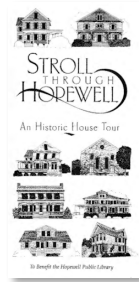


# Hopewell Borough House Tour Information

Rev. 11/05/2020 - D. Dixon

Property descriptions extracted from scanned digital copies of Hopewell Borough house tours.



See companion Hopewell Valley History Tours & Brochures for a collected list of known Hopewell Valley house tours and open houses, and scanned digital copies.

Scanned brochures available in the Pamphlet Collection of the Hopewell Valley History Project:  
<https://hopewell-history.org/collections/?category=house-tours>

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## 5/18/1957 - HM - Hopewell Museum Open House Tour

### 1. Old School Baptist Church, 46 West Broad Street, Hopewell, N. J.

The Old School Baptist Church was built in 1747 on land donated by John Hart, later a signer of the Declaration of Independence. It was partially rebuilt in 1822 but the original lines were retained. The monument and grave of John Hart can be found near the iron fence just to the right of the Church. The large flat stone near the Hart monument is a memorial of Colonel Joab Houghton, a Revolutionary War hero who made a speech from the stone after hearing the news of the Battle of Lexington.

At the time of its construction, the Old School Baptist Church was the most imposing building in the Hopewell valley as well as the largest. However, one member of the congregation, Colonel Joseph Stout, angered at the choice of location, built a home five feet larger in each direction. This house is now known as "Hunt's House" and is described below.

No musical instruments have ever been permitted in the Church. Congregational singing is started with tuning forks. The men and women of the congregation sit on opposite sides of the church.

### 2. Home Of Mr. And Mrs. Ivan S. Rossiter / ~ Cherry Valley Road

The Rossiter home was built in 1834 and is believed to be the design of LeFebre who was the architect of many fine homes in Brooklyn of that period. It was built for Judge Ichabod Leigh, who came from Brooklyn. When the Rossiters moved into the house in 1946, it had fallen into disrepair and considerable restoration was needed. The sunburst window at the head of the stairs on the third floor was plastered over on the inside and covered on the outside. Aside from uncovering this window, no changes have been made in any way to the original design.

In addition to the many beautiful furnishings in the Rossiter home, the visitor will find the following items of interest: the fire backs in the living rooms and dining room, the medallion ceilings, and the lock on the front door. The woodwork throughout the house is unusually fine.

### 3. Home Of Mr. And Mrs. George Gallup / ~ Great Road

The Gallup home is a fine example of an old house that has been remodeled and modernized with loving care and taste. The house was for many years in the Theodore Stryker family, one of the early families in the Hopewell area, and was built sometime before 1800. Some of the original glass panes can be seen in the living room. The beamed ceiling in the kitchen was once covered but has been returned to its original condition. The floors throughout the house are of random width boards.

The guest house, which is attached to the house by an attractive colonade, was built in 1941. All the lumber and hardware were old and the general appearance made to conform with the house.

The house has an unusually fine location and the grounds have been beautifully landscaped.

### 4. Home Of Mr. And Mrs. Alan Collins / ~ Province Line Road

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Collins is one of the most historic houses in New Jersey. It marks the site of the first settlement in the Hopewell area, made by Jonathon Stout in 1704. The present house was built by Colonel Joseph Stout, son of Jonathon Stout, in 1752. The hot tempered Colonel was angry because the Old School Baptist Church would not build on a location near his home and he built a house five feet larger in each direction than the Church.

The tenant of the house in 1778 was John Price Hunt and when General Washington used it as his headquarters in June of that year, he referred to it as "Hunt's House." This name is still in use today. A bronze plaque on the northwest corner of the house tells the basic facts concerning Washington's two day stay just prior to the Battle Of Monmouth near Freehold. A great battle conference was held in the southeast room, now Mrs. Collin's bedroom. Among those present were Generals Lee, Lafayette, Greene, Wayne, Duportail, Stuebem, Knox, Scott, Sterling, and Poor.

The doors are made of pegged chestnut, some of the original beams have been retained downstairs, and some of the original walnut panelling, may be seen in the upstairs living room and southeast bedroom. The present wood panelling in the basement came from the attic.

One of the Stouts married into the Weart family and the house passed to the Wearts. Much of the interior was rebuilt by a Weart in the mid-19th century. The house remained in the Weart family for many years and was the childhood home of Miss Eleanor Lane Weart and Miss Susan Stout Weart who devoted many years to the Hopewell Museum. Hunt's House was purchased in 1928 by Mrs. Collins' parents.

#### 5. Home Of Mr. And Mrs. Daniel Davis / ~ The King's Path

The Davis home is one of the older homes in the Hopewell area. It was built in approximately 1750 for one of the descendents of Jonathon Stout, the first pioneer in this area. There is a record of a Stout marriage taking place in the house in 1759.

The house contains several fine mantels, some early hardware, and fine pegged floors. The central stairway is unusual in that it goes all the way to the attic but has only a railing and no spindles. It is believed that most of the material used in building the house came from the farm. The floorboards in what is now Mr. Davis' office are tapered to conform to the taper of the original trees. They were put down with old hand wrought nails.

The kitchen of the house has been rebuilt and a room and bath added over it. There are now six rooms and a bath upstairs. Every room but one goes from the front to the back of the house. This is an excellent example of a large comfortable house which is still being used as the original builders intended - as the home of a busy and happy family.

#### 6. Home Of Mr. And Mrs. Nicholas Castoro / ~ Columbia & Elm Roads

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Castoro is a fine example of a modern house built to conform with a sidehill location. It provides an interesting contrast to the older houses of the tour. These were built when materials and labor were far cheaper and space could be lavished on large central halls. The Castoro home is proof that equal comfort, convenience and beauty can be obtained in much smaller space. Mrs. Castoro is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Hopewell Museum and its Secretary.

