Summer 2001

Historic Preservation Bulletin

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection • Division of Parks & Forestry
Historic Preservation Office

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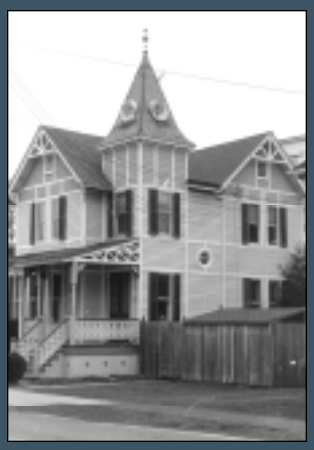

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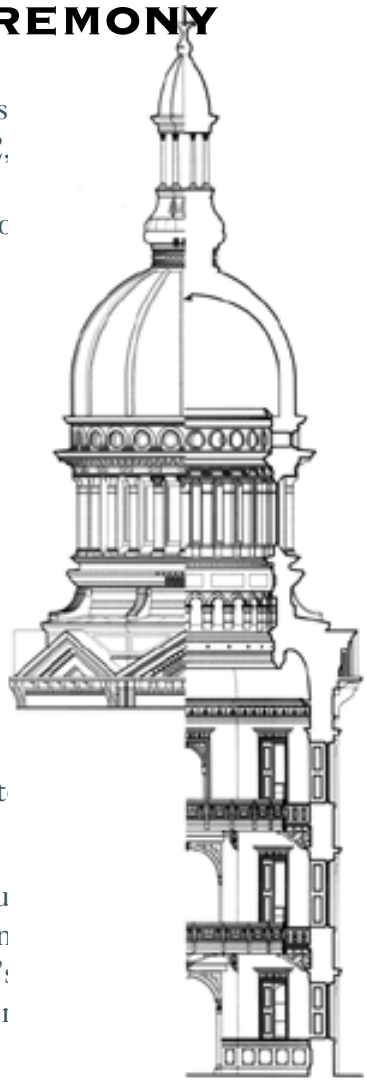
2001 Historic Preservation Awards Presented in State House Ceremony



The 2001 Historic Preservation Awards Ceremony was held Saturday, May 12, at the New Jersey State House in Trenton. Keynote speaker Russell Keune addressed c 180 invited guests in the recently restored Assembly Chambers.

Mr. Keune, a longtime historic preservation architect, was instrumental in the early development and implementation of the federal historic preservation program under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Mr. Keune presented an engaging retrospective of the now 35 year old Historic Preservation movement. His remarks focused on the state of historic preservation prior to 1966, and the major changes brought about by the National Hist Preservation Act.

The awards were presented by Mr. Al Bu Chair of the New Jersey Historic Sites Coun also read a proclamation from the Governor's declaring May 13-19, 2001 as Historic Preser Week.

The Historic Preservation Office...

is committed to enhancing the quality of life for the residents of New Jersey through the preservation and appreciation of our collective past.

Our mission is to assist the residents of New Jersey in identifying, preserving, protecting and sustaining our historic and archaeological resources through the implementation of the state's historic preservation program.

Category A:
Individuals, Organizations & Agencies

King's Highway Historic District Volunteers

Lawrence Township, Princeton Township, Princeton Borough, Mercer Co.; Franklin Township, Somerset Co.; and South Brunswick Township, Middlesex Co.

The nomination of the King's Highway Historic District to the New Jersey and National Registers began as a grassroots effort in 1995 when the New Jersey Department of Transportation initiated reconfiguration of the Bayard Lane - Nassau Street Intersection in Princeton Borough (Routes 206 and 27). Citizens concerned with the historic character of Princeton investigated opportunities to protect historic resources, and realized that Route 27 (The King's Highway) might qualify as an historic district. Originally an Indian trail, this historic right-of-way was to evolve into an early stage coach route, the main colonial link between New York and Philadelphia, the first postal route, the scene of many Revolutionary War battles, part of the first transcontinental highway marked and the first mapped state highway.

