

Hopewell Borough History Timeline

Rev. 5/9/2020

324 Entries - Full version with all events

89 Entries - Summary version with major events

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Timeline of key events in the history of Hopewell Borough
With related events in the region and the U.S.

This is a work in progress, with entries compiled from multiple sources
As a result, it may have multiple entries for the same event from different sources,
and may contain conflicting information or dates between entries

Additions and corrections welcome

Columns

Date	Date of event, as known - at least a year, possibly with month/day yyyy-mm-dd or range (1921-1924), with c for circa, s for 1910's
Locale	Town/area - USA, NJ, Mercer [Cty], HoVal, HwTwp HwBoro, Penn[ington], Titus[ville], MtRose
Sum	Tag for entries listed in the Summary version
Event	Event description, with consistent use of names
Source	Source reference abbreviation (see below)
Page	Page number, chapter, document version, web link
Key	Keyword / general grouping School, Church, Library, Railroad, FireDept

== Hopewell Borough History Timeline ==

Sources / Updates

Abbrev	Source	Links
Ege-Pioneers	"Pioneers of Hopewell", Ralph Ege	(pages)
HPL	Hopewell Public Library	https://www.redlibrary.org
THM	The Hopewell Museum	https://thehopewellmuseum.org
HwTheater	Hopewell Theater	https://hopewelltheater.com
HwBoro	Hopewell Borough	https://www.hopewellboro-nj.us
HVRSD	Hopewell Regional School District	https://www.hvrsd.org
FoHVOs	Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space	https://www.fohvos.info
SourlandCon	Sourland Conservancy	https://www.sourland.org
MercerMe	MercerMe	https://mercerme.com
NYT	New York Times	https://www.nytimes.com
Wikipedia	Wikipedia	https://en.wikipedia.org

Rev 140207 - 180 entries - Normalize dates

CalvBaptist	Calvary Baptist - 95th booklet (1966)
HwPres	Hopewell Presbyterian Church - Timeline (Ian Burrow)
StAlphonsus	St. Alphonsus Church - Centennial booklet (1977)

Rev 140208 - 280 entries - Add Locale & Key

HVHS	Hopewell Valley Historical Society (Newsletter https://www.hopewellvalleyhistory.org)
HwHerald	Hopewell Herald Newspaper
Mercer Deeds	Mercer County Deeds
NatlReg	National Register Nomination
Gantz	"Hopewell's Past", Betty Gantz (1987)
Hw1876	Historical Sketch of the Village of Hopewell (1876) [Gantz Ch 38]
NJBounds	Snyder, The Story of New Jersey's Civil Boundaries: 1606-1968 (1969)

Rev 200501 - 301 / 92 entries - Add Hopewell Public Library History - Add Summary

Weart 1946	Hopewell Honors the Weart Sisters program - HPL/HwMus (1946)
SS1984	Hopewell Site Survey / Cultural Resource Survey (1984)
Fowler1887	Hopewell N. J. Map, Fowler (1887)
HPL Trustee	HPL Trustee Minutes
NJ PRO	New Jersey Public Record Office
MCD	Mercer County Deeds, recorded by book and page
TrTimes	Trenton Evening / Sunday Times

Rev 200502 - 301 / 92 entries - Add Fire Dept History, U.S. History

HwFire	Hopewell Fire Department 75th Anniversary Booklet, 1911-1986 (1986)
CommNews	Community News (U.S. 1, Hopewell Express) https://communitynews.org

TBD / Other

HAHG	Hopewell: A Historical Geography, Richard Hunter & Richard Porter (1990)
Hw1909	1909 Hopewell NJ, Fry & Whitehead (1909)
LibWeek 1921	Library Week pamphlet, "Help Hopewell Honor Her Heroes" - HPL (1921)

