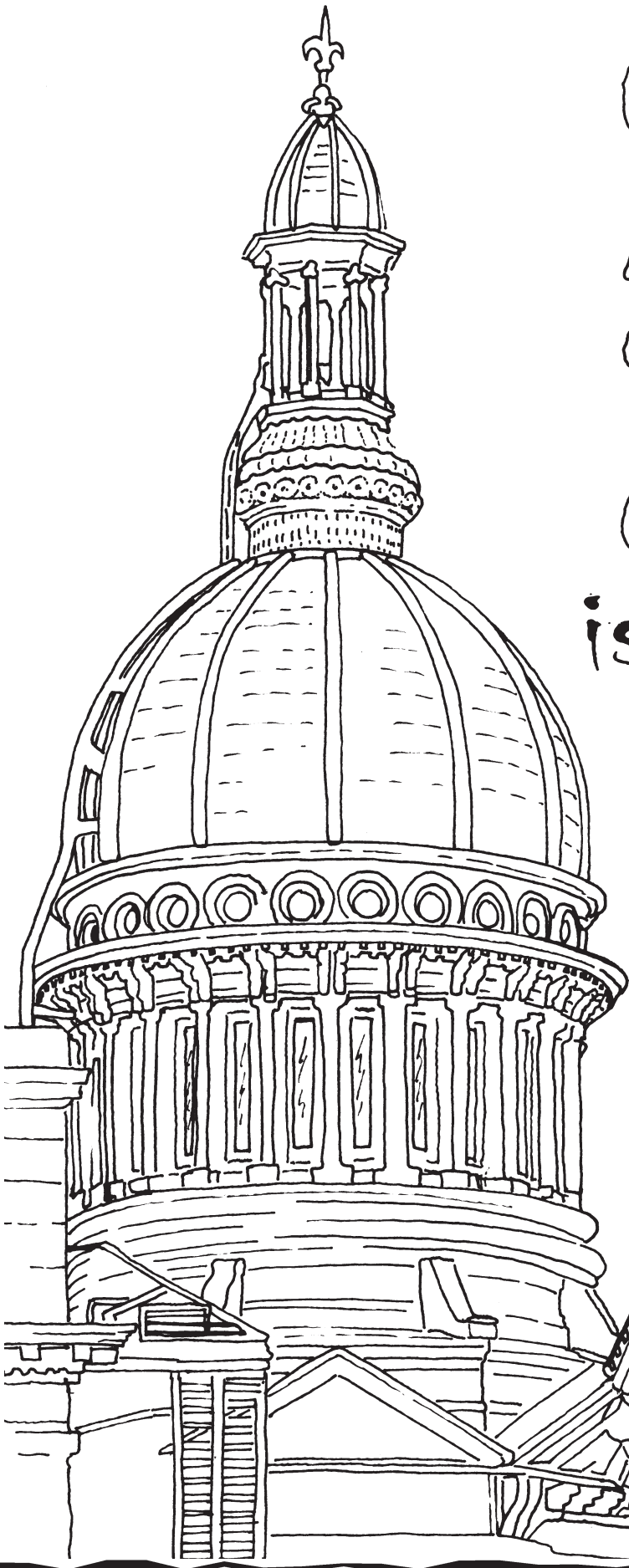


NJ

is for Mercer



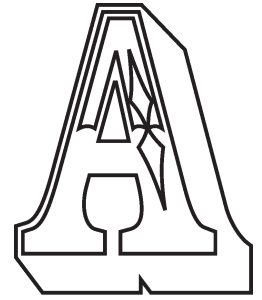
Mercer County, NJ

The Capital County

This project is dedicated to Mary Alice Quigley,
whose passion for history was a gift to the Mercer
County Cultural and Heritage Commission and
the community she so loved.



Artillery Annex



National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey



The Army National Guard is the oldest component of the United States armed forces and has participated in every war or conflict the United States has fought. Militia companies were formed with the English settlement at Jamestown in 1607. The first settlers brought with them the English military concept of citizen-soldiers dedicated to assisting in national defense instead of relying on a full-time professional army.

Today's National Guard is the direct descendent of the militias of the thirteen original colonies. The Militia Act of 1792 required states to enroll 18 to 45 year-old men into companies, regiments and brigades; and to appoint an adjutant general and brigade inspectors. As the enrolled militia declined in importance, the volunteer companies of the organized militia grew in strength.

The Artillery Annex to the National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey is located at the U.S. National Guard Armory on Eggerts Crossing Road in Lawrenceville. The Museum collects, preserves and displays artifacts with historical significance to the Army and Air National Guard, and Naval Militia of New Jersey. Exhibits of weapons, uniforms and equipment trace the military heritage of New Jersey and illustrate how armed conflicts and military institutions have shaped the state and nation.

The Annex is home to the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) collection of Civil War records and memorabilia and a "Model Room" with over one hundred small-scale models of military equipment. Also on display is equipment captured during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Tanks, vehicles and cannon are on display outside.

Lawrence Township

B

Birthplace of Paul Robeson



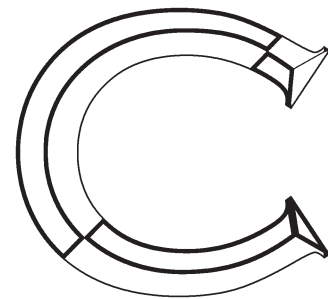
Paul Robeson was born in this house on Witherspoon Street in 1898. He became one of Princeton's best known residents. Son of a former slave, the Reverend William Robeson of the Witherspoon Street Church, Paul achieved fame as an athlete, a singer and actor, a scholar and a law school graduate.

It was as a political activist that he was persecuted during the McCarthy era. Robeson spoke out against racist conditions experienced by Asian and Black Americans. In 1952 he was awarded the International Stalin Prize for Strengthening Peace Among Peoples. He eventually quit his film career because he was dissatisfied with the types of roles that were available for black performers.

Mr. Robeson lived abroad in voluntary exile for five years, returning to the United States in the early 1960s. He spent the rest of his life in relative ill health, appearing publically only a few times.

Princeton Borough

Cemetery in East Windsor



John Ely established this cemetery on part of the 1300-acre farm he bought in 1728, which is now called the Ely-Norton Farm. In the days before public cemeteries, many farmers set aside a small plot of land for family burials. In his will, John asked to be buried at the crest of the cemetery, which marks the divide in the watershed between the waters of the Delaware and Raritan rivers. Legend has it that John's stone was placed so that if a raindrop fell at the mid-point of the top surface, half of the water droplet would flow to each river. During the nineteenth century, many Americans began marking graves with decorative statues such as this angel atop the Eilers family plot.

In 1831 the Norton Family settled the farm, which is best noted for a famous visitor Clara Barton. She met the Norton's children while studying at a Universalist school in New York. Clara lived with the family while she taught at the Cedarville School until May 1852 when she left to establish a school in Bordentown.

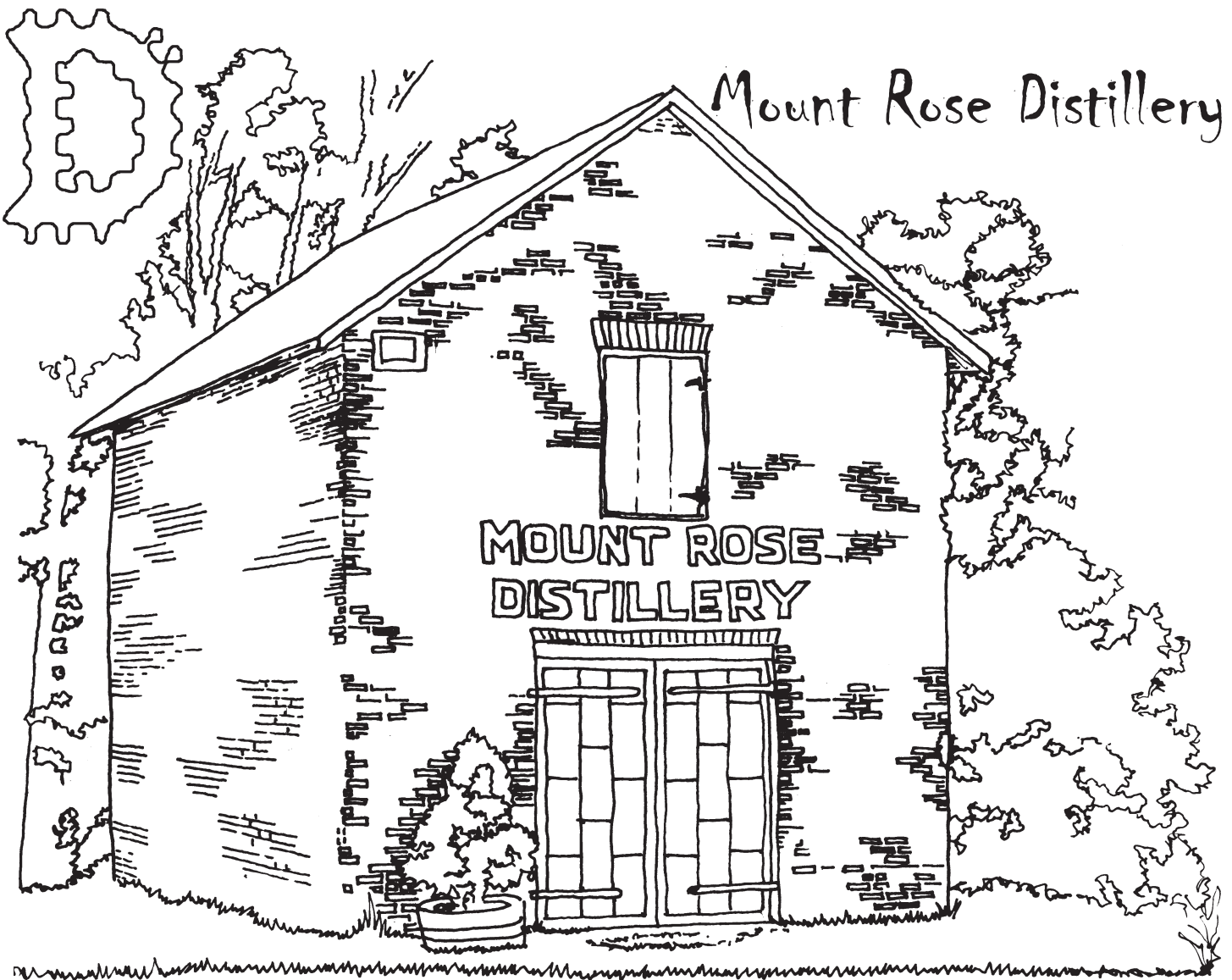
Mary Norton and Clara kept in contact. During the Civil War Mary sent boxes of food and clothing for the troops to Clara who was nursing wounded soldiers at the front.

After the war, Clara traveled through Europe helping the new International Red Cross. She visited Mary again in 1878. When Clara

began organizing the American Red Cross in 1881, Mary was one of its four charter members.

East Windsor Township

Mount Rose Distillery



The village of Mount Rose was a thriving center of rural commerce and agricultural industry. Richard Stout opened its first store around 1822 near the intersection of Pennington-Rocky Hill Road and Hopewell-Princeton Road. By 1830 Josiah Cook and Reuben Savidge had opened a second general store. By mid-century, a number of other merchants had hung out their shingles, including two shoemakers, a dressmaker, a couple of wheelwrights and a blacksmith. A harness shop, agricultural implements warehouse and a small steam sawmill also operated in Mount Rose.

