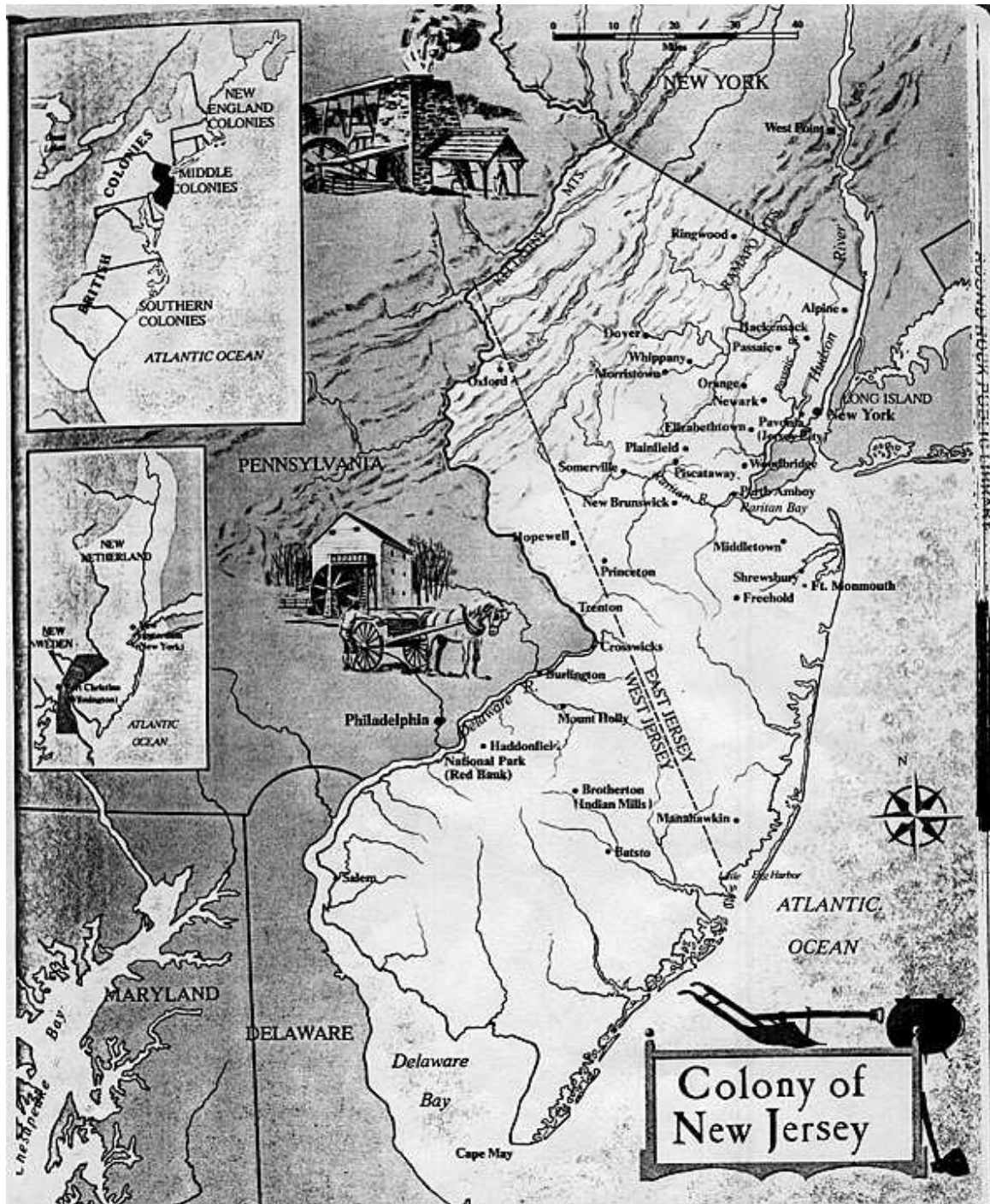# Burlington County History Timeline

1683 -   The four original counties of East Jersey Province: Bergen, Essex, Middlesex, Monmouth. Courts were established in 1675. Burlington and Salem Counties, West Jersey Province in 1681.

1692 -   Boundary set with Gloucester County.

1693 -   Boundary repealed.

1694 -   Burlington, Gloucester and Salem formally designated as counties of West Jersey Province. Formed from the first and second Tenths. Consisted of Burlington, Chester, Chesterfield, Evesham, Mansfield, Northampton, Nottingham, Springfield and Willingboro townships. Part of West Jersey above Assunpink Creek tentatively annexed.

1710 -   Boundaries more definitely defined.

