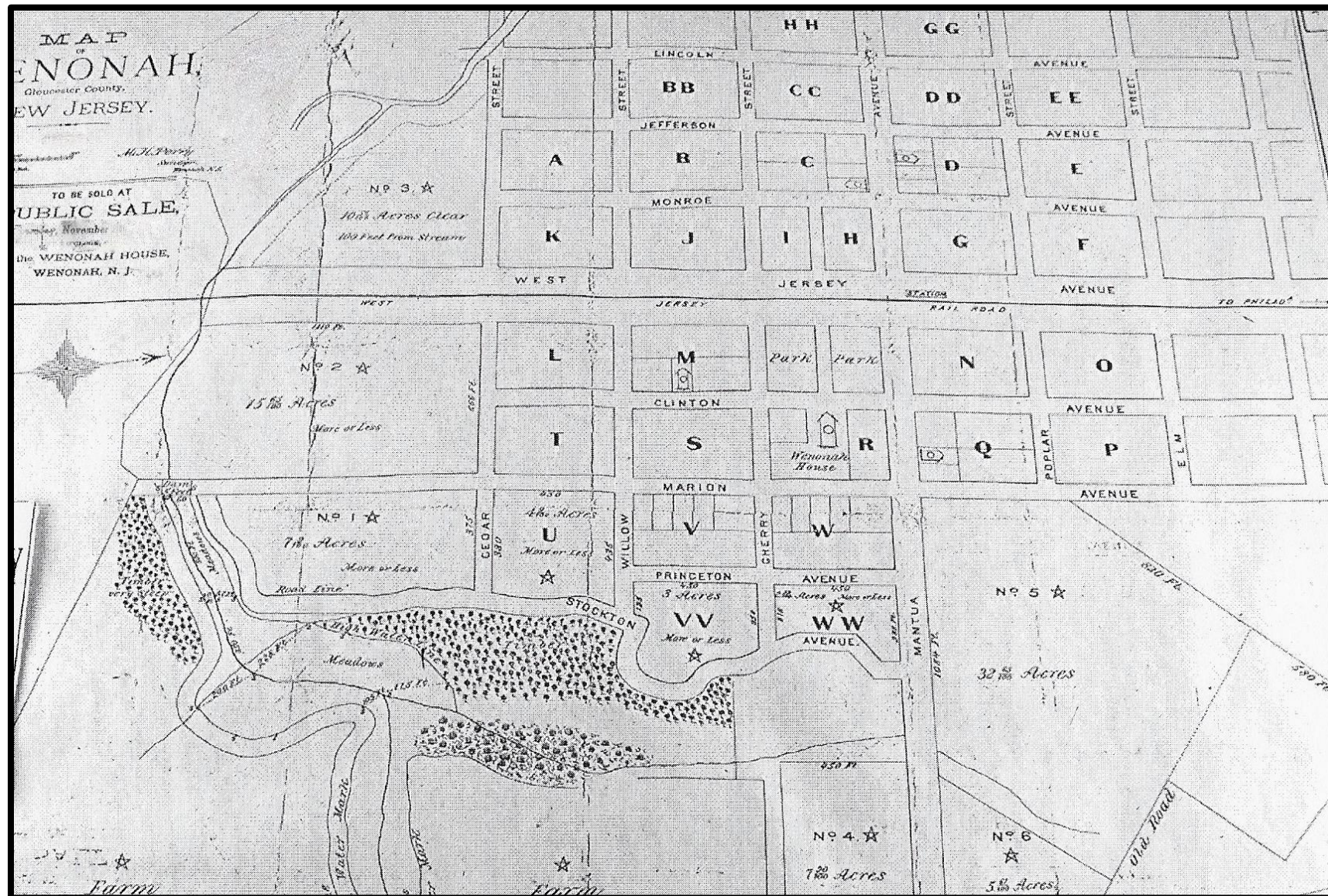


**The Wenonah Historical Society
is pleased to participate in StoryWalk.®
Our story is “Wenonah’s Earliest Years.”**



In 1870, General William J. Sewell and William Frederick Allen conceived the idea of creating a town to promote the use of the West Jersey Railroad.

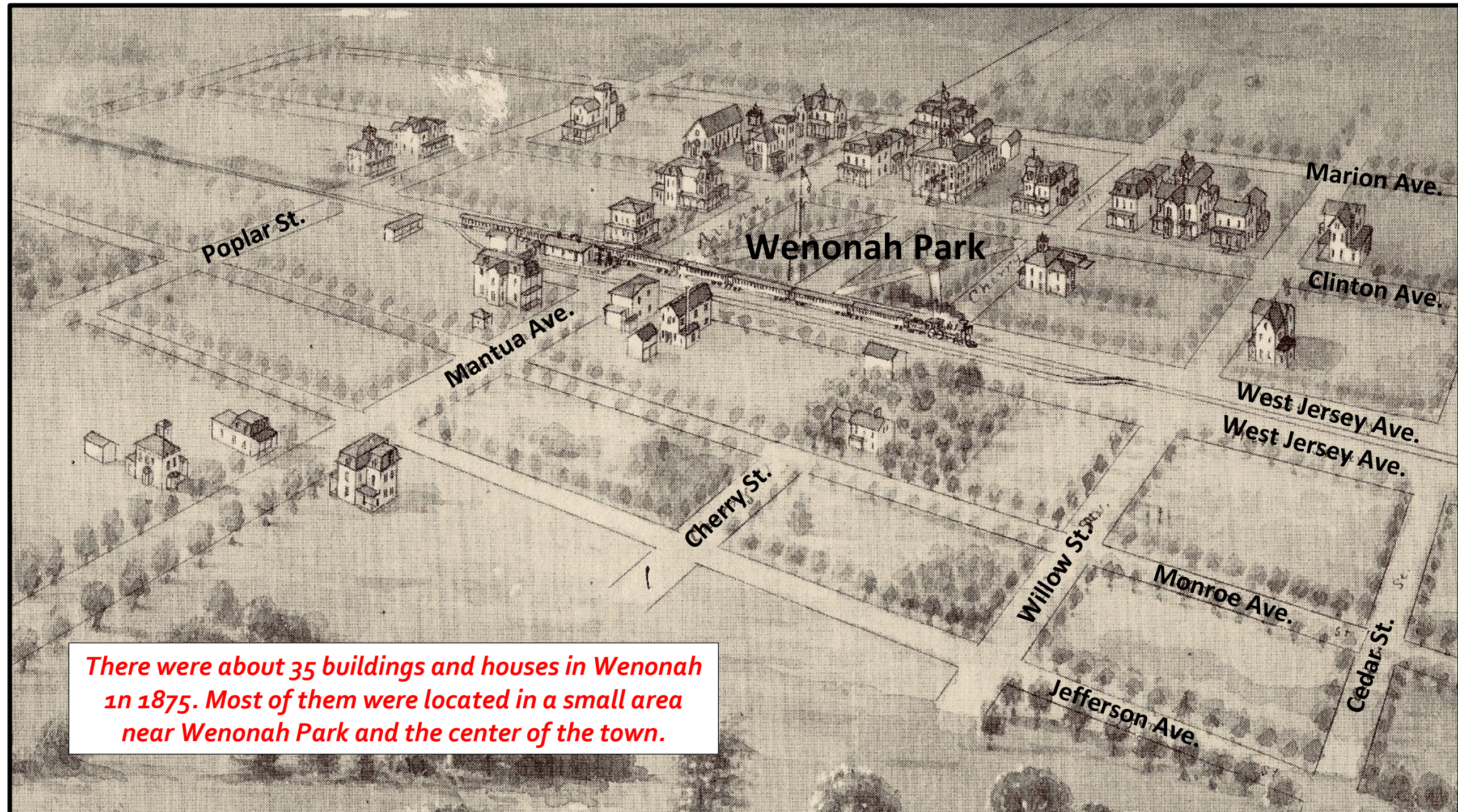
In 1871, the Mantua Land and Improvement Company was created to develop the new town named "Wenonah."

Ever wonder what Wenonah looked like in its earliest years? What houses are the oldest? What early buildings are no longer here?

Our story – the 5th prepared by the Wenonah Historical Society to promote the history of our special town – will show you.