Because the route extended well beyond the borders of Princeton, adjoining municipalities were invited to participate in the project. The nominated district begins at the eastern end of the intersection of Route 27 and Raymond Road, east of the Village of Kingston (South Brunswick and Franklin Townships), and ends at the eastern end of the intersection of Route 206 and Franklin Corner Road (Lawrenceville).

This historic preservation award is presented to the volunteers, professionals and municipalities who put forth tremendous time and effort to ensure the successful nomination of the King's Highway Historic District.

Project Personnel:

* Princeton Twp: Phyllis Marchand, Mayor; Maynett Breithaupt, Chair and David Schure, Vice-Chair, HPC; Robert von Zumbusch, HPC; Christine Lewandoski, Historic Preservation Officer.

* Princeton Boro: Marvin Reed, Mayor; Jane Faggen, Suzanne Hand, Rosemary Lanes and Cecelia Tazelaar, HP Review Committee; Frank Slimak, Historic Preservation Officer.

* Franklin Twp: Upendra Chivukula, Mayor; Shirley Eberle, Twp. Committee; Tom Gale, Joanne Kaiser, Walter Maros, and Robert Mettler, HPC.

* Lawrence Twp: Pam Mount, Mayor; Colette Coolbaugh, John Graham, and Joseph Logan, HP Advisory Committee.

* South Brunswick Twp: Debra Johnson, Mayor, Glenn Davis, Planning Board; Craig Marshall, Planning Director.

* Constance Greiff, Director, Heritage Studies (preparer)

Category A:
Individuals, Organizations & Agencies

Whitesbog Preservation Trust: Oral History Program

Pemberton Township, Burlington Co.

The history of Whitesbog Village, located in the New Jersey Pine Barrens, begins with Colonel James A. Fenwick's work to develop cranberry agriculture in 1857. Later inherited by Joseph Josiah White, Fenwick's son-in-law, the property was expanded to 3000 acres, when it became known as White's Bog, or Whitesbog. Although its origins were associated with cranberries, Whitesbog is also known for Elizabeth C. White's collaborative work with Dr. Frederick Coville of the U.S.D.A. in cultivating blueberries in the early 1900s.

The Whitesbog Preservation Trust has been working to preserve the buildings and grounds at Whitesbog for the past eighteen years. Recognizing that the personal accounts and memories of those who lived and worked at Whitesbog were equally important to understanding the history and significance of this resource, the Trust initiated an ambitious oral history program.

The Oral History Committee was formed, and began compiling information about the residents and workers at Whitesbog in the years prior to its incorporation into Lebanon State Forest in 1967. A Whitesbog Reunion was held in June of 2000, where many of the 40 attendees were interviewed and recorded on videotape. Ultimately, ten hours of broadcast quality video was compiled with financial assistance from the NJ Council for the Humanities.

These taped interviews were developed into a twenty-one minute documentary, *Voices of Whitesbog*, which provides personal accounts of daily life at the farm. Some accounts date back to the 1920's, and include descriptions of what it was like to harvest cranberries by hand, life at the General Store, or how Elizabeth White entertained children at her home.

Project Personnel:

* William C. Bolger, Oral History Program Chair; David Orleans, Thomas B. Darlington, and Janet Robbins, Board Members; Christian Bethmann, NJDEP, Div. of Parks and Forestry; Bruce Atkinson, Trust Volunteer; Natural Art Films, Video Production.

Interviewed Residents/Workers (appearing in video):

* Patricia Haines Armstrong, Edith King Barker, Susan Haines Conover, Tom Darlington, Philomena DiNaro, Rocelle Gallo, Evelyn Greenwood, Fred Haines, Isaiah Haines, Earl Humphries, Dick Hutton, James "Buddy" Jefferson, Nancy Greenwood Lawrence, Frank Mellace, Gus Mellace, Joseph Mellace, Betsy Mancuso, George Murphy, Dave Preiksat, Eleanor Smith, June Vail.