#### 7. Hopewell Museum, 28 East Broad Street, Hopewell, N. J.

The Hopewell Museum was founded in 1922 and has since been dedicated to preserving the community's rich history. For many years the curator was Miss Susan Weart and she and her sister, Miss Eleanor Weart devoted most of their time to the Museum's interests. They collected furniture, china, art work, maps, books, costumes and anything relating to Hopewell's past from many old friends and relatives in the area. The Museum today is a repository of many family treasures of generations of Hopewell's residents from Colonial times to today. It is an unusually fine museum for a community of this size and holds much of interest to anyone interested in the growth of our nation.

Exhibits will be found in the basement, 1st, Second and Third Floors.

The Museum building was originally the home of Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Stout. It had no central heat in any of the eighteen rooms but was heated entirely by fireplaces. The Stouts lived largely in the comfortable basement.

9/19/1959 - HM - Hopewell Museum Open House Tour**1. Old School Baptist Meeting House, 46 West Broad Street**

Built 1747 on land donated by John Hart. Partially rebuilt in 1822. John Hart monument just enhanced by D.A.R. with gold leaf over lettering.

**2. A.V.S. Olcott's House, Woodsville Road**

Dates back to April 1697 when 400 acres were purchased by Dr. Roger Parke, who traded with the Indians from Wissamenson Trail (now Stony Brook Road).

**3. J. Paul Crawford, Woosamonsa Road**

Not known just when built but was owned by Mr. Andrew Hart, a few of his descendants still living. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford purchased about 10 years ago. Buildings well painted and one can tell they are very old. Lovely old brick patio on back of house. Don't neglect to see 36 star flag in library. Look around carefully.

**4. S. J. Schwinn, Mt. Rose - Rocky Hill Road**

Located in Nelson Ridge Development near Mt. Rose on Rocky Hill Road.

Natural wood exterior, with indoor swimming pool and completely air conditioned. Received the National Homes Award.

**5. Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Dailey, Blawenburg-Rocky Hill Rd.**

A very old house with seven fireplaces, a perfectly lovely old slave quarters, across from house, which looks as though it had been around a long while. The outside shingles indicate it very decidedly. A slaughterhouse in back, with fireplace for trying fat for lard. Built by the Henry Duryea family, owner of place for years. Opposite house is the well from which Washington's soldiers drank on march to Battle of Monmouth.

**6. Mr. and Mrs. Alan C. Collins, Province Line Road**

One of the most historic houses in New Jersey. First settlement site of Hopewell. Present house built in 1752. The tenant in 1778 was a John Price Hunt so General Washington called it Hunt's House. A conference was held in what is now Mrs. Collin's bedroom with General Lee, Lafayette, Greene, Wayne, Durportail, Steuben, Knox, Scott, Sterling and Poor being present. Enjoy the woodwork, beams, walnut panelling, pegged chestnut doors, and then the view.

**7. Hopewell Museum, 28 East Broad Street, Hopewell**

The Museum was founded in 1922 by members of the Hopewell Roundabout Club. Antiques and relics were donated by Miss Sara D. Stout. We have since been entrusted with many valuable things and with all our four floors, are unable to display our "wares."

Our only curator was Miss Susan Weart and she and her sister Miss Eleanor Weart, librarian, were the prime movers in getting it established.

9/17/1960 - HM - Hopewell Museum Tour of Homes**Dr. and Mrs. Ronald C. Nayfield, Route 518 West Of Woodsville**

Built 1726 - date on fireplace - no changes made for 225 years. The Nayfield's restored it completely - even bringing one 30 foot hand-hewn beam from barn to renew one in Keeping Room. Doors, hinges, locks, random width floors all original.

**Mr. and Mrs. Hans Bauer, Mount Rose - Centerville Road**

This house with original deed to land dated 1798 - probably built in the 1800's. Oak beamed ceilings, random width floors, all pegged. Paneling in master bedroom brought from New York. All other paneling and mantels are original. Stone Terrace on two sides added by the Bauers. Kitchen completely remodeled. Living room on two levels.

**Blawenburg Reformed Church, Blawenburg**

This church is about 160 years old. Fifty-four persons signed petition for this church with a pledge of \$2,791.25 for the new building in 1829 - construction started at once. Lumber hauled from New Hope, Pa. Timber hewn from nearby forests, mostly from Rocky Hill Swamps. In fall 1954, the pipe organ, (originally installed in 1873) was electrified, rebuilt and enlarged. The church is now only 14 feet longer than it was originally. A new Christian Education Building was erected in 1959 and dedicated in May 1960. The whole unit is located to the right of church, being 118 feet long and 30 feet wide, two floors. A place worth seeing. The decor of both buildings are worth of note and credit must be given the ladies of the church.

**Keith Robertson House - Booknoll Farm, East Broad Street**

Center portion built in 1752 by a member of Stout family. An old well - with well house - east of house is still in use. It had six false fireplaces with mantels. Living room fireplace with louvred doors opens to a high-fi system - the other side to a wood box that is filled from outside. An adjoining room is used as an office where Mr. Robertson writes his mystery books as well as his children's books. His wife uses it also as a salesroom for her rare book busines. Strangely enough there were no closets built in this house. While visiting stop to enjoy Mrs. Robertson's lovely herb garden.

**Carl H. White, Jr. House, Beden Brook Road**

This farm was originally owned by Mr. Spencer Whitlock who moved to Hopewell, living on N. Greenwood Avenue. There have been so many changes to this house, for the better, of course, it seems it cannot be the same' place. Although it has not been moved back from the road, it has been landscaped very beautifully by the different owners and upon entering the grounds the road leaves your mind. It has a very expansive view from a lovely terraced porch. Guest houses and garages and an extra roomy apartment are in another building near the house.