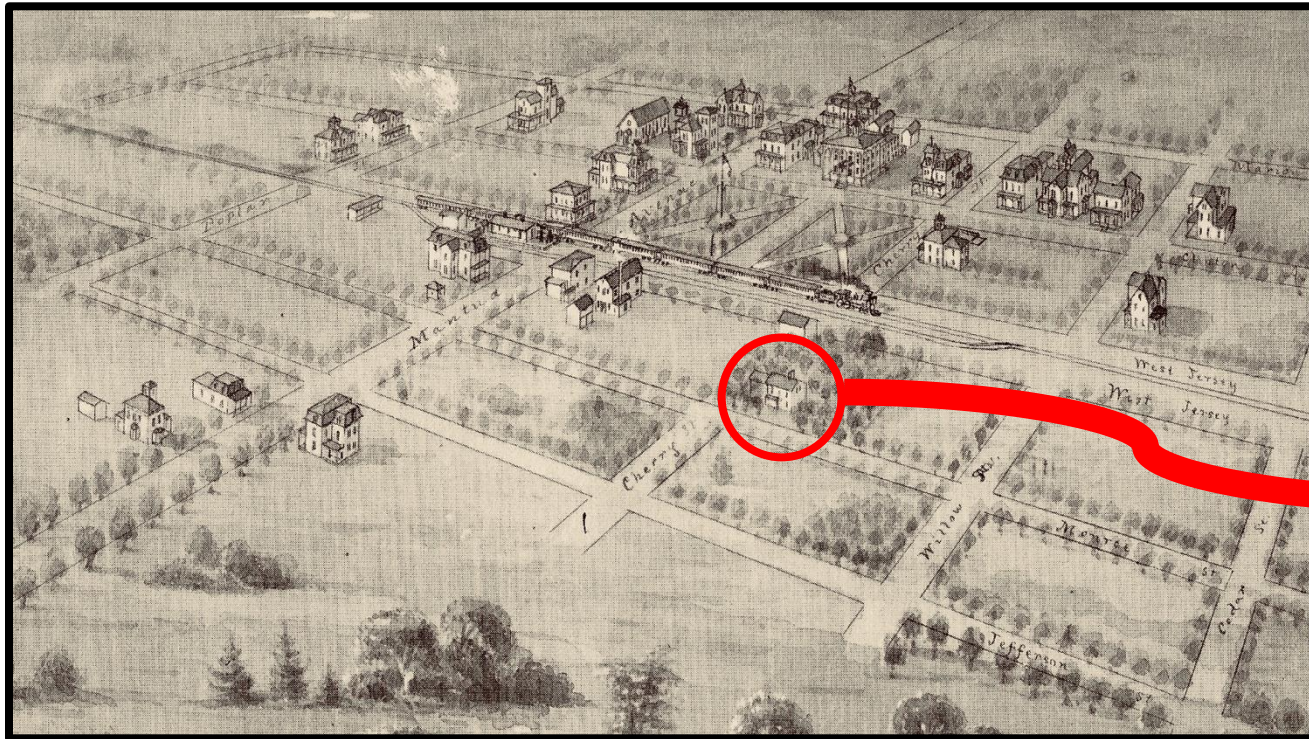
**Enjoy the story and your walk from the library
through our park!**

Wenonah Looked Like This in 1875



There were about 35 buildings and houses in Wenonah in 1875. Most of them were located in a small area near Wenonah Park and the center of the town.

Old Stone House



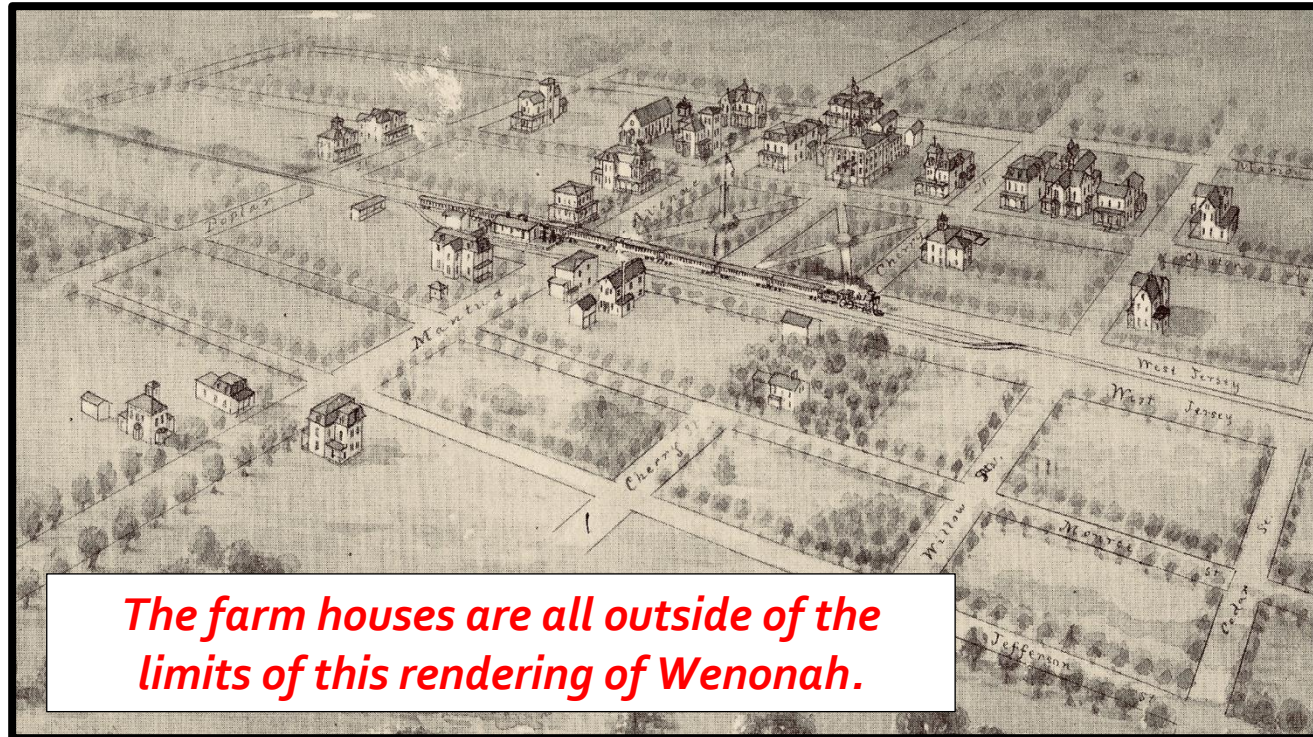
The oldest house in Wenonah is the “Old Stone House,” located at the southwest corner of West Ave. and Cherry St. (now 100 S. West Ave.) The structure was built sometime before 1763, more than 100 years before the existence of Wenonah. Some interesting facts about the Old Stone House include:

- The building was originally constructed as a tavern. It was located on a 1,300-acre plantation, comprising most of Wenonah and large sections of Sewell and Woodbury Heights.
- The building was once a stop for stagecoaches.
- Militia used the building during the Revolutionary War.
- The building initially faced Monroe Ave. It now faces West Ave.



100 S. West Ave.

Farm Houses That Pre-Date Wenonah



509 E. Elm St.

When General Sewell and Frederick Allen conceived the idea of creating Wenonah, sweet potato farms covered the land. The 4 houses shown were once part of the farming operations. At least 3 of the houses were moved from their original locations.



