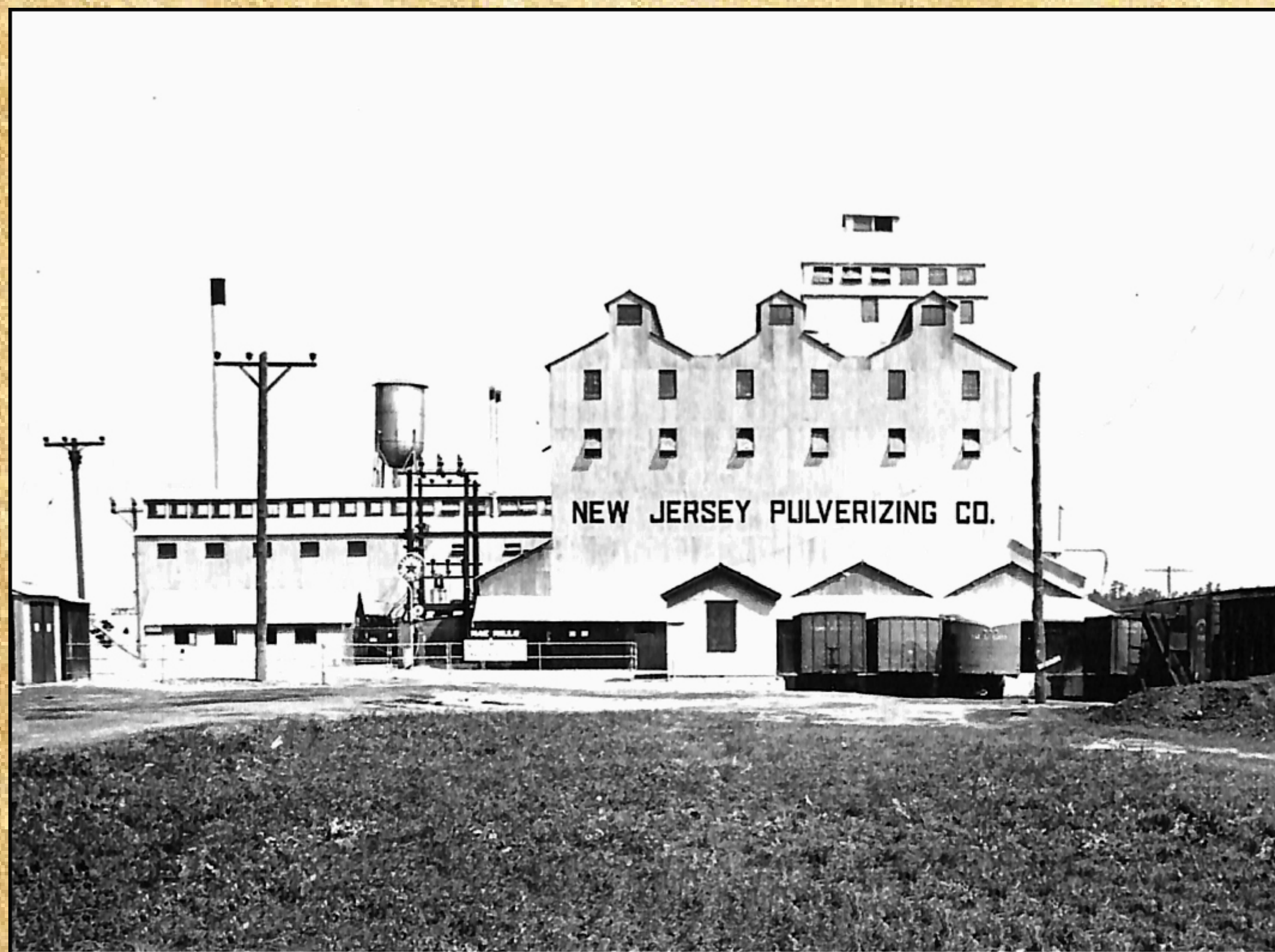




OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

BARNEGAT BRANCH TRAIL

WELCOME TO THE PULVERIZING PLANT

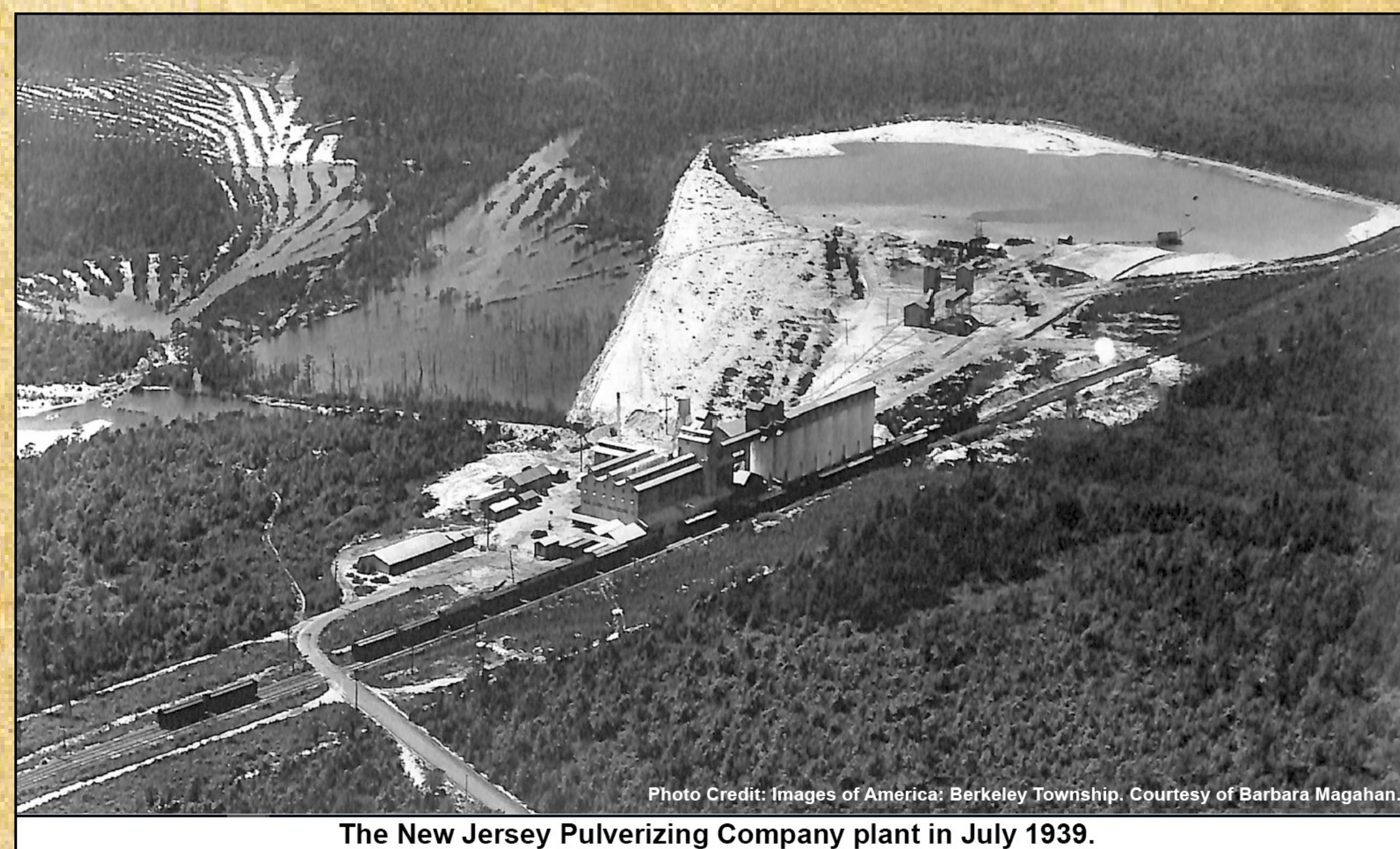


New Jersey Pulverizing Company's sand and silica processing plant in December 1925.

Ervin B. Fisher initially established the New Jersey Pulverizing Company in 1915. At an 850 acre quarry on the west end of Hickory Lane in Bayville, Fisher and partner Harry F. Spier opened the Pulverizing Company's sand and silica processing plant in December 1925, the first industrial plant in Berkeley Township and the largest shipper of freight on the Barnegat Branch Railroad for the next 30 years.

