in-law, Langdon Geer, also added onto the property. Kate died in 1925, and her 300-acre estate was sold to Giuseppe Profaci in 1932, calling it his hunting lodge. The 30-room mansion's name was changed to Twelve Pines. In 1966, the house being vacant for over 3 years, was once again vandalized by suspected juveniles, this time setting it on fire, and ending its life.

Giuseppe was identified by the FBI as head of the mafia in Brooklyn. The property was never owned by Teddy Roosevelt as noted in many articles, but did he ever sleep here?

Insurance drawing from Allen & Stults, Hightstown NJ. They have been in business since 1881. Drawing shows twin wings of the house, garage, wagon house, barns, and corn crib. Kate enjoyed the farm life.

Photo provided by Joann Kelty circa 1960's



MAY



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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 pennyspetalsnj.com



VESUVIO'S
 PIZZA
Nick's
 PLACE
 732-446-1155

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CINCO DE MAYO						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
MOTHER'S DAY						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
MEMORIAL DAY						KIDDIE ACADEMY, EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE 5 Allyson Way Allentown NJ 08501 kiddieacademy.com/upper-freehold



Patience Track
June 1 1879
Aged 92 years
Gathered in a good old age to
the assembly of the righteous

The Ely burying ground, know today as The East Windsor Cemetery, is located at 790 Windsor Perrineville Rd, East Windsor NJ

There is another stone nearby that tells a story of triumph over tragedy. Patience Track was a servant in the household of Aaron Ely. She lived to the fine old age of ninety-two, dying June 1, 1879. She was born a slave on a southern plantation. As a young girl, she ran away and made the desperate trip north on the Underground Railroad, hoping to reach the sanctuary of Canada. She was captured at the farmhouse of Aaron Ely, near Milford (Etra), which was one of the houses of refuge along the Underground Railroad. Aaron paid her ransom and set her free. Once freed, she chose to stay with the Ely family that had rescued her. Aaron remembered her in his last will and testament and provided for her through his son and grandson. She was the only Black American to be granted the right of burial in East Windsor cemetery up to that time.

Information copied directly from John W. Orr, Jr. book

“Reflections from the Shrine” An Anecdotal History of Hightstown and East Windsor

Patience was laid to rest in the ancient section of the Ely family grounds. The family is on the very top of the hill righthand side. The Aaron Ely farmhouse was on Battleground Rd, Millstone Twp.



JUNE



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Century 21

Joanne Lebers

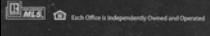
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FLAG DAY