111 N. Lincoln Ave.

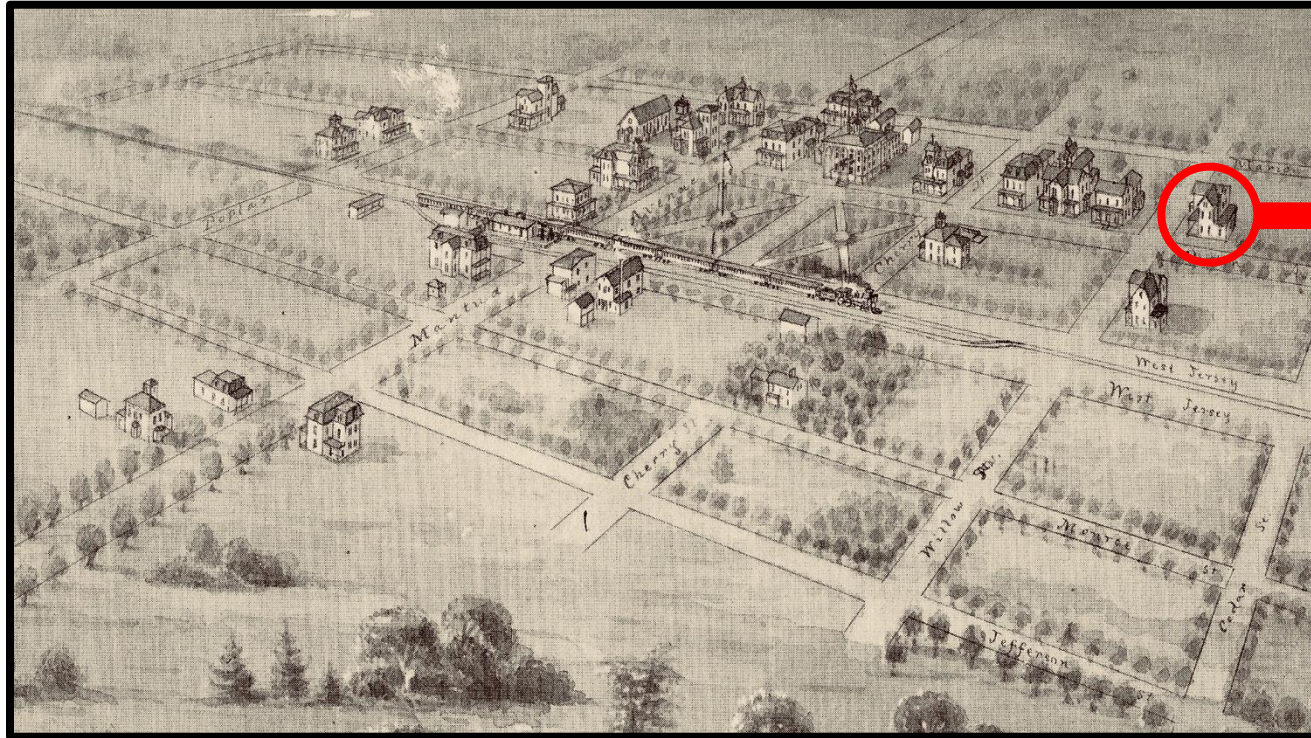


406 W. Mantua Ave.



1473 Glassboro Rd.

Stephen Greene's House



WENONAH HOME
DAMAGED BY FIRE
Property of Stephen Greene Es-
tate Suffers From Fire and
Water—Though to be of
Incendiary Origin

Original Stephen Greene House

Stephen Greene, a founding father of Wenonah, owned a substantial part of the southeast quadrant of town. He built his house (above right) on the southeast corner of Clinton Ave. and Willow St. Greene's property included exotic gardens, greenhouses, a peacock run, and dwellings for his caretaker and coachman. The caretaker and coachman houses still stand on Willow St. and Marion Ave., respectively. Greene's house also remains, although a fire in 1923 damaged the structure and it was restored as 2 houses – 201 and 203 S. Clinton Ave.



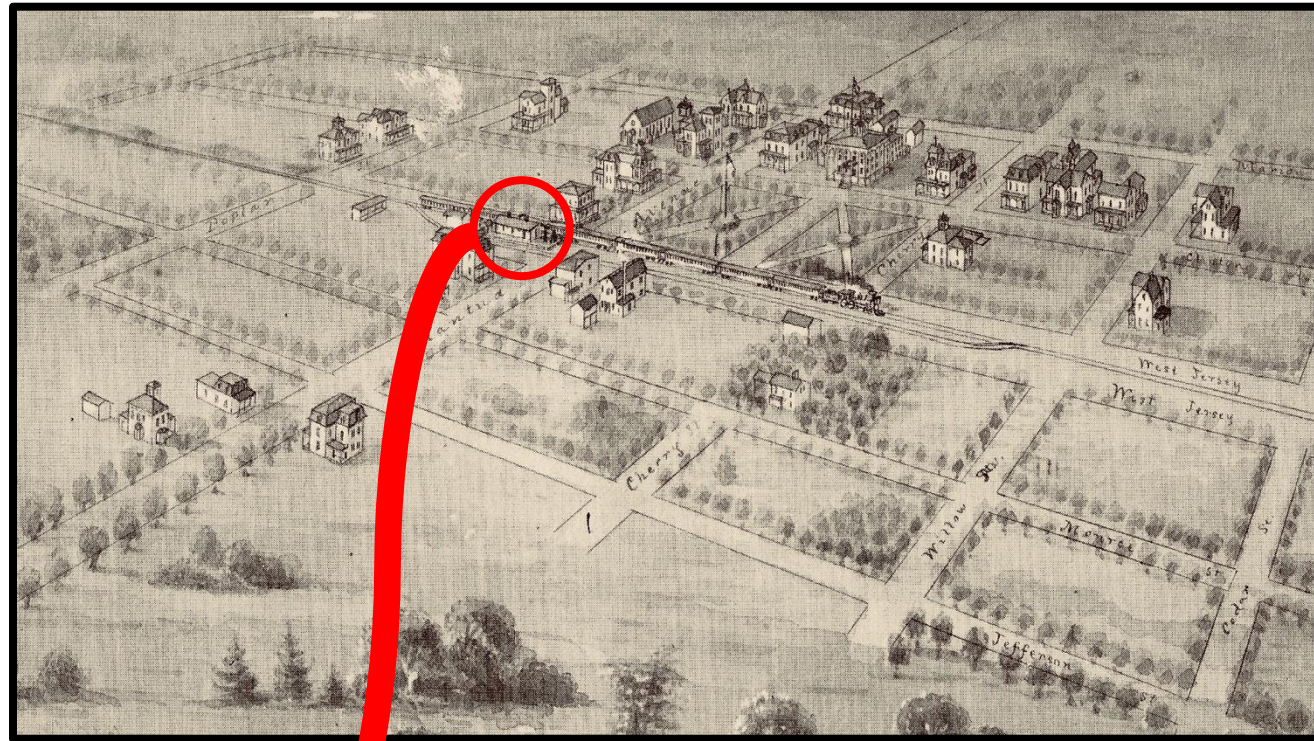
201 S. Clinton Ave.



203 S. Clinton Ave.

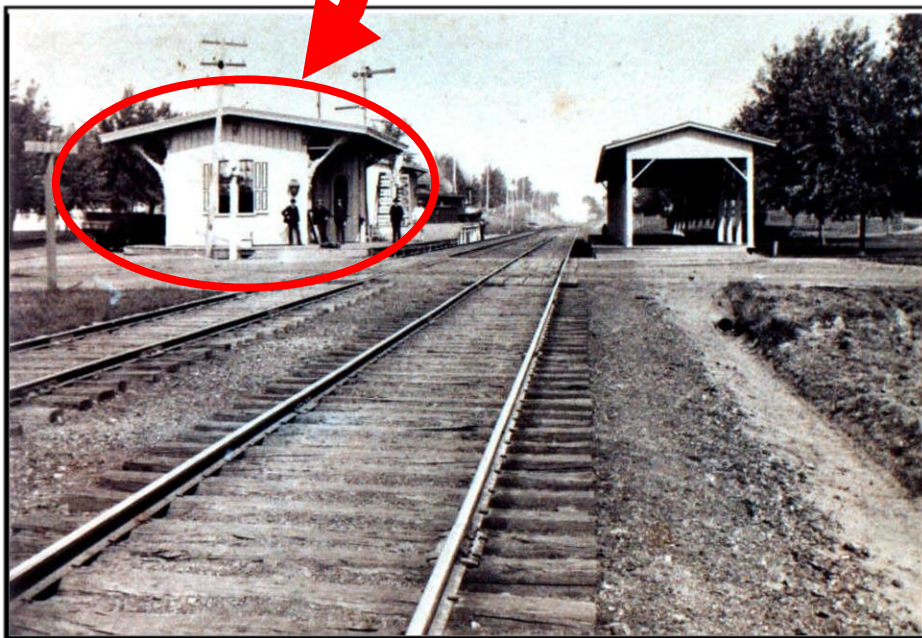
Post-Fire – Now 2 Houses

The Wenonah Railroad Station



You won't find these in Wenonah in 1875:

- School Building – Our first school building was built in 1878.
- Fire Department – Our first fire-fighting equipment was purchased in 1888.
- House Numbers – Houses were not identified with numbers until 1924.
- Paved Roads – Mantua Ave. was the first road paved, and that didn't happen until 1925.



