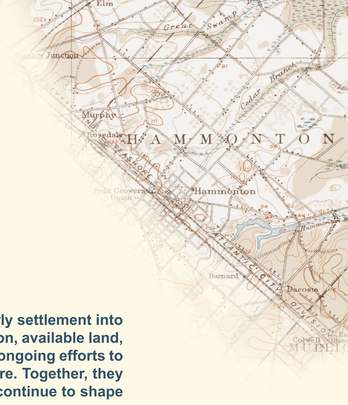
Hammonton Through Time

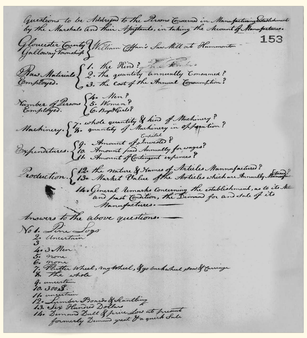


Founding and Growth

Hammonton grew from a landscape shaped by forests, waterways, and early settlement into a thriving agricultural, industrial, and commercial community. Transportation, available land, and new opportunities brought successive generations of residents, while ongoing efforts to promote Hammonton encouraged people to live, work, visit, and invest here. Together, they helped build the farms, businesses, neighborhoods, and institutions that continue to shape the town today.



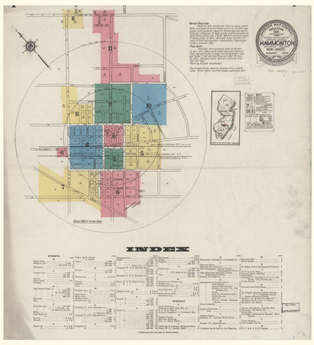
"A New Mapp of East and West New Jersey," John Worlidge, 1706, The Library of Congress.



1820 Census of Manufactures, National Archives Microfilm Publication M-279.



Plan of the Town of Hammonton, 1856.



Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Hammonton, Atlantic County, New Jersey, August 1923, Library of Congress.



Downtown Hammonton, early 1950s.

Before Hammonton | Before 1800

Long before Hammonton was established, Lenni Lenape people lived in and moved through the wider South Jersey landscape. The name Lenni Lenape is often translated as "original people" or "true people." European settlement gradually changed the region, as forests, waterways, and land were increasingly used for farming, timber, transportation, and industry.

1706 Map of East and West New Jersey
This early map shows the region that would later become Hammonton, then part of Gloucester County. Atlantic County was not established until 1837.

Early Industry | 1800–1850

Hammonton's earliest center of activity developed near present-day Hammonton Lake. Beginning in the early 1800s, sawmills, glassmaking, and other small industries took advantage of the area's forests and water resources, creating the nucleus of the community known as Old "Hammondton."

1812 - Coffin sawmill

1817 - Glassworks established

1820 - William Coffin's Sawmill
The 1820 Census of Manufactures provides an early glimpse of industry in the area that would become Hammonton. William Coffin's sawmill used local pine logs and employed three men. Coffin reported that demand was "dull" and prices low, a change from an earlier period of strong demand and quick sales.

Railroad and a New Town | 1850–1866

The arrival of the Camden & Atlantic Railroad transformed Hammonton. Richard J. Byrnes and Charles K. Landis promoted the community to new settlers, while farms, stores, churches, schools, and businesses began developing around the railroad and Bellevue Avenue. On March 5, 1866, the Town of Hammonton was formally incorporated.

1854 – Camden and Atlantic Railroad arrives

Plan of the Town of Hammonton, 1856
Created as Hammonton was being developed and promoted as a new community, this early plan shows the vision for the town's future growth. Richard Byrnes and Charles Landis used it to attract new settlers from New England, New York, Philadelphia, and beyond.

1858 - *Hammonton Farmer* begins publication

March 5, 1866 - Hammonton incorporated

Growth and Opportunity | 1866–1930

Agriculture, manufacturing, commerce, and immigration fueled decades of rapid growth. New utilities and improved roads modernized the town and supported its expansion, while farms, factories, businesses, churches, and civic organizations created new opportunities. Italian immigrants became an important part of the growing community, and Hammonton's population more than doubled between 1900 and 1930.

1897 - Hammonton Electric Light and Power Company

1898 - Delaware and Atlantic Telephone & Telegraph

1903 - Water plant completed/ Gas service introduced

1914 - First sewer

1921 - White Horse Pike opens

Hammonton, 1923
This Sanborn map provides a detailed snapshot of Hammonton in the 1920s, showing its streets, buildings, transportation routes, and public utilities. Originally created for fire insurance purposes, Sanborn maps now provide a valuable record of how the town grew and developed over time.

An Expanding Community | 1930–Today

During the twentieth century, automobiles, highways, new neighborhoods, and development beyond the traditional downtown expanded Hammonton's footprint. Today, the lake, railroad, Bellevue Avenue, surrounding farmland, historic industrial buildings, and neighborhoods preserve visible connections to the many stages of Hammonton's growth.

1930s - A dozen garment factories were active

1930 - Route 39 (now called Route 206) opens

1931 - Black Horse Pike opens

Downtown Hammonton, Early 1950s
Bellevue Avenue remained the heart of Hammonton's commercial district in the early 1950s. In the photo, Miller's Department Store and J.J. Newberry's can be seen on the right, along with a Fred Astaire Dance Studio sign on the left; an ACME Markets sign is visible in the distance. As automobile travel increased and highways expanded, businesses gradually began to spread beyond the traditional downtown.

1964 - Atlantic City Expressway opens

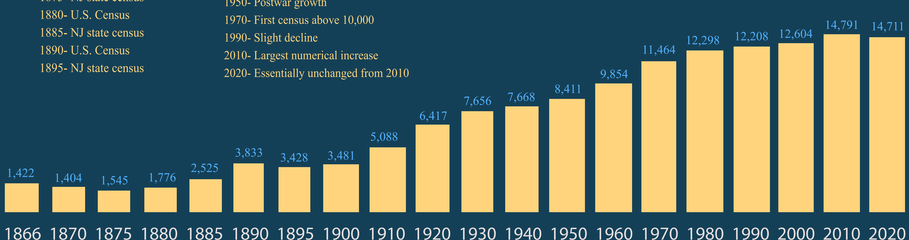
2020 - Population 14,711

Key Milestones

1866- Reported at incorporation
1870- First U.S. Decennial Census
1875- NJ state census
1880- U.S. Census
1885- NJ state census
1890- U.S. Census
1895- NJ state census
1900- U.S. Census
1910- Significant growth
1920- Continued expansion
1950- Postwar growth
1970- First census above 10,000
1990- Slight decline
2010- Largest numerical increase
2020- Essentially unchanged from 2010

Hammonton By the Numbers

Population Growth from 1866 to 2020



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