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FATHER'S DAY

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1ST DAY
OF SUMMER

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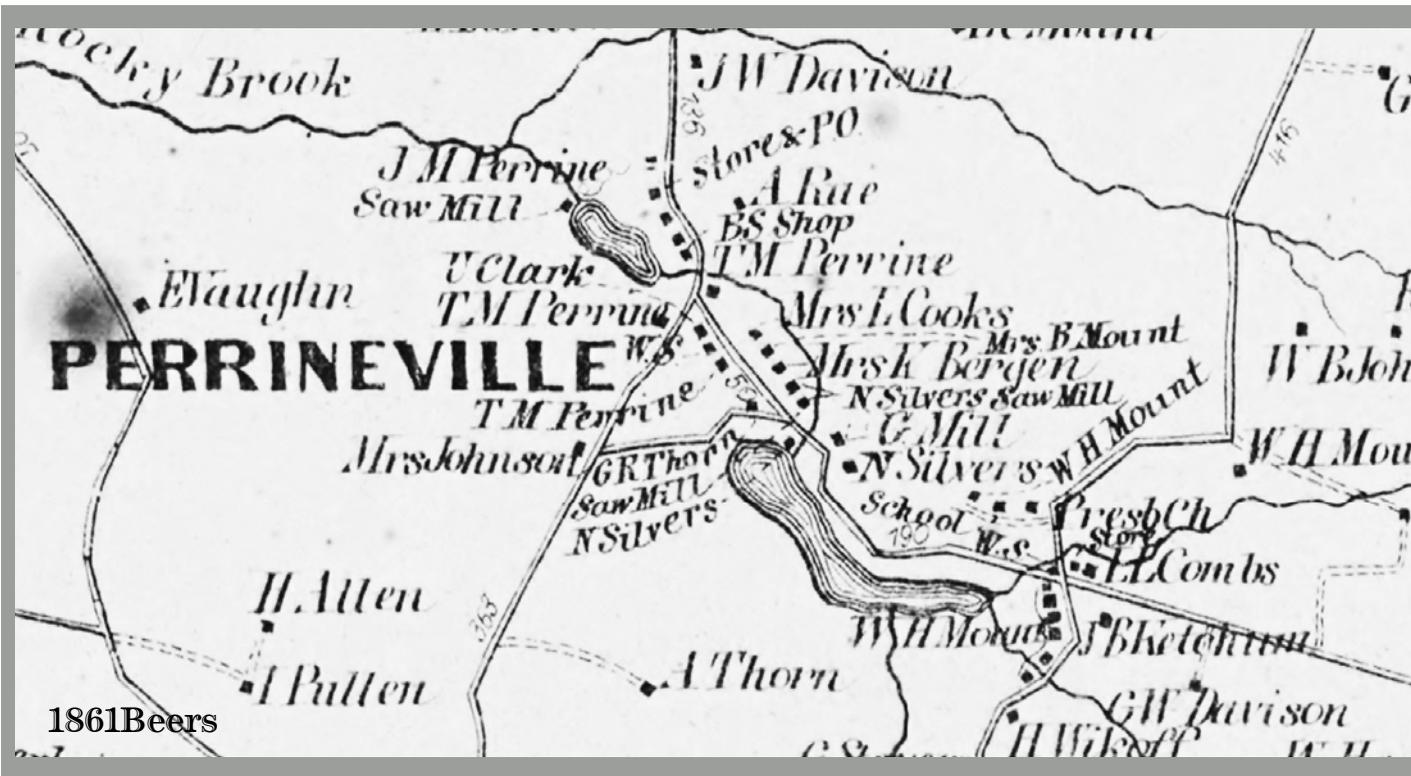
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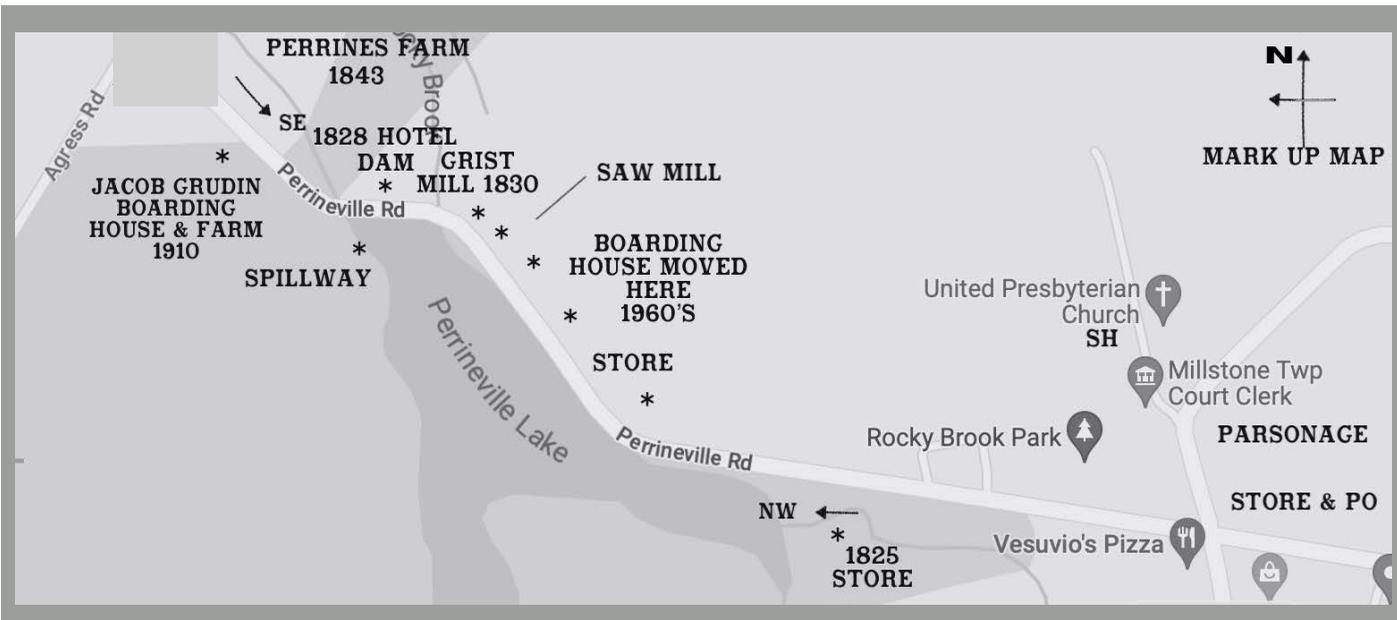
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A snapshot of the Perrineville Village in the early days. The marked-up map shows the date and type of businesses in the region, not the exact location where they once stood. An early settler in this area was that of Richard Mount who purchased 1000 acres on the North bank of the Rocky Brook in 1725. He later sold off land to settlers moving into the area. Around 1825 James H. Newell operated a store near the Rocky Brook; he built David Perrine's Grist Mill in 1830. It was at this time, the village took on its name. Perrine also had a hotel next to the lake, verified by a deed from 1828, It disappeared by the 1900s.