**Hopewell Museum, 28 East Broad Street**

Be sure to visit the Museum to see how the Trustees, with the aid of your contributions, The Woman's Club and the Roundabout Club have painted several rooms and rearranged many of the exhibits. The D.A.R. have another room where they are working on the genealogical records of the area.

4/23/1966 - Spring House Tour (1st) - Hw Valley Jaycee-ettes**1. Hopewell Museum / 28 East Broad Street**

This Victorian Structure was built in 1877 by Randolph Stout and his wife. Randolph being a descendent of the Stout family which settled in Hopewell in 1706. The idea of starting a museum originated when Sarah D. Stout passed away in 1922, and left many family heirlooms to be stored in a museum if such a building could be found. When visiting the museum, one gets a glimpse of the many primitive instruments used by our early forefathers. Instruments of war, harvest, and work within the household from the earliest days until 1900 are all a part of this fascinating collection. The Indian relics predate by many years the settlement of Hopewell in 1706. A collection of costumes (which are most unusual), pewter, glass, china, pottery, books of history, and many other things too numerous to mention here are housed and cared for within the museum.

The year 1965 has seen the development of the Hill Memorial Room which depicts the Colonial period. The Victorian Room is being planned and will add greatly to the resources of the museum. The Collins Room, soon to be completed, is to be used for exhibits and to better display some of the varied collections. This museum has become a repository of many worthy contributions of the old families of this vicinity. The Board members have done a very fine job in presenting the past in a most unusual fashion. This is the only privately financed museum in Mercer Count.

**8. The Old School Baptist Church / West Broad Street**

The Old School Baptist Church, the oldest church in Hopewell, celebrated its 250th anniversary last year. The congregation has occupied a church in Hopewell (then Columbia) since 1747. This red-brick church was the center of worship for miles around and was built to seat 450 to 500 people.

When news of the Battle of Lexington reached Hopewell on April 23rd, people were worshipping. At the close of the sermon, Joab Houghton (standing on a block which is now in the Church yard), inspired the men with love of liberty and desire for independence. He said "Men of New Jersey, the Red Coats are murdering our Brethren of New England. Who follows me to Boston?"

This is also the burial ground of John Hart, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.



4/26/1967 - Spring House Tour - Hw Valley Jaycee-ettes**1. Hopewell Museum / 28 East Broad Street**

The Victorian Structure built in 1877 contains collections of costumes, pewter, glass, china, pottery, books of history, and many other things to numerous to mention here. This year an addition has been completed which almost doubles the display space. Dr. David B. Hill of California, formerly of Hopewell has donated an extensive Indian collection and the addition to house it.

In the rotating exhibition room over 90 fans are currently displayed. Also on view are 127 bottles which are on loan. Mannequins have been donated to the colonial and Victorian rooms and are used to display part of one of the finest collections of costumes in the state. The museum has been the repository of many worthy contributions of the old families of this vicinity. The Board members have done a very fine job in presenting the past in a most unusual fashion. This is the only privately financed museum in Mercer County.

**3. Mr. and Mrs. John Terrault / 79 West Broad Street**

The house of Mr. and Mrs. John Terrault is the former Presbyterian Church of Hopewell Borough. In 1914 the building was literally picked up, cut in half, a portion of the center removed, then moved closer to the street and turned around so that the original front of the church is now the side of the house. The interior of the house is a masterpiece of color-coordination. In the living room a delicately toned floral still life that hangs above the white brick fireplace has been used as the basis for the decoration. Gold brocade walls and a dark kelly green carpet form a lavish background for the victorian period furniture.

Behind the house is a garden which contains over 5000 bulbs in addition to many other plants and shrubs . Those taking the tour will have an opportunity to see the Terrault's outstanding garden. For those who find color exciting the home of Mr. and Mrs. Terrault will be particularly interesting.

4/29/1969 - Spring House Tour - Hw Valley Jaycee-ettes**1. Hopewell Museum / 28 East Broad Street**

Located on East Broad Street in Hopewell Borough, the Hopewell Museum is a Victorian structure, dating back to 1877. Hopewell's history in many forms can be found in this unusual museum. The only privately financed museum in Mercer County, it has been the object of interest of many area people, some of whom have left valuable old collections of glass, clothing, pottery, Indian relics, genealogical information, etc. for the edification of future generations. Collections of many sorts appear in a rotating exhibit room from time to time. An addition in 1967, the gift of the Dr. David Hill family of California, has permitted the museum trustees and the curator much more space for displays, etc.

**2. Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Kersey / 18 Blackwell Avenue**

Hopewell Borough's Methodist Minister and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Douglas J. Kersey of Blackwell Ave. moved into what was once a dismal dark 1900 period house and proceeded to convert it with ingenuity into a light, bright showplace for their many interesting furnishings and decorative pieces. The Kerses have successfully proven that one can do a lot with a house without spending a fortune, something that the average tourer will be delighted to see. A closet has been changed into a china closet, a back porch into a laundry room. Mrs. Kersey, an artist and collector of interesting pieces from Europe, Egypt and principally England, and her husband have obviously risen to the challenge that an old, not-too-wonderful house presents and have made it into something really worth seeing.

9/26/1976 - Hopewell Bicentennial House Tour

The Woman's Club of Hopewell and The Hopewell Valley Garden Club

1. [Glen L. Heaton House] / 45 Columbia Avenue

A fine example of Victorian architecture, Hopewell's famous Lavender House and enviable gardens.

2. G. N. Holcombe House / 19 West Broad Street (<1749)

One of the oldest dwellings in Hopewell, known to exist prior to 1749, the G. M. Holcombe house shows the simplicity of style of architecture of the early colonial days.