Local fruit growers were regulars along the roads to Mount Rose where Nathaniel Drake had opened an applejack distillery on the western end of the village shortly after mid-century. Hundreds of barrels of peach brandy, apple cider and apple whiskey were churned out of Drake's distillery every season.

Today, the only remaining structure from that once-busy complex, known as the Whiskey House, is listed on the National, New Jersey and Hopewell Township registers of historic places.

Mount Rose's first schoolhouse, established about 1820, was a stone building located just east of the first general store. It was replaced by a new frame building during the Civil War. The original schoolhouse closed in 1935 and was later converted into a residence that still survives.

Mount Rose peaked in 1880, its growth slowed by the development of the village of Hopewell. Today only a few original buildings survive and the village's identity is barely discernible.

Hopewell Township

Ely House

E



The Ely House on North Main Street in Hightstown is the headquarters and museum of the Hightstown-East Windsor Historical Society. The house, which dates from the 1840s, features Native American artifacts, Hight family objects, relics from the John Bull locomotive, and period furnishings. Behind the house, in the Camden and Amboy's old freight station, is the society's Grace Hutchinson West Educational Center.

The John Bull, on display at the Smithsonian Institute, is the oldest existing locomotive in the United States and was delivered in 1831 from England. In 1815, the first United States railroad legislation authorized the Camden & Amboy Company to construct the first railroad to operate in New Jersey. The company was founded by inventor, naval architect and transportation pioneer, John Stevens. He invented the "T" rail with offset-headed spikes fastened to wooden cross-ties, which became the most widely used type of rail system in the world.

On March 9, 1750, "Windsor Township" was designated by King George II making it one of the earliest settled communities in New Jersey. The settlement was pioneered by the John Ely family who purchased 1300 acres in 1728. The Legislature divided Windsor Township into East and West Windsor townships in 1797. Hightstown, incorporated in 1853, derives its name from the Haight family. The blacksmith-shop and tavern of John Hight (formerly spelled Haight) formed the beginning of the village long before the Revolution. It was a stagecoach stop, then became a rail stop, which accounted for much of its growth and prosperity.

Hightstown

Henry Clay & Bock Cigar Factory



The Cigar Factory was built in the 1920s as a replica of a Cuban cigar factory. The engineer-architects, Francisco & Jacobus, later developed a reinforced concrete building technique that would allow a wide expanse of windows for large factory buildings.

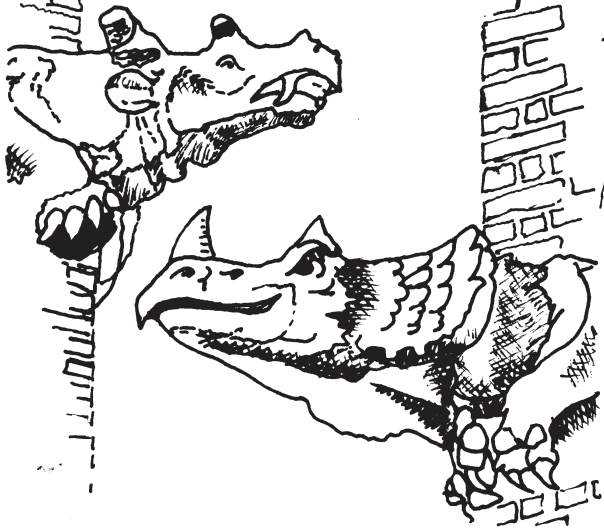
In 1905 there were 80,000 cigar-manufacturing businesses in the United States. Most of these were small drugstore-type shops where families sat and rolled cigars and sold them immediately. In the '20s and '30s unionization in Cuba caused labor costs to skyrocket. Major corporations like American Tobacco Company moved factories to places like Trenton to bypass the unions and save on taxes. By importing cured tobacco from Cuba, they paid a 10-percent tax rather than the 100-percent rate on finished cigars. After the Cuban embargo in 1960, which made it illegal for Americans to purchase Cuban products, the cigar business dried up. The factory was closed and the building suffered through various other uses. In the 1980s, it was renovated into a Grand Court Villa condos.

One of the two leading cigar brands of the American Tobacco Company, Henry Clay, was manufactured here. Gustavo Bock was a senior member of the company. He is credited with inventing the stomach bandage, the beginning of the cigar band, in response to complaints from aristocratic Havana smokers that cigars were staining and ruining their white gloves.

City of Trenton

Princeton University

Gargoyles



The word Gargoyle comes from the Latin word gurgulio, which means throat. A true gargoyle is a water spout carved on the outside of a building to direct water from the roof away from the base of the foundation wall. They are often confused with grotesques (strange, fantastic, ugly or bizarre creatures) or chimeras (an imaginary monster made up of body parts from different animals).

Gargoyles can be traced back to Egypt, Rome, Greece and the ruins of Pompeii where terra cotta water spouts were common. The first grotesque figures came from the Egyptians who believed in deities with the heads of animals. The Greeks believed the grotesques would guard their treasures and temples from one-eyed giants or Cyclops, who would try to steal the gold.

In the Middle ages most people could not read or write so churches utilized visual imagery to spread their beliefs. Scholars believe that gargoyles were inspired by the skeletal remains of prehistoric beasts or are the expression of man's subconscious fears.

Princeton University campus has a wealth of gargoyles and grotesques. Guyot Hall's biology wing highlights living species while the geology wing memorializes extinct animals (bottom left). Some are thought to have come from the studio of Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor of Mount Rushmore fame. The Literate Ape (above left) is one of four figures that graces Dillon gymnasium along with smaller figures who perform acrobatic feats of all sorts. Others are scary, funny and imaginative.

Princeton Borough

HP

Hopewell Museum



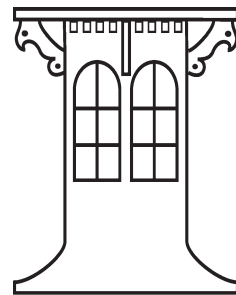
The Hopewell Museum was incorporated in 1922 as the Hopewell Free Public Library and Museum Funding and Building Association. It was formed to raise funds for a building to house a collection of antiques offered to the community by Miss Sarah D. Stout.

The large brownstone structure was built by Randolph Stout in 1877. In 1965, the Library moved to its present location. A two-story addition to the museum was built in 1967 with money from Dr. David H. Hill to exhibit his Southwestern Native American crafts collection.

The museum displays items depicting American village life from colonial days to the present. Most of its treasures have been given by residents of the community and surrounding area with many of the items having been used by ancestors of the donors including photographs, maps, quilts, furniture, costumes, tools, utensils, toys, signs, weapons, deeds, charters and an extensive collection of genealogical books.

Hopewell Borough

Italianate Architecture



One example of Italianate architecture is the Pennington Hardware store. Built around 1850 by Burd, Witter and Co., the building has continuously been used as a hardware store, owned for many years by the Flynn Family and later by the Landis family. It illustrates the commercial Italianate style with decorative paired brackets under the eaves, semi-elliptical windows (rounded tops) on the second floor, the classic large windows, and a pressed tin ceiling.

Another example of Italianate style is a house built in 1875 by George Corwine, its highlights include the two-story bay windows, the door and transom lights

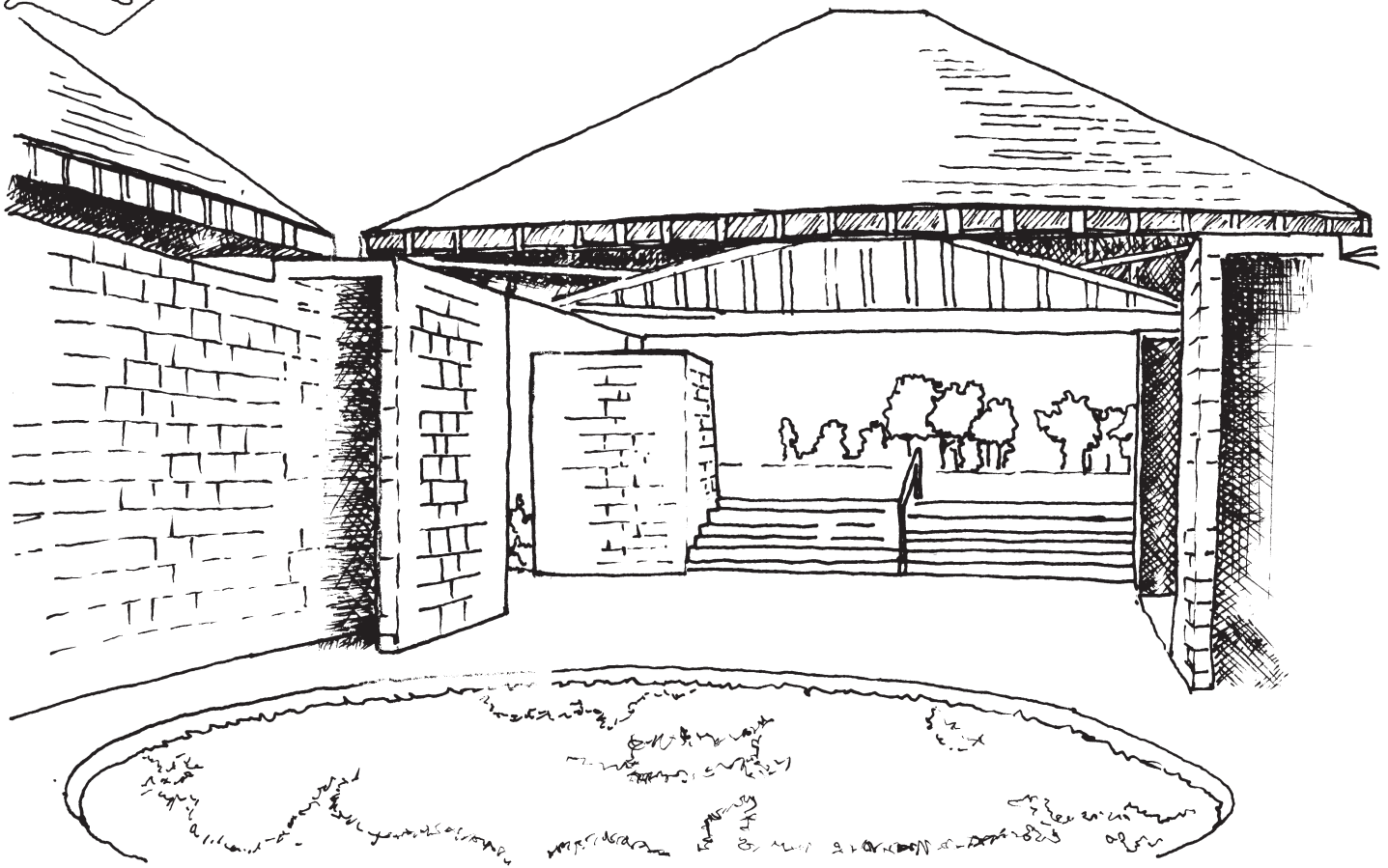
(windows) around the front door, wide, overhanging eaves with brackets and cornices, and the gallery wrap-around porch.

It was the home and office of Dr. Geisenhoner from the early 1930s until he retired in 1975.



