

Drakesville Times

Exploring History in the New Jersey Highlands

EXTERIOR ELEVATION - NORTH
Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"EXTERIOR ELEVATION - WEST
Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"EXTERIOR ELEVATION - SOUTH
Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"EXTERIOR ELEVATION - EAST
Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

Drawings John Bolt Architect

Semi-annual Newsletter

Issue No. 3 December 2011

\$1.00

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Message from the President

In 2011 the Trust hosted more events than ever, thanks to the enthusiastic volunteer team named in the Committees opposite.

In June, for the Annual Meeting, John Gilbert, who was born at the foot of Emmans Road in 1931, reminisced with Charlie Alpaugh about his childhood memories of Miss King and the neighborhood. Twenty of our members enjoyed this unique exchange, captured on film.

Members then approved the amended bylaws and voted in three new Board members, Janet Lordi who brings a degree in history, initiative and appreciation of the late Victorian era; Pastor David Holwick from the neighboring Ledgewood Baptist Church, which has its own impressive archive of historic photos; and Nicole Barbato, a Social Studies Teacher from Roxbury High School who spearheaded the first visit of high school students to the site in 2010.

In July we enjoyed our first ice cream social on the lawn in the generous shade of the copper beach. August fulfilled a longstanding ambition: the return of the Ledgewood Gala Day (Baby) Parade to the King Store recreating a photo opportunity last recorded in 1917 (see p. 6).

Living History Day on October 9 was a banner event, because Chief Bob Red Hawk Ruth and Shelley DePaul of the Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania visited, and RHT, Inc. signed a [Treaty of Renewed Friendship](#) with them agreeing to promote Lenape Heritage (see page 2). This will influence two new exhibits slated to open in April: History of Local Transportation and a corner of Lenape Culture in Exhibit Room 2. Claire Reynolds played old-time music, Diane Unger gave rides in her horse drawn buggy and Peg Shultz appeared in ca 1912 costume.

The events did not end in October and the Trust volunteers are still basking in the success of Christmas with Santa shared with the Salt Box House Soup Supper run by the Historical Society. The Victorian Christmas event on Dec. 11 was surprisingly well attended.. And, yes, we have survived the floods (see page 8) and snow, despite total immersion of the King House furnace and electrical panel.

Meanwhile, behind scenes: we received a general Operating Support grant of \$5,000 from NJ Department of State Historical Commission for a much-needed upgrade of the computer system. Morris County Historic Preservation Trust awarded \$60,700 for preparation of King Store construction documents. The Steering Committee meets at noon on Mondays and is currently preparing a Marketing Plan. On October 11 the Township approved Resolution 11-306, naming Drakesville Historic Park an official Roxbury Township park.

The Trust is most grateful for the extraordinary contribution of our new volunteers, Sue Rawlinson, who joined us full of drive and new ideas in April; Janet Lordi, who joined the Board and designed the Christmas interpretation of the King House; and Mary Ann Dudak whose corporate experience has been invaluable in facilitating the Trust's Marketing Plan and who brought in Steve Glaubman of Berman's Auction Gallery for the successful Celebrate Preservation event in May.

Miriam Morris

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 8 First Regular Opening of 2012

King Store and House Museums 1-4 PM

New Exhibits

May 13 Regular Opening

King Store and House Museums 1 -4 PM

May 20 Celebrate Preservation Day

Museums Open 12-4 PM

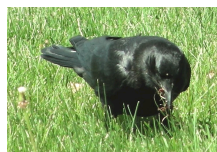
Hot Dogs and Drinks

Antique Cars

June 10 Annual Meeting

Election of Trustees

Event TBD



For event updates see the Museums at Drakesville Historic Park page on [facebook](#)

Officers and Board of Trustees

Miriam Morris President; Richard Cramond Vice President; Treasurer and Roxbury Historical Society representative; Mary Ann Dudak Secretary and Rotary representative; Charles Alpaugh, Sue Anderson, Nicole Barbato, Rev David Holwick, Janet Lordi, Robert Morris, Barbara Pescow Trustees.