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Date	Locale	Sum	Event	Source	Page	Key
1660-1670	HoVal		Leni Lenape (Delaware) Indians almost completely annihilated by Iroquois	Ege-Pioneers	p. 195	
1664	NJ		Carteret sale to the West New Jersey Society	Gantz	Ch 19	
1664-06-23	NJ		First Deed ("Lease") from Duke of York to Berkeley and Carteret, establishing New Jersey	NJBounds		
1664-06-24	NJ		Second Deed ("Release") conveying New Jersey from Duke of York to Berkeley and Carteret	NJBounds		
1674-02-09	NJ		Tripartite Deed in which Byllynge and Fenwick grant half of New Jersey to Penn, Lucas and Lawrie, but retain one Tenth for Fenwick	NJBounds		
1676	HwBoro		Hopewell land inhabited by the Leni Lenape Indians, a branch of the Great Delawares. By 1730 most of had left area	Hw1876		
1676-07-01	NJ		Quintipartite Deed dividing New Jersey into East and West	NJBounds		
1680-08-06	NJ		Confirmatory Grant conveying West New Jersey from Duke of York to Byllynge and other Proprietors	NJBounds		
1681-02-02	NJ		Deed from Carteret's heirs granting East New Jersey to the first Twelve Proprietors (1682?)	NJBounds		
1685	HoVal		30,000 acre tract sale to Dr. Daniel Coxe	Gantz	Ch 19	
1688	HoVal		Bowdie purchase from Indians	Gantz	Ch 19	
1688	HoVal		Name "Hopewell" adopted by Andrew Smith because many early English emigrants were safely carried across the Atlantic in the ship Hopewell (or the locality in England where many residents were from)	Ege-Pioneers	p. 116	
1688	HwBoro		Old First Church organized, Middletown, Monmouth County, Baptist Church; Jonathan Stout, 1660 - 1772, was member; Was one of the first, if not the very first, white settler in this part of the Hopewell Valley	CalvBaptist	95th-1966	Church
1688-05-20	HoVal		In deed of Cornelius Empson of Brandywine Creek, to Andrew Smith, the tract is called "Hopewell"	Ege-Pioneers	p. 114	
1694	HwBoro		Thomas Burroughs settled on lands in northern portion of Hopewell Township. Purchased by father, Edward Burroughs, of Long Island	Hw1876		
1697	HwBoro		First white settlers near Hopewell - Dr. Roger Parkes bought land near Stony Brook	Hw1876		
1698	HoVal		Robert Lanning emigrates to NJ from Wales	Ege-Pioneers	p. 66	
1698-06-12	HoVal	x	Dr Roger Parke, first settler of Hopewell, receives his deed (was the only doctor for several years, learning and applying Indian remedies as well)	Ege-Pioneers	p. 186	
1699-02-20	HoVal		Inhabitants north of the falls of the Delaware apply for a new township called "Hopewell"	Ege-Pioneers	p. 114	
1699-11-10	HoVal		Thomas Tindell buys 300 acre tract of land from West Jersey Society of England through Thomas Revell, an agent selling the land	Wikipedia	https://en.wikipedia.org	
1700-1710	HoVal		Great migration of families from Long Island to Hopewell (including John Titus and Robert Blackwell)	Ege-Pioneers	p. 134	
1700s	HoVal		Farm near Harbourton - "Hopewell Poor Farm" - Col John Van Cleeve raised large family there (pre-Rev)	Ege-Pioneers	p. 173	
1700s	Titus		Joseph Titus established two sawmills and a fishery in Titusville	HVHS	History	
1703	HoVal		Jonathan Stout is the first permanent white settler in Hopewell township (north of Stoutsburg)	Ege-Pioneers	p. 66	
1706	HwBoro	x	Jonathan Stout settled east of Hopewell - bought land in 1703 and 1705	Hw1876		
1710	Penn		Pennington Presbyterian Church founded (called Presbyterian Church of Hopewell until 1877)	Ege-Pioneers	p. 17	Church
1714-03-11	Mercer	x	Hunterdon County established, split off from Burlington County, included Hopewell	NJBounds		
1715-04-23	HwBoro		First Baptist Church of Hopewell organized	Ege-Pioneers	p. 157	Church
1715-04-23	HwBoro	x	Meeting to form a Hopewell Baptist Church at the house of Joseph Stout in Hopewell	CalvBaptist	95th-1967	Church
1717	HwBoro		Old School Baptist Church founded, at Stout home	Gantz	Ch 19	Church
1719	HwBoro		Hopewell courts removed to Trenton, previously held at Maidenhead (Lawrenceville)	Hw1876		
1719-06-03	HoVal		Trenton Township (later city) formed out of Hunterdon County	HVHS	History	
1720	MarshCnr		Stone Schoolhouse erected in Marshall's Corner	Ege-Pioneers	p. 112	School
1722	HoVal		Mills at Stony Brook are constructed (Philip Ringo's mill)	Ege-Pioneers	p. 106	

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Date	Locale	Sum	Event	Source	Page	Key
1723	HoVal		Petition for road from Marshall's Corner to Stoutsburg (including Broad S. in Hopewell) [Ralph Ege]	Gantz	Ch 19	
1725	Penn		Pennington Borough known as Pennytown, and soon after Queenstown, sometime in 1750's became Pennington	HVHS	History	
1726-04-23	HoVal		First farm in Hopewell Valley - Thomas Houghton buys 300 acres "lying in Hopewell" from Robert Tindall	Ege-Pioneers	p. 13	
1730s	HoVal	x	First school built - "Golden School" - log schoolhouse in woods - only school from Province Line to Harbourton	Ege-Pioneers	p. 46	School
1734-12-30	HoVal		Joseph Golden buys land from Thomas Houghton	Ege-Pioneers	p. 43	
1735-1760			The "Golden Age" of abundant harvests, due to rich virgin soil and good seasons	Ege-Pioneers	p. 178	
1737-1750	HoVal		Many early settlers left due to Coxe land dispute	Gantz	Ch 19	
1745-12	HoVal		Petition submitted to build a road between Trenton and Nathan Ward's mill in Hopewell "Roger's Road" - also formerly the "Wissameson and Wissomency Indian path"	Ege-Pioneers	p. 111	
1746	HoVal		Borough of Trenton chartered, included Hopewell Township	Ege-Pioneers	p. 66	
1747	HwBoro	x	Old School Baptist Church ("Meeting House") built (46 W Broad), land from John Hart. "Square, old fashioned stone building of some size" [Ege]	Gantz	Ch 19	Church
1748	HwBoro		Hopewell Baptist meeting house erected	Ege-Pioneers	p. 28	Church
1749	HwBoro		Baptist Church buys parsonage for Rev. Isaac Eaton - house & 10 acres from Joseph Disbrow (19 W. Broad) - became Hopewell Academy	Gantz	Ch 19	Church
1756	HwBoro		Hopewell Academy opened by Rev Isaac Eaton, father-in-law David Stout, Thru 1767. Grads to Brown Univ	Ege-Pioneers	p. 47	School
1756-1767	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Academy, Baptist classical school for boys, Rev. Isaac Eaton (19 W Broad)	Hw1876		School
1761	HwBoro		John Hart elected to Colonial Legislature	Ege-Pioneers	p. 122	
1766	HwBoro		Col. Joab Houghton speech at Baptist Church on the news of Lexington - "Men of Hopewell who will follow me to Boston?"	Gantz	Ch 35	Church
1769	HwBoro		Baptist Church in Hopewell charter granted; Rev. Isaac Eaton and eight members were incorporators	CalvBaptist	95th-1968	Church
1776	HwBoro		Hopewell population about 30	Hw1876		
1776	Penn		Pennington became a focus of revolutionary war activity by British and mercenary Hessian troops	HVHS	History	
1776-12			Only capture of detachment of British soldiers in vicinity of Hopewell at Miller James Hunt's house	Ege-Pioneers	p. 90	
1776-12-25	Titus		George Washington's crossing of the Delaware at Johnson Ferry House in Titusville	HVHS	History	
1778-06-23	HwBoro		Washington's army encamped on Francis Blackwell Jr.'s farm north of Hopewell (Hunt's House), June 23-25, 1778	Ege-Pioneers	p. 154	
1778-06-23	HoVal		Washington's army encamped on Golden and Hart farms on way to victory at Monmouth on June 28	Ege-Pioneers	p. 43	
1778-06-24	HwBoro		Council of war held in Hunt's House, with Generals Washington, Lee, Greene, Sterling, Lafayette, Steuben, Knox, etc. attending	Ege-Pioneers	p. 156	
1778-06-26	HwBoro		George Washington's troops camped north of Hopewell on way to the Battle of Monmouth	Hw1876		
1779-05-11	HwBoro		John Hart died, left land to 3 sons. That year Thomas Phillips bought the homestead	Gantz	Ch 19	
1780	HwBoro		Rev. Oliver Hart became pastor of Hopewell church	Ege-Pioneers	p. 48	Church
1785	HwBoro	x	Thomas Phillips buys property containing Phillips House (86-88 W Broad) and future site of Hopewell Presbyterian Church. Formerly owned by John Hart	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1790	HoVal		School splits - new one built on eastern side for "Columbia" district, western half built one (used 1835-1850)	Ege-Pioneers	p. 48	School
1790-1810	HwBoro		Migration of old families of Hopewell to Kentucky	Ege-Pioneers	p. 23	
1797	HwBoro		Hopewell Baptist Church membership was 134 members, including 25 Stouts	CalvBaptist	95th-1969	Church