Pennington Borough

Jewish Community Center Bath House



It is neither in Trenton, nor is it a bath house, but the so-called Trenton Bath House (present day Ewing Senior and Community Center) designed by renowned architect Louis Kahn commands attention from architects and architectural historians from around the world. Designed as part of a larger plan for the Jewish Community Center of the Delaware Valley, the Bath House opened in 1955 and served as the entrance and changing area for patrons of an outdoor swimming pool. The original plan was to build an entire complex on the 47-acre lot. Kahn's plans included a community center, athletic fields, picnic sites, and an outdoor pool. Only the Bath House and pool area were built.

From a design perspective, the bath house is a quite simple cruciform shape—four square concrete block rooms or areas, surrounding an open atrium. Each of the rooms is topped by a simple wooden, rectangular pyramid. At the corner of each room there is a large open rectangular column that supports the roof. However, closer inspection reveals that in addition to the pure design elegance, Kahn also clarified his thinking about the utilitarian purposes of the various spaces, and it was in this building that he first illustrated his notion of “spaces serving and spaces served.”

Kahn often spoke of this project as a turning point in his design philosophy. He said it was the origin of design ideas which are recognizable in every building he did since.

Ewing Township

Kuser Farm Mansion



The "Country Home" of Fred Kuser and his family this beautiful estate has also been a favorite visiting place for many famous and influential people.

The Kusers themselves have a long and interesting history dating back to Rudolph Kuser who immigrated to the U.S. from Zurich, Switzerland around the early-mid 1800's. He and his wife Rosalie bought and operated a large farm along what is now Kuser Road. It was across the road from this farm that their son, Fred, built the Kuser Farm Mansion as a summer home.

Their second son, Anthony R. Kuser consolidated all the gas and electric companies in Trenton and became president of the South Jersey Gas and Electric Lighting Company. He served on the staffs of three governors, and his wife's father, John Dryden, was a U.S. senator and founded the Prudential Life Insurance Company. The Fox Film Company, later to merge with 20th Century, was started with a \$200,000 loan from Kuser, and family members went on to become major stock holders. The Kuser legacy includes High Point State Park and the New Jersey Audubon Society.

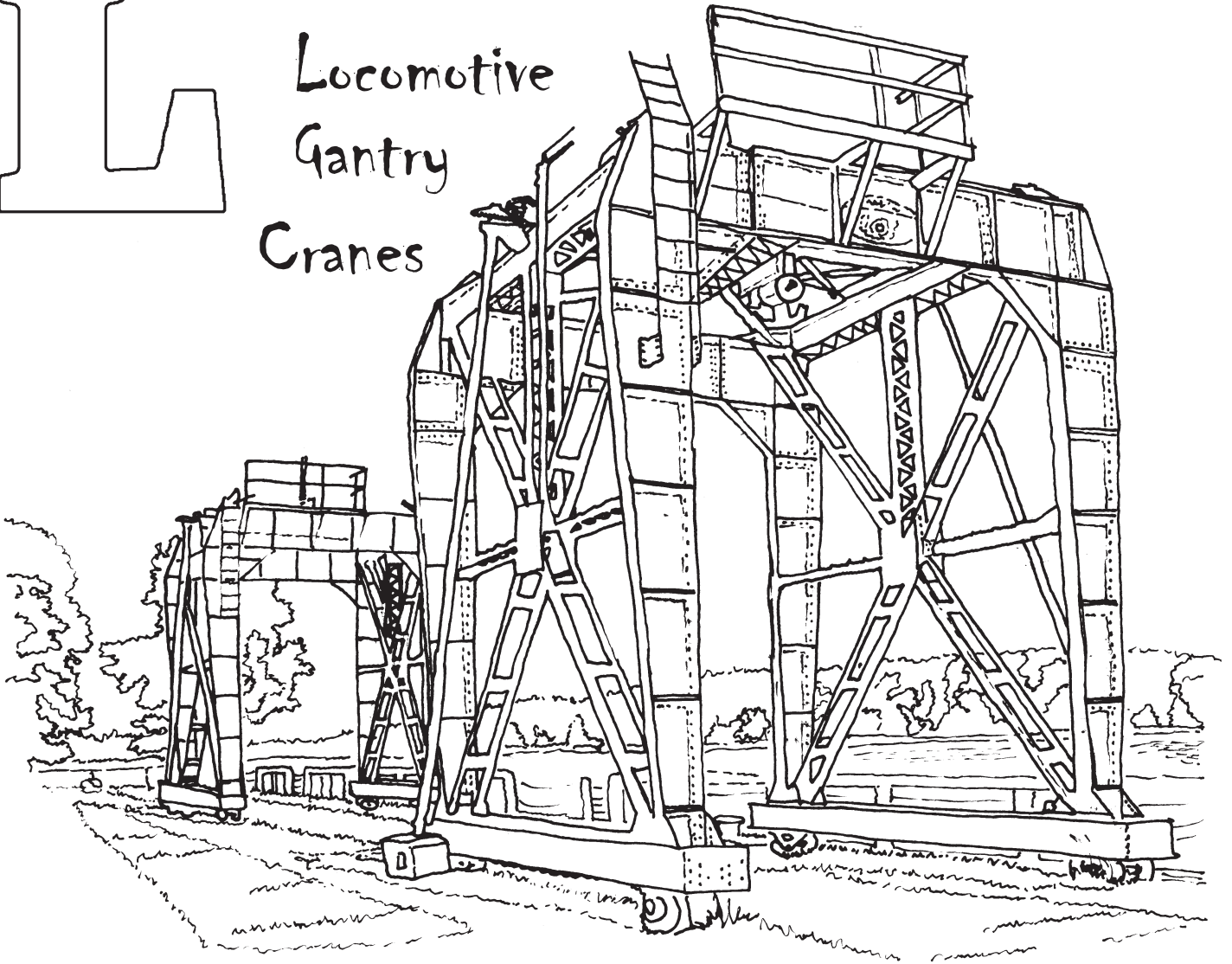
Today visitors can enjoy a tour of the beautiful mansion and accompanying buildings. The period rooms in the mansion include the "Theatre in the Dining Room," with its once state-of-the-art 18-foot curved Cinema-Scope screen.

Other attractions include the Laundry House, Coach House, Barn, Garages, Corn Crib, Chicken House, Gazebo, and Tennis Court. Many famous people played tennis at this court, considered one of the finest clay courts in the state.

Hamilton Township

L

Locomotive Gantry Cranes



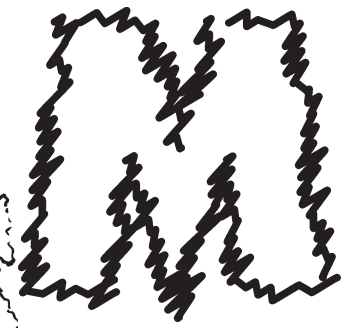
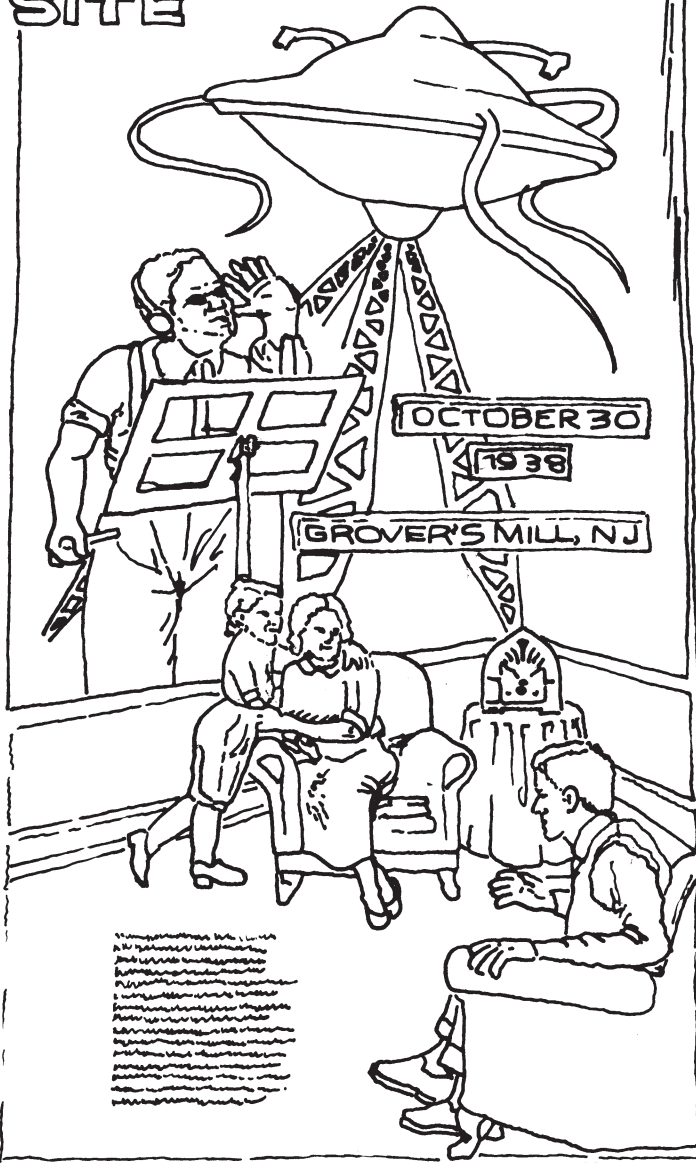
Trenton's Marine Terminal was constructed in 1931 as part of an improvement plan to the Delaware River's main channel. Now a park features the bases of two cranes, which are listed in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Once employed at the Hog Island shipyard in South Philadelphia from 1900 to 1924, the gantry cranes were eventually moved to Trenton, where they were used to load and unload rail cars and ships.

The cranes were manufactured by McMyler-Interstate Company of Bedford, Ohio. McMyler, the largest manufacturing facility in Bedford, dates back to the 1880s. They specialized in the design and manufacture of large cranes and material handling equipment, including the world's largest crane built in 1919. The McMyler-Interstate Company built the equipment that dug the Panama Canal and made the largest crane in the world known as the League Island Crane for the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard.

In 1932, Trenton became an international port town when the British liner S.S. Bristol City docked at the newly opened Trenton Marine Terminal on July 4. To accommodate ocean-going vessels, the Delaware River had been dredged and deepened. But from the moment it was dedicated, the terminal was obsolescent as ships grew too big for it. By 1940, the port was in decline. The steam powered gantry cranes were used at the Trenton location until 1949. With the crane arms removed, the remaining trolley bases are standing guard over the defunct Trenton Marine Terminal.