Category B:
Projects

Marine National Bank Rehabilitation

Wildwood City, Cape May Co.

Chartered in 1902, Marine National Bank was the first financial institution to be established in the Wildwoods of Cape May County. The existing Classical Revival style building was constructed in 1927 as part of an effort to enlarge the banking facility, and incorporated an earlier 1908 structure. Marine National Bank added drive-up teller service in 1952 with a rear addition, which was replaced in 1972 by a larger two story addition containing drive-up tellers and offices.

Marine National Bank was headquartered in the building until it was acquired by Horizon Bank in 1980. A succession of mergers and acquisitions followed, resulting in the building being vacated in 1997. This left Wildwood without a commercial bank.

Crest Savings Bank acquired the building in 1999 after adaptive reuse plans by adjacent hotels failed to materialize. Recognizing the building's importance as a tangible reminder of Wildwood's past, and acknowledging its role in shaping the City's history, Crest Savings Bank determined the needs of the community would be best served by preserving the bank building and rehabilitating it for use as a state-of-the-art banking facility.

The overall goal was to preserve the exterior, and to rehabilitate the interior for modern banking uses while preserving as much historic fabric as possible. Given the bank's strategic location in the heart of Wildwood's central business district, an area targeted for redevelopment, Crest Savings Bank's success represents a private sector commitment to and belief in the importance of preservation as a redevelopment tool.

Project Team:

* Crest Savings Bank, Owner; S. J. Fenwick Associates, Architects; Skip Holzapfel Builders Inc., General Contractor; Leon Mazzochi, General Contractor; Joan Berkey, Historic Preservation Consultant; Michael Irvin, Irvin Studios, Mural Painter; Masonry Preservation Group, Inc., Masonry Conservation.

Category B:
Projects

Restoration of Historic Morven, Phase I

Princeton Borough, Mercer Co.

Morven, the ancestral home of the Stockton Family, was built around 1758 by Richard and Annis Boudinot Stockton. The house remained in the Stockton family for almost two centuries. It was sold in 1945 to then Governor Walter Edge, who in 1954 donated it to the State of New Jersey.

Restoration was begun in the mid-1990's and designed to be completed in two phases. Phase I called for exterior restoration of the main house, which included the removal of kitchen additions, reconstruction of the former solarium and rear porches, and the incorporation of accessible entrances and rest rooms. Outbuildings and the gardens were also restored in this phase. Phase II will include interpretive restoration of the interior spaces, and creation of office and support space in non-accessible areas.

Phase I was completed in August 2000, and Morven has since become a popular destination for school groups and tourists interested in New Jersey and national history.

Project Team:

* New Jersey State Museum and Historic Morven, Owners; Clarke Caton Hintz, Architects; Robert Silman Associates, Structural Engineer; Landmark Facilities Group, Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Engineering; Historic Building Architects, Historic Architectural Consultant; Past Designs, Historic Landscape Consultant; Hunter Research Inc., Archaeologist; Haverstick & Borthwick, General Contractor.

Category B:
Projects

Riverton Yacht Club Exterior Restoration

Riverton Borough, Burlington Co.

In 1851 the Riverton Improvement Company commissioned designs for the new residential village of Riverton, New Jersey. The community would serve as a regional origin and destination for water transportation, and a steamboat pier was included as a primary feature of the community. The Riverton Yacht Club, founded in 1865, received permission in 1880 to construct a yacht club building on the steamboat pier. The distinctive Stick Style structure incorporated a central passage for arriving and departing passengers and wagons at pier level, and a meeting room surrounded by a continuous porch on the second level.

With a grant from the William B. Dietrich Foundation, the Riverton Steamboat Landing Foundation began the restoration. The project restored the building's distinctive exterior to a pre-1900 appearance, and completed infrastructure improvements such as framing repairs, new electrical service, and sprinkler system.