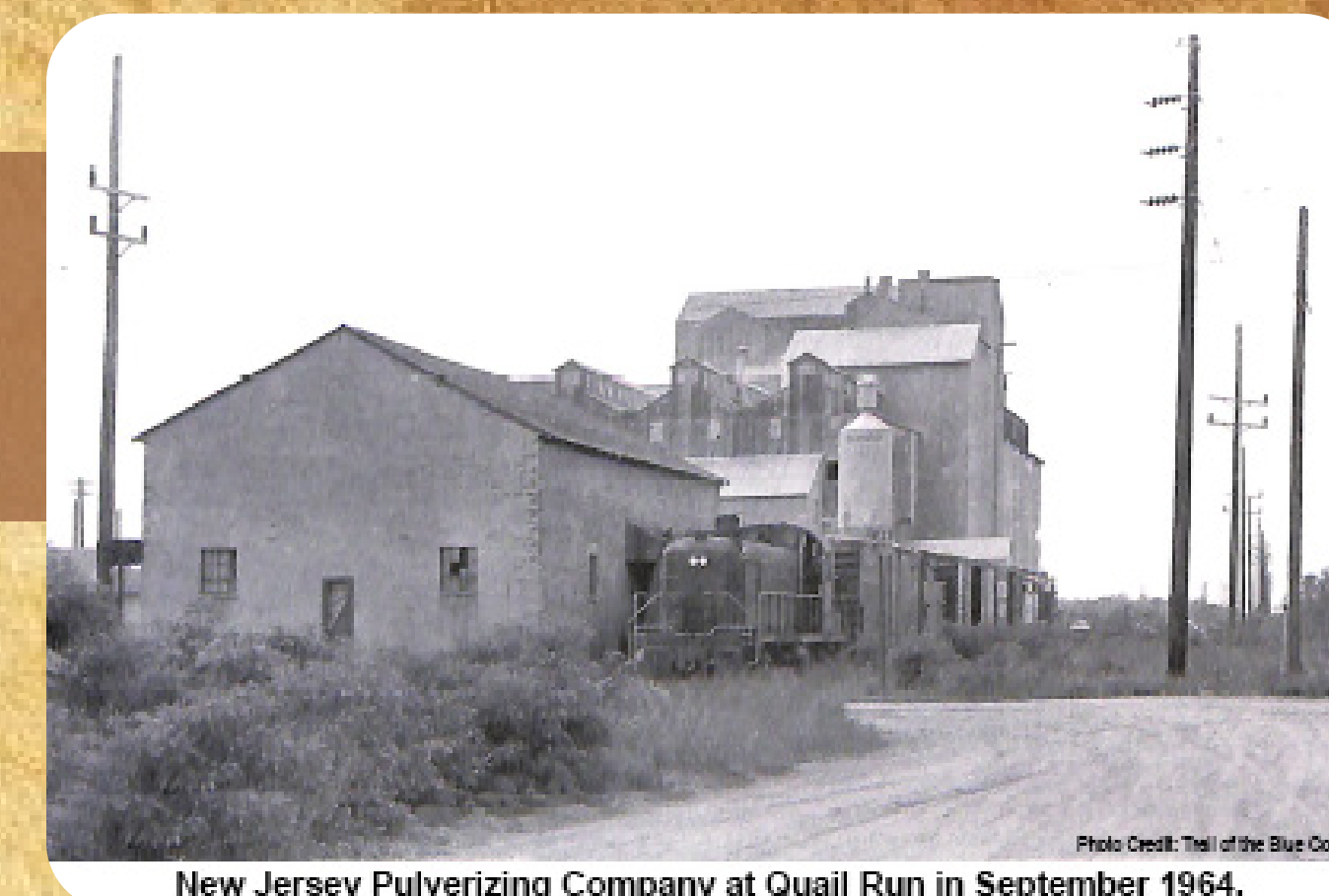
In December 2016, the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders acquired 812 acres of the former NJ Pulverizing tract under the Ocean County Natural Lands Trust.

A crystalized, powdery form quartz called silica sand was mined from this quarry. After, the sand was trucked into the pulverizing plant to be dumped into a washing facility and dropped through a steam dryer. Next, after a screening process, finer grains were set aside and marketed as raw sand. Coarser grains were pulverized into a white power and sold as silica, used in making scouring and cleansing powder and soap and in sand blasting and gun barrel polishing.