City of Trenton

MARTIAN LANDING SITE

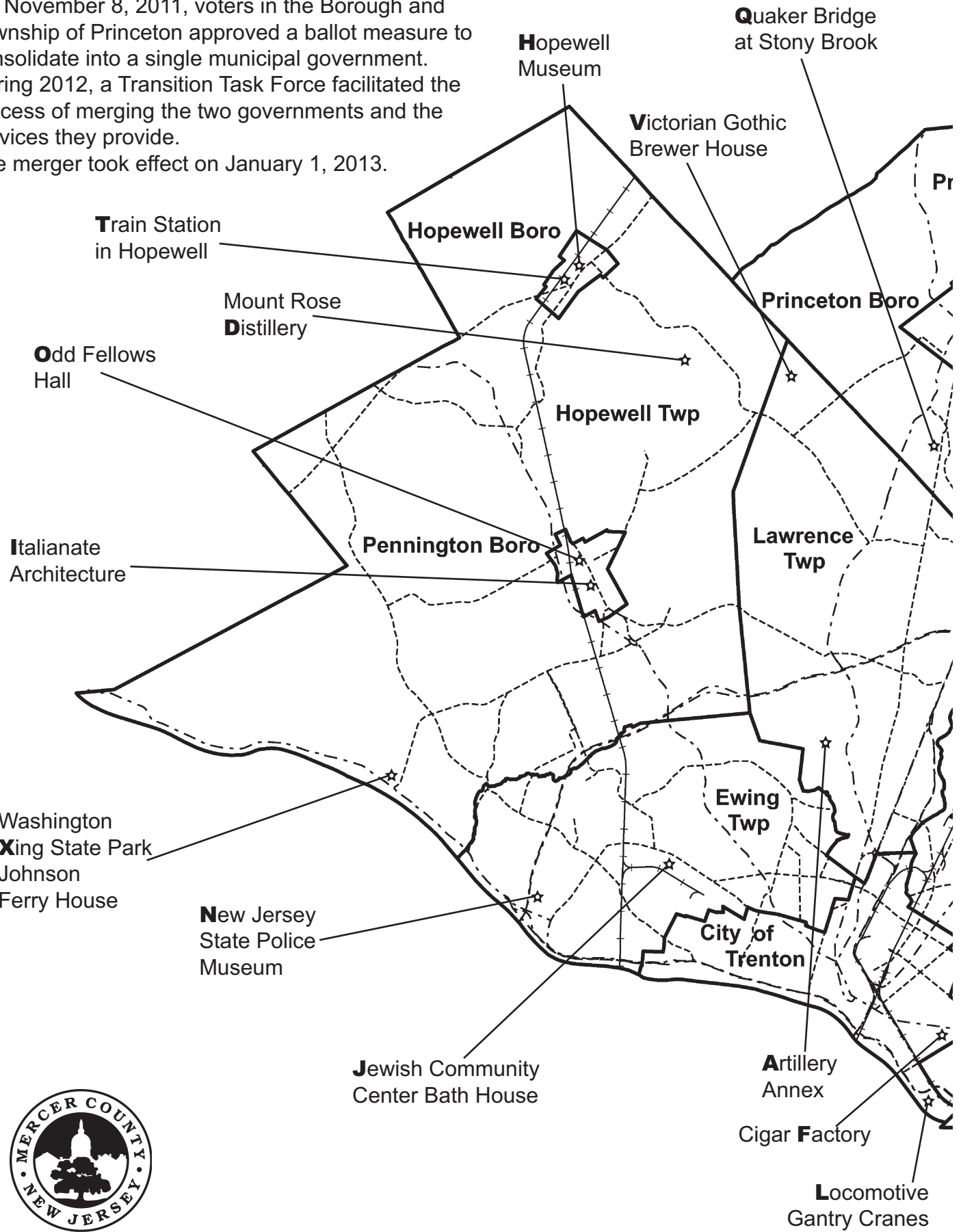


Grovers
Mill

On Sunday, October 30, 1938 at 8 p.m. a radio announcer said, "The Columbia Broadcasting System and its affiliated stations present Orson Welles and the Mercury Theater on the air in 'War of the Worlds' by H.G. Wells." In this radio broadcast drama, the audience was told that an alien spacecraft had landed on a farm near Grovers Mill in West Windsor. The media reported that many people, believing the newscast was real, were driven into hysteria but the report of the spread of panic is something of a hoax. Today there is a monument installed near Grovers Mill Pond at Van Nest Park to commemorate the radio broadcast.

West Windsor Township

On November 8, 2011, voters in the Borough and Township of Princeton approved a ballot measure to consolidate into a single municipal government. During 2012, a Transition Task Force facilitated the process of merging the two governments and the services they provide. The merger took effect on January 1, 2013.



Birthplace of Paul Robeson

Gargoyles of Princeton University

Zaitz Park Parsonage Schoolhouse

Pinceton Twp

Updike Farmstead

Patcenter

Grovers Mill

Ely House

Samuel Sloan House

Hightstown Boro

East Windsor Twp

Cemetery in East Windsor

West Windsor Twp

Windsor Unitarian Church

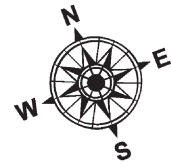
Robbins House





Robbinsville Twp

Hamilton Twp

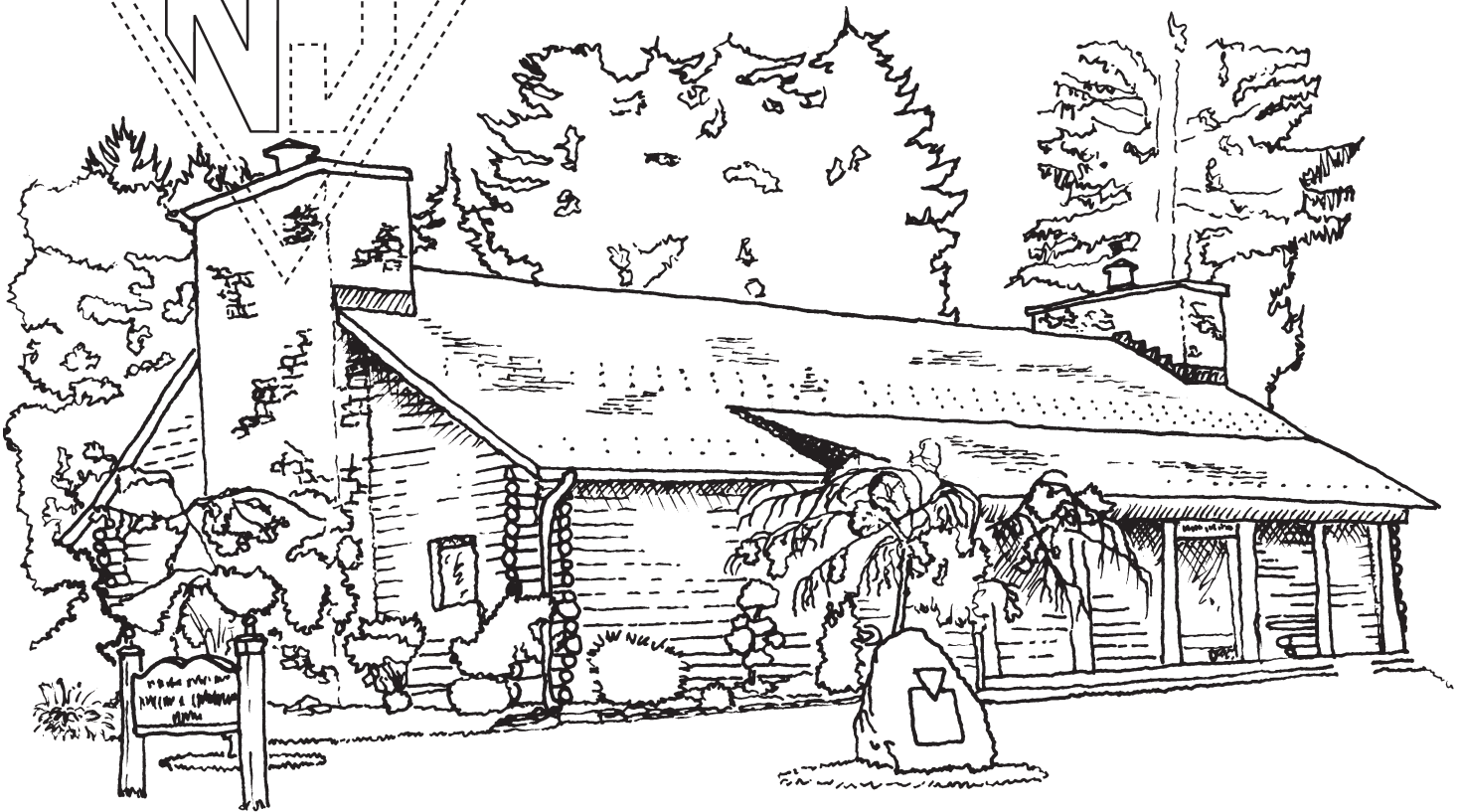
Yardville Lightship

Kuser Farm Mansion



-  Municipal Boundaries
-  Railroads
-  State/Federal Roads
-  County Roads

New Jersey State Police Museum



On December 5, 1921, following five months of rigorous training, 81 men began their assignments as New Jersey's first state troopers. Their commitment to protect and serve the citizens of New Jersey became the foundation for all future graduating classes of New Jersey State Troopers. Throughout the years, the founding principles of Honor, Duty and Fidelity, have been loyally upheld.

The museum and learning center are partially housed in one of the Division's oldest and most historic structures. The log cabin was constructed in 1934 as a CWA (Civilian Works Administration) project under the New Deal at the beginning of Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration. It was originally used as a dormitory and classroom for new recruits stationed in West Trenton. This recently restored cabin is a multi-purpose structure, serving as a reception center for group tours with a classroom setting for lectures and discussions. The cabin also houses a sampling of the vehicles used throughout the years by the State Police, which represents the progression of their transportation from 1921 to the present.

The museum also features an interactive state trooper vehicle and a vast collection chronicling the Lindburgh kidnapping investigation, including the electric chair used to execute Bruno Hauptmann. The development of criminal investigation techniques includes old breathalyzers, radar detectors and radios used since the New Jersey State Police was formed in 1921. A fascinating tidbit of state police history is their administration of a tattooing program for thousands of chickens to curb theft of the birds in the desperate 1930's.

Ewing Township

Odd Fellows Hall

This building was constructed by the International Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) in 1891. Originally three stories, the first floor contained a restaurant with a pool hall and the upper floors were for the exclusive use of the Odd Fellows.

In 17th century England, it was odd to find people organized for the purpose of giving aid to people in need and working on projects that would benefit everyone.

People who belonged to such an organization were called Odd Fellows. The I.O.O.F. is also known as The Three Link Fraternity, in which the links represent Friendship, Love and Truth. The chapter in the United States became the first national fraternity to include both men and women—Odd Fellows and Rebekahs; and the first to establish homes for senior members and orphaned children.

The Pennington Fire Company was located in the building from 1897 until 1967 when they moved into their new firehouse. Other tenants of the building were Borough hall and the public library until 1995 when both moved to the new Borough Hall on North Main Street.

The building is notable for the double parapet gable (where the walls extend above the roofline at the front and back) and the second floor pressed tin ceiling. Behind the building is the borough's former one-room jail built around 1911.



Pennington Borough

P

Patcenter

The renowned English architect Sir Richard Rogers designed this building for the Patscenter International Corporation in 1982. Governor Thomas Kean presided over New Jersey's first robotic ground-breaking.

