

COLONIAL BOONTON AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

*Created by Loren Katsakos
Boonton Historical Society Museum Educator
~2026~*

The Region and Its People

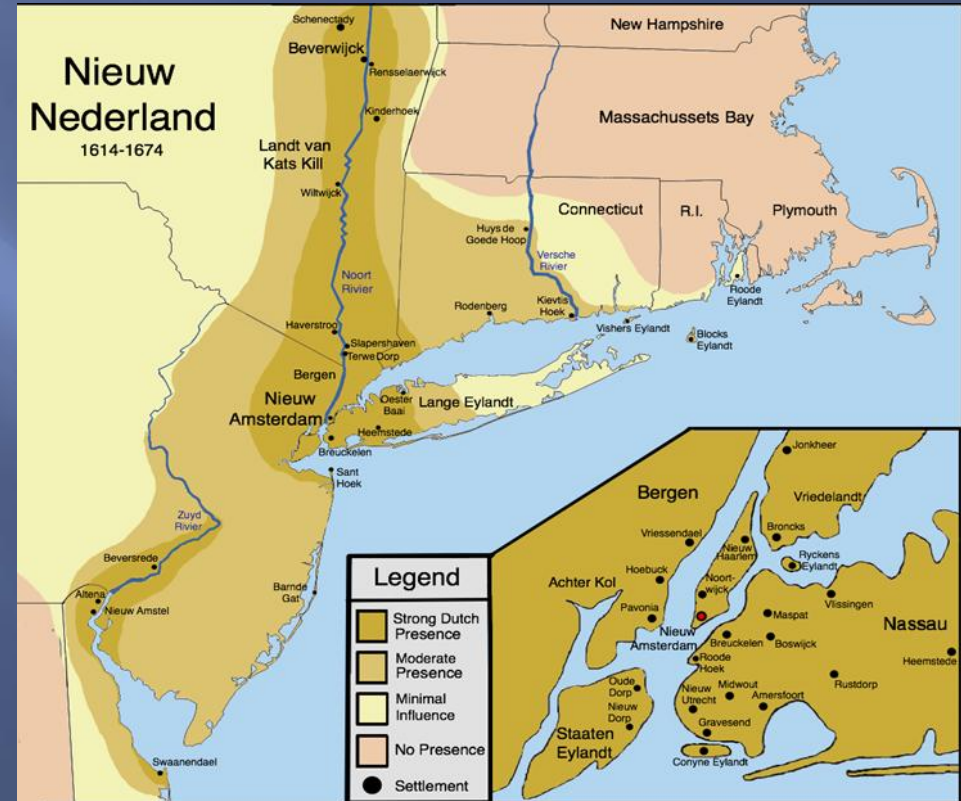
- ▣ Lenape (Len-ah-pay)
- ▣ Original inhabitants of the land now called New Jersey, NY, PA, and DE.
- ▣ Tribes:
 - Unami; Totem: turtle
 - Munsee (Minsi); Totem: Wolf
 - Unlachligo (South)
- ▣ Native people showed settlers the ore of the highlands.



*Lenape Village
drawing by John Lukenda
New Jersey State Museum, Trenton*

Colony Ownership

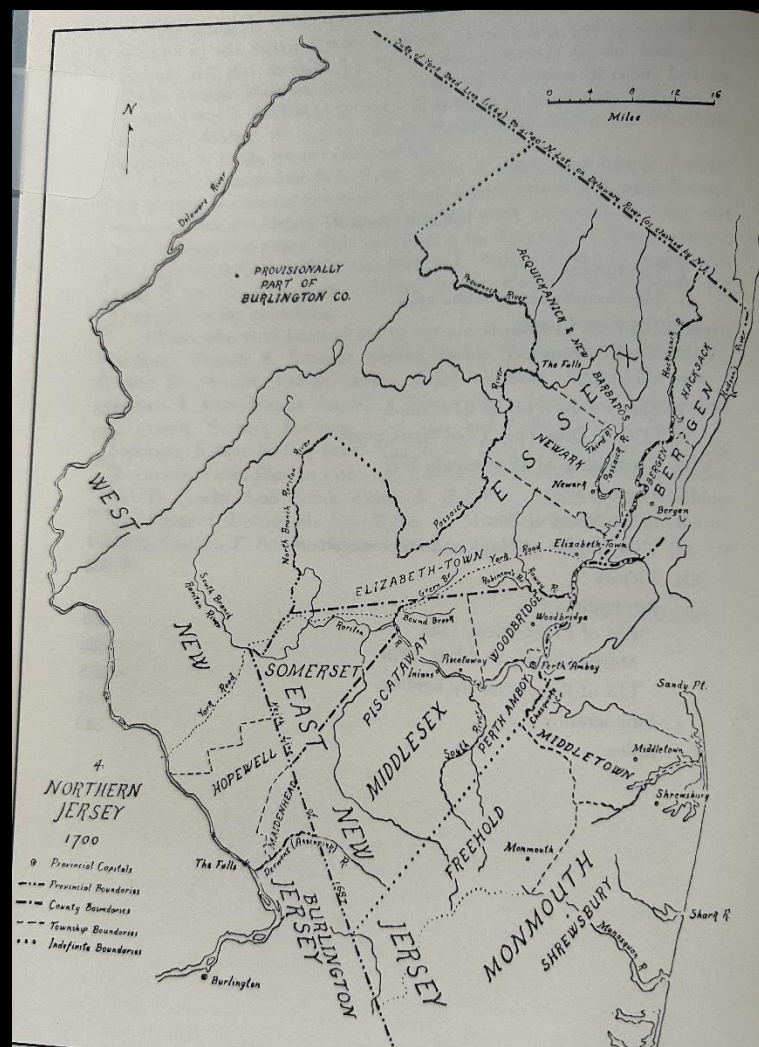
- Dutch took ownership of the land and called it **New Netherlands**
- 1664, New Netherlands becomes **New Jersey**
- English encouraged slavery.
- Boonton tract was first surveyed in 1715: Wilderness