Both maps give a good indication of all the moving parts that make up a thriving village. A careful study will give you an idea of the establishments that once stood here.





JULY



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

A-Norton Septic Contracting anortonseptic servicesnj.com 732-360-0808	1	2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	KIDDIE ACADEMY, EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE 5 Allyson Way Allentown NJ 08501 kiddie academy.com/ upper-freehold	 VEUVIO'S PIZZA <i>Nick's</i> PLACE BAR AND ITALIAN BISTRO	

In 1804, Joshua Barker purchased 21 acres located on Shrewsbury Road, now known as Stagecoach Road from the heirs of Solomon Combs, the owner of Robins Tavern. (See calendar 2023 for more details on the Tavern) By 1806 Joshua had a working Tannery. The property held a two-story dwelling, called the plantation house, a four horse barn, the mill pond on Doctors Creek, and a bark mill house. In 1811, we find Joshua offering his Tannery for sale which now included an ice house, all buildings for Tanning, bark house, currying and shoemakers shop, a tenant house, and the mill pond. Selling this business came in 1814 when he sold it to George Ivins and David Clark.



PLANTATION HOUSE

KNOWN IN THE 1850 ' S AS THE ALLEN HOUSE

This house was also added onto over the decades.

The 21 acres, which included the Clarksburg Inn, changed boundaries and hands many times. The tannery stopped operations somewhere after 1870's.

471 Stagecoach Road Tannery house, is where part of the tannery operation was at one time. Looking at this house, you can see that there are two structures that have been joined together. Perhaps this was the bark house and tenant house mentioned in Barker's advertisement from 1811. To the left stood two small shops, that stood between the Clarksburg Inn and Tannery house. To the right of the Tannery house once stood the Plantation house and barns.

o o o ❖ c c c
TANNERY HOUSE

KNOWN IN THE 1960 ' S AS THE FITZPATRICK HOUSE



o o o ❖ c c c



AUGUST



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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VESUVIO'S
PIZZA
Nick's
PLACE
BAR AND ITALIAN BISTRO

221
Millstone
Rd

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Tanning is a method of curing hides into a finished leather essential for the manufacturing of products needed around the farm and home. The raw hides had to be scraped of all flesh, then soaked in vats containing caustic solutions to remove the remaining fur. After rinsing the pieces in Doctors Creek Pond, they were then soaked in vats which contained tannin, a strong solution from ground bark. Another rinse, and then the hides were stretched until they were dry.

The Plantation barns are now located on the Thomas Baird Homestead located at 24 Baird Road Perrineville.



The plantation house featured in August was removed in 2009, and the tannery house was removed in 2022. Both lots were purchased to meet the required Affordable Housing requirements.