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Date	Locale	Sum	Event	Source	Page	Key
1798-02-21	HwTwp	x	Hopewell Township re-incorporated by act of N. J. Jersey Legislature, one of initial group of 104 townships. Incorporated by Royal charter on 3/1/1755.	HVHS	History	
1800's early	HwBoro		The Great Awakening: Controversy in Protestant Churches - outreach - Sunday school, foreign missions	CalvBaptist	95th-1971	Church
1806-05-10	HwBoro		"Hopewell Columbian Library Company" founded in Columbia, Hopewell Township, Hunterdon County	NJ PRO		Library
1816	HwBoro	x	Old stone school house was in Hopewell Baptist Church graveyard (46 W Broad)	Gantz	Ch 24	School
1820	HwBoro		Franklin and Georgetown Turnpike (Louellen Street and 518) is built (makes the "triangle")	HwPres	Timeline	
1820-1822	HwBoro		Franklin and Georgetown turnpike constructed	Ege-Pioneers	p. 47	
1820-1822	HwBoro	x	Franklin and Georgetown Turnpike laid through Hopewell (518 / Broad / Louellen) by Franklin and Georgetown Turnpike Company. Extended from Lambertville to New Brunswick	Gantz	Ch 24	
1822-1826	HwBoro	x	First Baptist Church rebuilt - present brick building (back still stone) (46 W Broad)	Gantz	Ch 24	Church
1825	HwBoro		Hopewell Post office established - town switches name from Columbia to Hopewell	Ege-Pioneers	p. 47	
1825	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Post Office established, George Blackwell, postmaster. Previously known as Columbia. Mail now came by stage, previously needed to pick up in Trenton. (46-48 W Broad)	Gantz	Ch 24	
1825	HwBoro		Road south from Hopewell to Princeton thru Mount Rose (Princeton Ave.) previously was Factory Lane (Maple St.)	Gantz	Ch 24	
1828-10-25	HwBoro		Central N.J. Baptist Association Formed: 7 churches, 677 members: Hightstown most 211, then Hopewell First 190	CalvBaptist	95th-1970	Church
1830s	HwBoro		Baptist Meeting House held "Great Meeting Days" on third Sunday of July, an intense religious meeting	THM	https://the	Church
1831	Titus		Bridge built linking Titusville with Washington Crossing in Pennsylvania, replaced a river ferry. Floods destroyed that bridge and its subsequent replacement	HVHS	History	
1832	Titus		Construction of Delaware and Raritan Feeder Canal through Titusville	HVHS	History	
1834	HwBoro		Columbia (Hopewell Boro) contains: Baptist meeting, 2 taverns, 1 store, 10-12 dwellings [Gordon's Gazatteer of N.J.]	Gantz	Ch 24	
1835	HwBoro		Hopewell First Baptist withdraws from Central N.J. Baptist Association, Pastor Rev. Boggs (no Sunday school, etc.)	CalvBaptist	95th-1972	Church
1836	HwBoro		Delaware River Baptist Association organized, 5 churches - Hopewell First, Hopewell Second (Harbourtown), Kingwood, Canton, Southampton Penna.	CalvBaptist	95th-1973	Church
1837-11-23	HwBoro		Ralph Ege born - author of "Pioneers of Hopewell"	Ege-Pioneers	p. 3	
1838-02-22	Mercer		Mercer County formed from portions of Burlington, Hunterdon, and Middlesex	NJBounds		
1839	Penn		Pennington Female Seminary established	HVHS	History	School
1839	Penn		Pennington Male Methodist Seminary (now Pennington School) built in 1839	HVHS	History	School
1839-02	HwTwp		Remaining portion of Hopewell Township annexed to Mercer County	NJBounds		
1840	HoVal		Benjamin Stout Hill plants first peach orchard in Hopewell, starting thriving industry supplying peaches to NYC	Ege-Pioneers	p. 162	
1842	HwBoro		Hopewell Boro contains OSB Church + 12 houses	Gantz	Ch 24	
1842	HwBoro		Hopewell contained Baptist Church and about 12 dwellings (Barbour)	Hw1876		
1844-03-13	HwTwp		Hopewell Township returned to Hunterdon County from Mercer - Repealed 2/1845	NJBounds		
1848	U.S.		James Wilson Marshall, grandson of John Marshall (1762-1808), discovers first gold in Sacramento in American River, starting the Gold Rush	Ege-Pioneers	p. 83	
1850 c	MtRose		Mt Rose Distillery operates, making peach brandy, apple cider, and apple whiskey (Mid 19th C)	MercerMe	https://mercerme.com/	
1852	Titus		Construction of Belvidere Delaware Railroad through Titusville (removed early 1980s)	HVHS	History	
1855c	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Academy, first public school building built (75 W Broad at Louellen). Land bought 9/9/1856 from Patrick Riley (owned 19 W Broad) by the Columbia School District No. 6	Gantz	Ch 24	School