National Park Service
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NORTHERN JERSEY 1700

OLD INDIAN DEED



THE DEED.
To all To whom These Presents
may Come or any ways Concern
We TAPKAOW, WEYARAWAGHREY,
KONJIRING, HENEMOHREY, OWPA-
POMOMUS, PATMEL, KOSHIKOWAY,
MOKWISQUAND, MAHAGPETA, Mo-
KOWISQUAND & OWAPAKOMUS, In-
dians: Native Proprietors And Sole
Rightful Owners of a Certain Tract
of Land called MAHAGPETA CONDU-
Send Greeting, Know ye That Wee
the said TAPKAOW, WEYARAWA-
GHEYN, KONJIRING, HENEMO-
HREY, OWAPAPOMOMUS, PATMEL,
KOSHIKOWAY, MOKWISQUAND, MA-
HAGPETA, MOKWISQUAND & OWPA-
POMOMUS. For and In Con-
sideration of ye Summe of thirty
Pounds in Cash, Ten grand-water
Baskets, Fifteen Kettles, Twenty
Axes, Twenty hoes, Ten Duffels
Blankets, half a Barrell of wine, One
Barrell of Rum, Two Barrells of Sider,
Three Flies, one Gun-Boer, One
Anger, Four Pittolls, Four Cutlasses,
Ten Gunnes, One hundred Barres
of Lead, half a Barrell of powder,
Ten white Blankets, Twenty Shirts,
And one hundred Knives. To us In
hand paid & Delivered at the Esqual-
ing and Delivery hereof by Peter
Fauconier, May Bickley, Ebenezer
Wilson and Lancaster Simmes, all of
the City of New York Gentn, And
Nathaniel Bonnell of Elizabeth
Towne in ye County of Essex and
Province of New Jersey, Testam
For themselves and Company (Being
Impowered to purchase Lands in the
East Divis on of New Jersey aforesaid
By Peter Somons one of the proprie-
tors and Agent To the Rest of the
Proprietors of said Division (who had
for so Donst) The Receipt whereof
we Do hereby Acknowledge and (ur
Selves therewith to be Fully Satisfied
Have Granted, Bargained, Sold,
Alien, Enfeoffed, And Confrmed;
And by These Presents Doe Grant,
Bargaine, Sell, Alien, Enfeoff and
Confirme unto the Said Peter Fau-
conier, May Bickley, Ebenezer
Wilson, Lancaster Simmes and Na-
thaniel Bonnell for themselves and
Company, their heirs and Assigns
forever, All that Tract of Land,
Called by the Indians MAHAGPETA Co-
hunge Living and lying on the
Northwest Side of Elizabethtowne
Beginning at a White-Oak Tree on a
Run of Water Called hupakowee
where the Same Comes Out of the
mountain, Said Tree Being about
Six Miles to the Northwest of a place
known among the Christians by the
name of the pt, about Eight Miles to
the Southwest of an Indian Towne
called watonauk and about thirty
three miles from Elizabeth Towne,
Said Tree Being marked with an F,
from thence Towards another Indian
Towne called Peapock, South-South-
west Nineteen Miles, From thence
Due East Seventeen Miles, Thence
Due North Eighteen Miles Through
the Great Swamp Pleasant, and
Weypunk River and along the East
Side of sd. Weypunk River, and
from thence about fourteen Miles
Due West to the above mentioned
White Oak Tree, Marked with F. as