3. Old School Baptist Church / West Broad Street (1822)

First built as a square stone structure sometime between 1747 and 1753. The present brick building of the Old School Baptist Church was erected in 1822 using part of the original stone which can be seen in the exterior back wall. The church site and cemetery were given by John Hart with additional land being acquired in 1769. Present day furnishings and interior date from the 1901 renovation. The most striking feature in the interior of the church is the location of the pulpit with the pews facing the entrance.

4. [J. Robert] Fetter House / 2 Louellen Avenue (1884)

Situated on lands once owned by John Hart and built in 1884, this lovely three-storied Victorian house with mansard roof has been home to five generations of the Fetter family.

5. [J. T. Christie House] was Presbyterian Church / 79 West Broad Street (1877)

A stately structure built in the Gothic style in 1877, this interesting home of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Christie was the Presbyterian Church until 1923. At that time the building was turned ninety degrees and extensive renovations, including the addition of the porches at each end, were made.

6. [Robert Stewart House] John Hart Farmstead / 60 Hart Avenue (1805)

Located on the farmstead of Hopewell's most famous personage, John Hart, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, the main section of this rambling brick house was built in 1805. The presence of a spring- the foundations of the spring house can still be seen-prompted Hart's selection of this location.

7. The Hopewell Museum - Stout / 28 East Broad Street

The Hopewell Museum was incorporated in 1922 under the laws of the State of New Jersey with the name "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. This collection became the nucleus of the present museum.

8. Calvary Baptist Church / 3 East Broad Street

9. First Presbyterian Church / 80 West Broad Street

10. Hopewell Methodist Church / 18 Blackwell Avenue

11. Second Calvary Baptist Church / 69 Columbia Avenue

12. St. Alphonsus Church / Princeton Avenue

13. Hopewell Mini Park / Railroad Place.

5/5/1991 - HVHS - House Tour of Hopewell - 100th Incorp.**1. Bregenzer / 129 West Broad Street (c 1915)**

This typical example of a center-entrance American Foursquare, with its hipped roof and massive wrap-around front porch with stone-supported columns, was built circa 1915 by the Bregenzer family. During the 1940s the house was divided into a two-family dwelling and it remained that way until the current owners purchased it in the late-1980s. They then began the process of returning the structure to a single-family dwelling. While many original elements such as gas/electric wall sconces, stained glass windows and stair railings remain, the conversions have necessitated changes to the interior, such as the reconfiguration of stairways and modernization of bathrooms and the kitchen. In keeping with the early 20th century Arts-and-Crafts influence of the house style, the owners have furnished the living room, wallpapered the foyer, and reproduced the foyer ceiling lights.

**2. Amos Bond - Stable / 97 West Broad Street (1902)**

Amos Bond, a local entrepreneur, was involved in horse farming and the operation of a local quarry, ran a livery stable, and sold agricultural implements. He purchased this building lot in 1899 from the Lanning family for \$439 and, in 1902, obtained a \$3,000 construction mortgage. This vernacular Italianate style house is exemplified by its widely overhanging eaves with decorative brackets on both the roof and wrap-around porch, with its clustered porch supports, and its decorative palladian window and shingles in the front gable. The current owners have preserved many of the original details and the house has remained unchanged from its original plan, except that the second-floor sleeping porch used by Amos's daughter has been enclosed.

**3. C. Herbert Fetter / 96 West Broad Street (1896)**

In 1895 C. Herbert Fetter purchased this lot, while his parents and brother purchased the lots to the west along Broad Street. In 1896 he took a construction mortgage on the property for \$2,400 and erected his home with details from the Queen Anne style, such as its front and side bay windows, high pitched roof and wrap-around porch. By 1916 he had built another house in the Borough (see location #9) and sold this home. The property changed hands numerous times over the years until 1986 when the current owners purchased it. They have spent numerous hours restoring the house's exterior (including the porch with its spindle work) and interior to their original beauty. Of particular interest is the original woodwork, including pocket doors, staircase, and mantels with their tile surrounds, inlaid decorative floors and their remodeled kitchen.

**4. Forris A. Chick / 93 West Broad Street (c1896)**

Forris A. Chick, elder (or minister) of the Old School Baptist Church from 1896 to 1914, purchased this lot upon moving into the Borough in 1896. At his death his widow and family continued to live in the house. They continued ownership until 1986 when the current owners purchased it. According to the Chick family, this house was built as a replica of W. J. Purington's house, constructed in 1879 and located at 14 East Broad Street. Purington, also an elder of the church, was the great uncle of Forris Chick. Duplicating the Victorian influence of this well-maintained house (notice the original hall light fixture and moldings), the current owners have added fireplace mantels in both front rooms and decorated in the Victorian style. They have also added a kitchen and a second-floor bathroom in like style.

**5. Labaw - John Fetter, attorney / 2 Louellen Street (1882)**

John Fetter, attorney, local politician, and Mercer County Clerk, purchased this house in 19W from the Lewis Labaw family. He was the son of Anthony Fetter, owner of a steam saw mill, and brother of C. Herbert Fetter (see tour locations 3 & 9). The Labaw family had been owners of a three-acre tract of land that included this home and a house a few doors up the street. According to the Fetter family, this Second Empire-style house with its mansard roof of multicolored decorative slates was erected in 1882. While the front porch has been replaced, the side porch is original, as are many of the interior architectural details. An unusual feature of this house is the dumb-waiter operating between the dining room, the basement, and cold storage pantry. The Fetter family continues to own this home.