Committees

Buildings and Grounds - Charles Alpaugh, Richard Cramond, Robert Morris; Education and Exhibits - Miriam Morris, Rosalind Musmanno, Janet Lordi, Barbara Pescow, Sue Rawlinson, Carol Shay; By Laws - Clint Drymon, Maria Sudol, Miriam Morris, Robert Morris; Publicity Barbara Pescow, Janet Lordi, Sue Rawlinson, Mottel Balston; Membership Sue Anderson, Emily Wien, Steering Committee Richard Cramond, Mary Ann Dudak, Miriam Morris, Barbara Pescow, Roz Musmanno, Bob Morris, Sue Rawlinson and others. Newsletter Committee Bob Morris, Janet Lordi, Mary Ann Dudak, Miriam Morris; Student Volunteers D. J. Ward, Heather Johnson, Breanne Chapman, Adele Ndiba, Andria Martinez, Maria Lutz, Brett Osetec, Mike Przitulsky.

RHT MISSION

THE ROXBURY HISTORIC TRUST, INC. PROVIDES UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCOVERY OF OUR SHARED HERITAGE THROUGH INTERPRETATION OF THE KING STORE AND KING HOUSE MUSEUMS. VISITORS EXPLORE THE ROLES OF THE KING AND RIGGS FAMILIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MORRIS CANAL, THE ROXBURY COMMUNITY AND THE REGION, FROM THE 1820S THROUGH THE 1930S, A TIME OF TREMENDOUS GROWTH AND INNOVATION IN OUR NATION.

Dues Policy Change Notice

To save the resources associated with distributing dues notices throughout the year, Annual Dues for all members will now be payable on or before June 30 starting in 2012. All members in good standing as of December 31, 2011 will be welcome and eligible to vote at the June 10, 2012 Annual Meeting.

Visit the [Roxbury Historic Trust](#) online at <http://www.roxburynewjersey.com/trust.htm> §



Who Are the Lenápe?

The Lenápe people are the original inhabitants of Lenapehoking (northern Delaware, New Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania, and southern New York).

For over 10,000 years, since the retreat of the Wisconsin glacier, they have been the caretakers of these lands and of The River of Human Beings, now known as the Delaware River. The Lenape were the first tribe to sign a treaty with the United States. Sadly, over a period of 250 years, many Lenape people were forced off their land and dispersed throughout the western states and Canada.

However, some Lenape families remained quietly in the homelands and continued the traditions of their ancestors. Today these Lenape people are coming out of hiding and are revitalizing their communities. This movement is especially vibrant in Pennsylvania due to the activities of the [Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania](#). LNPA endeavors to promote the awareness that the Lenape people are still here carrying on their traditions, culture and spiritual beliefs. The Lenape Nation is engaged in numerous projects to provide practical ways for all citizens to respect and protect the Lenape homeland and the welfare of the next seven generations.

One of the most ambitious of these projects is the re-establishment of the spoken Lenape language, which is being undertaken by the LNPA in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania and Swarthmore College. The language is seen as a vehicle for restoration and preservation of the Lenape Culture.

The [Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Indians of New Jersey](#), the [Nanticoke Lenape Tribal Nation](#) and the [Ramapough Lenape Indian Nation](#) are also actively working to preserve the Lenape Heritage in NJ.

Many New Jersey place names are derived from the Lenape language, such as Allamuchy (*named for Chief Allamuchahokkingen meaning "place within the hills"*), Assunpink (*stony creek*), Ho-Ho-Kus (*red cedar*), Hoboken (*smoked pipe*), Hopatcong (*from hapakonoesson or pipe stone*), Mahwah (*meeting place*), Manasquan (*island of wives*), Metuchen (*dry firewood*), Moonachie (*ground hog*) Musconetcong, Netcong (*grassy stream*), Parsipanny (*rushing water*), Passaic (*valley*), Picatinny (*mountain peaks and valleys*), Pompton (*place where they catch soft fish*), Pequannock (*cleared land ready for cultivation*), Secaucus (*black snakes*), Succasunna (*place of black rock, iron ore*), Delaware Water Gap Mount Tammany (*named for Tamanend revered Lenape Chief who negotiated peace with Wm. Penn*), Totowa (*the falls between river and mountain*), Walpack (*whirlpool*), Wanaque (*land of sassafras*), Weehawken (*place of gulls*), and Whippany (*place of the arrow wood or willow*) to name a few.

When European settlers arrived, New Jersey's swampy and hilly terrain was traversed by a network of ancient Lenape trails, which have evolved into today's familiar highways and by-ways. The Indian trails exploited lake shorelines, stream-beds, and ridge tops and passes to facilitate travel. A notable example is the Minisink Trail comprising several branches connecting

Minisink Island on the Delaware River to Manhattan (*island of many hills*) and Staten (*Manacknong*) Islands, later replaced along various portions of its route by the Morris Turnpike, Route 206, and other roads. Roxbury Township Main Street follows the old route of the Minisink Trail past the site of King House and Store. Thus, the Lenape Heritage is central to the historical interpretation of the King Site and the Drakesville and Succasunna Historic Districts of Roxbury Township.