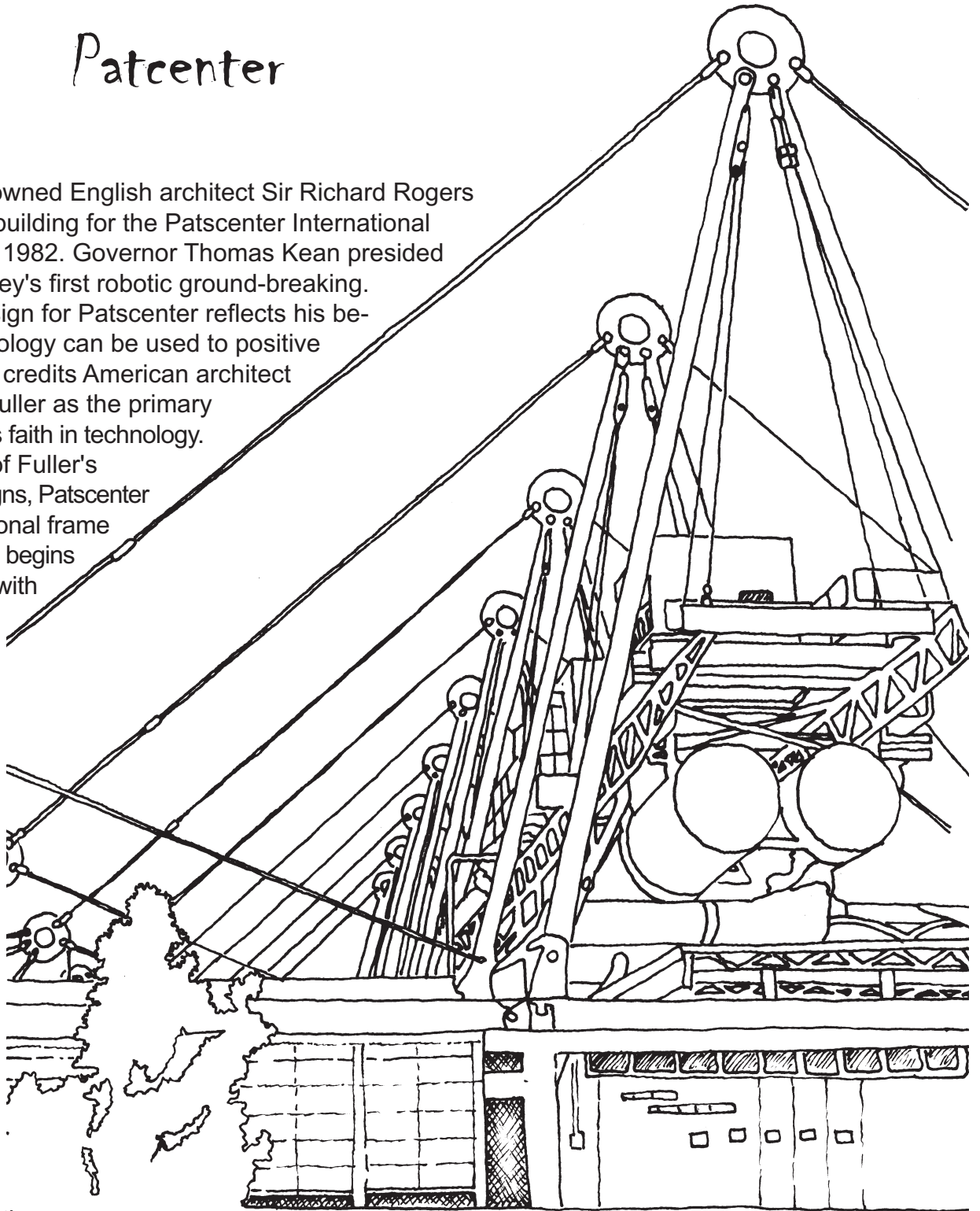
Rogers' design for Patscenter reflects his belief that "technology can be used to positive ends." Rogers credits American architect Buckminster Fuller as the primary influence on his faith in technology.

Like many of Fuller's innovative designs, Patscenter rejects a traditional frame structure, which begins on the ground with beams anchored into a foundation. The walls in the Patcenter are suspended from the A-frame masts on the roof providing fluid, flexible open space within a building. The interior can be easily changed to adapt to any use.

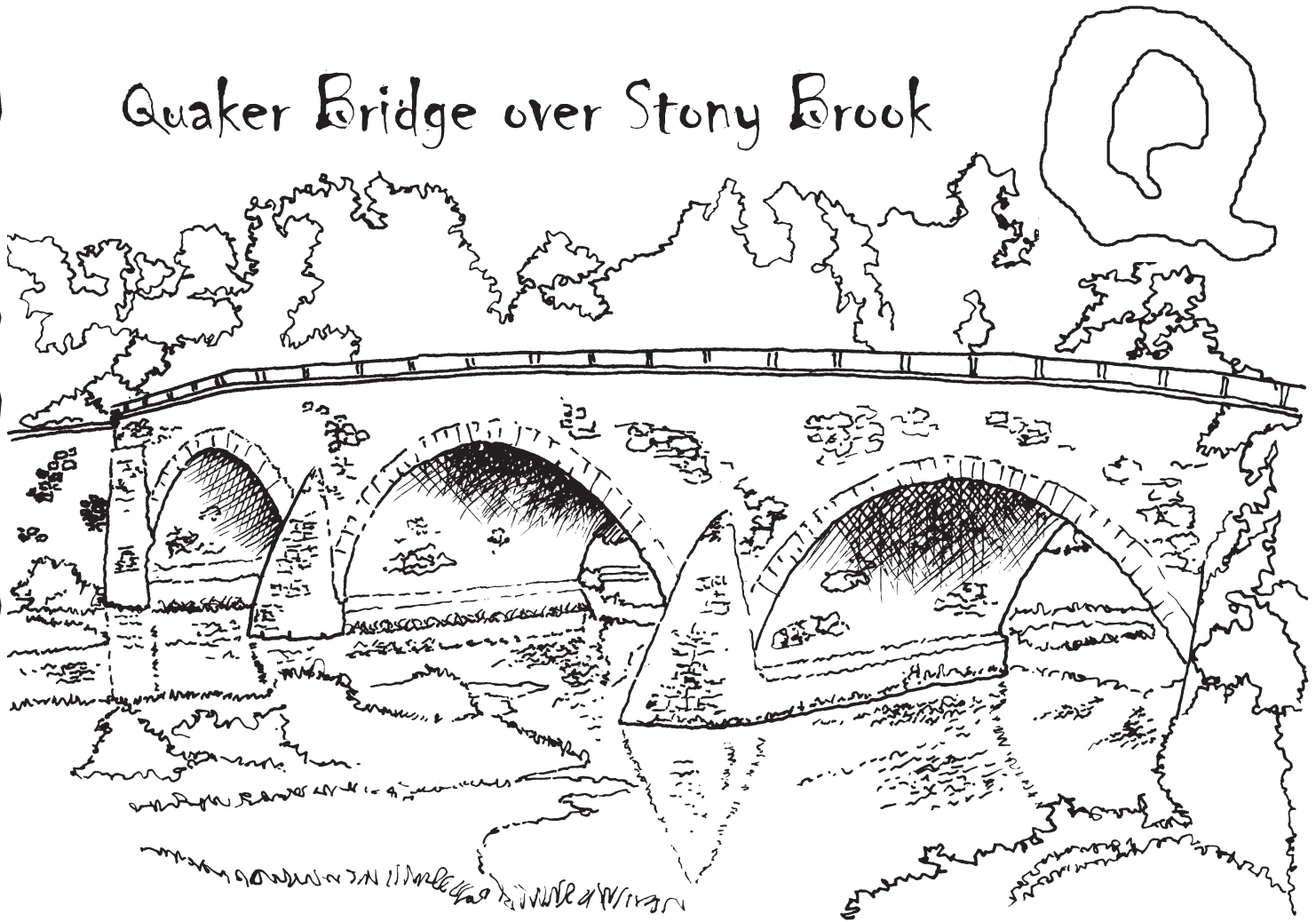
To highlight the me-

chanical functions of the building, Rogers put the mechanical systems such as plumbing and heating on a platform within the A-frame spine of the building, each system in a different color. Whereas classic architecture hides the mechanical systems behind the walls of the building, Patscenter places them in full view above the structure. It is as though Rogers turned the building inside-out so that the structural parts, or skeleton of the building, stand outside rather than inside the walls.

East Windsor Township



Quaker Bridge over Stony Brook



The Quaker Bridge was built around 1809 with rubble-coursed stone in an arch-barrel design. Ice breakers on the foot of the abutments collapsed in 1973, and were rebuilt along with the parapets, the low wall that protects the edge of the bridge surface where traffic travels. Also a slab was added to support heavy loads. It is one of two local bridges that played a critical role in the Revolutionary War's Ten Crucial Days Battle of Princeton. The original bridges were wooden.

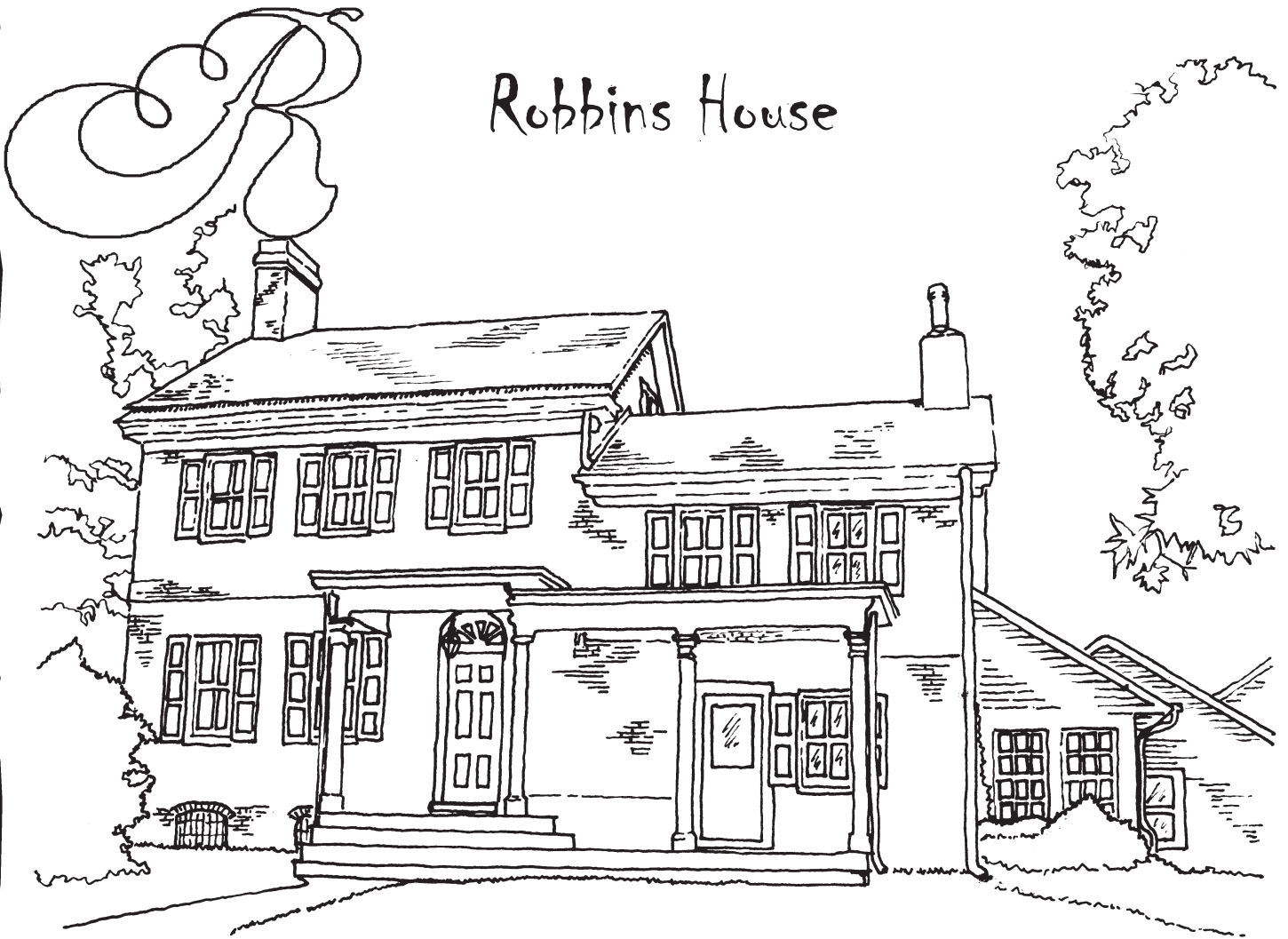
The bridge is an early engineering marvel and a remnant of the Princeton Turnpike, chartered in 1804. It is one of three stone-arch bridges in the area. The Princeton & Kingston Branch Turnpike was constructed in 1807 between Trenton and Kingston. The bridge is on a sharp curve and crosses a wide part of Stony Brook in a wooded residential area just south of Princeton.