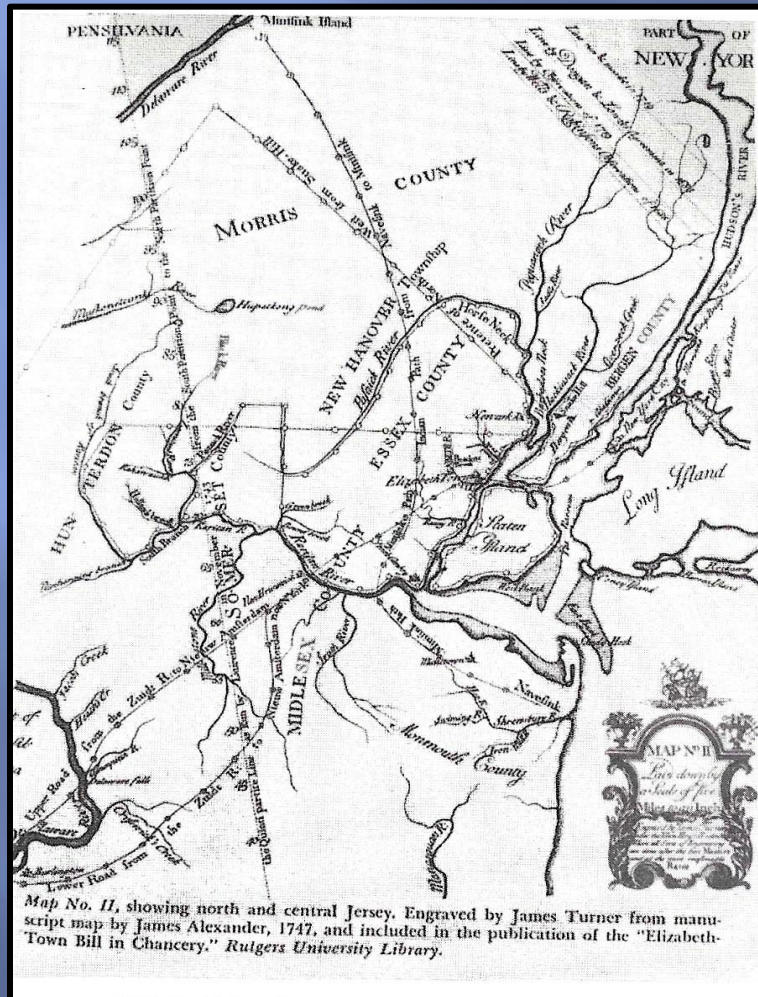
is aforesaid the place where it first
Began, Together with all woods, un-
derwoods, Trees, Timber, Pastings,
Pastures, Meadows, Marshes, Swamps,
pools, Pools, waters, Water-courses,
Rivulets, Runnes, And Streams of
water, Brooks, Fishings, fowlings,
hawking, hunting, Mines, Minerals,
Standing Growing, Lying or Being
or to be had, used and enjoyed within
the sd. Limits and Bounds aforesaid;
And all other Profits, Benefits,
Privileges, Liberties, advantages,
Hereditaments and appurtenances
whatsoever unto the said Tract of
Land and premises, or to any part,
or parcel thereof Belonging or in
anywise appertaining; And the Re-
version and Reversions, Remainder
and Remainders Thereof; And, all
the Estate, Right, Title, Interest,
property Claims and Demand whatso-
ever of or in the said TAPKAOW, WEYA-
RAWAGHREYN, KONJIRING, HENEMO-
HREY, OWAPAPOMOMUS, PATMEL,
KOSHIKOWAY, MOKWISQUAND, MA-
HAGPETA, MOKWISQUAND &
OWAPAKOMUS, of, in and to the Said
Bargained Premises, or any part
thereof, To Have and To Hold all
the said Tract of Land and all and
singular the premises hereby granted,
Bargained, and Sold or Meant, Men-
tioned, or Intended to be Bargained
and Sold With their and every of
their Appurtenances unto them the
said Peter Fauconier, May Bickley,
Ebenezer Wilson, Lancaster Simmes
and Nathaniel Bonnell and Company-
their heirs and assigns for ever, To the
Only proper use, Benefit and be-
hoof of them the said Peter Faucon-
ier, May Bickley, Ebenezer Wilson,
Lancaster Simmes and Nathaniel
Bonnell and Company their heirs
and assigns for ever without any
Trouble, Hindrance, or Molestation
of us, or any of us as the said TAPKAOW,
WEYARAWAGHREYN, KONJIRING,
HENEMOHREY, OWAPAPOMOMUS,
PATMEL, KOSHIKOWAY, MOKWISQUAND,
MAHAGPETA, MOKWISQUAND &
OWAPAKOMUS, or of any
other person or persons whatsoever
Claiming or to Claim By, From, or
Under us, or Any of us.
In Witness Whereof, We the above
named Indians Native Proprietors To
the Bargained Premises as above sh-
have hereunto Set our hands and
Seals, in Elizabeth This Thirtieth
day August in the Seventh Year of
the Reign of our Sovereign Lady Anne
Over England &c. Queen &c. Anno
Domini One Thousand Seven Hun-
dred and Eight.
Said & Delivered
in the presence of
Witnesses,
JOSEPH LANEY
JOHN BLANCHARD
WILLIAM BRANT
CHARLES TOWNLEY
SAMUEL WHITEHEAD
BENJAMIN WADSWORTH
Mokwiscuand
Pitquamba

Mokwiscuand
ouramthun
Mahagpeta
Kushuoway
Mokwiscuand
Mahagpeta
Henemohrey
ourapatomus
Patmel
Neshuoway
Taptkaow
Meyarawaghreyn
Konjuring
quiskauk
Copy of design on card
of albar seals
The one that seal at
taken

OLD INDIAN DEED
Reprinted from The History of Roxbury Township, courtesy of the
Roxbury Township Historical Society.

The document is endorsed as fol-
lows:
ENDORSED.
Morris Town, August ye 18th
Anno 1708. These Personally Come
Before Me the within mentioned In-
dians, and Did Signed, Sealed, and
Delivered the within Instrument or
Deed as their Voluntary Act and
Deed to ye Grantee within mention-
ed as attest.
RIC TOWNLEY Esq.