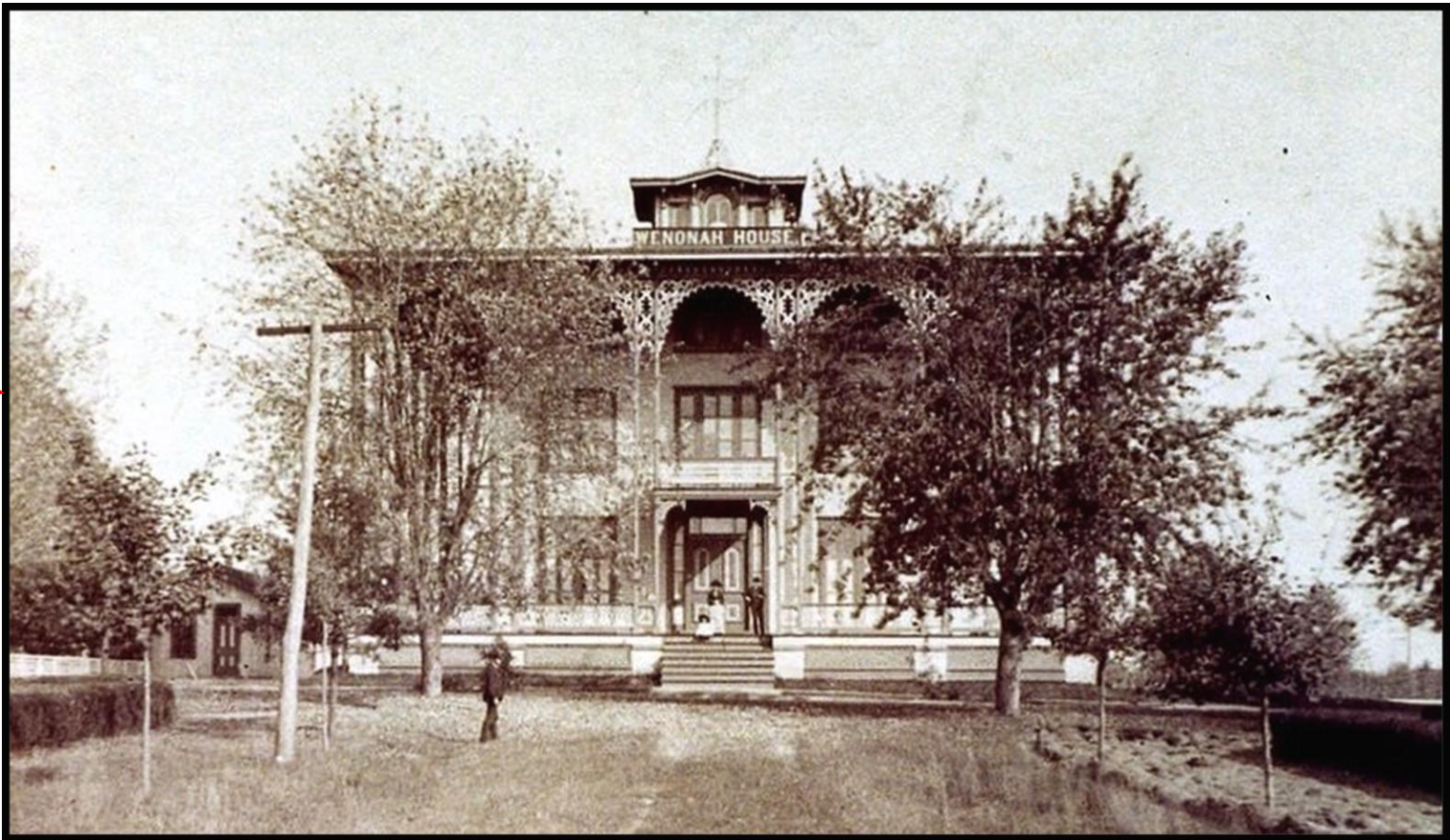
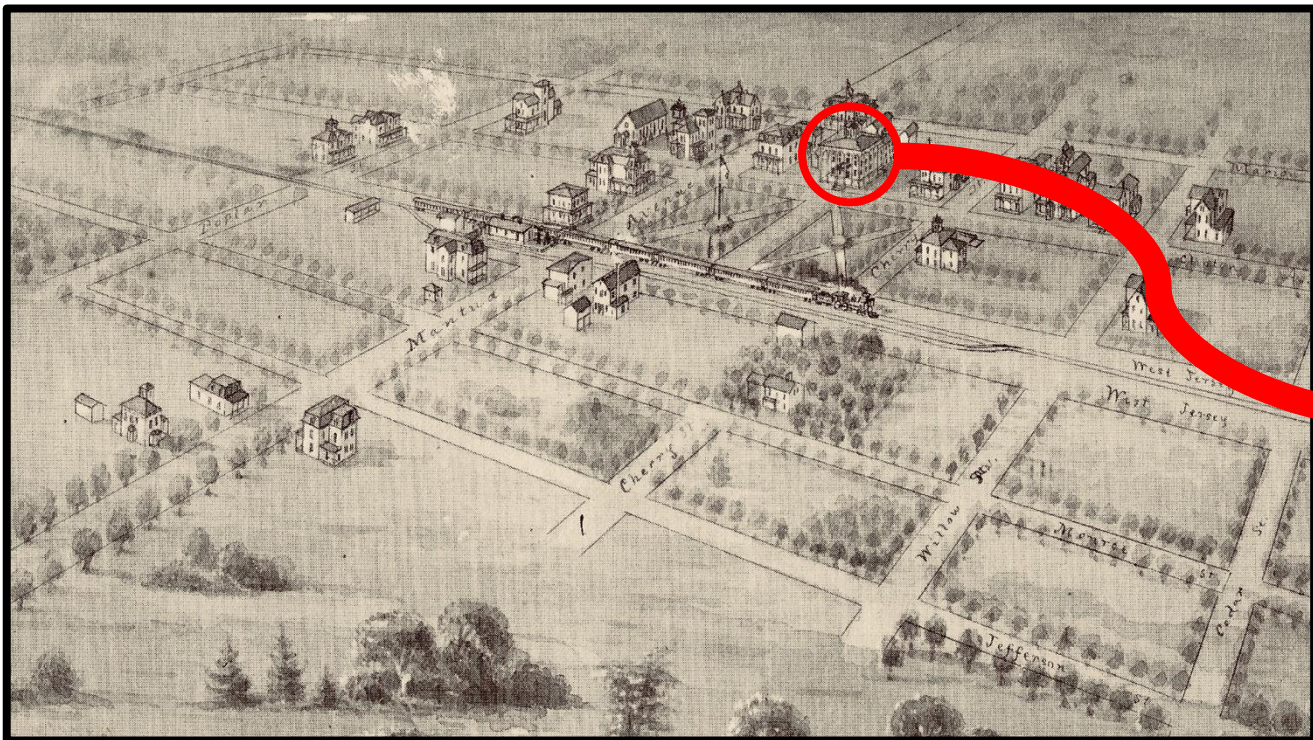
Wenonah Station (looking north)



Now a Residence: 8 S. West Ave.

The original railroad station in town was constructed in about 1870. The station was located on the west side of the tracks, opposite from where the current community center train station is located. The structure was moved to 8 S. West Ave. in 1893 and is now a private residence.


Wenonah House



The Wenonah House, a majestic 3-story structure with 40 rooms, opened for guests in spring of 1872. At the time, there were only 10 houses in Wenonah. The hotel was located on S. Clinton Ave. across from the park. A boardwalk connected the hotel to the railroad station 2 blocks away.

The Wenonah House was demolished after closing prior to 1890 and was replaced by a larger, more modern hotel – the Wenonah Inn.

GO TO WENONAH



WENONAH HOUSE.

The New Town on West Jersey Rail Road
11 MILES FROM PHILADELPHIA.

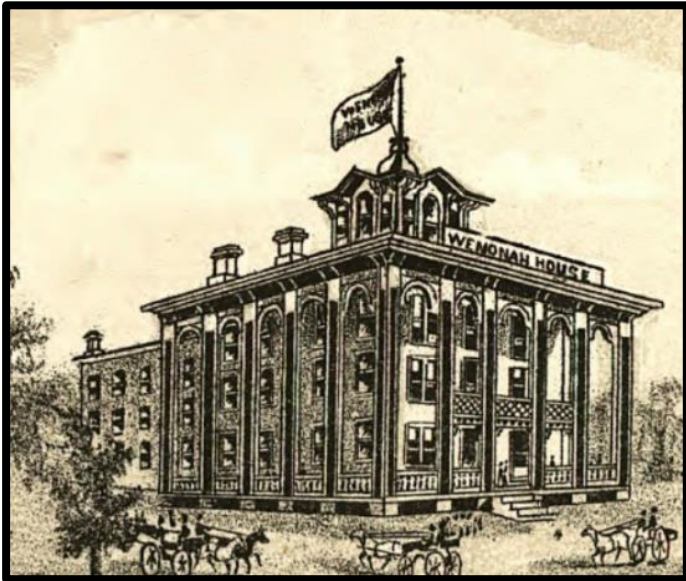
Before making your arrangements for the summer or for the year.
No healthier location in the vicinity of Philadelphia; fine rolling country and the best of water; Boating and Fishing.
After May 1st, trains will leave foot of Market Street,

PHILADELPHIA, FOR WENONAH, at	- 8.15 A. M.
" " " " " "	- 11.45 " "
" " " " " "	- 3.30 P. M.
" " " " " "	- 5.30 " "
" " " " " "	- 6.30 " "
WENONAH FOR PHILADELPHIA, at	- 7.15 A. M.
" " " " " "	- 8.45 " "
" " " " " "	- 1.45 P. M.
" " " " " "	- 4.45 " "
" " " " " "	- 10.30 " "

Monthly Commutation Tickets, only \$7.50. Family and Yearly Commutation Tickets for sale at low rates.