A similar stone bridge on Route 206 (old King's Highway) was built in 1792 to replace the original wooden bridge built in 1738 at Worth's Mill. This bridge was destroyed by General George Washington's forces at the time of the Battle of Princeton in early January 1777. Kings Highway (now routes 206 and 27) was developed at the end of the 17th century and beginning of the 18th century by adapting a Native American trail.

The Quaker Bridge is included in the Princeton Battlefield-Stony Brook Settlement Historic District and is on the National Register of Historic Sites. The district, settled around 1686, includes the site of the Battle of Princeton, Quaker Meeting House, and the Stony Brook bridge on Route 206 which are National Historic Landmarks. In 1989, the district was enlarged to encompass the area of the Stony Brook settlement established by the first Quaker settlers in the community. The enlarged district is also on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places.

Princeton Township

Robbins House



The Robbins family farmhouse on Hillcrest Farm dates back to the early 19th century. The Robbins can trace the land back to the 1700s when the King of England indentured about 120 acres, called the Milford Tract, to Moses Robins (as the name was then spelled). The land was bought in 1818 by David Robbins and it is believed that he built the house.

The property has passed through five generations within the Robbins family, the namesake of Robbinsville. In 1850, David Robbins passed the land on to his son, Elisha, who handed it down to his son, Milnor, in 1900. Lester Robbins obtained the land in 1945. Washington Township purchased the house and approximately 23 acres from Dr. Lester Robbins, Jr. in July 2001. Additional funds came from the Green Acres program and Mercer County. The Delaware and Raritan Greenway was instrumental in helping the township purchase the property.

The doorknobs are porcelain and door locks use skeleton keys. An original smokehouse remains out back. During restoration in the 1990s, artifacts were found under the dining room floor—polished stones, tools, glass bottles, and fireplace equipment.

Dr. Robbins has bills, pictures and newspaper articles. He has property tax receipts from 1874 and a will written by Daniel Robins in 1776. The will mentions that the country was drafting a constitution at the time. Wooden beams supporting the dining room floor are actually tree trunks. He found handwritten records of work done to the house, dating to the 1800s and a tuition receipt from The Peddie School. In 1878 a 13-week term cost \$13.

Dr. Robbins' father rented the house to Henry Beck, author of *The Jersey Midlands*. Part of the book was written at the house, and the house is mentioned as an historic structure in the book.

Robbinsville Township

Samuel Sloan House



Samuel Sloan was one of America's first architects. He developed the theory of modern architecture before Frank Lloyd Wright, Louis Sullivan or the Arts-&Crafts movement. He began to design buildings at a time when an architect meant someone who made copycat patterns for builders to use. He trained as a carpenter and went to Philadelphia in the mid-1830s. He is said to have worked with with designers of Eastern State Penitentiary and the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane.

He was a prolific author on architecture. The **Model Architect** is one of the most influential architecture books in America in the second half of the 1800s. His **Model Architecture** series illustrates designs for villas, cottages, schools, churches and mansions. Each design includes a lithograph drawing, floor plans and architectural details such as the arches, windows, ornaments, and joints characteristic of his modified Gothic, Grecian, Tudor, Italian, Norman and even Oriental facades. Cost estimate tables give an accurate idea of building conditions in pre-Civil War America. He also reached thousands of potential customers through Godey's Lady's Book, which began publishing his designs in 1852. Godey's Lady's Book was an extremely popular magazine published from 1830 to 1898.

Samuel Sloan's essays cover the history of various classic and medieval schools of architecture, plus knowledge from that time of timber, masonry, carpentry, joinings, ventilation and gardening.

A political scandal relating to the Philadelphia City Hall design competition in 1865 caused problems in his career so he moved to New York. He enjoyed some later success opening an office in Raleigh, North Carolina, until he died in 1884.

This house is among the thousands of buildings which were constructed all across America copied directly from the designs and floor plans in Samuel Sloan's books.

Hightstown

Train Station in Hopewell



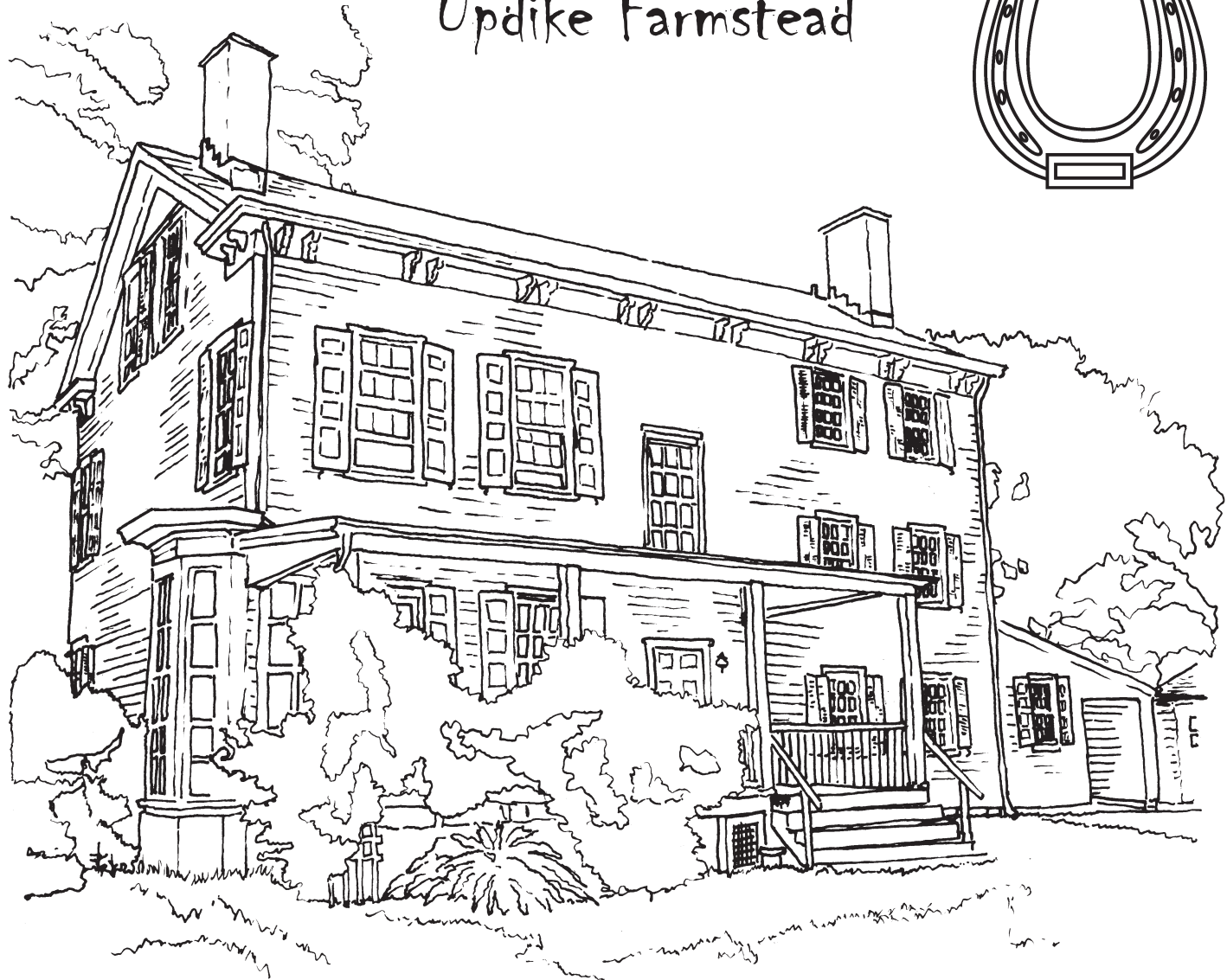
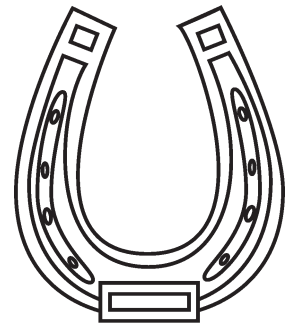
The Hopewell Train station is one of the oldest in New Jersey. It was built in 1876 by the Delaware and Bound Brook Railroad (later owned by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, then Conrail in 1976). There are only a few surviving examples of high Victorian Gothic-styled railway stations in the United States and this Second Empire-style railroad station is one of two on the same rail line. Pennington lays claim to the other. Both are on the National Register of Historic Places, and Hopewell's is also listed with the New Jersey Register of Historic Places.

The D&BB line ran between New York and Philadelphia for the first time on March 6, 1876 as part of the National Railway to Washington. Hopewell, known as Columbia until a post office was established in 1825, began to grow with the arrival of rail service. The area near the station became a focus for many industries, including lumberyards, canneries, a creamery and a shirt factory. Throughout the village, new activities prospered; there was a hay press, a second lumberyard, a harness shop, two blacksmiths, three wheelwrights five stores, a hotel, a saloon and a livery stable. In 1891, Hopewell Borough was incorporated and by 1900 the Borough had a population of roughly 890 people, living in about 208 households.

The train station restoration project was funded with grants so no borough tax revenues were used. In 1999 the governor visited the site and presented a large check to help fund the work. Renovation of the interior of the freight shed was managed by Kevin Kirby as his Eagle Scout project. The shed was named the Scout Building and is available for boys and girls scout meetings and activities.

Hopewell Borough

Updike Farmstead

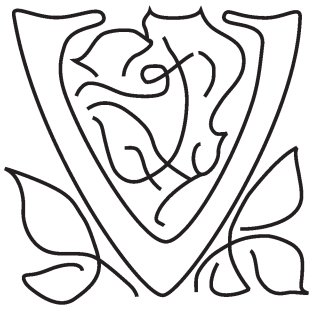


In 2004, the Historical Society of Princeton acquired the historic Updike Farmstead, which consists of six acres of land, a farmhouse, barns, chicken coops, other outbuildings and a windmill. The property lies in a State and National Historic District and Princeton Township's Battlefield Preservation District. The farm, on Quaker Road, is along the route followed by Continental troops on their way to engage British soldiers at the Thomas Clarke farm at Princeton Battlefield.

Benjamin Clarke, an original Stony Brook settler, first owned the land as part of a 1200-acre parcel he purchased in 1696. The property remained in the hands of his descendants for over 150 years. George Furman Updike acquired the farm in 1892. The Historical Society purchased the remaining six-acre farmstead from his family. Funding assistance came from the New Jersey Green Acres Program and the Mercer County Open Space Preservation Board.