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Date	Locale	Sum	Event	Source	Page	Key
1856-1857	HwBoro	x	Brick store built, west of 46 E Broad, occupied by Nelson D. Blackwell; . Farley F. Holcombe and Ed Titus	Gantz	Ch 24	
1857-05-01	HwBoro		Hopewell Sabbath School established in public school building (75 W Broad) by Rev. Dr. Hales of Pennington Presbyterian Church	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1860	HwBoro		Hopewell had 14-15 houses, First Baptist Church, tavern, blacksmith shop, wheelwright shop, general store, post office, and schoolhouse on the hill [Dr. Blake, 1915]	Gantz	Ch 24	
1865	HwBoro		Dedication of John Hart Memorial east of the First Baptist Church. First state sponsored memorial of this nature	Gantz	Ch 25	Church
1865	HwBoro		First Hopewell public school built (75 W Broad at Louellen)	Hw1876		School
1865	HwBoro		J.V.C. Blackwell started store at 47 W Broad	Gantz	Ch 25	
1865	HwBoro		Monument to John Hart erected	THM	https://thehopewellmuseum.org	Church
1865-07-04	HwBoro		Dedication of monument to John Hart, Hopewell First Baptist	Hw1876		Church
1866-1890	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Seminary, private Seminary for Young Ladies (23 E Broad) - Miss Elizabeth H. Boggs bought land from Patrick Riley. Built 4 story brick building. Ran with help of sister M.J. Boggs. Soon built 3 story addition on left.	Gantz	Ch 25	School
1867	HwBoro		Two-story addition made to Hopewell Museum through donations from Dr. David Hill	HwBoro	https://www.hopewellmuseum.org	
1870-11-11	HwBoro	x	Mercer & Somerset Railroad bought land from North Greenwood east from Stephen Blackwell and wife Francis for \$1252, about 2000 feet	Gantz		Railroad
1870c	HwBoro	x	S. Smith Ege's blacksmith and wheelwright shop established in Hopewell at Broad and Louellen (after 1869 and before 1875).	HwPres	Timeline	
1870s	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Boro railroad passengers building on the southeast was at 41-43 Model Av, between the two train lines. Depot was the eastern half of the existing building(?)	Gantz		Railroad
1871	HwBoro		Rev. E. C. Romine, young Baptist preacher, arrived in Hopewell to see need to organized another Baptist church	CalvBaptist	95th-1974	Church
1871-10-24	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church organized - 24 members by 5/1/72; Morning services held on second floor of a wheelwright shop. Evening services conducted in public school hall (75 West Broad)	CalvBaptist	95th-1975	Church
1872	HwBoro	x	Calvary Baptist Church built (3 East Broad). Lot purchased from Jerome Morrell. (Deed says Morrell reserves right to harvest his crop of potatoes.) Cornerstone laid 6/12/1872. Building dedicated 12/19/1872. Cost including lot \$5925.	CalvBaptist	95th-1978	Church
1872	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church first year received 55 members, 27 by baptism	CalvBaptist	95th-1977	Church
1872-04	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church starts Sunday school	CalvBaptist	95th-1976	Church
1873	HwBoro		Railroad arrives in Hopewell	HwPres	Timeline	
1873-01-16			Mercer & Somerset Railroad - First railroad arrives- crosses Stony Brook	Ege-Pioneers	p. 117	
1873-03	HwBoro	x	Mercer & Somerset (M&S) railroad opened - stations in Pennington and Hopewell			Railroad
1873-11-10	HwBoro		Meeting at Ralph Ege's home (Stony Brook Road) to discuss organization of a Presbyterian Church in Hopewell	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1874	HwBoro		Anothony Fetter erects saw mill and grist mill along new railroad tracks	THM	https://thehopewellmuseum.org	
1874	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church built	THM	https://thehopewellmuseum.org	Church
1874	HwBoro		Ross Slack founds the Hopewell Herald newspaper	THM	https://thehopewellmuseum.org	
1874	HwBoro	x	Catholic parish of Hopewell began as Reverend Thomas A. Moran of St. Paul's, Princeton, came twice a year (spring and fall) to say Mass at the home of Daniel and Hannah Reardon on their farm along Province Line Road. For many years before, the scattered Catholics of the area attended church at Lambertville or Princeton. Meeting with Bishop Michael A. Corrigan of Newark to intercede for their own church.	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	Church