Project Team:

* Riverton Steamboat Landing Foundation, Inc., Owner; Walter Croft, Coordinating Architect; John Milner Architects, Inc., Preservation Architect; Frank Welsch Color & Conservation, Inc., Paint Analysis; Lee Waldron, Lighting Consultant; Don Pearse Photographers, Inc., Photographer.

Category B:
Projects

Demarest-Lyle House

Tenafly Borough, Bergen Co.

Located in an area largely settled in the eighteenth-century by Dutch farm families, the Demarest-Lyle House began as a modest, one-and-one-half story sandstone and wood farmhouse. It was surrounded by a large farm, home to several generations of Dutch and Huguenot farmers (Blauvelts and Demarests). In 1866 the farmhouse and surrounding acreage was purchased by John S. Lyle, who remodeled the simple farmhouse into a fashionable Swiss Stick Style suburban residence. After the death of the Lyle heirs in the early twentieth-century, and a period of use as a rental property, the property was finally sold to the Borough of Tenafly at auction in 1940.

The Borough used most of the property to build new municipal facilities, and sold off the house. The house was remodeled by the new owners, obscuring much of the 1860's detailing. It existed in this state for the next 50 years. The house was repurchased by the Borough in 1990 in hopes of using it as office space. However, due to the high cost of rehabilitation, the house sat vacant and subject to vandalism and deterioration until it was again put up for sale in 1997.

The new owners formed the Demarest-Lyle House LLC to manage an ambitious rehabilitation that would return the exterior to the 1868 Lyle period, and incorporate modern electrical and mechanical services, make the building accessible, and add additional space in a separate two-story addition to the rear. New Jersey's innovative Rehabilitation Subcode allowed flexibility in meeting code requirements, thereby maximizing the preservation of existing historic features in the building.

The owners goals in undertaking such a comprehensive adaptive reuse project included sharing the knowledge obtained at the site with the community, setting an example for others interested in undertaking similar projects, and proving that preservation can be "good business."

Project Team:

Eva and Arthur Lerner-Lam, Demarest-Lyle House LLC, Owners; Alan Ballou, Architect; Wesley Haynes, Preservation Consultant; Showcase Contracting Corp., General Contractors; Hillman & Miley, Structural Engineers; Werner E. Tietjen, Mechanical - Electrical Engineer; Richard Wilson, Tenafly Borough Council; Stuart Tray, Archaeologist; Elizabeth Kieronski, Project Manager; Miceli Kulik Williams & Associates, PC, Landscape Architecture.

Category C:
Other

Chalfonte Hotel

Cape May City, Cape May Co.

As the Chalfonte Hotel celebrates her 125th Anniversary this year, the owners can be proud of successfully preserving not only the fabric of this historic hotel, but also the experience of staying in a 19th century seaside hotel. The Chalfonte possesses integrity of design, traditions, culture and ambiance, providing a unique guest experience, while meeting the demands imposed by evolving customer needs and increased competition.

Such success was due in part to the help of the University of Maryland (UMD) School of Architecture's annual Preservation Field Course, and the hotel's ongoing Volunteer Work Weekends. Since 1980, UMD students and faculty have been participating in a three-week, hands-on summer preservation course at the Chalfonte. The resulting body of archival materials, field drawings, and restorative architectural projects has benefited hotel staff, guests, and the community-at-large.

In addition to the technical expertise afforded by the UMD program, the demands of seasonal maintenance required additional resources. So in 1982, based on the suggestion of several regular guests, the owners conceived the Volunteer Work Weekend, where guests receive accommodation in return for ten hours of maintenance work around the hotel. The popularity of the program grew quickly, such that the hotel now runs nine such weekends - six pre-season, and three post-season.

It is the commitment of the owners and participants in these two innovative programs that allow a 19th Century hotel to carry on into the 21st Century with a secure future.

Program Personnel:

* Anne LeDuc & Judy Bartella, Owners; David Fogle, Judith Capen, Michael Arnold, and Randall Mason, UMD School of Architecture; David McKinley, Architect and longtime guest; UMD architecture students, 1979 to present; Guest volunteers, 1982 to present.