Plans for rehabilitation of the farmstead buildings and their adaptive reuse are in development by the Historical Society and Watson & Henry, an internationally recognized architectural firm. The farm buildings will provide the Historical Society more space for exhibitions and will allow greater public access to its collections that tell the stories of Princeton Borough and Princeton Township.

Princeton Township



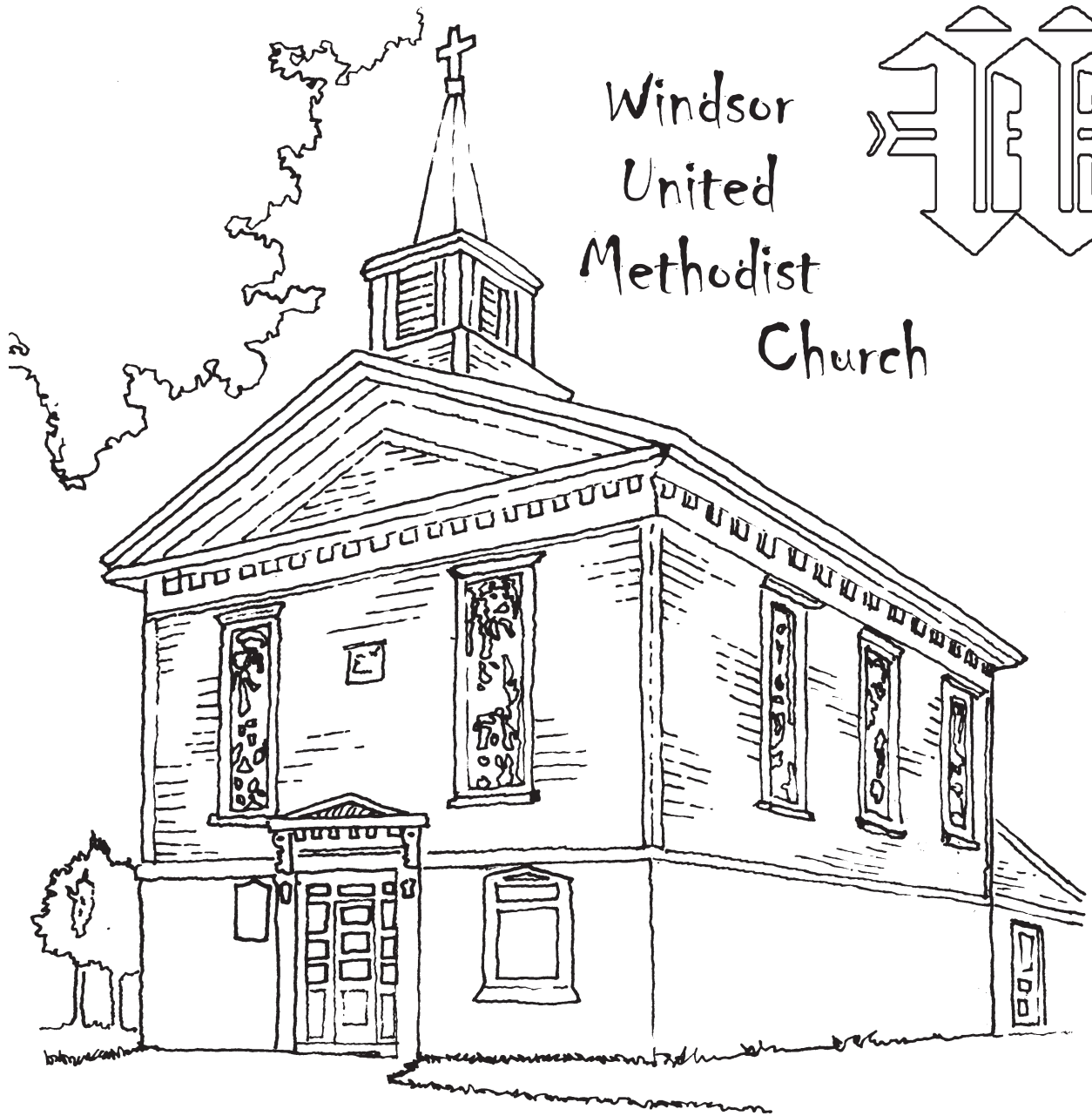
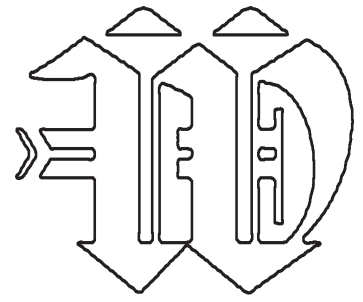
Victorian Gothic Brewer House



This house, circa 1870, is a rare and superb example of a high-style Victorian Gothic house in an excellent state of original preservation. It is the only house of this style in the township. Compared to two Gothic Revival houses in the Historic District, it shows the evolution of this style as more exaggerated, more vertical, and of more intricate design. It is noteworthy for its stucco exterior since most builders in the area interpreted this style in wood. Its strong sense of vertical proportions is created largely by tall, thin windows, and steeply pitched projecting slate gable roofs.

Lawrence Township

Windsor United Methodist Church



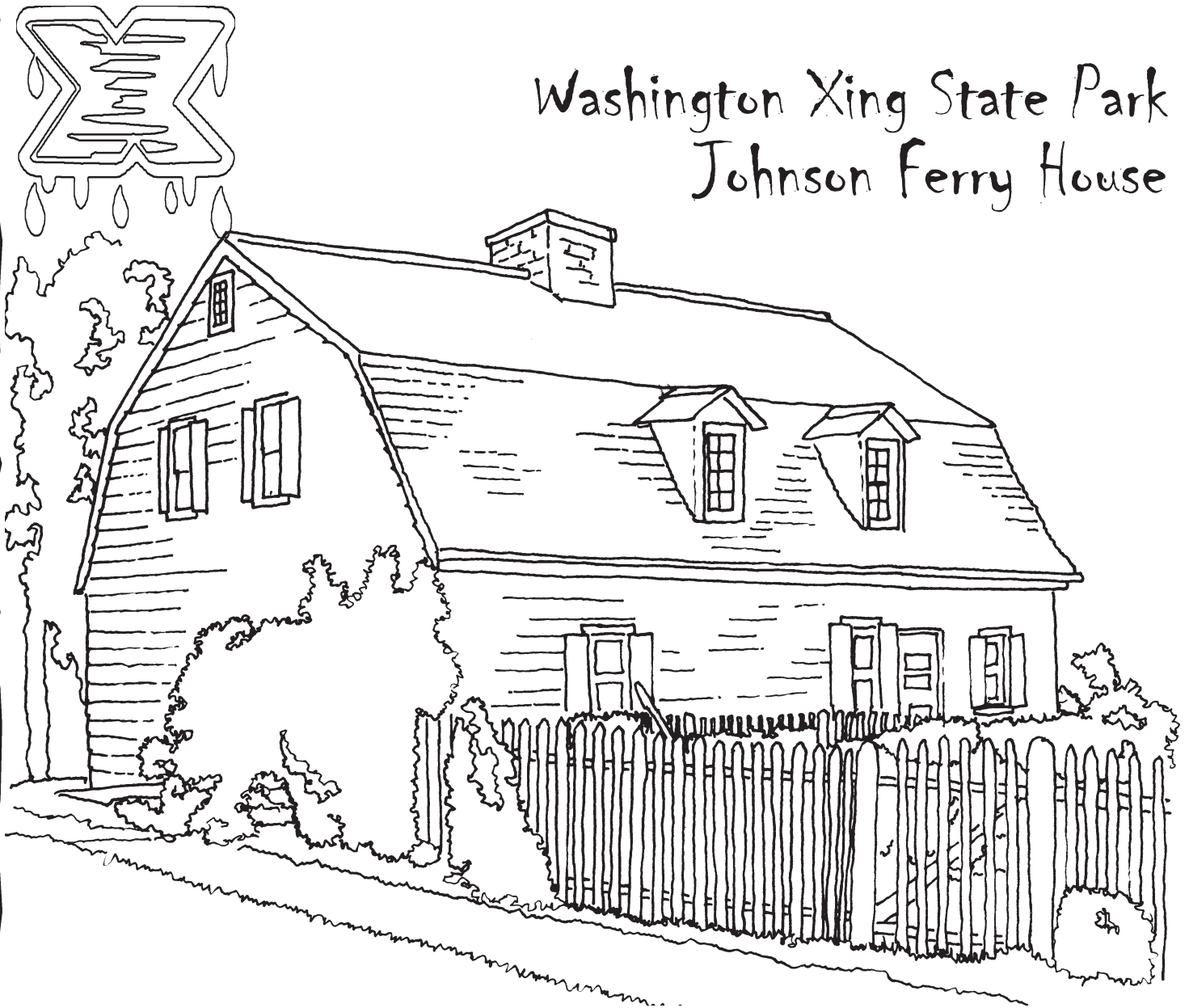
The church is part and parcel of any local community and that is particularly true of Windsor United Methodist Church. Organized in 1838, the congregation built a house of worship in 1840, then enlarged the structure to its present size in 1863.

The village of Windsor, founded in 1818 as Centerville, was so named because it was the geographic center of the state. Until then, adjacent heavily wooded lands were called Magrilla. In 1814, after the completion of the Bordentown and South Amboy stagecoach turnpike, William McKnight, director of the turnpike company, built a tavern at the intersection of the turnpike and present-day Windsor-Perrineville Road. A major thruway between New York and Philadelphia, the turnpike replaced Old York Road, which started out as a Native-American path prior to European settlement.

In late 1831 the Camden and Amboy railroad was constructed through Centerville. The village became a stopover for rail travelers, and a thriving center for the bountiful farms and mills which serviced the growing population. It quickly became the largest village between Yardville (Sand Town) and Hightstown, and was renamed Windsor in 1846 to avoid any confusion with a Centerville post office in Hunterdon.

Robbinsville Township

Washington Xing State Park Johnson Ferry House



This early 18th century gambrel-roof farmhouse and tavern is located on the grounds of Washington Crossing State Park adjacent to Route 29. Garret Johnson owned a 490-acre plantation and had the license to run a ferry service across the Delaware River from the New Jersey side to the Pennsylvania side. McKonkey's Ferry across the river had the license to run a matching ferry service from the Pennsylvania side to the New Jersey side.

Johnson's Ferry was the landing point for the men, artillery and horses who crossed the Delaware on Christmas night and in the early hours of December 26, 1776. General George Washington and his staff were said to have occupied this house while the American Army regrouped after the successful night-crossing of the river. Washington's staff used the shelter of this house to finalize strategy for the attack on Trenton.

The Johnson Ferry House is furnished with local period pieces similar to the furniture used by the Johnson family from 1740 to 1770. Around the house is an kitchen garden and orchard of period fruit trees. Living history demonstrations and special events are featured here on weekends.