The Tannery pond or Doctors Creek was used by the public as well. Farmers would wash their livestock before shearing, children swam in the pond, and ice was taken off of it in the winter months.

YIKES!

Between both lots, is a public easement dedicated to preserving the remaining story of the Tannery. Pictured are the large sporadic sand stones walls, that was once part of the rinsing vats.





SEPTEMBER



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	LABOR DAY					
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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FALL BEGINS						
29	30	 KIDDIE ACADEMY. EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE 5 Allyson Way Allentown NJ 08501 kiddie.academy.com/ upper-freehold	 Jersey Cookie Girl Custom Cookies for all occasions! 732-213-0590	 A-Norton Septic Contracting anortonseptic servicesnj.com 732-360-0808	 VESUVIO'S PIZZA Nick's PLACE 221 Millstone Rd	

Yes Virginia, there really was a Crematory Hill:

If you dared to visit Disbrow Hill Road at night, you might encounter a ghost, headless bodies, or even face death itself!

A long gravel road, densely wooded, leading up to an area with stone walls, metal gates and a small caretakers dwelling, set the stage for kids to fabricate the legend of the “Crematory Hill”. It all started shortly after the property was purchased, and each year the stories grew and got more elaborate. It became a rite of passage for teenagers or not, to drive there, turn off the car lights, and scare the wits out of each other! A Saturday night in its heyday (1960's) could even create a traffic jam, all the time bringing home more wild stories of rattling chains and headless ghosts, adding to the myths.

There's not an old timer in town, who doesn't have a story to tell...if they DARE.

The 102 acres of Disbrow Hill farm was sold in 1932 to a group of Lutherans for the purpose of a a non-sectarian burial ground. Despite all the stories and pictures printed, there is no true evidence that a Crematory was ever on site or burial plots were ever used. The ambitious project wasn't successful, and the land was sold in the 1970's making way for new homes, thus ending a time of good scary fun!





OCTOBER



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



VESUVIO'S
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BAR AND ITALIAN BISTRO

221 Millstone Rd
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Vesuviosnicksplace.com

	1	2	3	4	5
		ROSH HASHANAH			
6	7	8	9	10	11
					YOM KIPPUR
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	COLUMBUS DAY				
20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	
				HALLOWEEN	
				KIDDIE ACADEMY. <small>EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE</small> 5 Allyson Way Allentown NJ 08501 kiddie academy.com/ upper-freehold	A-Norton Septic Contracting anortonseptic servicesnj.com 732-360-0808