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Date	Locale	Sum	Event	Source	Page	Key
1874 fall	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Herald printing office established. Printed on 2nd floor of F.F. Holcombes' store (47 W Broad) [Gantz]	Hw1876		
1874 summer	HwBoro	x	Finney and Fetter located a steam saw mill in Hopewell (93-95 Model)	Hw1876		
1874-10	HwBoro		Deeds for purchase of Hopewell Boro are property by Delaware and Bound Brook (D&BB) railroad (12/1874, 1/1876)	Mercer Deeds		
1875	HwBoro		Delaware and Bound Brook railroad lays competing tracks of rail	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1875	HwBoro		Pennington Presbyterian church fire; May have further encouraged idea for a church in Hopewell	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1875	HwBoro		Telegraph in Hopewell Boro	Gantz	Ch 32	
1875-06	HwBoro	x	Western Union Telegraph Co. established an office in Hopewell	Hw1876		
1876	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church parsonage built - 1 East Broad. Cost no more than \$1300.	CalvBaptist	95th-1979	Church
1876	HwBoro	x	Current Hopewell train station built by Delaware and Bound Brook Railroad to serve passengers to Philadelphia Centennial Exposition	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1876	HwBoro	x	First telephone in Hopewell at Finney and Fetter saw mill. Second in train station	Gantz	Ch 32	
1876	HwBoro		Hopewell population about 400, 83 families, 51 houses, many double	Hw1876		
1876	HwBoro		J. O. McPherson operated store at 47 W Broad, also housed Hopewell Herald and barber shop	Gantz	Ch 25	
1876	HwBoro		Father Anthony Smith of the Cathedral took charge of the Hopewell Mission, and purchased the lot where the St. Alphonsus Church now stands (54 E Prospect)	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	Church
1876-01-05	HwBoro	x	"Frog War" between Delaware and Bound Brook (D&BB) and Mercer & Somerset (M&S) railroads			Railroad
1876-05	HwBoro		Delaware and Bound Brook (D&BB) railroad opened competing line paralleling M&S			Railroad
1876-09-27	HwBoro		Delaware and Bound Brook (D&BB) contracted with John McPherson and David A. Clarkson (residents of Pennington 1875 map) to construct passenger depots in both Hopewell (brick) and Pennington (stone)	HwHerald		Railroad
1876-10-09	HwBoro		First meeting to plan on building a Presbyterian Chapel in Hopewell	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1876-12-22	HwBoro		"Saint Alphonsus Catholic Church" incorporated in N.J. Signed by Right Reverend Michael A. Corrigan, Bishop of the Diocese of Newark and Reverend Anthony Smith, Pastor of the Roman Catholic Church in Hopewell	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	Church
1876-12-28	HwBoro		Saint Alphonsus Catholic Church purchased land containing approx. 2.24 acres (54 E Prospect) from Samuel W. Taylor and Catharine Taylor, his wife, for \$632	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	Church
1876c	HwBoro		Father Moran began to take up subscriptions for a Catholic church in Hopewell, services held for several months in the home of Michael and Ellen Norton on Columbia Avenue	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	Church
1877	HwBoro		Hopewell Fire Company formed	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1877	HwBoro		Hopewell Presbyterian Church founded?	Ege-Pioneers	p. 6	Church
1877	HwBoro		St Alphonsus church built	THM	https://thehopewellmu	Church
1877	HwBoro		Stout House built as Randolph Stout residence (current Museum, 28 E Broad)	SS 1984		
1877	HwBoro		Current Hopewell Museum building built as home for retired farmer Randolph Stout	Gantz	Ch 32	
1877-01-10	HwBoro	x	Delaware and Bound Brook (D&BB) railroad station in operation in Hopewell Boro (2 Railroad). Ground broken 10/4/1876	HwHerald		Railroad
1877-05-01	HwBoro		Fire destroys residence of Jonathan V. Blackwell (later Charles A. Holcombe property) finest in Hopewell, built in 1857 by Titus Brothers of Trenton, cost \$17,000, no ladders long enough to reach to fire	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1877-05-25	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 founded, first fire company	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1877-07-11	HwBoro	x	Cornerstone laid and first mass said at St. Alphonsus Church (54 E Prospect). Father Michael Holland had charge of Hopewell. Church completed within a few years for \$5000.			Church