Neweneit Na Ahas

The Prophecy of the Fourth Crow

*As told by [Robert Red Hawk Ruth](#) and translated by Shelley DePaul

*Lomewe, luwen okwes xu kshihele
xkwithakamika.*

Long ago it was said a fox will he run on the earth

Ok luwen newa ahasak xu peyok
And it was said four crows will they come.

*Netami na ahas kenthul li guttitehewagan wichi
Kishelemukonk.*

First the crow he flew the way of harmony with Creator.

*Nisheneit na ahas kwechi pilitu entalelemukonk,
shek palsu ok ankela.*

Second the crow he tried he cleans the world, but he became sick and he died.

*Nexeneit na ahas weneyoo xansa ankelek ok
koshiphuwe.*

Third the crow he saw him his brother he is dead and he hid.

*Neweneit na ahas kenthul li guttitehewagan lapi
wichi Kishelemukonk.*

Fourth the crow he flew the way of harmony again with Creator.

Kenahkihechik xu withatuwak enta xkwithakamika.
Caretakers they will live together on the earth.

"The Prophecy of the Fourth Crow," is an ancient story passed down among the Lenape for generations. This story relates the ways in which Lenape people have struggled to survive and to keep their community and culture intact. Chief Red Hawk summarizes the current interpretation of the Prophecy in the following way:

"We now know that the First Crow was the Lenape before the coming of the Europeans. The Second Crow symbolized the death and destruction of our culture. The Third Crow was our people going underground and hiding. The Fourth Crow was the Lenape becoming caretakers again and working with everybody to restore this land."

* Art work and Fourth Crow text copyright 2005 The Lenape Nation

DRAKESVILLE CHRONOLOGY PART 2

(CONTINUED FROM DRAKESVILLE TIMES ISSUE NO. 2)

ADAPTED FROM THE SEPT. 2009 KING STORE AND HOMESTEAD HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT PREPARED BY DENNIS BERTLAND ASSOC.