**6. Old School Baptist Church (1822)**

The First Baptist Church of Hopewell was organized by its Trustees in 1715 at the home of Jonathan Stout. The congregation met in private homes until a Meeting House was erected in 1747 by Henry Oxley and Benjamin Drake on the site which had been donated by John Hart. In 1822 the current brick structure was built to replace the original stone building. Worship services were suspended in 1973 upon the death of its last male member, in accordance with the church's charter. Many once-influential members of the community are buried in the adjacent cemetery.

**7. Robert Miller / 15 West Broad Street (1912)**

Dr. Robert Miller, son of another well-known town physician, purchased this building lot in 1911. By 1912 he had plans drawn for his new home. The same year he obtained a construction mortgage for \$6,000 and had built for his family this fine example of a center-hall American Foursquare house with natural stained shingles on the second story and painted clapboard on the first floor. It includes a porte-cochere and a two-story sun porch which, at a later date, was enclosed. After his death his widow and family continued to live in this home. The current owners have maintained as much of the original fabric as possible. Their only departure has been the remodeling of the sun room, including the six-inch plaster cove molding done by the owner himself, and the addition of the living room's pressed-tin ceiling.

**8. Levi Reed - Dr. John Boggs Garrison / 15 Greenwood Avenue (1889)**

This house, according to a date stone in the basement cistern, was built in 1889. Levi Reed sold it to Dr. John Boggs Garrison in 1910. (John was the nephew of Elizabeth Boggs, who ran the local female seminary, and grandson of Rev. Boggs of the Old School Baptist Church.) Garrison was a very successful physician in the Borough until his death in 1937. He took a very active interest in the Hopewell Museum, donating many Boggs family items. After Dr. Garrison, two families owned this property, until its purchase by the current owners in 1983. The decorative shingles on the gables and bay windows, the decorative elements on the barge boards and over the gable window and the porch entrance are attributable to a simple Queen Anne style. The only major change that has occurred was the enclosure of part of the side porch to accommodate a bathroom and laundry room. The current owners have been returning the woodwork to its original state, re-plastering walls, repairing and replacing wainscoting, and they have recently added a new rear porch. The original two-story carriage barn remains on the property.

**10. Henry Sutphin, carpenter & builder - John G. Burton / 22 Front Street ([1887])**

With the arrival of the railroads the popularity of this area of the Borough grew. Henry Sutphin, a local carpenter and builder, was the first to live in this section of town. This excellent example of a Queen Anne-style house, with its three-story tower, bay windows, porches, and detailed gable decoration, was occupied by John G. Burton at the turn of the century. Burton operated a staircase factory at the end of Burton Avenue, and his sons built and lived in homes along their namesake street. This home is a showcase of the excellent workmanship of the Burtons. Each first-floor room features a different style of woodworking, created in different wood types, and of course, the house has a beautiful Burton staircase. Upon John's death in 1971, the Stryker family became the new owners, continuing as such until the current owners purchased it in 1986. This Victorian-era house is complemented by the owners' large collection of period furniture. Many hours have been spent restoring both the furniture and house to their original beauty. Of particular interest is the Victorian-style wallpapering technique recently completed in the foyer, hallway, and staircase.

**11. Francina Blackwell / 13 Blackwell Avenue (c1885)**

This large, Queen Anne-style house with decorative gables, arched third-floor windows, and enclosed side porch was built circa 1885 for Francina Blackwell, the widowed second wife of David Blackwell. The Blackwell family had been prominent in the growth of the Borough, and they are honored by a namesake street. Francina resided with her son Charles and his family in this house until her death in 1888. Charles and members of his family continued to live here until 1961. The current owners acquired the house in 1987. Since then they have remodeled the kitchen and added the only structural change to the house: a greenhouse off the dining room. Many of the owners' family heirlooms from the period of the house grace this Blackwell family home. The addition of a traditional picket fence and a modern swimming pool have added to the pleasant exterior setting.

**12. Randolph Stout - Hopewell Museum / 28 East Brood Street (1877)**

The Hopewell Museum was incorporated in 1922. The institution's goal was to raise funds for a building to house a collection of antiques given to the community by Sarah D. Stout. Its original location was that of the present-day Hopewell Public library. In 1924 the trustees purchased the current building, a Second Empire-style brownstone built in 1877 by Randolph Stout, when he moved in to town upon his retirement from farming. In 1967 a large two-story addition was made to the rear of the museum. The aim of the Museum is to preserve and display what is most typical and interesting about local village life from early Colonial days to the present.

6/11/2000 - HPLF - Stroll Thru Hopewell - Historic House Tour (10x2 pp)

Stroll Through Hopewell - An Historic House Tour - Friends of the Hopewell Public Library  
(w/ Audrey Jones illustrations)

**[46] West Broad Street / Old School Baptist Church (1822 brick replaced stone)**

The First Baptist Church of Hopewell was organized by its trustees in 1715 at the home of Jonathan Stout. The congregation met in private homes until Henry Oxley and Benjamin Drake erected a Meeting House in 1747 on the site donated by John Hart, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. In 1822 the current brick structure was built to replace the original stone building. Worship services were suspended in 1973 upon the death of its last male member, in accordance with the church's charter. Many once-influential members of the community, including John Hart, are buried in the adjacent cemetery.

T. Johnson Design of 18 W. Broad St. (next building) designed the new "Weeping Willow" iron gates that were built within the past year, and the Church will soon replace the marker stone for 11 soldiers who died there when the church was a hospital during the Revolutionary War. The church is currently open for a Thanksgiving Service, holds a 3-day service for Baptist churches from the South, and is open for school children studying Hopewell Valley history.

**18 West Broad Street (Blackwell / Moore, by 1877)**

This charming 19th century house was a Blackwell family home for over 100 years. Mary Blackwell Moore was born in 1881 and lived in the house from the time she was 3 until her death in 1975. The Johnsons purchased the house from the Mary Blackwell Moore estate in 1977.