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Date	Locale	Sum	Event	Source	Page	Key
1877-08-12	HwBoro	x	First service held in new Presbyterian Chapel (79 W Broad). Lot cost \$450, 3/4 acre, purchased from John A. Moore. Building cost \$3017.77; groundbreaking 11/14/1876, cornerstone laid 4/17/1877	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1877-12-20	HwBoro		New fire truck arrives, housed in building erected by Hook and Ladder company on lot next to the Calvary Baptist Parsonage, owned by Charles Drake	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1879	HwBoro		Train station leased to Philadelphia and Reading Railway	Wikipedia	https://en.wikipedia.org	
1880	HwBoro	x	Columbia Hall is formed (current Hopewell Theater site): community center with theater, hosting lectures, performances and films on 2nd floor, 1st floor for Fire Dept and Borough Council	HwTheater	https://hopewelltheater	
1882	HwBoro		Pennington train station completed (stone)	NatlReg		Railroad
1882-01-25	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Herald moved into new office on Railroad Ave.	Hw1876		
1884-01-21	HwBoro		Hopewell Catholic parish received its first resident pastor, Reverend Joseph Keuper. Also assumed charge of Princeton and Lawrenceville Missions	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	
1885	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church - membership over 100	CalvBaptist	95th-1981	Church
1887	HwBoro		"Mrs. M. A. Carter, Library and Fancy Goods" at Broad & Seminary on Fowler map (15 E Broad, now Hopewell Bistro)	Fowler1887		
1888-07-07	HwBoro	x	Completion of four room school (12-18 Model) for \$5500. Land purchased from J.M. Phillips for \$776.	Gantz	Ch 33	School
1889-04-25	HwBoro		[Roundabout Club] Meeting at Dr. J. A. Miller to organize "Lawn Tennis and Social Club"	Weart 1946		Library
1890	HwBoro	x	"Cook Block" building built (2 E Broad at N Greenwood). Block from Broad to Railroad, Greenwood to Blackwell	Gantz	Ch 33	
1890	HwBoro		Cook Block building constructed (on site of current Dana building)	HPL	https://www.redlibrary	
1890	HwBoro	x	Hopewell National Bank opened by JM Phillips with \$40K in deposits	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1890-01-31	Penn	x	Pennington Borough incorporated	HVHS	History	
1890-03-17	HwBoro	x	Hopewell National Bank opens (13 East Broad), later Hopewell Public Library	HwHerald	7/20/1892	
1891-03-21	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Borough incorporated. Town had 178 male voters. Wm. W. Drake was first mayor	Gantz	Ch 34	
1891-04-14	HwBoro		Hopewell Borough incorporated	HVHS	History	
1892	HwBoro		Hopewell Presbyterian Manse built on West Broad Street (83 W Broad)	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1892-02	HwBoro	x	Private water service in use in Hopewell	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1892-03	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Canning Company founded	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1892-06	HwBoro		Hopewell Improvement Association formed	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1893	HwBoro	x	Chocolate Factory brick building built (37 Railroad). Has been nightshirt factory, candy factory, organ builders factory, part of Rockwell's	Gantz	Ch 34	
1893	HwBoro		Hook and Ladder Fire Company purchases lot on Greenwood (5 S Greenwood)	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1893	HwBoro		Hopewell Dainties building constructed - shirt factory with 100 sewing machines	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1893	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Methodist Church organized. Cornerstone laid 1894. (20 Blackwell, now Burton Hall)	Gantz	Ch 34	Church
1893 summer	HwBoro		Hopewell fire - Behre's - Calvary Baptist Church parsonage burnt in large fire. Current parsonage then built for \$1625	CalvBaptist	95th-1980	Church
1893-07-31	HwBoro	x	Behre's Hall fire - fire in the barn on the property of C. Behre (1 W Broad), rear of his immense new hall. Too close to save Hook & Ladder Truck House. Parsonage of the Calvary Baptist Church, directly across Greenwood Ave. also lost	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1894	HwBoro		Death of Right Reverend Bishop O'Farrell, who purchased the VanDyke farm near Hopewell for St. Michael's Orphanage; left bequest of \$60,000 for the orphans' home	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	
1894	HwBoro	x	Main St became Broad St	Gantz	Ch 35	
1894-01-28	HwBoro		Earliest record of baptism at Saint Alphonsus Church (earlier records destroyed in 1956 fire)	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	

== Hopewell Borough History Timeline ==

Date	Locale	Sum	Event	Source	Page	Key
1894-03-01	HwBoro		Town described by Hopewell Herald editor: 1000 people. Well lighted, stone sidewalks, main street macadamized, city water works, 5 mails a day, Phila.-Reading RR has 7-8 daily trains to N.Y., Phila., & Trenton, newspaper circulation 1200, Public school 200 pupils, 4 churches, 2 building & loans, 2 hotels, large circulating library, 2 public halls, jail, over 12 houses built in 1893	Gantz	Ch 34	
1895	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church renovations - chestnut wood paneling in sanctuary ceiling. Mortgage \$600, discharged 4/24/1906.	CalvBaptist	95th-1982	Church
1895	HwBoro		Columbia Hall built (now 5 S Greenwood), 35' x 50', cost \$2100. Was fire hall, movie house, school study hall	Gantz	Ch 35	
1895	HwBoro	x	Union Fire Co. formed. Engine housed in Dr. T.A. Pierson's barn (25 Blackwell)	Gantz	Ch 34	
1895	HwBoro	x	Webster Edgerly started buying land for Ralston Heights development (Castle Lane)	Gantz	Ch 35	
1895	HwBoro	x	Hart Ave. became public street	Gantz	Ch 35	
1895-03-25	HwBoro	x	Public meeting to organize Union Fire Company. ordered fire engine, approx. \$500, housed on property of Dr. Pierson (10 E Broad?)	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1895-11-01	HwBoro	x	Hook and Ladder Fire Company meeting to plan new fire house - Columbia Hall, 35 x 50 feet. 2 stories, estimated cost \$2,004 (5 S Greenwood). Plus additional land to increase lot to 41 x 60 feet, est. cost of \$50.	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1896	HwBoro		Col. Joab Houghton 120th Anniversary Memorial - from First Baptist Church's old "stepping-stone" (46 W Broad, next to Hart Memorial)	Gantz	Ch 35	Church
1897-06-09	HwBoro		Hopewell Herald: "The average wage was \$354 a year; of which about \$100 went for drink."	Gantz	Ch 36	
1898	HwBoro	x	Methodist Church built	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1898	HwBoro		Rev Thomas Johnson builds the First Colored Calvary Baptist Church	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1898	HwBoro	x	St Michaels Orphanage opens (11 nuns and 200 children) (130 Hopewell-Princeton)	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1898-05-30	HwBoro		St. Michael's Home for Orphans completed and dedicated by Bishop McFaul, second Bishop of Trenton. Placed in charge of the Sisters of St. Francis. Construction began 10/18/1896. Bishop later purchased the Drake farm of 150 acres to increase the self-supporting capacity of the Home	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	
1899	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church ends decade with 77 members, debt \$1600, annual expenses \$848	CalvBaptist	95th-1983	Church
1899	HwBoro		Cook's Block building is destroyed by fire (2 E Broad)	HPL	https://www.redlibrary	
1899	HwBoro		Current Railroad Ave., north of Blackwell, was called 'Park Row'	Gantz	Ch 36	
1899	HwBoro	x	Hopewell school (12-18 Model) added two rooms on west end, \$2500	Gantz	Ch 35	School
1899-07-12	HwBoro	x	Cook's Block destroyed by fire, large group of stores (2 E Broad)	Gantz	Ch 36	
1900			Peach orchards fail	SourlandCon	https://www.sourland.c	
1903	HwBoro	x	Acetylene lights in Hopewell - Calvary Baptist Church sold its kerosene lamps. Acetylene lights being installed, mostly as a gift of then Hopewell Gas Company	CalvBaptist	95th-1984	Church
1903	HwBoro	x	Trolleys in Hopewell - Calvary Baptist Church gave right of way in front of church to Trenton, Pennington and Hopewell Street Railway Co.	CalvBaptist	95th-1985	Church
1904	Titus		Current bridge at Titusville crossing Delaware built	HVHS	History	
1904	HwBoro	x	Electric lights in Hopewell	Gantz	Ch 36	
1904	HwBoro		Trolley services starts in Hopewell	HPL	https://www.redlibrary	
1904	HwBoro	x	Trolley went from Hopewell to Pennington to Trenton	Gantz	Ch 36	
1904-04-13	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Presbyterian purchased "triangle" at Broad and Louellen. Other source suggests 1913	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1906	HwBoro		Hopewell school (12-18 Model) started three year high school course	Gantz	Ch 35	School
1906-04	HwBoro		Hopewell regraded (due to trolleys?) - Calvary Baptist Church regraded, new cement walk	CalvBaptist	95th-1986	Church
1906-04-26	HwBoro		Strout House purchased by Hugh A. Smith from Carrie W. Stout, executrix (current Museum, 28 E Broad)	MCD	288 273	