The Minisink Trail



- ❑ Principal Native American Trail in Morris County
- ❑ Commonly used by the Lenape and Shawnee
- ❑ The Trail avoided:
 - Deep rivers
 - Swamps
 - Steep slopes
- ❑ Path used by John Reading, surveyor; 1715-1719 (*JR journal*)

1747 Map: Rutgers Press

Early Jerseyans

EUROPEAN SETTLERS

Dutch*	English*
Swedes*	French Huguenots
Walloons	German
Finns	Welsh
Scots	Scots-Irish

RELIGIONS

Quakers	Catholics
Jewish	Lutherans
Protestants	Deists**

*First European Settlers

- ▣ The purchase of lands from Native Americans began as early as 1690; same time Whippany was settled.
- ▣ Religious tolerance and freedom
- ▣ William Penn purchased most of the land in Morris County.
- ▣ Vacant land was NOT taxed.
- ▣ Some Native Americans stayed in Morris County for a generation or more after the land was sold.
- ▣ Founding Fathers: Deists**

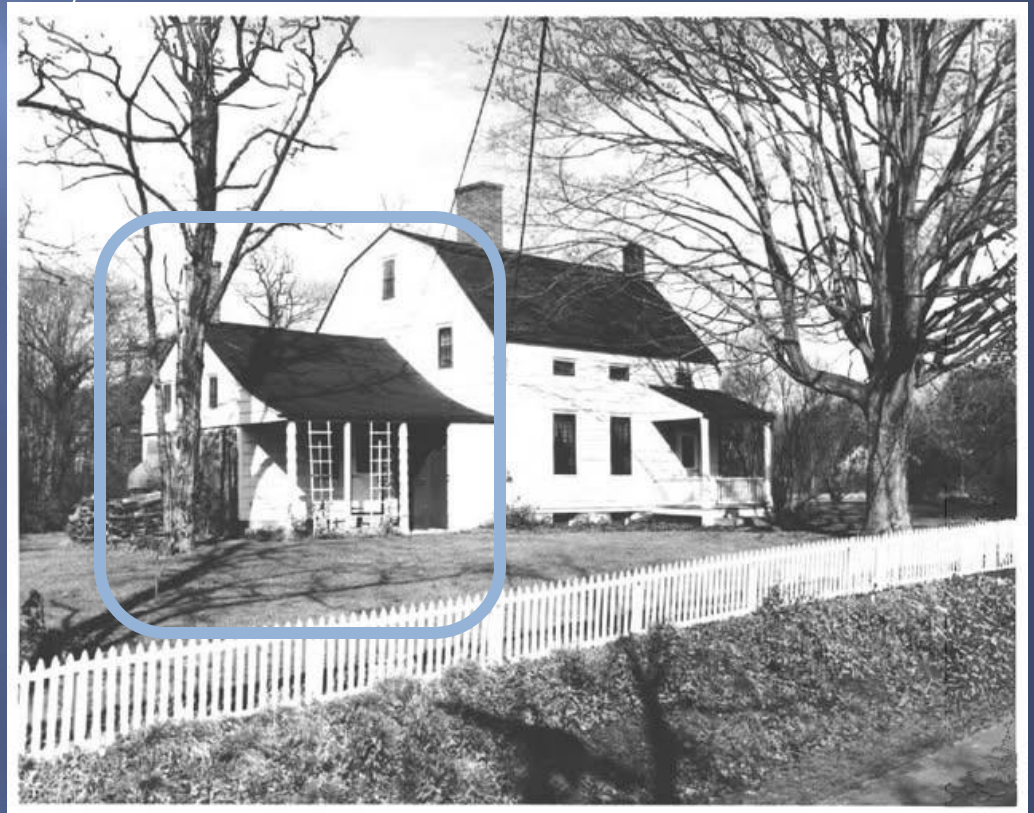
Morris County

- ▣ Named after Royal Governor, Lewis Morris; (1671 – 1746)
- ▣ Morris County was “the last frontier in New Jersey.”
- ▣ County ceded from Hunterdon 1738/39; property called Morris Township.
- ▣ Morris County spans West to East NJ.
- ▣ May 25, 1740: Parts of Morris Township became Poquanock Township, Hanover Township, and Morristown.



Old Boonton ~ A Village

- ▣ A village located in the MILLER-KINGSLAND HOUSE - 1740 valley of the Rockaway River
- ▣ Ideal location
 - Falling River
 - Steep Banks
- ▣ Raw Materials Available
 - Iron ore nearby
 - Dense forest
 - Limestone
- ▣ An Unami Story



*Posted on BHS Facebook page by Kathy Richardi Saxon
6th Great Granddaughter of Johannes Miller.*

Mrs. Miller's Home



Old Boonton's Ironmaster

OBADIAH BALDWIN

- ▣ Son of John Baldwin of Newark. Had brothers, Josiah, David; John
- ▣ Wife: Susannah
- ▣ 1741 Resident of Hanover Twp. (Today: Parsippany)
- ▣ 1742: 3 yr. old son died & buried in Whippany Burying Yard.
- ▣ Died 1797: survived by 2 sons and 1 daughter.