The New Jersey Pulverizing Company plant in July 1939.

Fisher Brothers Trucking hauled for local deliveries, but a siding to the plant allowed these products to easily be shipped by box train cars all along the Central Railroad of New Jersey. At the height of its efficiency, around ten carloads per day of silica were shipped from the plant six days a week



New Jersey Pulverizing Company at Quail Run in September 1964.

- In 1925, The Pulverizing Plant expanded and several workers and family members from Fisher's earlier West Virginia sand operation migrated to work in New Jersey. Even more came in 1928 to help with the construction of B.W.

Sangor's Pinewald resort.

- By 1932, workers had been digging forty feet deep into the quarry.

- In 1933, Arthur Tanzer took over after Fisher died.

- In 1937, the quarry's white sand eventually gave way to yellow sand, which was unsuitable for silica.

- Large, concrete silos were eventually erected for direct bulk loading of sand into hopper cars.

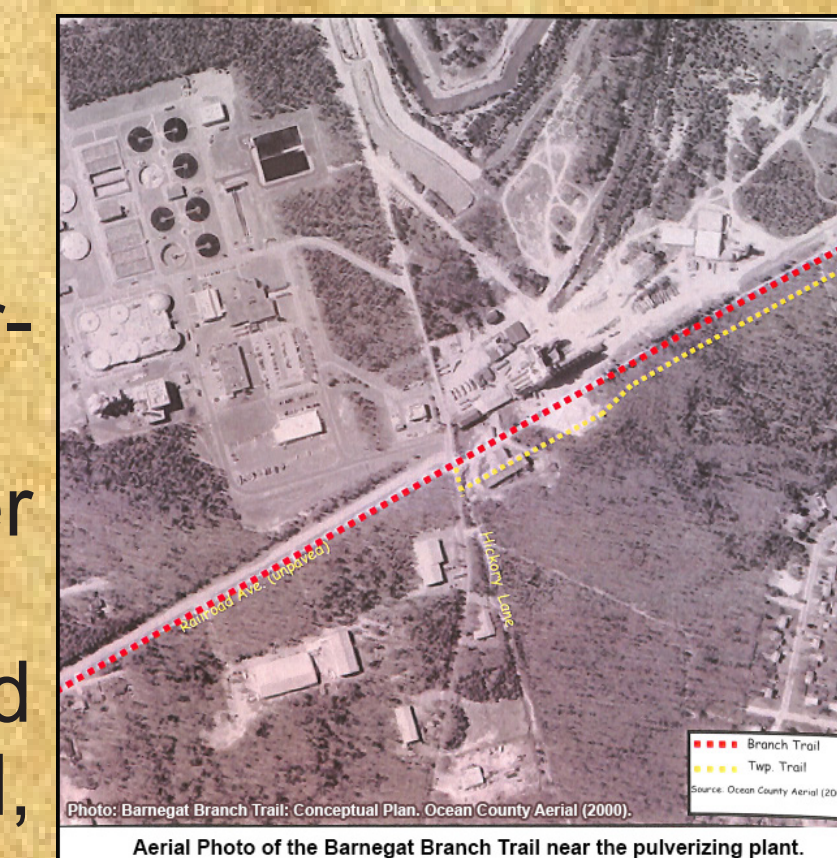
- By 1962, the Pulverizing Company began processing sand for Ace-Crete, a ready mix concrete, bagged for ready use by contractors.

- In 1977, the Barnegat branch for the plant was abandoned, reducing shipping to one or two carloads a week. The Plant turned to trucking firms after the reduction of rail shipping.

- In the 80 years since 1925, 64,000 train or truckloads of sand and silica left the quarry in Bayville.

- By 1978, most of these rail lines were abandoned.

- In early 1980, the Industrial Branch was embargoed due to tack conditions.



Aerial Photo of the Barnegat Branch Trail near the pulverizing plant.

The Barnegat Branch Trail logo was explicitly designed with history in mind: Lady Liberty's silhouette is reminiscent of the Central Railroad of NJ (CNJ) logo, adopted by the railroad in 1944 to reflect the close proximity of the CNJ terminal in Jersey City to the Statue of Liberty.

The BBT logo also includes a ghost locomotive, as well as Ocean County's most recognizable environmental features.