== Hopewell Borough History Timeline ==

Date	Locale	Sum	Event	Source	Page	Key
1907	HwBoro	x	Borough takes over private water company	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1907	HwBoro		Hopewell school (12-18 Model) added two rooms on east end, \$4600	Gantz	Ch 35	School
1907	HwBoro		Hopewell's first high school started in a 2-room addition to the Lincoln School in Hopewell Borough	HVRSD	https://www	School
1908-05-25	HwBoro		31st anniv. of Hook and Ladder Fire Company - answered 32 fires in 31 years	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1909	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church add outside steps and roofed porch at second floor sanctuary level. Regrading had put entrance in a pit.	CalvBaptist	95th-1987	Church
1909	HwBoro		JG Burton installs first hot water heating system and electric lights in his home on Front St	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1910	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church has 100 members	CalvBaptist	95th-1988	Church
1910	HwBoro		Second Calvary Baptist Church organized. First Church was just off Second St. Current building is 69 Columbia.	Gantz	Ch 36	Church
1910	HwBoro		Hopewell High School (4 Columbia) built, \$20,000, 8 students graduated 6/1912	Gantz	Ch 35	School
1911-04-07	HwBoro	x	Meeting to organize Hopewell Fire Department. Union merged in July (some members did not follow)	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1911-08	HwBoro		Hopewell Fire Department placed under Borough authority, \$250 annual fire appropriation	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1912	HwBoro	x	First constructed building for a high school built in Hopewell (4-6 Columbia, became Borough Hall)	HVRSD	https://www	School
1912-01	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church installed electric lighting. Pastor salary \$600	CalvBaptist	95th-1989	Church
1912-01-03	HwBoro	x	First meeting in new Hopewell Fire Department fire house (15 Seminary). Upper story used as Hopewell Public Library, also first home of Hopewell Building and Loan Association	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1914	HwBoro		Hopewell National Bank constructing new building at corner of E Broad and Greenwood (2 E Broad, formerly Cook's Block, now Dana)	HwHerald	5/1914	
1914-01-10	HwBoro		[Roundabout Club] Meeting in Grange Hall (12-14 Mercer) to organize Free Public Library Association	Wear 1946		Library
1914-03-14	HwBoro		Hopewell Public Library founded - members of Roundabout Club (dedicated to social and intellectual pursuits) invested \$200 to open library in old harness shop on Mercer St (now Vincenzo Pizza)	HPL	https://www.redlibrary	
1914-03-18	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Free Public Library opens in former harness shop of Joseph Harrison (64 West Broad at Mercer). 600 volumes	Wear 1946		Library
1915	HwTwp		Additional portions of Hopewell Township transferred to both Pennington and Hopewell Borough	HVHS	History	
1915	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Post Office replaces Hopewell National Bank at 13 East Broad Street			
1915	HwBoro		Hopewell school (12-18 Model) two room annex added (to west), \$4400	Gantz	Ch 35	School
1915	HwBoro		Presbyterians built new church for growing congregation	THM	https://theh	Church
1915-03-15	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Free Public Library moves to Fireman's Hall, 2nd floor (15 Seminary, next to Schanck's Market). Children carry books in wagons	Wear 1946		Library
1915-04-10	HwBoro		Hopewell Presbyterian - New Sanctuary dedicated (80 W Broad). Contract let 3/1914, Cornerstone laid 6/20/1914. Building cost \$17,859.39	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1916-10	HwBoro		Hopewell Public Library had 680 active patrons, owned over 1,300 books, circulated 10,127 books over past year. Boro population 2000	TrTimes	10/22/1916	Library
1917-01-01	HwBoro		Hopewell Free Public Library becomes tax supported, under Borough control	HwHerald	1/24/1917	Library
1917-07-06	HwBoro		Union Hook and Ladder Company formed by merger of Hook and Ladder and Union fire companies. Some members had joined the Hopewell Fire Department	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1920s			Many moonshiners set up shop in the Sourland Mountains during Prohibition	SourlandCon	https://www.sourland.c	
1920s ?	HwBoro		Hopewell Elementary School built (35 Princeton)	HVRSD	https://www	School
1920s early	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church construction including classroom space. Cost \$7034	CalvBaptist	95th-1990	Church
1921	HwBoro		All 3 Hopewell fire companies merge (original, Hook & Ladder, Union)	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1921-05-21	HwBoro		Library Week fund raiser, including "The Masque Of Hopewell - an Historical Pageant" with 100 participants	Pamphlet	Pamphlet	Library