Category C:
Other

Drew University Certificate in Historic Preservation Program

Madison Township, Morris County

On August 24, 1989, historic Mead Hall, a centerpiece of Drew University's campus, was ravaged by fire. Determining that the building could be repaired, the Drew administration took advantage of this opportunity to restore Mead Hall to its former grandeur. The project exposed the administration and faculty to the complexities of restoration, and generated interest in occasional preservation courses. The Certificate in Historic Preservation Program grew out of this initial preservation success.

The program is the first of its kind in New Jersey, and provides a comprehensive introduction to the field of historic preservation. The curriculum combines theory and practice through a series of courses taken for continuing education units. A total of fifteen CEU's are required for the certificate, although the courses may be taken individually.

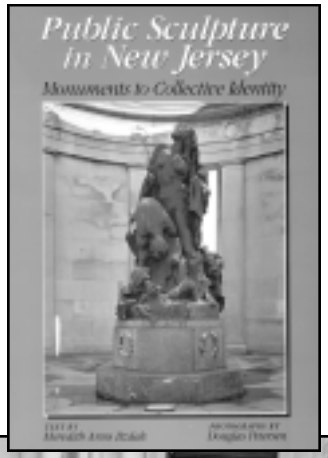
Fourteen students have been awarded certificates since June 1999, and ten more are expected to be awarded in June 2001. Additionally, 298 people have taken at least one course since the program began in September 1998. This innovative program provides an opportunity for interested individuals to become more aware of historic preservation and its application at the local level.

Program Personnel:

* Dr. Paolo Cucchi, Catherine Messmer, Patricia Peek, and Christine Furlong, Program Administration; David A. Cowell, Janet Foster, Alice Glock, Dorothy Guzzo, Marion Harris, Patricia Huizing, James Massey, Shirley Maxwell, Nancy Priest, and Robert Russel, Advisory Board; Gordon Bock, Meredith Arms Bzdak, James DelGuidice, Janet Foster, Howard Green, Dorothy Guzzo, Marion Harris, Mark Alan Hewitt, Richard Hunter, James Massey, Shirley Maxwell, Roberta A. Mayer, Wayne T. McCabe, and Peter O. Wacker, Faculty.

Category C:
Other

Rutgers University Press

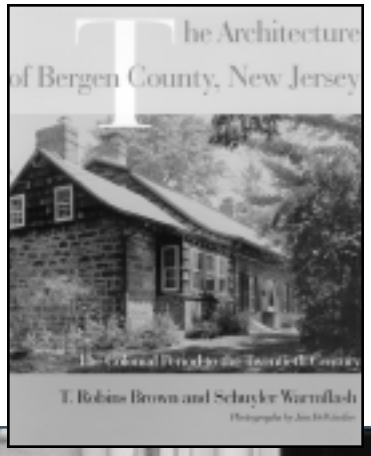


Rutgers University Press recently published two significant preservation works: Public Sculpture in New Jersey, by Meredith Arms Bzdak and Douglas Peterson, and The Architecture of Bergen County, New Jersey, by T. Robbins Brown and Schuyler Warmflash.

"Bzdak and Petersen have created a visual and narrative history of public sculpture in New Jersey. The book contains essays that profile the state's 100 most significant works, as well as the artists who created them. Public Sculpture in New Jersey features more than 80 magnificent photographs that document these works, capturing the effects of time and environment on each sculpture."

The book is written to inform the general public and to heighten awareness of the need to support preservation efforts around the state.

The Architecture of Bergen County, New Jersey, is the first serious effort to trace the development of Bergen County's architecture and to explore the influences upon it during a three-hundred-year period of national and local history.
This is a lavishly illustrated architectural history and features over 150 illustrations of homes and buildings in Bergen County.



The authors hope that this book will create a public that is informed and appreciative of the rich and varied architectural history of the county and will work to preserve their heritage.

