

**Historic Burlington County School House Tour
Self-guided Tour**

(Note: Self-guided tour may start in reverse or at any of the schools on the route.)

Location of Historic Smithville Park – a logical central point to start your Historic Schoolhouse Tour

Smithville Park is located in Eastampton Township, Burlington County, New Jersey. It is near the intersection of Route 206 and Route 38 (Vincentown Diner) - traveling west on Rt. 38 from the intersection and turning right at the first traffic signal onto Smithville Road. It is also accessible from NJ Turnpike Exit #7. Take the South 206 ramp, turn left onto Rt. 206 and continue to Monmouth Road at Chambers Corners, taking a right onto Monmouth Rd, and then proceeding to Smithville Road (at Charlie's Other Brother), turning left and proceeding to the Park Entrance. You can also take Turnpike Exit 5, turning south onto Rt. 541 to the ramp to Woodlane Road East. Follow Woodlane Road to Smithville Road. Turn Right on Smithville Road to the entrance to the park.

If you use GPS - navigate to Smithville Park by using the address: 801 Smithville Road, Eastampton Twp., NJ 08060. Enter the park, however, at the Meade Avenue entrance.

The schoolhouse is at the corner of Meade Lane and Smithville Road, across from the public parking area, just inside the entrance gates to the Mansion grounds. Public restrooms available on premises. Restaurants nearby.

1. Smithville School, Smithville Road and Meade Lane, Eastampton.

Built by H.B. Smith as the village school for the workers in 1870. Average school attendance was 41 students. The building is now a museum and History Exhibit maintained by the Friends of the Mansion at Smithville.

Directions to Billy K. Haines School, Vincentown, NJ

Upon leaving Smithville via Meade Ave., turn right onto Smithville Road. You will cross Route 38 at the traffic signal, continuing on Smithville Road for about 2 miles until the end, where it intersects with Newbolds Corner Road in Southampton. Turn left and proceed to the end where it intersects with North Main St., Vincentown. Turn right and proceed for about a mile, passing Mill St. (Sterling Bank) and arriving at Race St. (at the Vincentown Library). Turn right onto Race St. and immediately behind the Library is the Billy K. Haines School. Park in the Municipal Parking Lot at Saw Mill Park, next to the one room schoolhouse. No public rest rooms. Total miles from Smithville: 6 miles. 8 minutes.

2. Billy K. Haines Schoolhouse, Vincentown, NJ, corner of Main St. and Race St., behind the Sally Stretch Keen Memorial Library at Saw Mill Park. William K. Haines was the schoolmaster at this 19th Century schoolhouse. The schoolhouse was moved here from North Main St. and dedicated to the children of Southampton Township on May 19, 1984. Maintained by the Southampton Historical Society.

Directions to Friendship School, Tabernacle, NJ.

At the Race St. exit of the Municipal Parking Lot, turn right onto Race St. and proceed past the Fire House to Red Lion Road. Turn left onto Red Lion Road and proceed for approximately 4 miles, crossing Eayrestown Road at the Red Lion Inn to the intersection of Route 70. Turn left at the light onto Rt. 70, proceed one-quarter of the way around the Red Lion Circle, and bear right onto Rt. 206 south. Proceed for about a mile and bear left onto Carranza Road (Rt. 648), continuing for about 2 miles (passing Seneca H.S. on the left) and arriving at the crossroads in Tabernacle. Continue on Carranza Rd. (crossing 532 – Medford Lakes Rd./Chatsworth Rd). Immediately on the left you will see Sequoia Alternate School, and adjacent to Sequoia is the Friendship one-room schoolhouse. Distance from Vincentown: 7.7 miles; 20 minutes.

3. **Friendship School, Intersection of Route 548 and Carranza Road**, next to Sequoia Alternative School. Built in 1890 and attended by children whose families worked in the cranberry bogs, the school was moved here from Washington Township. Maintained by the Tabernacle Historical Society. Parking along Carranza Road. No public restrooms.

Directions to Cross Keys School, Mill Street, Medford, NJ.