| DATE | EVENT/SOURCE |
|---------|---|
| 1831 | Nov: Canal completed between Easton & Newark. Canal boats took 5 days to complete passage. [Lane, pps. 232 & 234] In addition to coal and iron, canal boats carried wood for Newark, and lime. Boats heading west were empty. (Hosking and Meeker, p. 42) [see Drakesville Times, Issue No. 2 for full references] |
| 1833 | May 15: Deed between Obadiah Crane and Charlotte his wife of Wantage Twp. and Israel Crane of Bloomfield. \$800. . 82-acre store lot. [MC Deeds, Book Q3, p. 279] A deed conveying Absalom Woodruff's share of ownership to sole ownership by Obadiah Crane has not been located. |
| 1834 | Gordon's <i>Gazetteer</i> : Drakesville, "on the turnpike road leading from Morristown by Stanhope furnace, 12 miles N.E. from the former, and upon the Morris canal; contains a tavern, a store, and from 12 to 15 dwellings." [Gordon, p. 132] |
| 1835 | Absalom Woodruff returned to Mendham (where he was born). "[I]n 1835 he had a hurry call to the Mendham practice, to take the place of the resident physician. . . who retired. . . There is a tradition that through the fault of others he lost very heavily on an investment, but otherwise he prospered." [Drake, p. 80] No source is provided for purported abandonment of the Crane and Woodruff store in 1835, as reported in Seraly and Lyman (p. 41). However, the fact that Obadiah Crane was living in Wantage in 1833, and Absalom Woodruff moved to Mendham in 1835 suggests that by 1835 neither was involved in the store any longer. An 1841 deed (see below) references the "Crane and Woodruff Store House Lot," which serves to confuse the issue of whether the store was closed for a period of years. |
| 1835 | Jan 29: Morris and Essex Railroad Company incorporated. [Munsell, p. 69] |
| 1836 | First school, an indication of development, conducted in cooper's shop. [Munsell, p. 366; Tuttle, p. 50] |
| 1837 | Panic of 1837 [Lane, p. 238] |
| 1838 | Construction of first schoolhouse in Drakeville (still in use as of 1882). [Munsell, p. 366; Tuttle, p. 50] |
| 1839 | Albert R. Riggs (1812-1882) , son of Silas Riggs, married Nancy Stanborough. [Seraly and Lyman, p. 39] |
| 1840-41 | Canal planes enlarged to handle larger boats. [Lane, p. 238] |
| 1841 | Canal company placed in receivership. [Lane, p. 239] |
| 1841 | Nov. 1: Deed from Ezra T. Reed to William Brown for 2 lots: 1) 115 acres adjoining Crane and Woodruff Store House lot; 2) 13 acres near first lot. \$2300. [MC Deed Book 63, p. 387] |
| 1843 | Thomas L. King elected county sheriff, and maintained a home in Morristown while serving [<i>Biographical and Genealogical History</i> , p. 535] At unknown date, Thomas L. King bought a farm "with the proceeds of his official earnings." He started a store on his farm. [<i>Biographical and Genealogical History</i> , p. 535] Son, Theodore F. King, born on farm Nov. 14, 1843. "I remember that Miss Louise King's father, another Theodore Frelinghuysen, named as was my father for a popular United States Senator of the day, told me that when he was a lad an old man said to him 'You will live to see grass growing on the tow path.'" [Mary Wolfe Thomson quoted in Hosking and Meeker, Vol 1., 39] |
| 1844 | Canal company reorganized. Waterway enlarged. [Lane, p. 240] |
| 1844 | August 29: Deed from John Blackburn and Phebe his wife of New Providence to Peter P. Brown of West Milford. \$1400. Two lots: 1) .82 acre; 2) .28 acre. (Second lot "being the same property conveyed by G. Bartlet and Mary his wife of the city of New York to the part of the first part.") [MC Deeds, Book G4, p. 79] Deed states that lot #1 is "lot conveyed by [1826] deed from George K. Drake to Obadiah Crane and Absalom Woodruff." A deed conveying .82-acre lot from Israel Crane to John Blackburn has not been found. |
| 1845 | Canal tonnage began to increase. [Lane, p. 242] |
| 1846 | August 12: Deed from Peter P. Brown and Elizabeth his wife of West Milford and George H. Doremus of Newark. \$2,000. Two small lots: 1) .82 acre; 2) .28 acre adjoining "Drakesville Basin." [MC Deeds, Book I4, p. 538] |
| 1846 | "Roxbury Twp. has 9 stores, 1 forge, 2 fulling, 2 grist mills, 1 woollen factory, 1 tannery, 1 pottery. "Drakesville, on the Morris canal, Drakestown, on the S. boundary, and Flanders in the southern part, are small villages, the latter containing 20 or 30 dwellings." [Barber and Howe, p. 401] |
| 1847-60 | Canal planes remodeled to accommodate larger boats. |
| 1847 | June 5: Death of Silas Riggs (b. July 14, 1779). [Wallace, p. 36] According to Albert R. Riggs's grandson Albert A. Riggs, after the death of Silas Riggs, Albert Riggs moved into his father's house "from the stone building that was the Ledgewood store for so many years." [Riggs, p. 67] Note: Although Albert was the second son of Silas, by 1847 his older brother, Jetur (who would later serve in Congress), was practicing medicine in Passaic County. [Wallace, p. 64] |
| 1847 | Albert R. Riggs acquires .82 store lot seventeen days after the death of his father. June 22: Deed from George H. Doremus to Albert R. Riggs. .82-acre store lot "the same being a lot of land conveyed by George K. Drake to Obadiah Crane and Absalom Woodruff by deed dated the 29 th day of April, 1826." \$2,000.00 [MC Deed Book. L4, p. 206] |
| 1848 | Morris & Essex railroad extended to Dover. [Lane, p. 382] |
| 1848 | Feb. 27: Deed from William Brown to Frederick S. Cook for 2 lots: 1) 115 acres adjoining "north corner" of store house lot; 2) 13 acres near first lot. \$2925. [MC Deed Book N4, p. 143] |