Hopewell Township

Yardville Lightship

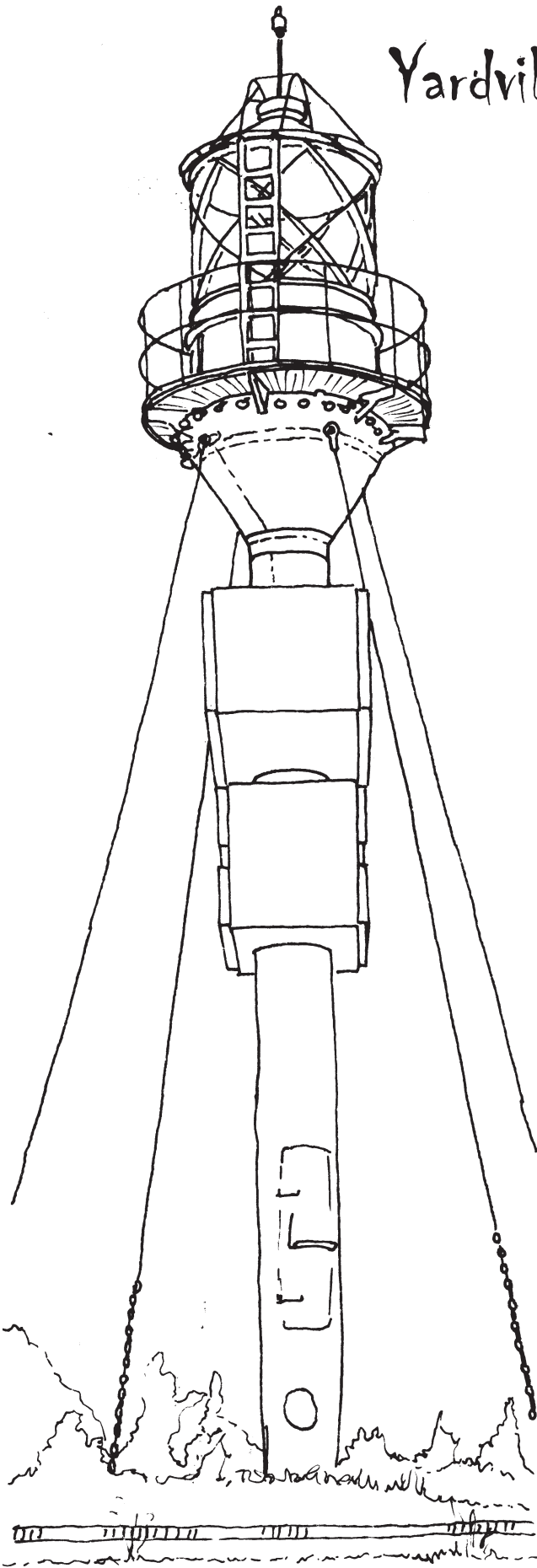
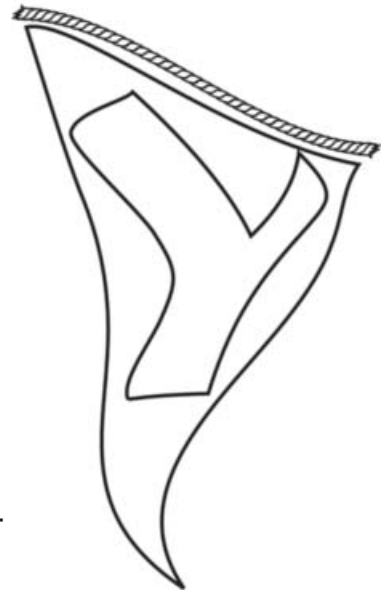
This lantern mast and large diameter lantern housing located at the intersection of routes 130 & 156 are from the United States Coast Guard Stonehorse Lightship LV 53 WAL 504, built in 1892 at West Bay City, Michigan.

Lightships served to guide mariners where lighthouses could not be placed. Unlike lighthouses, lightships could be moored in shallow water or stationed in deep water many miles from shore, to serve as guides for trans-oceanic vessels. They could easily be repositioned to suit changing needs.

Lightships served as beacons by day, light platforms by night, sound signal stations in times of reduced visibility, and for sending electronic signals round-the-clock. A crew, which spent eight months at sea, maintained the on-board equipment.

The U.S. Lighthouse Service was established in 1716 and became part of the U.S. Coast Guard in 1939. In 1820, the first lightship was placed in Chesapeake Bay. More than 120 lightship stations served along the U.S. coast until 1983 when they were replaced by lighted horn buoys.

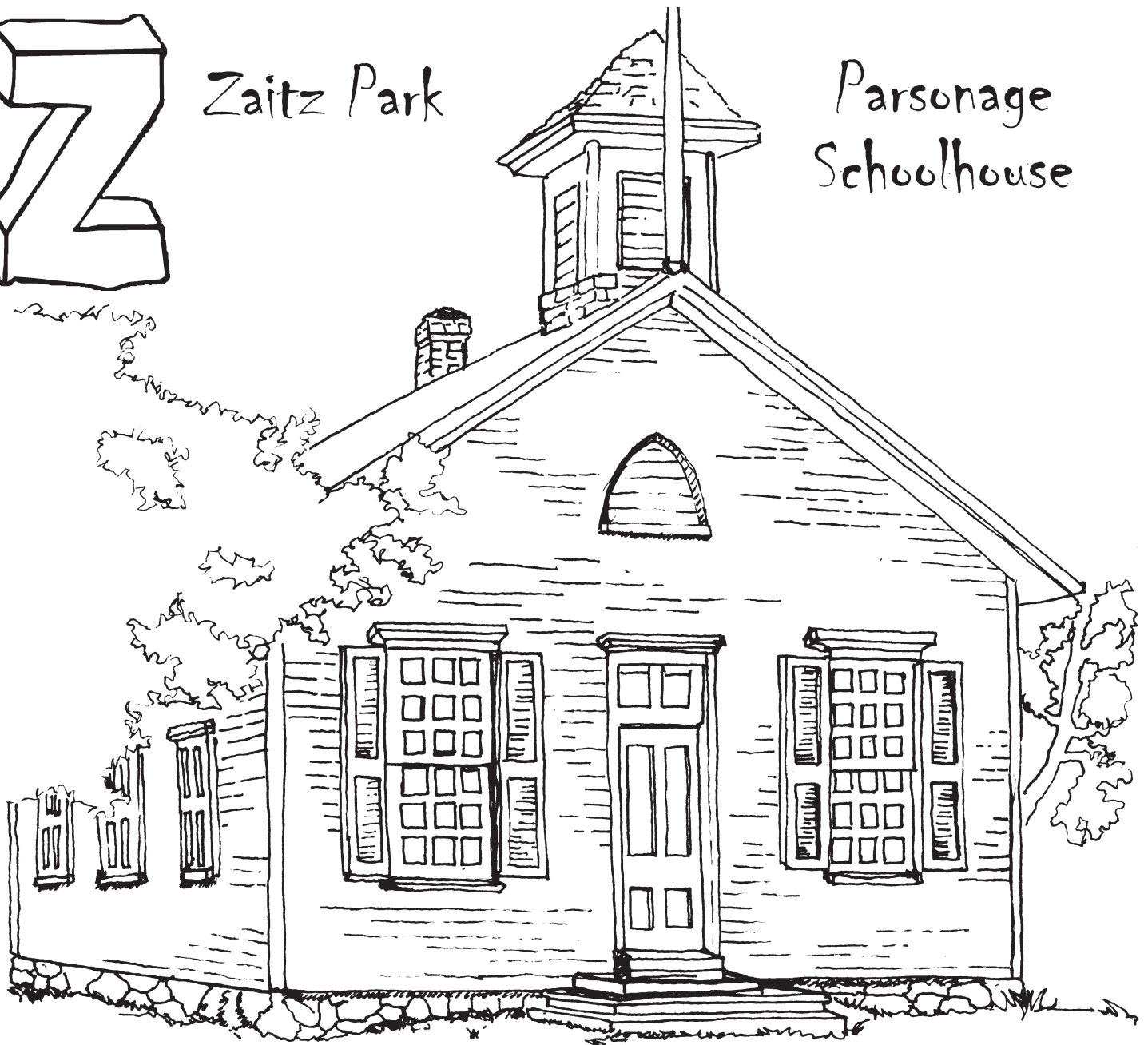
The lightship from which this lantern and mast came spent its early career on the southeast coast of the U.S. It was originally named "Shovelful Shoal." Then in 1934, it was repositioned to Nantucket Sound, Massachusetts and renamed "Stonehorse Shoal." Decommissioned in 1951, the ship was scrapped, but the mast and lantern have been preserved in Yardville.



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Zaitz Park

Parsonage
Schoolhouse

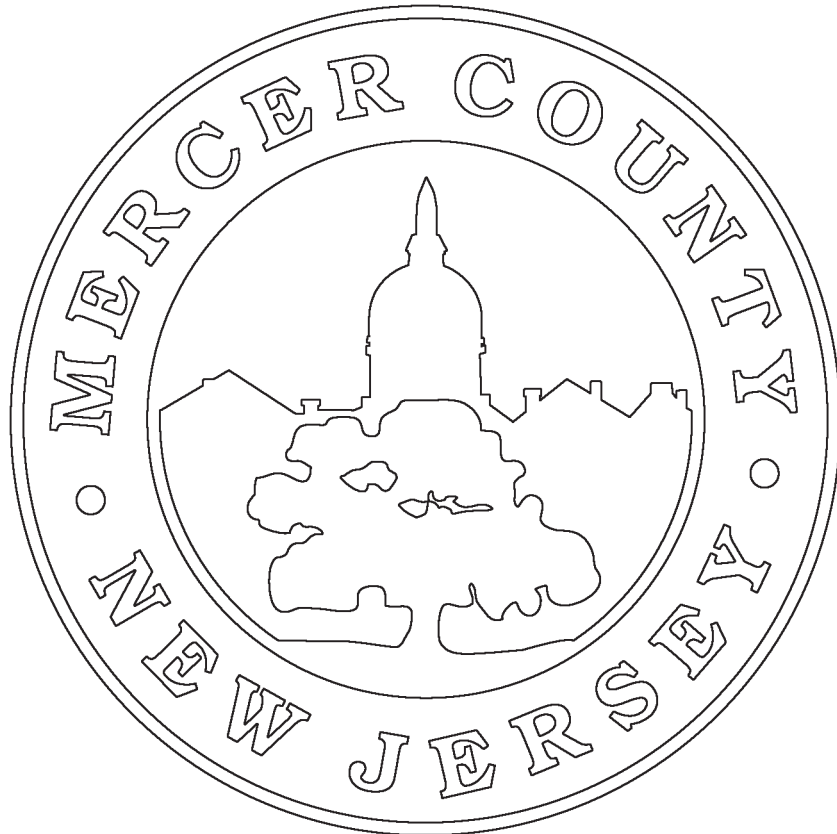


The Parsonage Schoolhouse once sat next to the Maurice Hawk School on Clarksville Road. One of four single-room schools in West Windsor during the nineteenth century, it was used from around 1830 to 1917 when the township opened the Penns Neck and Dutch Neck four-room schoolhouses.

Two of the single-room schoolhouses are now private homes. The township moved the Parsonage School to Zaitz Park in 1994 and plans to restore it to a turn-of-the-century era.

The Zaitz-Schenck Farmstead, which dates back to the 1750s, is located on Southfield Road. The 117-acre farmstead was a gift of Max Zaitz to the West Windsor Historical Society. The Society was founded in 1983 to document the history of the Township of West Windsor and preserve aspects of its farming past. The Society maintains the farmhouse, which serves as a living history museum and permanent exhibit, as well as the garage, barn and smoke-house.

West Windsor Township



Brian M. Hughes, County Executive

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MERCER COUNTY DIVISION OF CULTURE AND HERITAGE
640 SOUTH BROAD STREET, PO BOX 8068, TRENTON, NJ 08650
609-989-6899 • 609-989-6865 (TTY)
WWW.MERCERCOUNTY.ORG