OLDEST CEMETERY IN NORTHERN NJ



11 Revolutionary soldiers buried here.

David Ogden, Esq.

- ▣ Member of **and** counsel for the East Jersey Proprietors.
- ▣ 1759: Purchased properties including our tract.
- ▣ Ironworks becomes “Mr. Ogden’s Refinery”
- ▣ 1761: Named the village after the Royal Governor of the province: Boone-Town
- ▣ 1764: Head of the New Jersey Bar
- ▣ 1772: Associate Judge of the NJ Colonial Supreme Court.



**The Crest of
Thomas Boone**

*Arrived in NJ July 1760
Left in the fall of 1761*

Samuel Ogden

- ▣ Youngest son of David Ogden: sickly
- ▣ Graduated from King's College (20 yr. old)
- ▣ Became the resident manager of the ironworks and Boone-Town property.
- ▣ When arrived, saw the possibilities and his vocation.
- ▣ 1770: Purchased Boone-Town Tract from Dad. Later in the year: purchased six acres on the opposite bank of the river.
- ▣ Erected a rolling and slitting mill.



**NEW-YORK
GAZETTE
&
WEEKLY MERCURY**

SAMUEL OGDEN
*Advertisment
1772 and 1773*

Town Contributions



(232) Revolutionary House, Old Boonton, N. J.

PHOTO BY WM. H. BROADWELL, NEWARK, N. J.

- ▣ Appointed Justice of the Peace, 1770
- ▣ Provincial Council Commendation for evidence against Samuel Ford's counterfeiters.
- ▣ Lieutenant Colonel: organized employees into local militia.
- ▣ Built a manor home in Boone-Town

1778: Samuel Ogden's Holding

One of the Wealthiest Men in Morris County

1 Acre of Improved Land - Pequannock Twp.	1,000 Acres of Unimproved Land - Pequannock Twp.
1,800 Acres of Improved Land - Hanover Twp.	16 Horses
26 Cattle	6 Hogs
3 Slaves	1 Merchant (shop)
2 Riding Chairs	£2,000 Lent Out at Interest

Total Rating: About £12,000

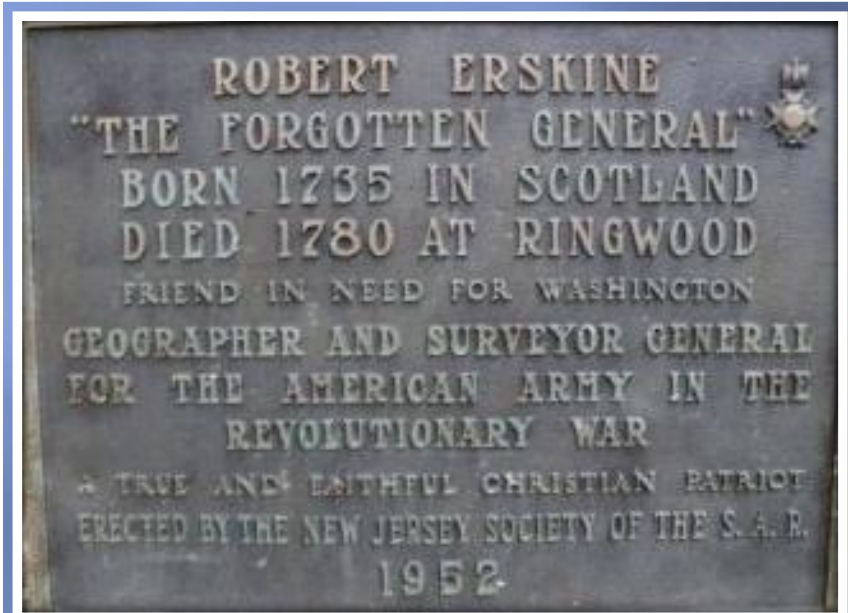
New Jersey Joins the Patriot Cause



- ▣ Appointed to the 1st Committee of Correspondence, 1774, with brother, Abraham.
- ▣ The Committee of Safety questioned Abraham and Samuel's loyalty.
- ▣ Both took Oath of Allegiance.
- ▣ Placed the resources of the mill at the disposal of the military.
- ▣ Ironworks in northern NJ: allowed worker to bear arms in defense of the works, and exempt men from field service except in dire emergency.
- ▣ Military supplies were ordered from Boone-Town's ironworks.