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| 1850 | April 10: Drakesville post office established, Richard Salmon first postmaster. [Kay, p. 99] |
| 1850s | The tracks of the Morris and Essex (later taken over by the Lackawanna) Railroad are laid through the area in 1853, but no station is built in Landing. Passengers going to Landing/Lake Hopatcong left the train at the Drakesville (now Ledgewood) crossing (probably crossing on turnpike to Shippingport), and were carried by horse drawn carts over the bumpy roads up to the Lake. |
| 1850s | During the 1850s, elections were held at the Drakesville post office. [Hosking and Meeker, p. 160] |
| 1853 | Road from "Drakeville" to Drakesville Station appears on 1853 Lightfoot and Geil map; S. P. Garrison's Hotel by Hopkins; A. R. Riggs Store; Dr. Woodruff; Blacksmith shop; Young's grist and saw mills; house of F.S. Cook depicted a short distance east of Rigg's store on the Dover road. Succasunny more developed than Drakeville at this time, though not on canal or railroad. [Lightfoot and Geil] |
| 1853 | October: A. R. Riggs selected as the candidate of the Morris County Temperance Convention to represent the County of Morris as Senator. "I feel grateful for the honor conferred, and, if elected, will do what I consider my duty to secure the passage of a Prohibitory Liquor Law for our State. . . A. R. Riggs." [Jerseyman, October 6, 1853] |
| 1853-58 | Albert Riggs appointed postmaster. |
| 1854 | Albert R. Riggs acquires house lot next to store: Aug. 25: Deed from Frederick S. Cook to A. R. Riggs for 3 lots: 1) 1-acre lot: "Begins at southeast corner of Store House Lot now owned by A. R. Riggs" ; 2) small "wedge-like piece" already in possession of Riggs 3) half-acre lot now in possession of Riggs. \$200.00 [MC Deed Book D5, p. 578] |
| 1854 | Morris & Essex Railroad reached Hackettstown. [Lane, p. 382] |
| 1856 | "Evidence of Ledgewood's rapid growth is found in the fact that in 1856 an addition was built [to 1838 one-room schoolhouse] and two teachers were hired." [Hosking and Meeker, p. 60] |
| 1858 | Dec. 2 "The banks of the Morris Canal gave way last night near Drakesville, carrying away a dwelling house in which were a woman and three children. They were all drowned." [Hackettstown Gazette quoted in Lee, p. 302] |
| 1860 | Year of greatest prosperity for canal company with tonnage of 889,220. [Lane, p. 242] Decade of the 1860s was the most prosperous period of the Morris Canal. Activity in the coal and iron industries during the Civil War led to vast expansion in its traffic. [Lane, p. 244] "The only profitable period that the canal enjoyed, the decade of the 1860's, was made possible by exceptional business conditions rather than by real advantages of the waterway." [Lane, p. 247] |
| 1860 Census | Albert R. Riggs, 48, farmer, \$25,000 RE, \$15,000 Personal Nancy, 43, 5 children including Emma, age 14 . 2 domestics, including one Irish. Thomas L. King, 46, farmer, \$10,750 RE; 11,000 Personal Jane, 40, Theodore F. 17 , "farming", Wm. E. 12; Ella, 8, Sarah Rood, 60. |
| 1865 | Morris & Essex Railroad extended to Phillipsburg. [Lane, p. 382] |
| 1868 | Beers' Atlas Drakesville detail: T. E. Young owner of numerous properties, including store & P.O., grist mill; saw mill; J. Baker Hotel; J.J. Drake, black smith shop; store A. R. Riggs; Carpentry Shop A. R. Riggs; A. Roberts store. No house shown. A.R. Riggs and T.L. King shown owning substantial real estate. Main street shown as "Dover & Newark Turnpike" |
| 1868 | Morris and Essex Railroad leased to Delaware, Lackawanna and Western and 8-hour trip vs. 5-days on canal increased competition with canal. [Lane, p. 245] |
| 1869-82 | April 7: Albert Riggs again served as postmaster. |
| 1870 | Albert Riggs one of the organizers of National Union Bank of Dover. [King Site Nat'l Register Nomination, p. 8-5] |
| 1870 | Chester railroad, branch of Morris and Essex, opened for traffic in January. [Munsell, p. 367] |
| 1871 | Canal in financial difficulties; leased to Lehigh Valley Railroad. [Lane, p. 245] |
| 1871 | April 15: First meeting of Roxbury Township Committee following division held in Drakesville at hotel of Jeremiah Baker. Theodore F. King, Township Clerk; Albert R. Riggs, Thomas L. King among Township Committee members. [Hosking and Meeker, Vol 1, p. 48] |
| 1873 | May 21: Albert Riggs' daughter, Emma Louise (1844-1925), married Theodore Frelinghuysen King (1843-1928). King and his wife have two daughters: Edna Josephine (1876-1878) and Emma Louise (1881-1975), Theodore's father, Thomas L. King owned a large farm in Ledgewood. Theodore's brother William E. King took over father's farm and married Nancy Wheeler Riggs, sister of Emma Louise Riggs. [Serally and Lyman, p. 42] |
| 1873 | Nov. 1: Deed from Albert R. Riggs to Emma L. King: 1) .82-acre store lot; 2) 1-acre house lot. [Deed Book N9, p. 31] It seems likely that the newly wed couple would have begun construction of their new house upon receipt of the 1-acre lot, prior to the birth of their first child in 1876. |
| 1873 | Business directory entry for Drakesville: Jeremiah Baker, hotel; Peter Barth, blacksmith; N.H. Decker, general store; John G. Jackson, general store; Thomas L. King, country store; Albert R. Riggs, general store; Allen Robert, canal store; W. A. Stephens, builder; T.E. Youngs, mill and country store. [Lant, 1873-1874] |
| 1874 | Construction of the Drakesville (now Ledgewood) Baptist Church was completed at a cost of under \$5,000. The church had been officially organized the previous year with 26 members. Rev. J. G. Entrikin was the pastor. |
| 1875 | Lehigh Valley Railroad constructed Easton and Amboy Railroad, more direct route from iron mines to ocean, resulting in further decline of canal tonnage. [Lane, p. 246] |