== Hopewell Borough History Timeline ==

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1921-07-01	HwBoro	x	Union Hook and Ladder Company [w/ Union] merges with Hopewell Fire Department. Columbia Hall not included due to outstanding bonds	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1922	HwBoro		Hopewell Museum founded as the Hopewell Free Public Library and Museum Funding and Building Association	HwBoro	https://www.hopewellb	
1922-02	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Free Public Library and Museum Funding and Building Association incorporated, separate from library, to solicit funds for combined library and museum	TrTimes	10/17/1923	Library
1922-03	HwBoro		Old National Bank building purchased by Library and Museum Association for \$6000 from George E. Pierson, John N. Race, Dr. T. A. Pierson (13 E Broad). Building occupied by post office and phone company (2nd floor)	TrTimes	10/17/1923	Library
1923	HwBoro		Hopewell Presbyterian Chapel sold (79 W Broad). Converted to house, turned 90 degrees, moved short distance to northeast	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1924-04	HwBoro	x	Hopewell museum opens to visitors in Stout House (current Museum, 28 E Broad)			
1924-04-08	HwBoro		Strout House purchased by Library and Museum Association from Hugh A. and Charlotte M. Smith (current Museum, 28 E Broad)	MCD	534 343	Library
1925-01-22	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Free Public Library moves into Stout House with museum (current Hopewell Museum, 28 East Broad). Uses 2 rooms on west side ground floor.	HPL Trustee		Library
1926	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Elementary School dedicated (35 Princeton), 14 rooms, \$155,700	Gantz	Ch 35	School
1929	Penn		High school is shifted to S Main St in Pennington due to growing enrollment (\$158K for Central HS)	HVRSD	https://www	School
1929		x	Rockwell Manufacturing Company founded	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1932	HwBoro	x	Lindbergh baby kidnapping in Hopewell area	NYT	https://www.nytimes.co	
1937			Hopewell runs a WPA sewing project for 20 women	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1939-07	HwBoro		Columbia Hall Association plans new motion picture theatre to be constructed on site of Columbia Hall (5 S Greenwood). Fire Department vacates by end of year	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1940	HwBoro	x	Colonial Playhouse built on Colombia Hall site (5 S Greenwood), served as a firehouse, dance floor, motorcycle repair shop, movie theater	CommNews	https://communitynews	
1940	HwBoro	x	Hopewell Theater new lobby and cinder block addition, re-opened as Colonial Playhouse movie theatre	HwTheater	https://hopewelltheate	
1940	HwBoro		House built as a private home at 3 Louellen Street, becomes Hopewell Presbyterian Manse in 1955	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1940-10-18	HwBoro		Saint Alphonsus rectory on E. Prospect completed, so pastor could devote full time to the church. Cost \$12,101.	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	Church
1941-06-06	HwBoro		First meeting of Hopewell Fire Department in new quarters at old Hopewell High School (4-6 Columbia), renovations \$18,257	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1943-01-29	HwBoro		Hopewell Presbyterian Church Budget \$4050.50	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1946	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church fire - \$1200 damages.	CalvBaptist	95th-1991	Church
1946-01	HwBoro		Hopewell Public Library has 10,837 volumes	Weart 1946		Library
1947	HwBoro		Hopewell Fire Department reports total of 42 alarms, including 14 building fires with est. losses at \$250,000	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1948-02	HwBoro		Rockwell Mfg. Co. purchased American LaFrance pumper to be given to Borough for Fire Department use	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1949 c	HwBoro		Calvary Baptist Church renovations - \$17,000, front entrance	CalvBaptist	95th-1992	Church
1951-04	HwBoro		Hopewell Fire Department Ambulance Corps formed, responded to 1295 calls 1951 - 1961	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1952-03-02	HwBoro		Hopewell Presbyterian Fellowship Hall Dedication - groundbreaking 6/25/1951; cost \$54,111.61 including kitchen renovations	HwPres	Timeline	Church

== Hopewell Borough History Timeline ==

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1952-12-31	HwBoro		Hopewell Presbyterian membership is 466	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1953-1954	HwBoro		Rockwell Mfg. Co. organizes Fire Brigade, purchases American LaFrance for \$1	HwFire	75th-1986	FireDept
1955	HwBoro		Hopewell Herald sold to Princeton Packet and folded into it	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1955	HwBoro		Hopewell Presbyterian Manse on West Broad sold. New manse at 3 Louellen Street bought.	HwPres	Timeline	Church
1956	HwBoro	x	Harry Richard starts the Hopewell Valley News newspaper	THM	https://thehopewellmu	
1956	HwBoro		Tennessee stone grotto at Saint Alphonsus erected by Catholic Men's Club. Alter Rosary Society donated the Carrera marble statues of "Our Lady of Lourdes and Bernadette"	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	
1956-03-14	HwBoro		Fire at St. Mary's Cathedral, Trenton, N. J. destroys records of St. Alphonsus until early 1894	StAlphonsus	100th-1977	