Robert Erskine

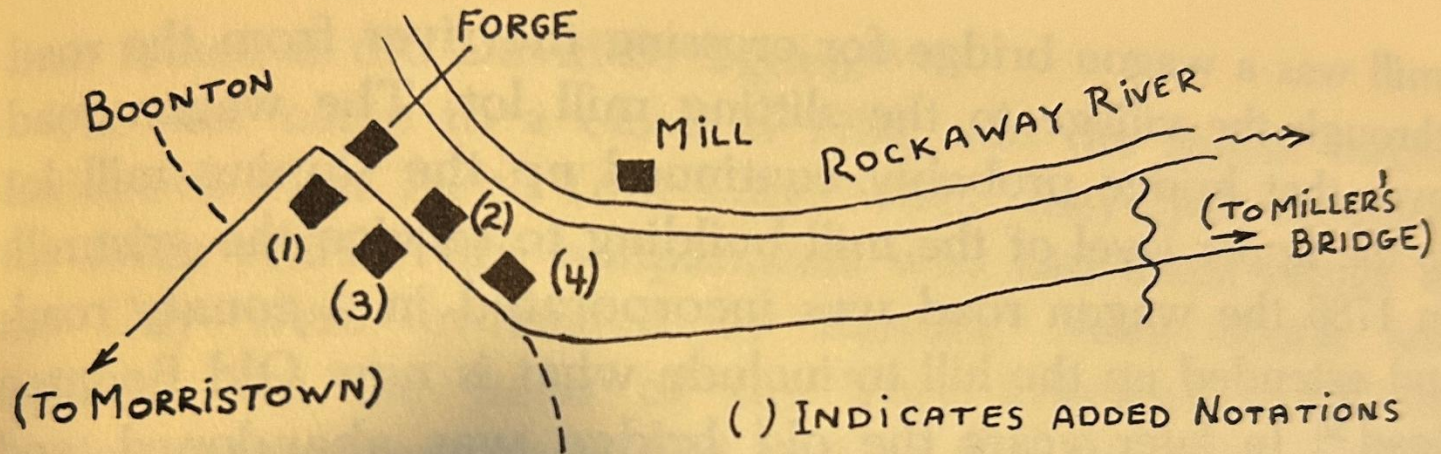
1st Surveyor General



Tombstone 1952

- Born in Scotland; Studied engineering at U. of Edinburg
- Inventor: Continual Stream Pump, Platometer, Centrifugal Hydraulic Engine
- Nominated into The Royal Society of London by President Sir John Pringle and Benjamin Franklin, 1771
- Comes to America: June 5, 1771, to manage Ringwood's ironworks
- Appointed to the post by George Washington: July 27, 1777

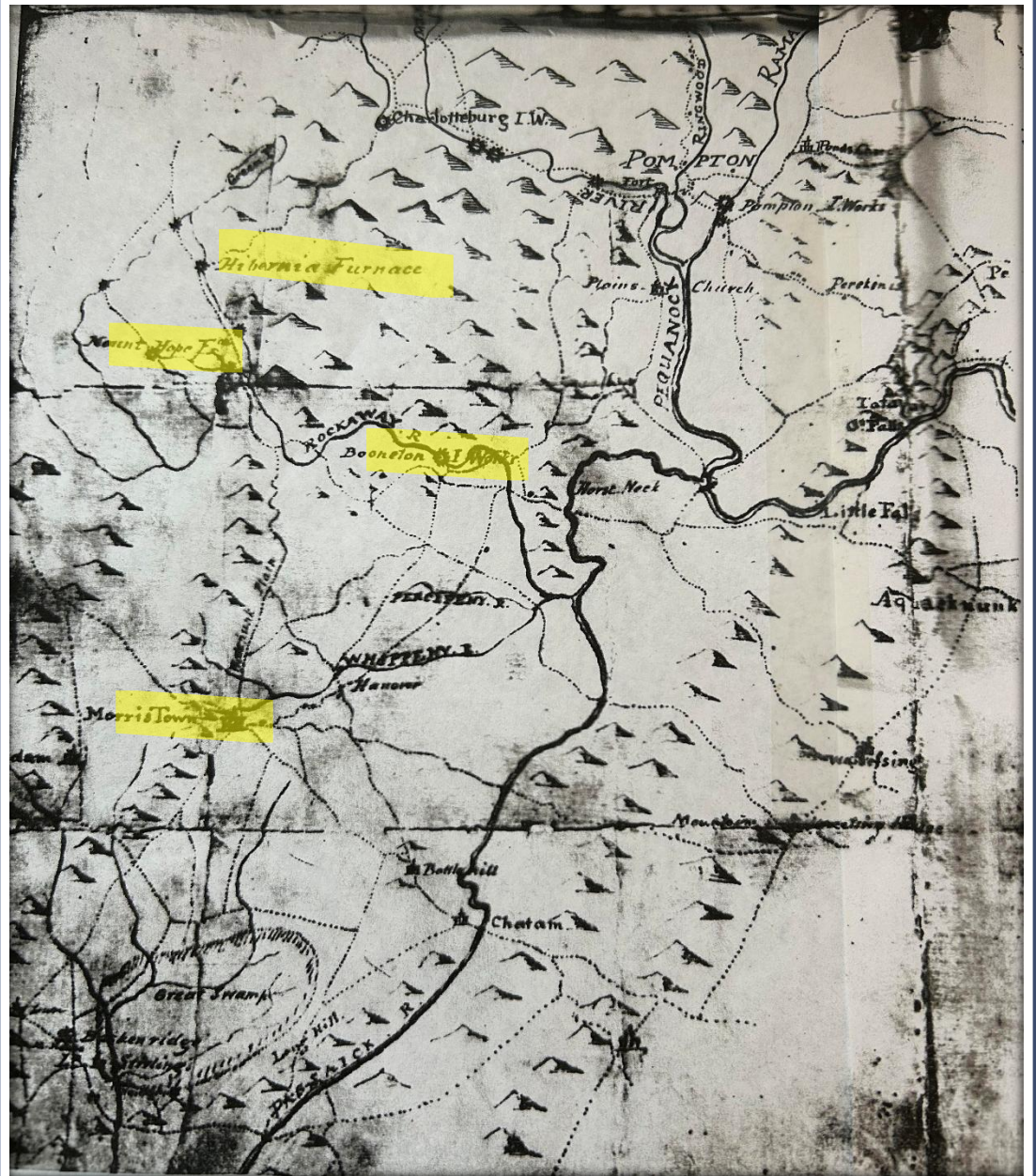
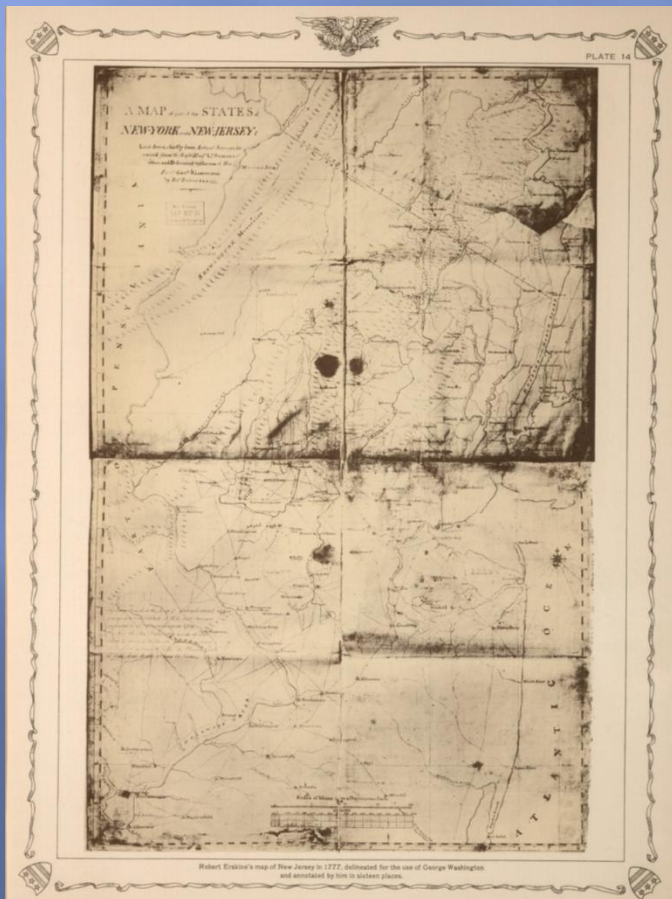
Booneton's 1st Map by Robert Erskin, 1779