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| 1878 | Albert R. Riggs' will contains the earliest known mention of the King house (the will was written in 1878 but not probated until after his death in 1882). "I give to my oldest daughter Emma Louisa now married to Theodore F. King the Boat Yard Lots <u>in front of the House and Stone Store now occupied by T. F. King</u> having given her a deed for the Store House Lot. Also one hundred and sixty Acres of Land in Wisconsin, also a lot of twenty-six acres bought of W. H. Anderson and David Cary and wife and lies on the road from Drakesville to Flanders." |
| 1880 Census | Theodore F. King, 36, General Store Keeper, Emma, 34; Edward Dalymple, 19, clerk in store. |
| 1881 | Feb. 22: Thomas L. King dies intestate. Inventory of personal assets totaled \$9,692. [Inventory Book W, p. 576] |
| 1882 | Jan. 3: Death of Albert R. Riggs , age 69. "He was a large real-estate owner and established several furnaces and forges." [Biographical and Genealogical History, p. 536] "He was a man of large and successful experience in farming, merchandizing, and manufacturing iron, and like all his family he had strong religious faith, adhering closely to the old-fashioned Presbyterian faith." [Wallace, p. 58] Riggs' will contained numerous bequests of property to his six children and other relatives, reserving life estates in some for his widow, who was named executrix. Riggs estate not settled until 1915 death of his wife. [Will Book O, p.177] |
| 1882-1925 | Feb. 13: Theodore King appointed postmaster and served until 1925. [National Register Nomination, p. 8-6; Hoskins & Meeker, p. 68] |
| 1883 | County business directory entry for Drakesville: Jeremiah Baker, hotel; Baker & Myers, natural food trout pond; G. P. Barth, blacksmith; R. H. Cary, grist and sawmill; George W. Wentworth, poundkeeper and physician; John M. William, mason; Floyd T. Woodhuss, general store. Includes list of farmers. Theodore King not mentioned. [Boyd, p. 248] |
| 1885 | Modernization of store. "Among the improvements lately made in this section and one which attracts general attention and comment is that on the exterior of the old "stone store" building at Drakesville, Theo. F. King, proprietor, has been at much expense and pains to modernize this old "landmark", and has succeeded in a manner to surprise all, including those who have witnessed the transforming process. The old building has been rejacketed from foundation to roof, and presents as fine an appearance today as any building of its class in the county. [Dover Iron Era, Sept. 1, 1885] |
| 1885 | Business directory entry for Drakesville: R. H. Cary, grist and saw mill; B.P. Jackson, grocer; Theodore F. King, blacksmith; T.F. King, store; J. Allen Roberts, general store; O. Scheer & Bro, hotel. [Morristown and Dover Directory for 1885-1886, p. 144] |
| 1885 | King's Grocery Store established by Theodore and William King in Landing. [American Suburbs, Summer 1906, p. 21] |
| 1880s | Decline of traffic on Morris Canal. [Lee, p. 4] |
| 1886 | Mar. 9: Post office established at Landing. William E. King, Postmaster. [Kay and Smith, p. 101] |