The Moores were great collectors of "Americana antiques", and the house was well known for its treasures. The Moores added an enclosed side porch and state of the art plumbing to the remodeled kitchen and newly installed bathroom. They also remodeled the middle birthing room with exposed timber and stucco walls.

**15 West Broad Street (Dr Miller, 1912)**

This house was originally built in 1912 for Dr. Robert P. Miller and his wife Edna. The lot was once an apple orchard on the Drake Farm. The present dining room was Dr. Miller's waiting room, while the living room was divided into the office in the front and the dining room in the back. Dr. Miller's horse barn was moved from across Broad Street to the rear of the property. Following Dr. Miller's death, his widow stayed in the house with their daughter Kathryn "Billie" Miller and her husband James P. Kettle. The sun porch and an upstairs sleeping porch were added in 1933. The Millers/Kettles left in 1987.

**[11] Railroad Place (Jack Blackwell / Shear Madness, 1890-1900)**

This charming Victorian structure provides a home to Fred Bedard's Shear Madness Salon. The structure was built by Jack Blackwell between 1890 and 1900 on the bed of old railroad tracks that were part of one of the two railroads that originally ran through town. The hardwood floors, unpainted moldings, original stained glass, and beautiful entrance foyer are perfect compliments to the antique barber chairs and other salon furnishings, contributing to the warm and inviting atmosphere.

The garage to the right was originally part of the property, functioning as a livery stable where salesmen brought in goods on the rail and rented horses to hawk their wares to local people. Throughout its 100+ years, the house has had several owners, often being subdivided to permit business and residential rental units. Although the wraparound porch was lost, the house retains many other original features and is one of the three houses in town to retain its original tin horns on the roof.

**2 Railroad Place / Hopewell Railroad Station (1876)**

The Hopewell Railroad Station, one of the oldest in New Jersey, is one of a surviving pair built by the Delaware and Bound Brook Railroad in 1876. A "side station", located as was customary on the inbound track, it exhibits typical defining characteristics: the rectangular massing, with the long side parallel to the tracks; the prominent bay window at track side; and the broad overhanging canopy around all sides of the building.

The station is most distinguished by the richness of its architectural treatment. Most such structures were simply vernacular expressions of the popular building modes of their day. But the Hopewell Railroad Station is a high-style example of Second Empire architecture. This is particularly evident in the mansard story with its elaborately patterned slates and extensive gingerbread woodwork. The station sits on a 4.3 acre site which was purchased by Hopewell Borough, with the help of an anonymous donor, in 1993. Extensive restorations will permit the station's first floor to be used as a community center and the second floor as private offices.

**46 North Greenwood Avenue (Edwin V. Savidge, 1899)**

This traditional Victorian home was built in 1899 and looked very much like the other "Victorians of the day". The home's original owners, the Edwin V. Savidge family (proprietors of The Hopewell Herald), soon covered the original clapboard with white stone and stucco. The house remained that way until its third owners, Herman and Nancy Espenhorst, restored the home's outside to its original beauty in 1970. They made several more changes, including the addition of a mudroom and family room with a full wall fireplace about 25 years ago. The current owners purchased the home in 1995.

**5 Golden Avenue (Fort Dix Officer Quarters, early 1900s)**

Previously officer quarters at Camp Dix army base, this house was moved to Hopewell in the early 1900's by the Vandermark family. It was originally a one story bungalow with hardwood floors and an old pull-down staircase to an attic. Mr. Vandermark was a gunsmith who worked in the basement, where the beams still contain thousands of nails he used for storage. Mrs. Vandermark's "dry" pantry can still be found downstairs. The current owners purchased the house from its second Hopewell owner in 1995.

**36 Hart Avenue (two brothers, 1896)**

This house was built in 1896 by two brothers who wanted their families to share a home with both common and private areas. The house was therefore built on two lots and has two kitchens. There were originally two large doors between the dining rooms that were opened on holidays to accommodate a long table at which both families could eat. The current owners moved into the house in 1995.

**61 North Greenwood Avenue (Fred and Ethel Holcombe, 1911)**

In March 1911, Sutphen Bros. Carpenters and Builders of Hopewell contracted to build a house for Fred Holcombe and his wife Ethel. According to the contract, "all work [ was] to be done in a first class and workmanlike [manner] for the sum of twenty-six hundred and fifty dollars". This Victorian home was typical of neighboring houses at the time. With the exception of a new indoor water closet and a remodeled kitchen in the 1950's, the house remained essentially unchanged until 1992, when the present owners added a family room to the rear.

6/11/2008 - HPLF - Stroll Thru Hopewell - Historic House Tour

[5th] Stroll Through Hopewell - An Historic House Tour - Friends of the Hopewell Public Library

[10] Castle Drive (Webster Edgerly, 1904)

THIS ELABORATE QUEEN ANNE-STYLE MANSION, locally known as "the Castle," was built for Webster Edgerly (a.k.a. Edmund Shaftesbury) in 1904. Edgerly (of Ralston-Purina) was a lawyer, educator, and president of the Ralston Health Club of America—a group devoted to good health, longevity, and telepathic ability. The land was to be home for a few thousand of his estimated 800,000 followers. The house was to be at the center of Edgerly's proposed utopian community known as "Ralston Heights." However, only a handful of the home and small farm lots were sold. In 1926, Edgerly moved his family to yet another mansion, this one on West State Street in Trenton. He died soon after, as did his dream of the future "City of Ralston."

The house, which cost over \$100,000 at the time, was built with 200,000 bricks, and electricity from Princeton lit the 125 lamps found in the mansion. In addition to the 80-foot deep well, he built a reservoir that held 32,000 gallons of water.