Erskine map of Old Boonton.

ADDED NOTATION	
(1) Samuel Ogden's Manor	(2) Residence of Nicholas Stagg, <i>neighbor</i>
(3) Quarters for some of Ogden's employees	(4) Mrs. Miller's house

Robert Erskine's Map of NJ 1777



Booneton Forge Products*

Axes

Horseshoes

Flints

Cups

Kettles

Other items
advertised



NO Ordnance was made in Booneton

Ogden's Family

1775: Samuel Ogden
marries Euphemia
Morris

(daughter of Lewis
Morris, Jr. and Sara
Gouverneur Morris)

Leave Boonton close
of the war in 1783

David Bayard
Ogden

Sledge Hammer
of the Court:
NYC

Marries cousin;
dad: Abraham
Ogden

Gertrude
(Ogden)
Meredith

Eldest son: US
Secretary of the
Treasury

Attorney
General of PA

Sarah Morris
Ogden

Spouse: US
Congressman

Catherine
(Ogden) Parker

Collector of the
Port of NJ

Lewis Morris
Ogden

Mayor, Perth
Amboy

Isabella Ogden

John Jacob Faesch



Descendant of Nobility

- Born in Basel, Switzerland (1729), a descendant of the Faesch/Fesch noble family
- Ironmaster in Germany
- 1764: 7-year contract to work in the New World: Ringwood (£££)
- Becomes a Citizen of New Jersey in 1766; an early patriot
- 1772: By lease and purchase, acquired ironworks and mines at Mount Hope. Enlarges furnace.
- 1775: Married Elizabeth Brinkerhoff and settles into the Ford-Faesch House in Mt. Hope. (4 children)
- Furnished substantial quantities of cannon, cannonballs, shells, and a variety of cast and hollow-ware product to the Continental Army.