| 1887 | Robinson's Atlas shows Drakesville station on Delaware Lackawanna & Western R.R., east of Drakesville; Drakesville Station on Highbridge Branch of Central R.R. south of Drakesville halfway to Succasunna; A.R. Estate south of Drakesville; numerous King properties north of Drakesville in Shipmanport vicinity, School No. 32 north of Drakesville, halfway to Shipmanport. Drakesville P.O. Detail shows Baptist Church, Carey (?) Grist Mill, J. Baker Hotel; 2 Blacksmith Shops J. & L. Lefevre, A. Roberts Store, King Store & P.O. & 2 other T.F. King buildings; T.F. & W. E. King; 2 plane houses & Canal Co. building. T. F. King house shown next to store on Robinson Atlas. |
| 1887 | Business directory entry for Drakesville: Jeremiah Baker, distiller; R. H. Cary, grist and saw mill; B. P. Jackson, grocer; Theodore F. King, blacksmith; J. Allen Robert, general store; O. Scheer & Bro, hotel; Lant, 1887, p. 141. |
| 1888 | By 1888 canal traffic reported to be "almost exclusively" local in character. [Lane, p. 246] |
| 1891 | Dec 16: Ledgewood post office established. Theodore F. King, postmaster. [Kay and Smith, p. 101] |
| 1891 | June: Name of Lackawanna station changed from Drakesville to Mt. Arlington. [Jerseyman, June 19, 1891, p. 3] |
| 1890 | Lake Hopatcong Steamship Company, known as the White Line, established by Theodore King to serve vacationers and compete against Black Line owned by Lackawanna Railway and Morris Canal. Passengers could depart train at Landing station of the Erie Lackawanna, walk across bridge, and board one of King's small boats to be ferried to steamboats waiting half-mile away in deeper water. Morris Canal & Banking Co. retaliated by lowering water level on lake. King dredged half-mile channel so his launches could operate. [Seraly and Lyman, p. 26] |
| Late 19 th c. | Two-story dining room appendage added to northwest corner of King House. Based on the location of the original rear foundation wall in the cellar there originally may have been a shallow room along the north end of the west wing of the house. Front second story Queen Anne tower added; Queen Anne porches added or expanded from original. |
| 1899 | Publication of <i>Biographical and Genealogical History of Morris County</i> , includes listing for Theodore F. King. |
| 1899 | Canal Survey depicts canal in vicinity of King Store. Does not depict any buildings on King property bordering canal; however, photo from c. 1904 does seem to show buildings in the area. [Survey at NJ Archives; Lee, p. 69] |
| 1900 Census | Theodore F. King, 56, farming, Emma, 53; Emma L, daughter (born 1882) |
| c.1905 | Postcard view of store and house pre-trolley tracks shows no round office addition or rear vestibule extension on house. |
| 1907 | Postcard view of King House shows round office addition but no rear vestibule on house. [RHT Archives] |
| 1907 | Tracks of Morris County Traction Company extended from Central NJ Railroad Ledgewood station past King Store to Shippenport, reaching Lake Hopatcong in 1918. [Lowenthal & Greenberg, p. 18] |
| 1908 | One classroom of Ledgewood schoolhouse closed and four upper grades were transported to Succasunna (via trolley). [Hosking and Meeker, p. 60] |
| 1910 Census | Theodore F. King, 65, merchant, Emma, 64; E. Louise, daughter, 26 (not employed) |