The mansion was sold in 1926 to the Grimes family. Over the years, the house fell into disrepair and was subdivided into apartments. In the 1970s the property was bought by Craig Miller, a nationally famous decorator and later by Phillip and Sally Roberts. In 2004, the current owners purchased the home and restored much of the mansion to its original condition. They extensively modernized the kitchen and bathroom facilities, installed central air conditioning and upgraded the operating systems and electrical service.

[46] West Broad Street / Old School Baptist Church (1822 brick replaced stone)

THE OLD SCHOOL BAPTIST CHURCH. Located on West Broad Street in the center of Hopewell borough, the First Baptist Church of Hopewell was organized by its trustees in 1715 at the home of Jonathan Stout. The congregation met in private homes until Henry Oxley and Benjamin Drake erected a meeting house in 1747 on the site donated by John Hart, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. In 1822, the current brick structure was built to replace the original stone building. Worship services were suspended in 1973 upon the death of its last male member, in accordance with the church's charter. Many once-influential members of the community, including John Hart, are buried in the adjacent cemetery.

T. Johnson Design of 18 West Broad Street designed the "Weeping Willow" iron gates, and the Church replaced the marker stone for 11 soldiers who died there when the church was a hospital during the Revolutionary War. The church is currently open for a Thanksgiving service, holds a three-day service for Baptist churches from the South, and is open for school children studying Hopewell Valley history.

60 Hart Avenue / Hart House (Hixson c1700, John Hart 1740)

The "Hart "House" has a long and rich history with a deep connection to the Hopewell community. Early records indicate that the property was occupied by the pioneer John Hixson, who was credited with building the still-standing stone dwelling sometime during the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century. In 1740, the house was purchased by John Hart, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Hart built a large wood-frame house and established a farm of over 600 acres. He was host to George Washington and allowed 12,000 troops of the Continental Army to encamp on his lands on June 23 to 24, 1778, before the Battle of Monmouth. The property changed hands in 1784, when it was acquired by Thomas Phillips. By 1805, Phillips replaced Hart's wood-frame house with a magnificent brick addition, which was attached to the old stone cottage. Finally, by 1886, a second brick addition was added, in part to accommodate a contemporary kitchen.

A description of the house is not complete without a salute to Colonel Cleon E. Hammond, who acquired the house in the early 1950s. He spent many years restoring the homestead with a deep sensitivity to its history.



**123 West Broad Street (Rev. Hartwell, 1872)**

If you were to follow Broad Street west out of Hopewell borough in 1870, there would not have been much to see beyond the Hopewell Presbyterian Church. In fact, beyond 86 West Broad was farmland and the next residence was 153 West Broad Street, currently operated as a sheep farm by Christa Hoge. From this farmland, then a part of the Old School Baptist parsonage farm, the church carved a five acre plot for a retiring pastor, the Reverend Philander Hartwell. On this plot, a simple farmhouse and outbuildings were built in 1872.

Over the years, the property passed through a number of families and many changes were made to the home. The original property was sub-divided to form lots for single family homes on West Broad and West Prospect, leaving the current lot at a bit under an acre and a half. The well was filled in, the chicken coop a distant memory, and the cistern and outhouse are no longer used. The main dwelling also had a number of alterations and additions, including the wrap-around porch, the small room above the front door, the breakfast nook, and the pantry that connects the kitchen and shed.

**15 Columbia Avenue (Fred & Mary Edna Sutphen, 1916)**

Fifteen Columbia Avenue was built by Fred and Mary Edna Sutphen in 1916. They left the home to their daughter Clara, who remained there until the 1960s. When ownership passed out of Clara's hands, it ended the familial ownership that extended even prior to the time the house was built, well back into the 1800s.

Fred Sutphen and his brother Harry were highly respected partners in the building trade. Their Hopewell based construction business built schools, churches, and other public buildings in New Jersey. They also built many private residences, including 15 Columbia Avenue. In 1914, Fred helped organize the Hopewell Building and Loan Association and was one of its original directors. He served on the Hopewell Borough Council, the board of the Hopewell Public Library, the board of the Calvary Baptist Church, and was a Past Master of the Hopewell Lodge of the Masons.

**18 West Broad Street (Blackwell / Moore, 1853)**

**BLACKWELL-MOORE HOUSE.** This late-Federal five-bay house was begun in 1852 and finished in 1853 for Mrs. Elizabeth Drake Blackwell at the direction of her dying husband, James S. Blackwell. They also owned the 150-acre farm directly across Broad Street. On Christmas Day in 1852, Mr. Blackwell, writing his will, directed his executor to "see that the contract is faithfully fulfilled and paint the house inside and out, build a barn large enough for a wagon and stabling for two horses." Mrs. Blackwell moved in with her four children and lived in the house for 31 years until her death in 1884. Her older son, Benjamin Blackwell, died of wounds received at the Battle of Monocacy, Maryland in 1864. The house was next owned by Mrs. Blackwell's nephew, John Van Cleve Blackwell. After his death, his daughter Mary Blackwell and her husband, antique dealer Wilmer Moore, inherited the house and lived there until the 1970s. The current owners, Tom and Ann Johnson, purchased the house in January of 1977 from the estate of Wilmer and Mary Blackwell-Moore.