Via Carranza Rd., return to the Crossroads in Tabernacle (Russo's Farm Market is on your left). Turn left onto Medford Lakes Road, passing Holy Eucharist Catholic Church on the right, and proceeding for a little over a mile to the intersection of Route 206. Cross over Rt. 206, continuing on Medford Lakes Road, passing Murphy's Market and Shawnee High School on the left. At about 4.2 miles from the Rt. 206 intersection, bear right at the fork onto Dixontown Road. In two miles you will arrive at the intersection of Stokes Road (there is a MacDonald's on the corner on the left – which was the original location of the Cross Keys School you are about to visit. There is a plaque alongside the MacDonald's parking lot indicating that Cross Keys school was once located there). Bear slightly right onto Stokes Road, following it for a little less than a mile to the traffic light at Himmelein Road. Turn left onto Himmelein Road, and continue for about a half a mile to Oliphants Mill Road (Mill St.). Turn right here, and less than a mile on the right you will see Cross Keys School on the grounds of the Elementary School. Parking along Mill St. or in the Middle School parking lot. Distance from Friendship School, Tabernacle: 10 miles; time between schools: 15 minutes.

4. **Cross Keys School, Mill St., (between South Main St. and Himmelein Road), Medford, N.J.**

Built in 1857 by Lester Gager for \$900. Former students called the school the "Knowledge Box." The schoolhouse was recently refurbished and dedicated to the memory of Tom Chavis who was instrumental in saving and restoring the school.

Directions to The Chesterford School ("Little Red Schoolhouse") 415 West Main Street, Maple Shade, NJ. Return to Main St. Medford via Mill St., and continue left to Route 70. Turn left onto Rt. 70, traveling west past the traffic light at Hartford Road. Turn right a short distance later onto Route 618, Evesboro-Medford Road. Stay on this road for about 5 miles. Turn right onto Route 73 North. Continue for several miles until you come to Rt. 610, S. Fellowship Road. Make a slight right turn here and continue to Main St., Maple Shade. Turn left onto Main St. Chesterford School is a short distance on the right, immediately before the Camden County Line. Park on West Main St. in the vicinity of the schoolhouse. Distance and time from Medford to Chesterford School: 18 miles; 35 minutes.

5. **The Chesterford School ("Little Red Schoolhouse") 415 West Main Street, Maple Shade, NJ**

Children attended the Chesterford School from 1812 until 1909. It operated as a one-room schoolhouse for 97 years. Maintained by the Maple Shade Historical Society.

Directions to the other Little Red Schoolhouse, 1 Salem Road, Willingboro, NJ

Backtrack on West Main Street, heading towards Moorestown. Because of bridge work over the Pennsauken, turn left onto Forklanding Road, taking it north to the intersection with Lenola Rd. Turn left on Lenola, and then right onto Route 130 and proceed to Beverly-Rancocas Road. Turn right onto Beverly-Rancocas Road, proceeding to Salem Road. Turn left onto Salem Road, and continue up to the schoolhouse and tent, on the left, in front of the Willingboro Municipal Building and across from the Post Office. Park in the Municipal Parking Lot. Distance and time from Chesterford: 11 miles; 20 min.

6. **The Little Red Schoolhouse, 1 Salem Road, Willingboro, NJ**

Built in 1866-67, it replaced the old townhouse-schoolhouse. Survived the bulldozers of the Levitt remake of Willingboro in the late 1950s. Currently undergoing restoration. Public restroom available at Municipal Complex.

Directions to Burlington City and Friends Schoolhouse:

Continue on Salem Road to Levitt Parkway. Turn left onto Levitt Parkway and follow it to the end, where it intersects with Route 130. Turn right onto Route 130 and proceed to the City of Burlington, following signs to the Business District. Follow High St. to Union St. (at Wheately's Drug Store). Turn right onto Union and proceed to York St. Turn left onto East Union. The Friends School is on the right. Park on the street, or proceed to the municipal parking lot.

7. **1792 Friends Schoolhouse – York St., (between Penn & East Union) Burlington, NJ.** One of the first Quaker Schools in Burlington County. John Griscom was the first schoolmaster. Operated by the City of Burlington Historical Society.