1714 -   Part set off as Hunterdon County.

1838 -   Part (Nottingham Township) set off to Mercer County.

1857 -   Boundary with Ocean County clarified.

1878 -   Cape May gained from Burlington. (I can't figure this one out)

1891 -   Part (Little Egg Harbor Township) to Ocean County.

1902 -   Part added from Camden and Atlantic Counties.

Colony of New Jersey

Evesham Township History - Synopses

1676: Thomas Eves, an Englishman, purchases a large tract of land in what would become Evesham.

1688: Evesham established as one of eight constabularies in Burlington County.

1758: What is now the village of Marlton, then called Evesham, was established.

1780: John Hammitt established a tavern in his home.

1802: Huge section of township split off to form Washington Township.

1806: Marl, a greenish mixture of clay and shell useful as fertilizer, is discovered.

1820: Samuel Swain builds a tavern at the intersection of Main Street and Maple Ave.

1845: Village renamed Marlton.
1847: Medford splits off.
1850: Swain's tavern, the new Rising Sun, becomes the Bareford Hotel.
1872: Mount Laurel departs.
1878: First meeting held in new town hall.
1881: Arrival of the railroad.
1925: Construction of State Highway 70 begins, effectively bypasses the town.
1940: Construction of Marlton Circle facilitates interchange between Routes 70 and 73.
1950: First of several waves of development begin, a series that will change the township from a village of about 5,000 to a suburb of 40,000 today.

Medford History - Synopses

1670: William Penn and others sell 900 acres of land in what is now Medford to Samuel Coles.

1688: Eight "constabularies" established in Burlington County. Medford is part of the Evesham constabulary, named for the Eves family. At that time, Medford is often called "Upper Evesham."

1720: Jonathan Haines builds a brick house on Fostertown Road.

1820: Post office opens here calling the area "Medford of Upper Evesham."

1869: Railroad service established

1847: On Feb. 4, Medford Township was "set apart from" Evesham by the Legislature

1867: To help its pay off it's almost $8,000 Civil War debt, the town enacts its first property tax at 1 percent.

1939: Medford Lakes section of township becomes an independent municipality.

1958: Lenape High School opens.

1971: Shawnee High School opens.

1997: Medford celebrates 150th anniversary.

Medford Lakes History - Synopses

1927: Founded by Camden developer Leon Todd, Medford Lakes Colony Club conducts its first meeting

1929: First canoe carnival held.

1931: Log Cabin Lodge built for residents as a hotel and community house to gather for social occasions

1939: Medford Lakes separates from Medford Township, becoming its own municipality. Leon Todd unanimously named the town's first mayor

1942: Borough adopts nonpartisan three-member government system it still uses today.

1946: Borough hires first municipal manager.

1957: Nokomis School constructed.

1962: Neeta Elementary School constructed.

1976: Log Cabin Lodge becomes Settlers Inn.

1982: Settlers Inn building listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

1998: Settlers Inn burns to ground from electrical fire.

Moorestown Town/Township History - Synopses

1682: Construction of old Salem Road from Salem to Burlington, following path of what today is King's Highway and Main Street, Moorestown

1685: First Friends meetings held.

1698: Chester Township, which included the land today known as Moorestown, is incorporated.

1700: First Friends meeting built in Chester Township at Main Street and Chester Avenue.

1720: Meetinghouse burns, replaced with stone building.

1785: Religious Society of Friends erects first schoolhouse; forerunner to Moorestown Friends School.

1802: New Friends meetinghouse constructed on eastern end of Friends property.

1802: The name "Moorestown" is officially established with the opening of the town's first post office.

1873: First free public school established in Moorestown.

1922: Moorestown Township formally incorporated.

1969: Historical Society of Moorestown formed.

Mount Laurel Township History - Synopses

1688: William Evans Jr. buys 300 acres of land around "the Mount" in the newly created constabulary of Evesham.

1698: Evans gives an acre of his land to the Society of Friends who build a meeting house on the site. The meeting house still stands at the site today.

1778: The Revolutionary War passes through Mount Laurel as British forces camp here for a few days on their way north. General George Washington's troops pass through shortly afterward.

1863: Train line built through Mount Laurel, train station opens in Masonville.

1872: Area around Mount is incorporated into village of Mount Laurel.

1885: Alice Paul, famous women's suffragist, is born on family farm on Hooton Road.

1962: Construction begins on first housing development in township, Ramblewood.

1971: Ethel Lawrence sues township after it blocks plans for an apartment complex, the case results in the Mount Laurel II decisions requiring New Jersey towns to provide for affordable housing