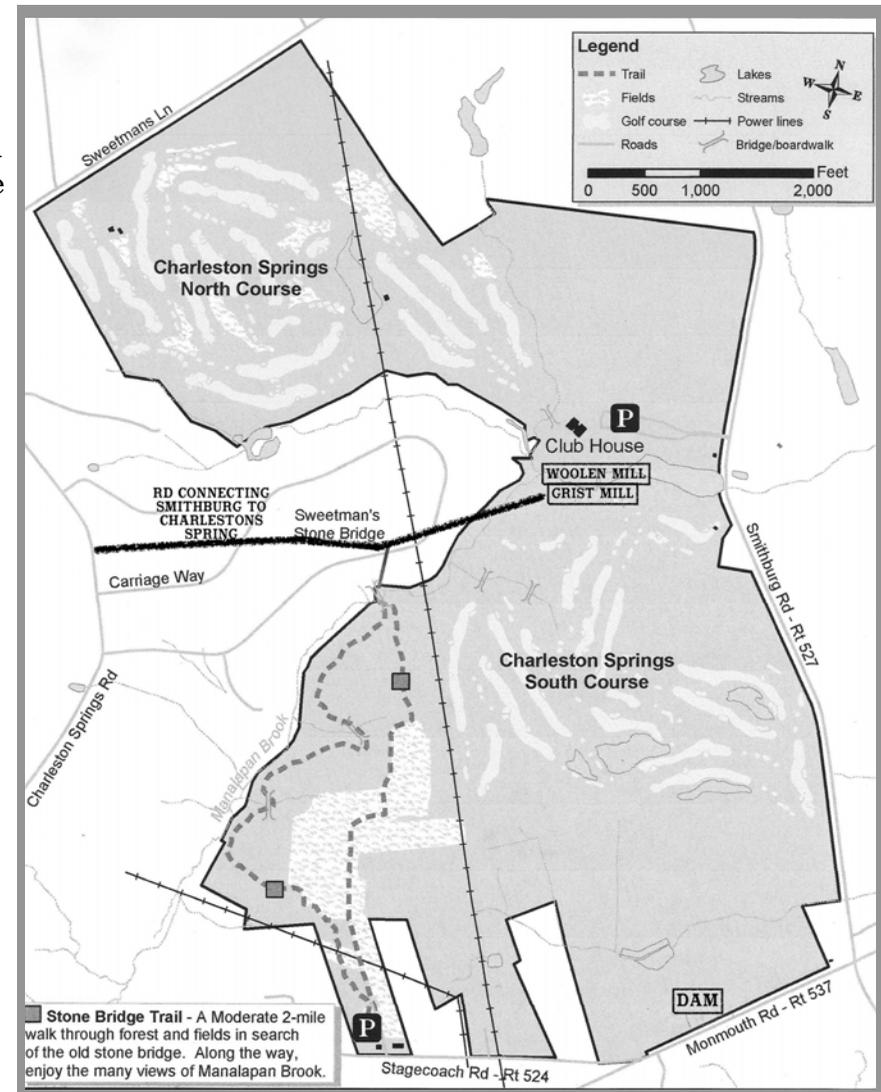
Charlestons Spring Golf Course

781 acres of beautiful scenery not only features 2 pristine golf courses, but offers wildlife along the walking trails into a forest that's over 100 years old. On the trail you'll find a sandstone bridge, a true masterpiece of its time. The Stone Bridge walking trail is accessible from 42 Stagecoach Road Route 524 Millstone Township.

According to maps between 1860 and 1870, a public road was created connecting the woolen mill and Smithburg Rd to a new road called Charlestons Spring. No name has been found for this road to-date and its existence disappeared altogether by the 1970's when new homes were built in the area. The stone bridge was necessary to travel over the Manalapan Brook, and it's a beautiful reminder of the workmanship of days gone by.

This land was settled by Joseph Preston and wife Sarah about 1705. Joseph built a water wheel woolen mill around 1740 on his 300 acres. Robert T Blain owned the mill when fire destroyed it in 1846, but was rebuilt with "modern" equipment and probably steam powered. By then the first floor was turned into a grist mill, while the second floor was the woolen mill. Mr. Blain sold the business in 1898, now only 16 acres of land, to Horatio Clayton for \$1.00 and an assumed mortgage of \$1,300. The original mill property was split between Millstone and Manalapan boarders . Across the Smithburg Road on the Manalapan side, is the ancient Prestons and Forman family burial ground, 13 Rifkin Court, and is accessible to the public.

A Woolen Mill is one that weaves a farmers wool making it into a textile product for further use. Clothing in this timeframe was mostly wool and all families raised a number of sheep for this purpose.



A big THANK YOU to Monmouth County Park System for their dedicated work in protecting the beauty of the county.