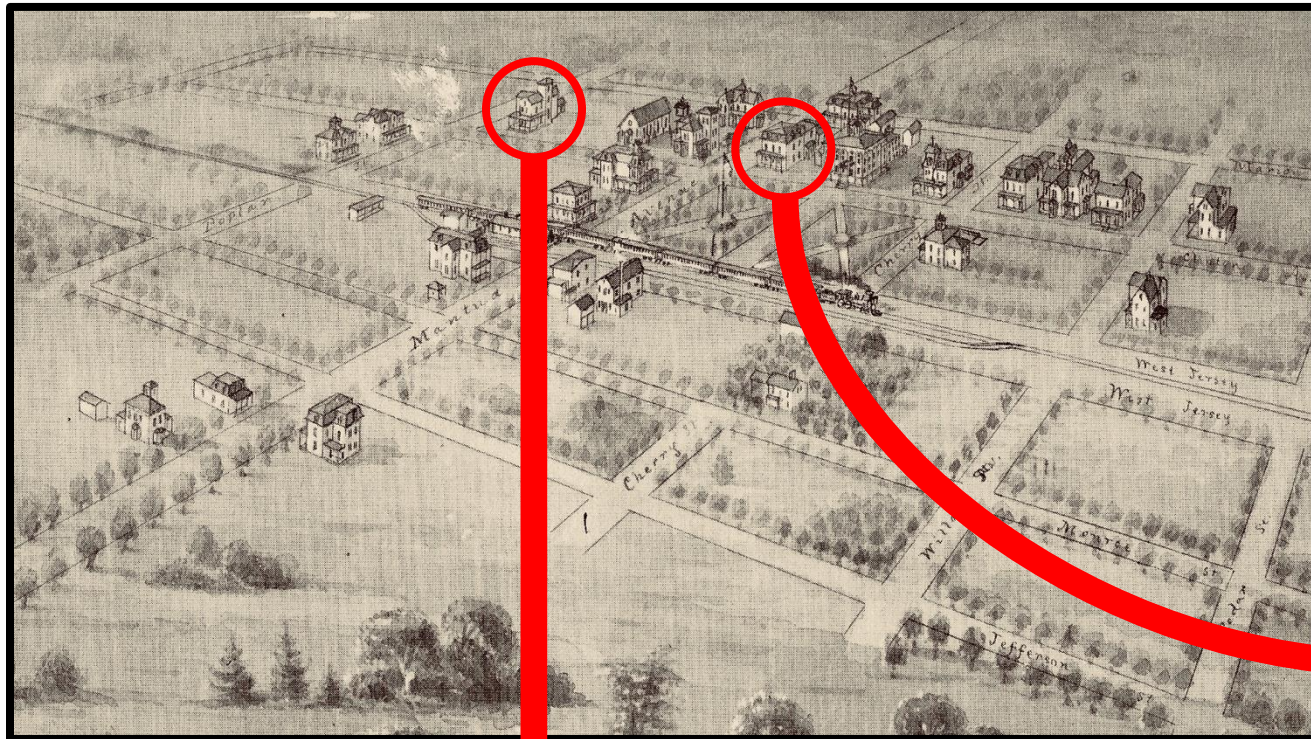
COTTAGES AND BUILDING LOTS FOR SALE.
AGENT ON THE PROPERTY.
WENONAH HOUSE ALWAYS OPEN.

THE LARGEST HOTEL.

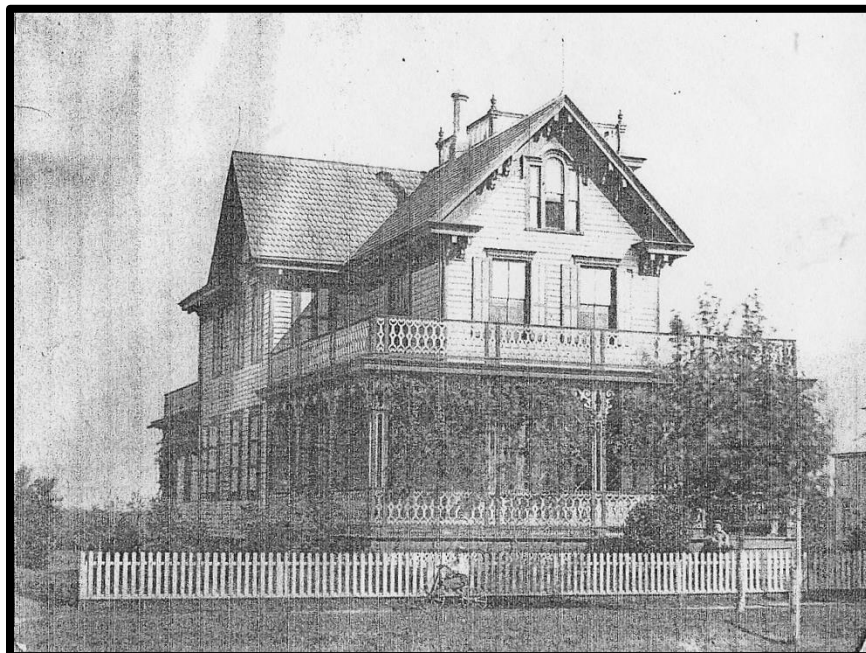


Center of Social Scene in Wenonah

Two of the First Houses Built in Wenonah



After Wenonah's formation, Andrew Carey and founding father Dr. George Bailey built two of the first houses in town. Carey's house was at the southeast corner of Clinton Ave. and Poplar St. (now 11 N. Clinton Ave.) Bailey's house was at the southeast corner of Mantua and Clinton Aves. (now 1 S. Clinton Ave.) Both of the houses stand today, although Carey's has been changed significantly as shown by comparing the photos (bottom left and middle).



Original Andrew Carey House

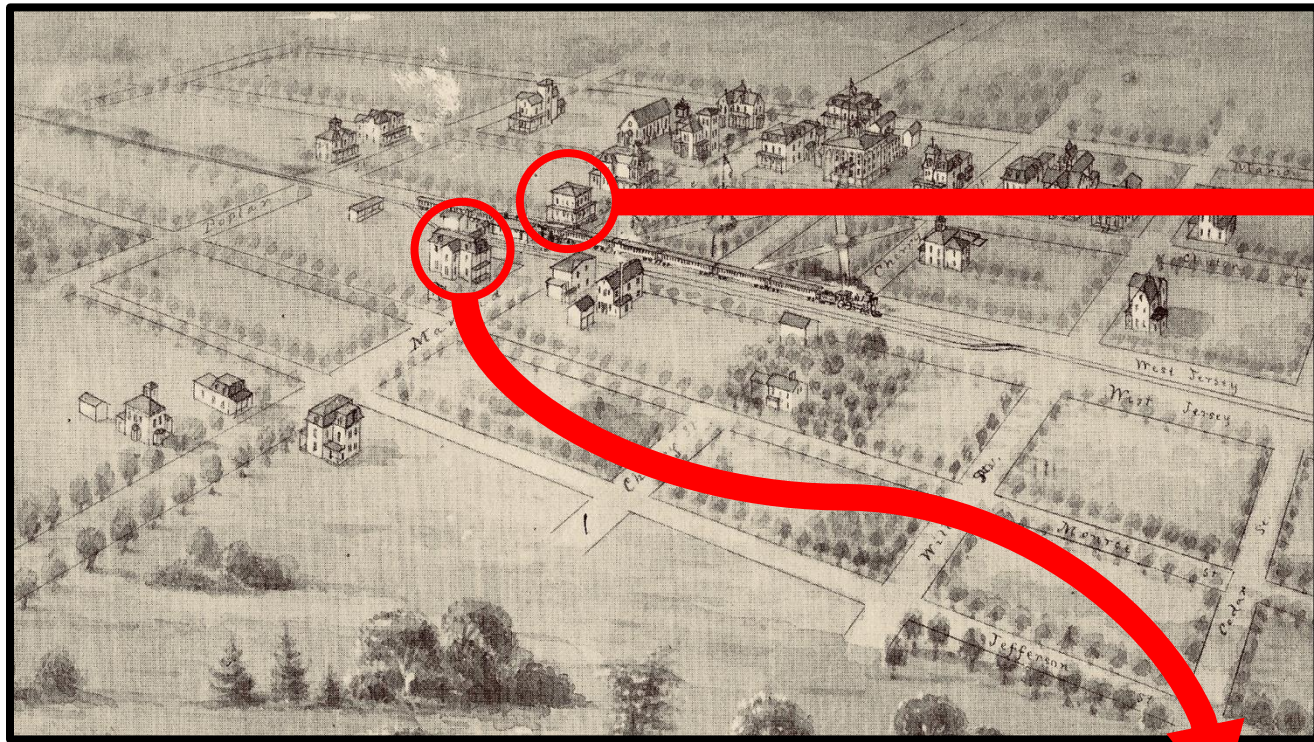


Carey's House Today: 11 N. Clinton Ave.