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| 1911 | Morris County Traction Company in operation from Elizabeth and Maplewood to Lake Hopatcong. All service had ended by 1926. [Hosking and Meeker, p. 46] |
| 1915 | Estate of Albert R. Riggs (1812-1882) settled upon death of his wife, Nancy Stanborough Riggs (c.1817-1915). Theodore F. King, executor. Estate valued around \$400,000. [Seraly and Lyman, p. 46] |
| 1916? | William E. and Theodore F. King gave land for a new Ledgewood Baptist Church. William was chairman of the trustees and Theodore was Superintendent of the Sunday School. [Hoskins and Meeker, p. 88] |
| c.1917 | Photo in RHT Archives shows King House rear vestibule addition. The shed-roof rear extension (kitchen & vestibule) was built in two campaigns, based on the joint visible on the exterior of the north wall and foundation. The current dining room may once have served as a kitchen, and the current Living Room may have been a dining room |
| 1917 | Ledgewood Baptist Church under Pastor Earle completed construction of a new stone church at 233 Main Street on land donated by Theodore King.. |
| 1910s | By the teens, both steamboat companies, Black Line and White Line were out of business, unable to effectively complete with bus and taxi service. [Kane, p. 37] |
| 1923 | Committee formed to advise what should be done with Morris Canal. Waters to be drained off; channel filled in where crossed by bridges; dams and sluice gates were maintained. [Lane, p. 246] |
| 1928 | Nov. 22: Death of Theodore F. King. Daughter E. Louise King sole heir. "At St. Petersburg, Fla., on Tuesday, Nov. 20, 1928 Theodore F. King, beloved husband of Emma L. King (nee Riggs) and father of E. Louise King. Relatives and friends are invited to attend funeral at the Succasunna Presbyterian Church on Saturday, Nov. 24, 1928. At 2P.M. Interment Succasunna Cemetery." [New York Times, November 23, 1928] |
| 1929 | Theodore F. King will probated. All "Personal, Real and Mixed property" left to wife, who is named executrix. Will was written April 24, 1902. [MC Wills, Book L3, p. 413] |
| 1929 | Miss Alice Patterson moves in as companion to E. Louise King. [Morristown Daily Record, Sept. 12, 1955] |
| 1934 | Route 10 is built as a major new road linking Essex and Morris Counties. In Roxbury its route would be pushed through older homes and farmland, running parallel to the old Morris & Sussex Pike, otherwise known as Main Street. |
| 1935 | October 21: Death of Emma Louisa King (widow of Theodore F. King). Entire estate left to daughter, "who has been very thoughtful and helpful in caring for my interests and has taken much care from my shoulders since her fathers death." Real estate in Iowa, New Jersey, North Carolina and Florida. [MC Wills Book Z3, p. 412] |
| 1936 | Dining Room mural painted by James W. Marland "a friend of Miss King. [Seraly and Lyman, p. 44. Date and Marland's signature found beneath wallpaper on east wall of southwest bedroom and on spur wall in northeast BR.] |
| 1937 | Route 6 (now Route 46) bypass around Main Street in Ledgewood. [Cramond] Ledgewood Circle constructed, just north of original intersection of Sussex turnpike and Dover Ledgewood road. |
| c. 1954 | Photo of frozen canal shows King Store (with rear barn extension and cupola intact) and house along with two buildings on south side of the road – what appears to be a corncrib and a purported blacksmith shop. [RHT Archives] |
| 1955 | Sept. 11: Death of Miss King's companion, Alice O. Patterson, "after a long illness at the home of Miss E. Louise King of Main street with whom she made her home. Born in Indiana, Miss Patterson had lived here for 26 years..."Burial at Succasunna Presbyterian Church. [Morristown Daily Record, Sept. 12, 1955] |
| 1960 | 21 Lenape graves relocated to make way for expansion of 1st Presbyterian Church, Roxbury Twp News Vol. III, No. 22. |
| 1962 | Silas Riggs House moved to present site, which was donated by E. Louise King. [Hosking and Meeker, Vol. 2, p. 92] |
| 1975 | Jul 22: Death of Miss Emma Louise King. "Local Historian, E.L. King Dies. . . after a long illness. She was a member of the Succasunna Presby. Church, of the DAR, and of the Roxbury Historical Society. She donated the property for the Silas Riggs Homestead which is being restored as a Roxbury Bicentennial project." West Morris Star Journal, 7/24/75 |
| 1984-89 | "Drakesville Historic District" created by local ordinance, encompassing site of King Store and House; Open Space acquisition of Riggs-King site; Roxbury Rotary Club commences rehabilitation work on King Store restoration |
| 2000 | Roxbury Historic Trust established to maintain and operate the King properties as museums.§ |

To join send annual dues of \$25 (regular member) or \$10 (full time student) to:

ROXBURY HISTORIC TRUST / 209 Main Street / Ledgewood, NJ 07852



Morris County Historic Preservation



Above: Ledgewood Baptist Church Peach Festival/Gala Day Parade marchers rest on the King House lawn, then 1917 and now August 13, 2011; Below: Flooding the day after Hurricane Irene just two weeks later on August 28.



Next page top left: Chiefs Bob Red Hawk Ruth and Shelley DePaul of the Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania; top right: Dianne Unger with Evelyn Jackson and Peg Shultz in early 20th century attire on Living History Day, October 9, 2011; bottom from left : Luminaries in front of the King House and the King Store counter at the December 2, 2011 Victorian Christmas event.



photo credits: D. Holwick, M. Morris, R. Morris, R. Musmanno, S Rawlinson and P Shultz

Roxbury Historic Trust , Inc.

Drakesville Times

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209 Main Street
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