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY



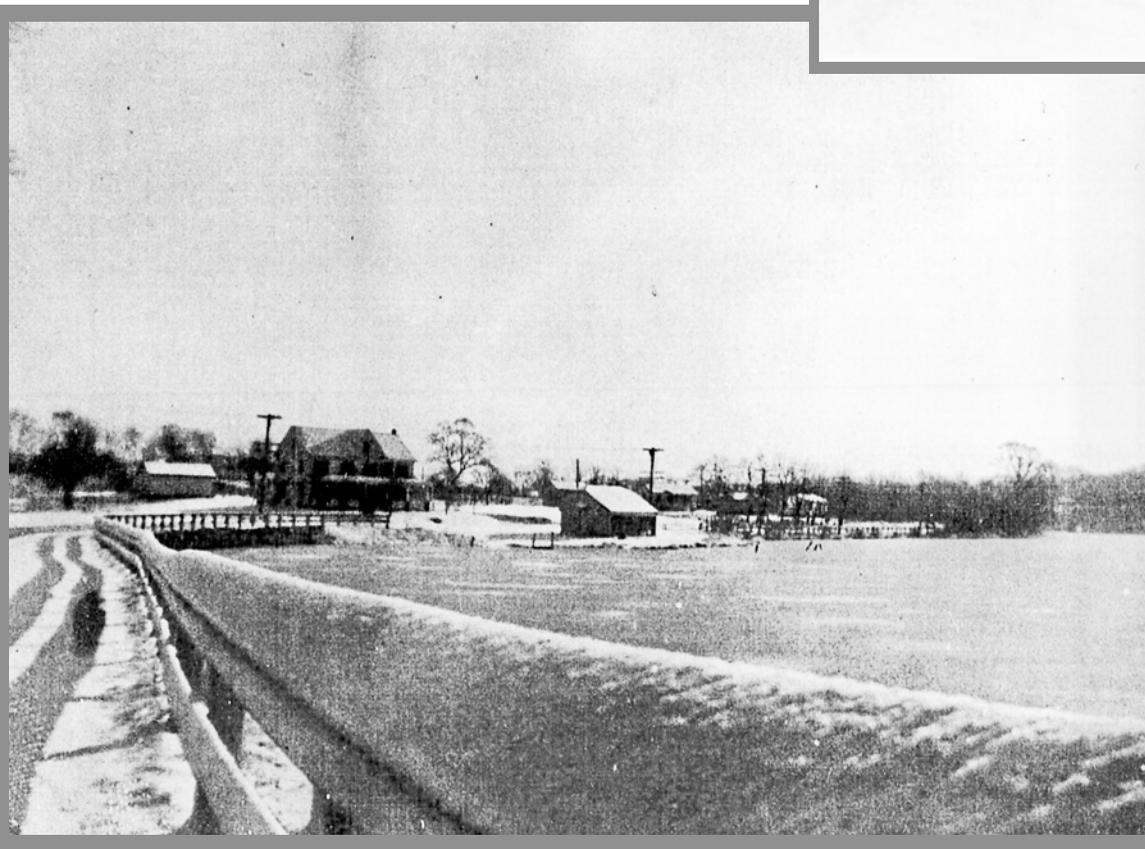
FRIDAY

SATURDAY

NOVEMBER

 <p>VESUVIO'S PIZZA <i>Nick's PLACE</i> BAR AND ITALIAN BISTRO 221 Millstone Rd 732-446-1155 Vesuviosnicksplace.com</p>		<p>Clarksburg General Store 456 Stagecoach Rd  609-259-3493</p>		<p>NORHEASTERN Building Supply & Kitchen Design Center 484 Monmouth Rd Clarksburg 609-259-2222 northeasternsupply.com</p>		1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS							
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
	VETERANS DAY						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29		
				THANKSGIVING			
						<p>A-Norton Septic Contracting anortonseptic servicesnj.com 732-360-0808</p>	

Beginning in the 1900s Perrineville Lake area became a tourist resort. People traveled looking for relief from the sweltering heat. Finding the beautiful countryside many families stayed, this was the case with Jacob Grudin. His home was in New York, but in 1910 he purchased a farm in Perrineville and became a farmer. The photo shows the Grudin farm and boarding house across from the boat ramp. The large twenty eight room house was standing by 1918, and was full all summer long. By 1940's the resort dwindled, but a businessman, Mr. Jim Hall, purchased 70 acres of lakeside frontage, including a home and a small dwelling that was Tolland's bar called the Lakeview Inn.



Mr. Hall purchased Grudin's old boarding house and moved it across the narrow road. He planned to resurrect the resort town. At his great expense he and his son began a complete restoration of the building making it once again a hotel. Five months into the project, a devastating fire broke out in the chimney in the evening of January 28, 1973, destroying the landmark and Mr. Hall's dreams.

The structure sat directly behind the "snack shack" stand where the boat ramp is today. The Monmouth County Park System purchased the lake and the surrounding 525 acres in 1994 preserving this area for all to enjoy.