Dr. George Bailey House: 1 S. Clinton Ave.

Familiar Buildings in the Center of Town



1 E. Mantua Ave.

The building at 1 E. Mantua Ave. probably was the first one built after the formation of Wenonah. It was originally 2 stories with the 3rd story added later.

Ransom Howard constructed the building to immediate right on W. Mantua Ave. in 1873, with the intention it be used for the following purposes:

- 1st floor – restaurant or store
- 2nd floor – school
- 3rd floor – public purposes

The building is now a duplex at 7/9 W. Mantua Ave.

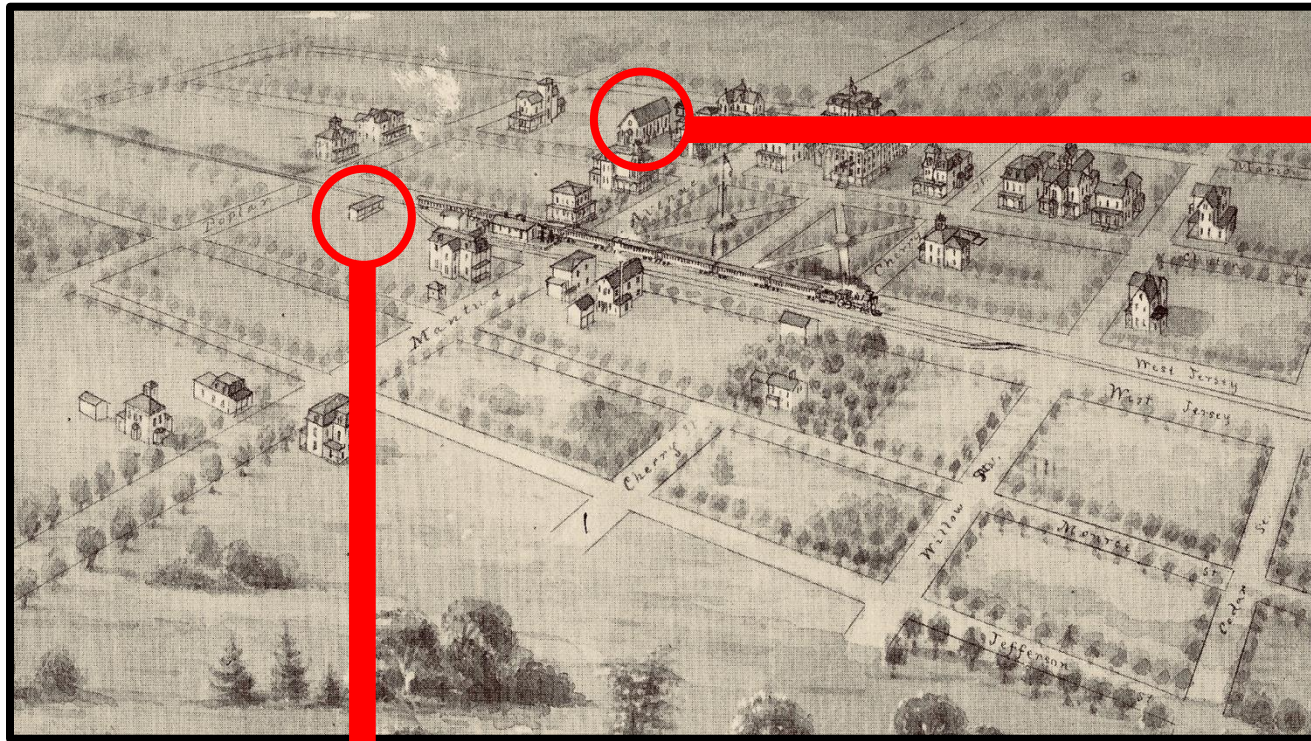


Original Ransom Howard Building



Ransom Howard Building Today:
7/9 W. Mantua Ave.

A Church and Railroad Ticket Office



First Presbyterian Church

In 1873, the first church was built in Wenonah on N. Clinton Ave. – the First Presbyterian Church (photo to left). The structure was converted to a private residence at 5 N. Clinton Ave. after the congregation moved to Memorial Presbyterian Church at the southwest corner of Mantua and Princeton Aves.



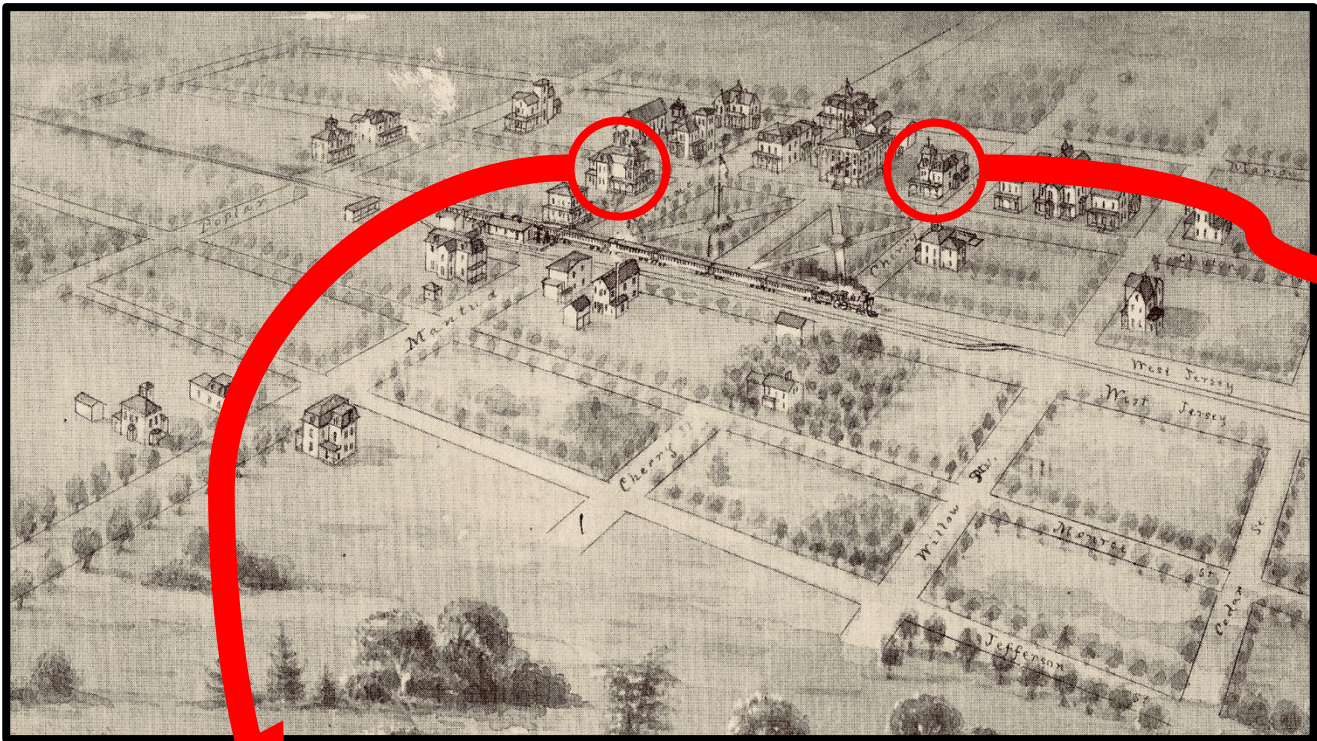
Church Converted To a House:
5 N. Clinton Ave.



8 N. West Ave.

In 1872, West Jersey Railroad constructed a ticket office at what is now 8 N. West Ave. The building has since been used for many other purposes.

Two Iconic Houses



Original George McGill House



McGill’s House Today: 1 S. Clinton Ave.

Two of the most iconic houses in town were built in Wenonah’s early years. Frank Shull built his residence at the northwest corner of Mantua and Clinton Aves. (now 7 E. Mantua Ave.) in 1875. George McGill built his house at the northeast corner of Clinton Ave. and Cherry St. (now 11 S. Clinton Ave.) in 1873. Early and recent photos of the houses are shown to the left.