Directions to Clara Barton School, Bordentown, NJ.

Upon leaving York St., Burlington, turn right onto E. Pearl St. (River Road). Turn right onto Jones St and left onto Bordentown Road, which merges into Route 130. Follow Rt. 130 north for approximately 7 miles, making a left turn onto Route 662 - Burlington-Bordentown Road (4th Street) into Fieldsboro. Follow this road for about 2 miles, arriving at Farnsworth St., Bordentown. Turn left onto Farnsworth, then turn right onto Crosswicks St. (Rt. 528), passing the current Clara Barton Elementary School and proceeding to the corner of Burlington St. and Crosswicks arriving at the historic one-room Clara Barton School on the right. Total miles from Friends School, Burlington: 11 miles; time between venues: 20 minutes. No public restrooms.
Parking: Across Crosswicks St. at the Community Center behind the Gilder House at Gilder Park.

8. **Clara Barton School – Crosswicks and Burlington Streets, Bordentown, NJ.**

One of the earliest free schools in New Jersey. Established in 1852 by Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross.

Directions to Georgetown School, Mansfield Township, NJ

Upon leaving Bordentown via Crosswicks St., turn right onto Route 206 South, (you will be on Rt. 206 for approximately 5 miles - 7 minutes.) Arriving at Columbus, take the right jug handle, doubling back onto Route 206. Immediately upon entering Rt. 206, turn right into the Mansfield Athletic complex. The schoolhouse is at the far end of the park. No public rest rooms.

9. **Georgetown Schoolhouse, Route 206, north of Columbus, Mansfield Township.**

Originally located on Gaunt's Bridge Road this school building now sits on the North end of the Columbus Civic & Athletic Association's lake. A map dated 1849 shows that this school was in use at that time. In 1914 it was moved to the Charles Burtis Farm (now the Kenny Farm) on Route 68. The building was given to the Mansfield Township Historical Society in 1976 and then moved to its current location on Route 206.

Directions to Old Schoolhouse, 35 Brainerd St., Mount Holly

Upon leaving the Mansfield Athletic complex, turn left and proceed south on Route 206 to the intersection Monmouth Road at the Esquire Diner. Bear right and continue into Mount Holly. Turn right onto Garden St. Turn left onto Paxson St. There is public parking on this street behind Scotto's Pizza or on Buttonwood St. Walk onto Brainerd St. The schoolhouse is on your right. No public restroom facilities.

10. **The Old Schoolhouse, 35 Brainerd St., Mount Holly**

This is the oldest school in New Jersey standing on its original site. The land was purchased in 1759 and the building was constructed the same year. It operated as a school and for educational purposes for 100 years. Maintained by The National Society of The Colonial Dames in America in The State of New Jersey. .

Total accumulated tour miles and time: 98 miles; 6 hours, 45 min.

Map and itinerary created by Joseph M. Laufer, Burlington County Historian. www.BurlcoHistorian.com

Project sponsored by The National Society of The Colonial Dames – NJ, The Burlington County Library System and The Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Schoolhouse Tour

1. **Smithville Schoolhouse**
 - Cor. Smithville Rd. & Meade Lane, Eastampton, NJ
2. **Billy K. Haines Schoolhouse**
 - Rear of Cor. Of Main & Race St., Vincentown, NJ
3. **Friendship Schoolhouse**
 - Cor. Rt. 548 & Carranza Rd., Tabernacle, NJ
4. **Cross Keys Schoolhouse**
 - Mill St. between So. Main & Himmelein Rd., Medford, NJ
5. **Chesterford Schoolhouse**
 - 415 West Main St., Maple Shade, NJ
6. **Willingboro Schoolhouse**
 - 1 Salem Rd., Willingboro, NJ
7. **Burlington Friends School**
 - York St., betw. Penn & E. Union, Burlington, NJ
8. **Clara Barton Schoolhouse**
 - Crosswicks & Burlington Sts., Bordentown, NJ
9. **Georgetown School**
 - Route 206, north of Columbus, Mansfield, NJ
10. **Mt. Holly "Old" Schoolhouse**
 - 35 Brainerd St., Mt. Holly, NJ

