



THE  
**HISTORICAL DIRECTORY**

OF  
SUSSEX COUNTY, N. J.

CONTAINING

A brief summary of events from its first Settlement, with  
Descriptive and Historical Notices of each Town ;

ALSO,

The Name and Post-Office Address of each Freeholder.

**EMBELLISHED WITH ILLUSTRATIONS**

AND

**A VALUABLE MAP OF THE COUNTY.**

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COMPILED AND EDITED BY

**EDWARD A. WEBB.**

1872.

has been leased at various times for different mechanical purposes.

It is situated on a branch of the Paulinskill, half a mile from Swartswood Pond.

#### SWARTSWOOD.

Swartswood or Pater'son, as it *was* called, is on the northwest boundary of Swartswood Pond, near the line which separates this township from Hampton. It contains a store, a cooper and two blacksmith shops, an hotel and a saw-mill. There are also here two churches—Methodist and Presbyterian.

During the summer months pleasure and fishing boats are in constant demand on the pond by parties visiting the place.

#### SWARTSWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

In the year 1833 a house was dedicated and a congregation organized known as the Second Presbyterian Church of Stillwater. It was placed two and a half miles northwest of the present building. Owing to the unfavorable locality the building has been abandoned and the congregation dissolved. The present church edifice was erected in 1855, size 32x42 at a cost of \$2,250. It was organized in December, 1853, by a committee from Newton Presbytery. It has had no pastor but has been chiefly supplied by Rev. T. B. Condit.

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#### VERNON TOWNSHIP.

This township is situated in the northeast of the county bounded north by Orange County, N. Y., south by Hardyston, east by Passaic County, and west by Wantage. The surface is mountainous. The Wawayanda range on the east, with the Wallkill and Pochunk Mountains cover the greater portion of the township. The Wallkill river with its tributary streams,

the Wawayanda Lake and several small ponds besides numerous creeks water the township throughout. There are also on the summit of some of these mountains small lakes, which is one of the many curious phenomena of this region. Near the southwest portion of this township commences the tract of marshy land known as the "drowned lands of the Wall-kill." It is quite narrow until it enters the State of New York, where it extends five miles in width.

Although many attempts have been and still are made to drain this marsh, they have not yet been successful. But wherever portions of it have been drained the soil is found to be a rich vegetable mould.

The scenery from the farm of Mr. Jacob V. Little, on the top of the Pochunk, overlooking the Kitanny Valley, lying between this mountain and the Blue Mountains on the west, is truly beautiful. This great valley, which extends far into Wantage, is not a level surface, but traversed from north to south by several ridges of low hills, with meadow lands of considerable width between. The view also from this mountain extends north to the Catskill and south as far as the Delaware Water Gap, a distance of seventy-five miles.

#### VERNON.

This village is situated in about the centre of the township, and is the principal place. It lies just to the west of the Wawayanda Mountains on a small creek. It contains three stores, two blacksmith shops, two wheelwright shops, a grist-mill and two cheese factories. The population is about 200.

The corner stone of the Methodist Episcopal church at this place was laid on the 21st of September, 1871, and the building was completed this year at a cost of \$8,000. This is a beautiful frame building 38x70 feet. There is also an Episcopal church at Vernon.

#### MCAFFEE'S VALLEY

Is situated in the southwestern part of Vernon on the Black Creek. It was called West Vernon until recently. The name

was changed when the postoffice was established on account of its similarity to other names in the State.

A branch railroad has just been completed from the Midland to this place to carry off the iron ores from the mine near by. The place contains an hotel and a small store.

#### CANISTEER.

Canisteer is situated in the extreme south-east corner of the township. A large forge was for many years in constant use here, and a fine water power was sustained by a series of artificial ponds to the north of the village. But little is now done here. A mine of iron ore has been recently opened on lands which were owned by Mr. Adam Smith, but is not being worked at present.

#### CANISTEER M. E. CHURCH.

This church was built in about the year 1857 by Mr. Adam Smith of Canisteer. The first pastor was Rev. Joshua Burch. Since the time of its erection it has been closed a year, but with this exception it has sustained regular preaching. The present pastor is the Rev. Daniel H. Leith.

#### WAWAYANDA

Is a small place near Wawayanda Lake, known also as Double Pond. It contains a store, an old forge, a furnace, and a few dwelling houses. The lake, which is about two miles long, and near which this place stands, is a most beautiful sheet of water. It is situated in the northeastern part of the township.

Several small mines have been opened in this vicinity, but little is being done in them at present.

#### GLENWOOD, OR NORTH VERNON.

Is situated in the northwestern portion of the township on a small creek. The name was changed from North Vernon to Glenwood at the time it was made a post village for the same

reason that changed the name of West Vernon to McAfee's Valley.

### WALLPACK TOWNSHIP.

The township of Wallpack lies in the southwestern extremity of the county, bounded north by Sandyston, south by Warren County, east by Stillwater, and west by the Delaware River. The Delaware in the southwest corner sweeps around a large bend and flows back about a mile in the opposite direction nearly to Flatbrookville, where it makes a short bend and returns. The eastern portion of the township is mountainous and very thinly inhabited. The population is scattered through the centre, along the Flatbrook, which flows through a most beautiful valley.

From Stillwater it is separated by the Blue Mountains. The line separating Wallpack from Sandyston is a part of the division line which separated what in our father's time was called East and West Jersey. Flatbrookville and Wallpack Centre are the only villages in the township.

### FLATBROOKVILLE.

This village is situated on the west bank of the Flatbrook, near its mouth, where it empties into the Delaware. It is hemmed in on all sides by the Blue Mountain range, which cuts it off from the constant communication with the county seat which is enjoyed by other small towns.

It has been built up in the last fifty years, previous to \* which a saw-mill only marked the place. This mill has gone through many changes; at first it was built of logs, with the cumbrous old gearing of that period. At the present time we find there a large frame building with modern improvements in machinery to utilize the water power, which is most excellent at this place. A mail route and stage line is established be-

\* The first grist mill in the county was erected here in 1741.

Wallpack township is separated from Sandyston by the Blue Mountains.