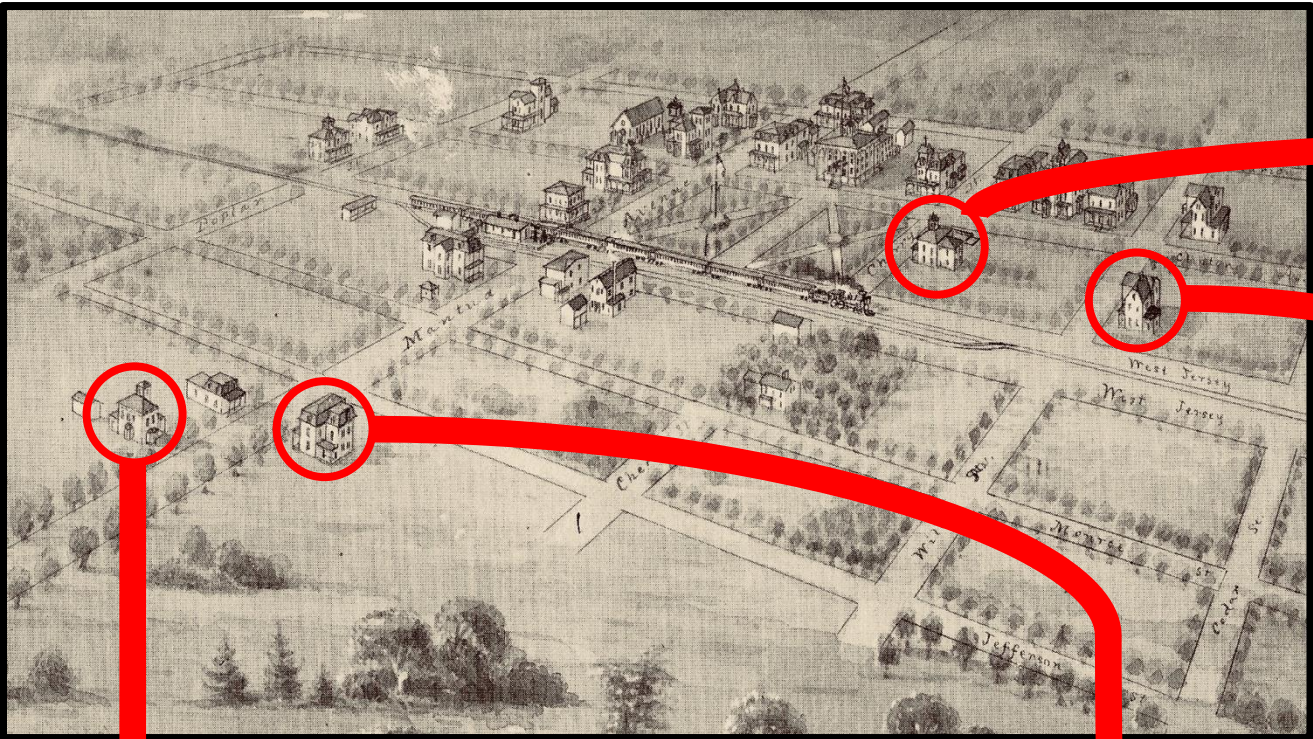


Original Frank Shull House



Shull’s House Today: 7 E. Mantua Ave.