The Blackwell-Moore house is a typical Federal house in that the first floor windows are taller than those on the second floor. As an example of a later Federal, the space above the second floor windows is increased to allow for a distinctive row of brackets

**56 Railroad Place / Firedance Studio (2007)**

Built in 2007, Firedance Studio is the vision of artist le Corbeau. Located in Hopewell's Historic District, this property was once part of the Delaware and Bound Brook Railroad. The location has a long history, from its railroad and agricultural past to its present use as an art studio for the creation of world-class metalwork. During the construction period, several elements of the property's past were uncovered, including a hand-dug well, an old safe, several hundred apothecary bottles (between 90 and 150 years old), coal, a stone and earth foundation that housed a hay press, and several stone-and-mortar foundations dated to 1906, that were the base of a railroad trestle. Hoping to find some old coins, owner Francois Guillemain went to the bottom of the well, but the only things found were a ground-hog skeleton and several charred pieces of lumber from the fires that plagued the property; the safe was found to be empty.

The current structures, designed by Arthur Chabon, Architect, incorporate the fieldstone salvaged from the original foundations. The main building houses a workshop and gallery. The gallery was designed with post-and-beam construction to simulate railroad and bridge design from the turn of the century. What is currently known as the Trestle Gallery is all that is left of the original train siding. The stone support piers with the track and I-beams in the ceiling remain as part of the original structure.

**14 Louellen Street / Sears "Alhambra" (Labow, 1927-28)**

Fourteen Louellen Street is an original Sears Modern Home, Alhambra Model 2090, which was constructed from a kit by the Labaw family. The home was built in 1927 or 1928 and is largely in original condition, including the downstairs light fixtures, the windows, floors, wood trim, fireplace, and built-ins. It was impeccably maintained by the Labaw family for 77 years. In 2005, Esther Labaw's estate sold the home to Anthony and Sarah Fuller. The mudroom off the side is not part of the Sears plan, nor is the 1/2 bath off the kitchen. The ceiling in the mudroom and the floors in the attic were salvaged from the house that once stood next door, also owned by the Labaw family. The main bathroom was remodeled sometime in the 1950s.

**925 Cherry Valley Road / Edmund Burroughs house (1787, c1740)**

Referred to as "the Edmund Burroughs house," this home was built in Hopewell Township in 1787 incorporating an original c.1740 house known as "the Calf." An addition known as "the Cow" was added in 1791. In 1993, the house, which had been abandoned for several years, was res-cued from demolition and relocated to its present site in a meticulous restoration effort. The owner also expanded the house from 3,000 to 5,000 square feet with an entirely new addition built to resemble an early-nineteenth century Delaware Valley stone house.

To help maintain the authentic, historic character of the dwelling, the ten-inch stone veneer on the new wing was built from stone found while digging the new foundation as well as salvaged from the original foundation and an old farmhouse found on site. The wagon house and woodshed adjacent to the house were transported from Bucks County, Pennsylvania and the pond was built using a natural spring discovered while digging the new foundation.

The Dutch-style kitchen of the Burroughs house is located on the eastern wing of the Georgian-style farmhouse. The massive, exposed chimney base, rebuilt in the 1860s, is visible from the outside. During the relocation, these stones were numbered, documented, and carefully disassembled to ensure the accuracy of reconstruction. This typifies the precision and commitment to detail that was taken in each step of the home's restoration process, both inside and out, in a laudable effort to preserve a piece of New Jersey history.

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### 225 Hopewell-Pennington Road / Music Together

Opened in 2007, this new 13,000 sq. ft. facility is the former home of restaurants such as Charlie's Brother and The Tomato Grill. It has gone through extensive, painstaking renovations based upon environmental green and sustainability principles to become an elegant, yet warm home for 30 Music Together staff and the many families attending classes here. Founder and director Kenneth K. Guilmartin explains: " We are particularly proud of the building's environmentally friendly geo-thermal heating and cooling system, which uses deep underground wells to transfer heat to the ground in the summer and extract heat from the ground in the winter, thereby providing air conditioning and heat using far less energy than traditional heating/cooling systems."

The front entryway has a cathedral ceiling and opens into a spacious lobby. To the left is a new classroom designed with special dance flooring used for family classes: fun with singing, music play-alongs, and dancing. Across the hall on the right is the large Community Room equipped with a grand piano and state-of-the-art sound system. This welcoming, lodge-like room features a stone wall, wood trusses, a vaulted ceiling and large windows. It feels spacious even when filled to its capacity of 150 people. A full kitchen is conveniently located next to the Community Room. Music Together holiday family music parties and teacher trainings are held here. These facilities are available for rent as workshop, event, or performance space. In March 2007 Music Together participated in the community-wide campaign to save the St. Michael's land by hosting two successful concerts in the Community Room. Additional rooms are located downstairs.

Music Together is a music and movement curriculum for infant, toddler, preschool, kindergarten children and the adults who love them. Beginning in 1987, it pioneered the concept of a research-based, developmentally appropriate early childhood music education that strongly emphasizes and facilitates adult involvement. Classes are offered in over 1,400 communities around the world. See more at [www.musictogether.com](http://www.musictogether.com).

### 5/25/2019 - HPL - Hopewell Borough Architecture Walking Tour

13 East Broad Street (1890) - Hopewell Public Library - Neo-Grecian

10 East Broad Street (1875-1887) - Italianate w/Stick Style elements

14 East Broad Street (1875-1887) - Elaborated I-house with Italianate eave brackets

9 Blackwell Avenue (c 1902) - Foursquare - Foundation Hummelstown brick

13 Blackwell Avenue (1880) - Grand Queen Anne Stick Style

25 Blackwell Avenue (1891) - Most elaborate Queen Anne in the Boro

37 Railroad Place (1889) - The Chocolate Factory - 2-story industrial loft space

1 Railroad Place (1876) - Hopewell Railroad Station - Second Empire roof

12-16 Model Ave. (1888, 1907) - 2 wings

18 Model Ave. (1915) - School Annex

19 W. Broad St. (1750) - Runyon - Colonial Vernacular: mid-18th C Georgian, Federal details

15 W. Broad St. (1912) - Massive, classic foursquare