After the Revolution

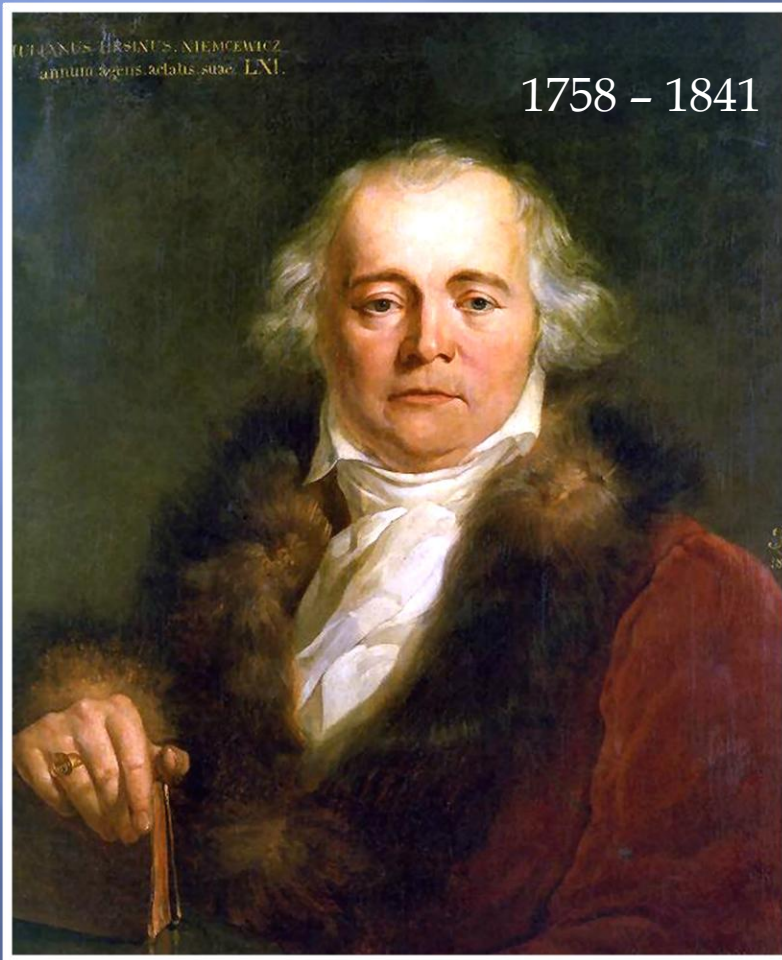
- ▣ Faesch comes to Old Boonton in 1784 to manage ironworks
- ▣ Moves into Ogden Manor in 1788 with 3rd wife and kids
- ▣ Morris County judge
- ▣ Justice of the peace
- ▣ 1 of 3 Morris County delegates to the New Jersey State Convention that ratified the US Constitution in 1787.
- ▣ Free Mason – Grand Master
- ▣ Died May 29, 1799



*"The Tender Parent, The Sincere
Friend, The Honest Man"*

A Diary Entry ...

Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz



- ❑ Polish Poet, playwright, writer
- ❑ Statesman: The Great Sejm
- ❑ Founder: Friends of the Constitution
- ❑ Kosciuszko Uprising; 1794
- ❑ Jailed in Russia
- ❑ Diary – USA: The Travels: 1797-1799
- ❑ His words about Boonton...

Portrait by Antoni Brodowski, 1820

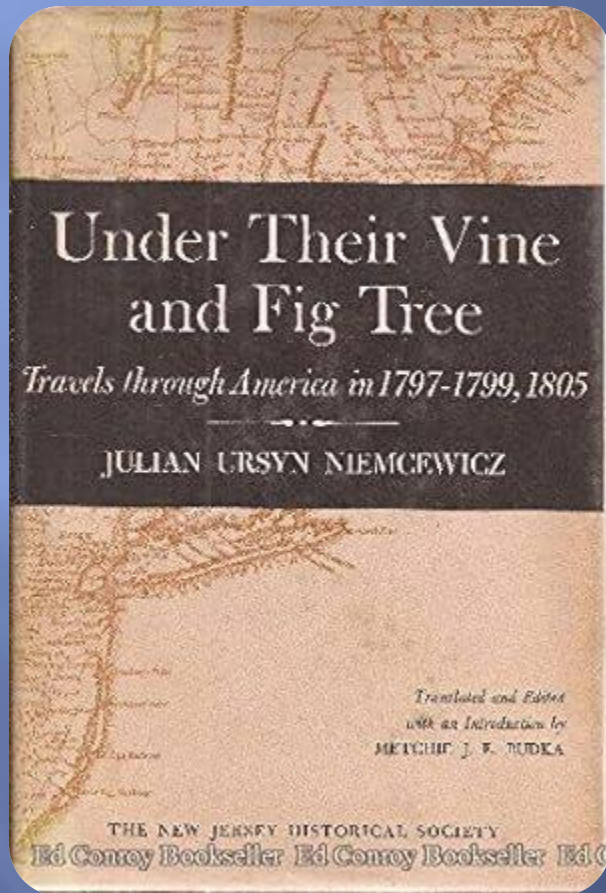
Boonton's Rebirth

- ▣ Faesch's sons take over the Ironworks after Dad's death.
- ▣ Neither brothers married: John Jacob Faesch dies in 1808 (33); brother in 1820 (42)
- ▣ The estate and debt transfers to their sisters who sold several lots attempting to prevent foreclosure.
- ▣ August 18, 1821, Sheriff sale: 1,912 acres sold to Israel Crane and William Scott for \$8,050.
- ▣ The Deal of the Day...



*William Scott's Powerville
Home, Library of Congress*

Under the Vine and Fig Tree



- ▣ Niemcewicz 2nd visit to Old Boonton.
- ▣ Niemcewicz summation about a young United States.
- ▣ Phrase frequently referenced by George Washington.
- ▣ Personal Independence and National Freedom

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