These Houses Were Here in 1875



6 E. Cherry St.



209 W. Mantua Ave.

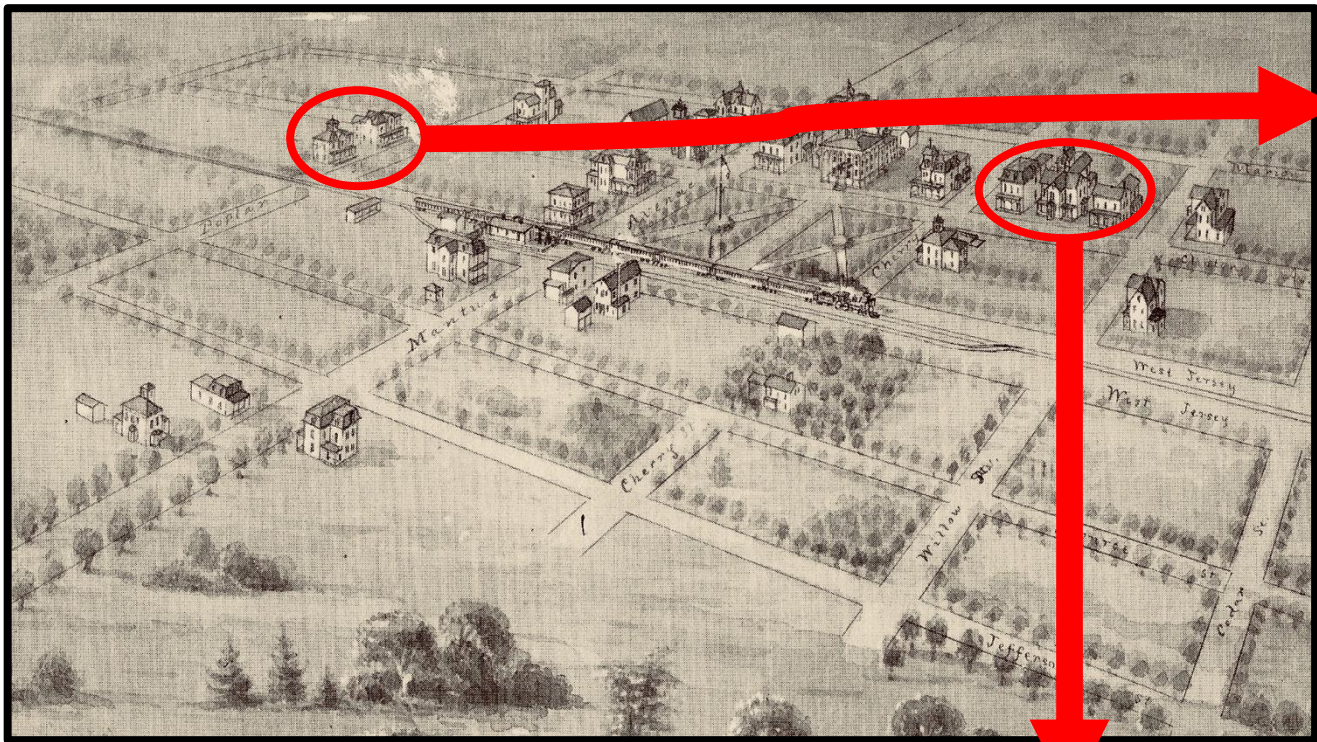


202 W. Mantua Ave.



4 E. Willow St.

Even More Houses That Were Here in 1875



3 E. Poplar St.



7 E. Poplar St.



101 S. Clinton Ave.

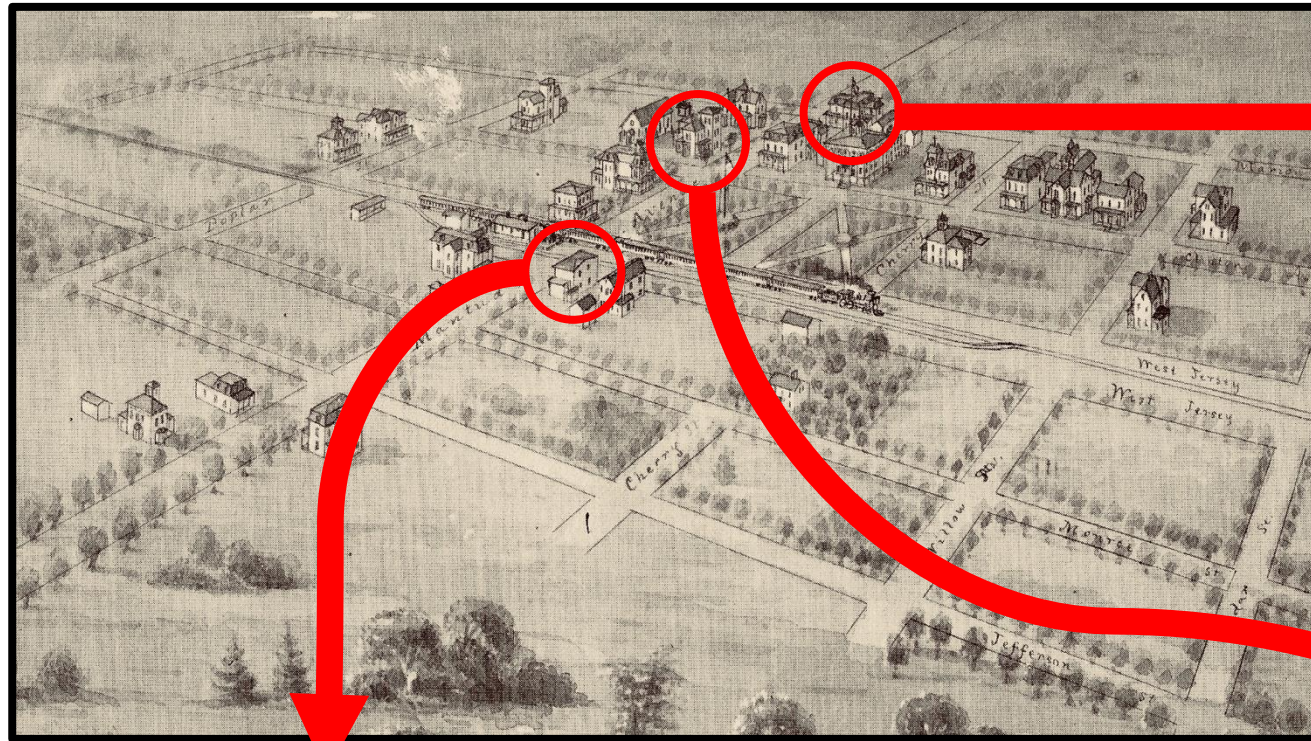


105 S. Clinton Ave.



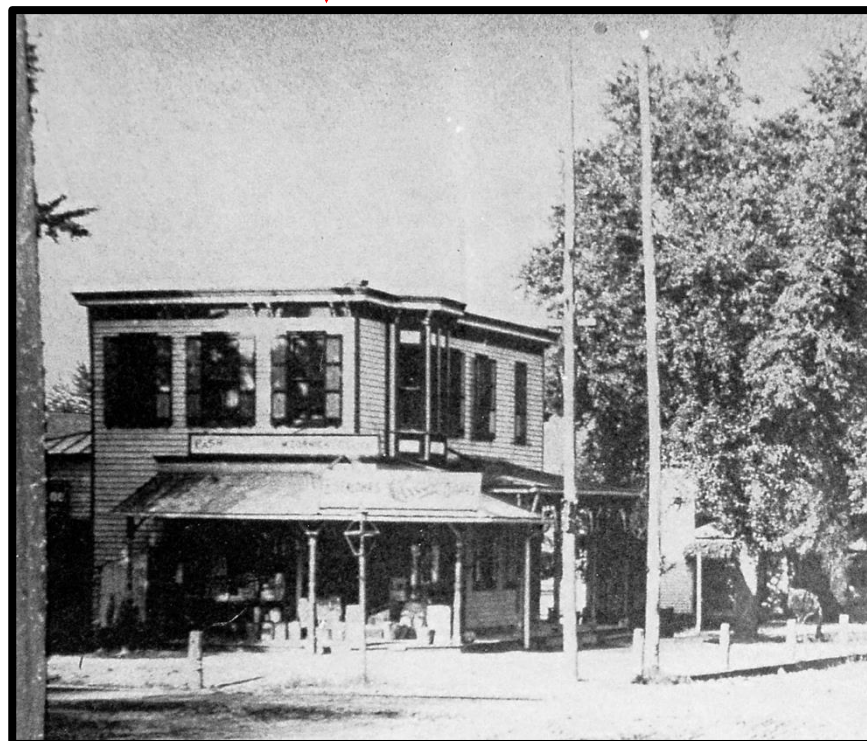
109 S. Clinton Ave.

No Matter How Hard You Look, You Won't Find These



106 E. Mantua Ave.

The house to the left was located at the southwest corner of Mantua and Marion Aves. (now 106 E. Mantua Ave.) The house was later used as a dormitory for cadets at the Wenonah Military Academy. The house was razed after the academy closed in 1935.



Benjamin Packer Store

Wenonah's first store, the Benjamin Packer Store, opened in 1872 at the southwest corner of Mantua and West Aves. (now 2 W. Mantua Ave.) The store was later demolished. Since then, many other businesses have occupied the same corner.

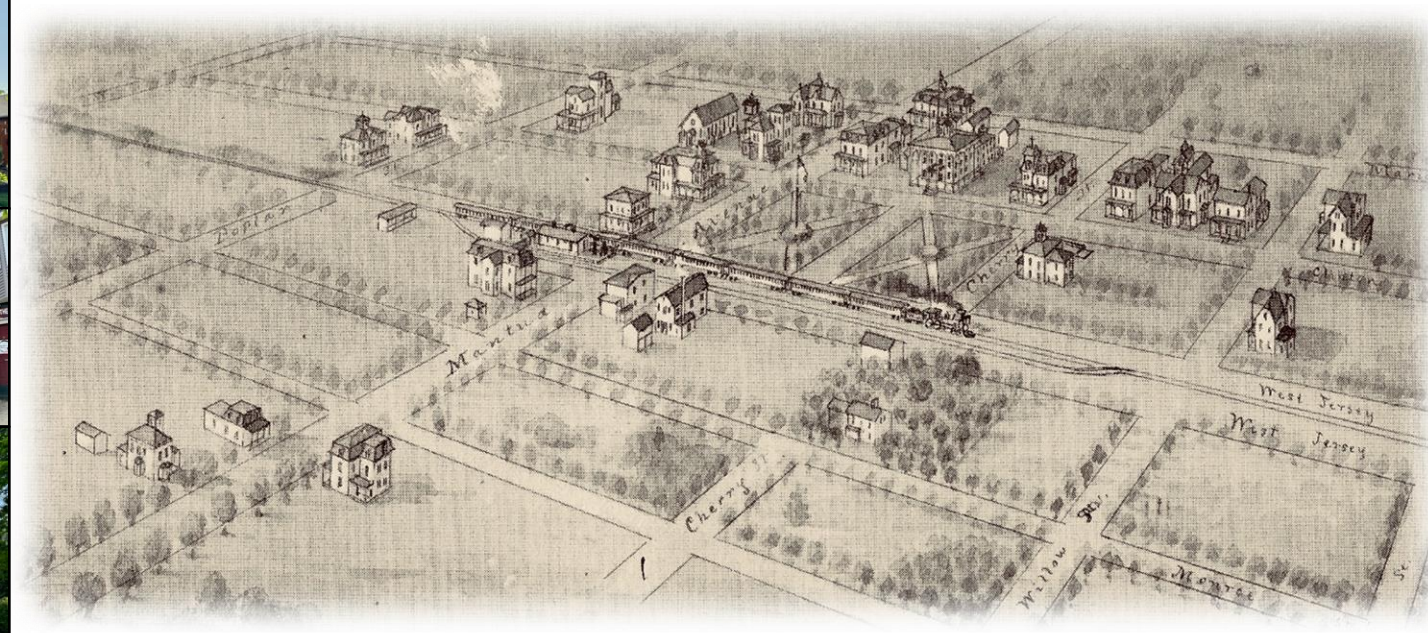
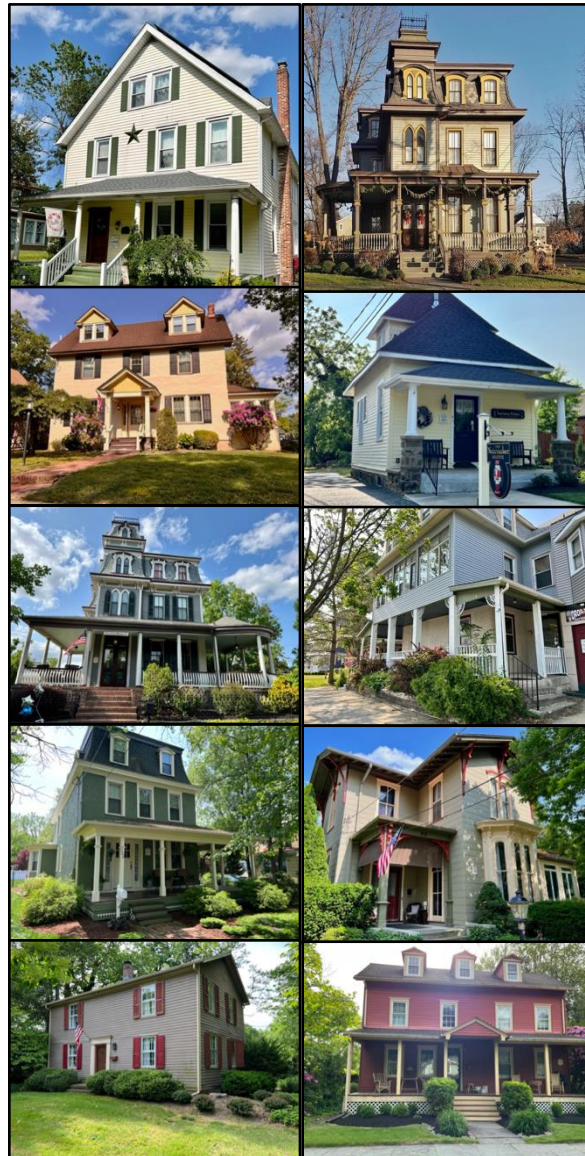


Thomas Synnott House (in background)

In 1872, founding father Thomas Synnott built a house at the northeast corner of Mantua and Clinton Aves. (now 101 E. Mantua Ave.) The house was later demolished so the property could be used for the Wenonah Library.

The End

This concludes the StoryWalk. The Wenonah Historical Society hopes you enjoyed the walk and learned a bit about the history of our town. Perhaps, as you walk around town, you can identify the houses and buildings that have been in Wenonah since its earliest years.



Find our previous stories on the Wenonah Historical Society website at
wenonahhistoricalsociety.org