See, dreams do come true!



photo 1960s?

See maps in July for more details



DECEMBER



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						PEARL HARBOR DAY
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		CHRISTMAS EVE	CHRISTMAS DAY HANUKKAH BEGINS	KWANZAA		
29	30	31	 <p>CORNERSTONE MUSIC <i>at Millstone</i> STUDIOS TOMORROW'S MUSICIANS TODAY! 732-446-1919 CORNERSTONEMUSICSTUDIOS.COM</p>		 <p>Penny's Petals 240 Stagecoach Rd 732-625-9911 pennypetalsnj.com</p>	
		NEW YEAR'S EVE	 <p>VESUVIO'S PIZZA Nick's PLACE BAR AND ITALIAN BISTRO</p>			

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP

1683 was the birth-year for Monmouth County. It was and still is, richly blessed with excellent soil that promoted farming as the mainstay occupation in the region. Immigrants traveled inward purchasing property to homestead, turning hamlets, into villages and then towns, filling the county. The new settlers traveled from already established trails, created by the indigenous people, Leni-Lenape Indians. One such trail was named The "Burlington Path" or "The Great Road" which connected the two capitals of New Jersey at the time, Perth Amboy and Burlington. An act of the state legislature changed the name in 1796 to the Monmouth Road, today known as County Route 537. Many of our town roads, were also Indian trails. Shrewsbury Road that connects Allentown to the west of Clarksburg and Freehold to the east, is known today as Route 524 or Stagecoach Road. Back-Bone divide known today as Back-bone Hill Road is yet another known trail.

This area was inhabited by settlers long before the Revolutionary War. Records of a John Leming paid taxes in 1731 to Upper Freehold, His son John Jr. had a house at the bottom of Back Bone in 1757. This area was known as Upper Freehold until 1844 when it became incorporated as Millstone Township, named for the Millstone River by the Indians as "Mattawong" later being converted to Millstone.

The Township, in its infancy, was composed of many historic villages or hamlets; to list a few; Carr's Tavern, Holmeson, Smithburg, Burnt Tavern, Sweetman, Bergen Mills, Bairdsville, Woodsville, Stone Tavern, Clarksburg, and Perrineville. The last two were villages that remain today as a witness of our past. Clarksburg is said to be named for a man named David Clark; John Perrine purchased a large tract of land north of Clarksburg which, became known as Perrineville.

Our township is rich in history. Long ago, once stood a Tavern, on the corners of Stagecoach and Rising Sun Tavern Road. It was possibly the village's first and oldest establishment dating from the mid-1700s. The tavern acted as a Stagecoach stop for travelers from Philadelphia, Shrewsbury River, and New York. In June 1778, both the British and Continental Armies assembled here days apart on their way to the Battle of Monmouth. It was called the Rising Sun Tavern by the English, known by the colonies as Robins Tavern. In later years, it was known as the Olde Willow Tree. In its prime, it was said to host such travelers as Benjamin Franklin and Joseph Bonaparte. Two-time Governor Joel Parker was born in Millstone.

Our surrounding roads contain stories and folklore filled with riches of our past. One such road is called Paint Island Spring. Once, this spring was used by the native people for the attractive mineral colors they found in it. Later doctors, prescribed its waters for medicinal purposes. A paint company reaping the benefits of the array of colors it provided, gave it the name. The area was once so visited that it became a park for all to enjoy.

Along with the Thomas Baird Homestead, the Township can boast of saving and preserving two more buildings, both are listed on the State and National Registry of History Places. One such building was erected as a house of worship in 1845, known then as the Clarksburg Methodist Episcopal Church. Methodist in name, but open to all, it serviced the community until 1989. When its doors as a church were closed, it became the Clarksburg Community Cultural Center, serving the people once again. The second building, once slated for destruction was a 4- room schoolhouse built in 1925. Classrooms were added on in 1941 and again in 1953. Today it serves the public as the Township's Municipal Building.

Our history comes from the hard work of many. We recognize their efforts by naming our roads in their honor. As a township we continue in that vein of hard work.

Whether it's preserving the land or the past we strive to protect the precious gift we call home.