This award is presented to Rutgers University Press and the authors for adding to the existing body of knowledge and increasing awareness about two key areas of New Jersey's history and preservation.

!!! Eratta !!!

In the Spring 2001 Bulletin Landscape issue Marquand Park was incorrectly listed as being located in Princeton Township. It is located in Princeton Borough. We apologize for the confusion.

OVER 170 interested participants spent a beautiful spring day at the 2001 Historic Preservation Office Annual Conference, held this year in Shadow Lawn Mansion on the grounds of Monmouth University in West Long Branch. This years theme, *Open Spaces, Historic Places* provided a day-long exploration of the issues and opportunities surrounding historic landscape preservation. Our keynote speaker Rick Darke, landscape and garden consultant and author of *In Harmony With Nature: Lessons Learned From the Arts & Crafts Garden*, set the tone with an engaging and inspiring presentation. Slides of his stunning photography accented his descriptions of the North Jersey landscape of his youth, his studies of the Arts-and-Crafts landscape, and the need for immediate attention to endangered landscapes such as the gardens and grounds of Suningive in the New Jersey Pine Barrens, home of noted horticulturist Elizabeth White.

Immediately following the keynote address, Robert Page, Director of the National Park Service's Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, provided an overview and introduction to the variety of designed and cultural landscapes and the characteristics by which they are defined. Breakout sessions ranging from landscape architects, gardens and parks, to battlefields, cultural landscapes and resources for landscape preservation filled the rest of the day.

Attendees enjoyed lunch outdoors in the ornate formal grounds of Shadow Lawn, and were able to take a guided tour of the National Historic Landmark mansion, home of former F. W. Woolworth Co. president Hubert Templeton Parson. Attendees and speakers were able to unwind and enjoy informal conversation at a post conference reception in the Versailles room after a very full day.

New Jersey & National Registers of Historic Places

By Bob Craig, Principal Historic Preservation Specialist, NJ Historic Preservation Office

The National Register of Historic Places began with the establishment of the National Historic Landmark program in 1935, but it received its major impetus with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act in 1966. The New Jersey Register of Historic Places was created in 1970. The New Jersey Historic Preservation Office [HPO] administers both the New Jersey Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places as they relate to New Jersey. Both registers provide a limited amount of protection to historic properties against public undertakings, but more importantly, the criteria we use for evaluation is the legal benchmark for what becomes designated.

Since 1970 over 1408 listings have been added to the Registers, including some 240 historic districts. If one were to add all the individually listed properties to the contributing buildings, structures, objects, and sites in all of the districts, the total would be nearly 30,000 resources.

The Process

The application process to have a property recognized as a historic place by listing in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places should be thought of as a system, because it follows a standard sequence of steps. Approximately 20-30 nominations are processed in a given year (in the year 2000, we processed 26). It requires nearly as much staff time to fully process a nomination as it takes for a preparer to produce one (except for large district nominations, which take longer to produce than to process). The nomination is then placed on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites (SRB), who meet at least four times per year. Working as an all-volunteer board, appointed by the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, the SRB considers all nominations and makes their recommendation to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). In New Jersey, the SHPO is the Commissioner for the Department of Environmental Protection. By regulation, the SHPO, or his delegate, has ninety days to act on the recommendation from the SRB. Once listed, the nomination is forwarded to the National Park Service for consideration to the National Register of Historic Places.

A Stick Style house in the Frenchtown Historic District, Hunterdon County

Depending on the complexity of the site, this process can take up to one year to complete. The process can be shortened if more use was made of thematic nominations that are known professionally as "multiple property submissions". This little-used National Register format requires the most up-front work, and because of that few preparers of nominations or their clients have been willing to use it. But once the up-front historical context is created, thematically-related properties can be registered much more quickly and easily. Log buildings, patterned brickwork houses, or diners, for example, could be registered in large groups, if the obstacle of the initial workload could be overcome.

With 566 municipalities, and an average of 20-30 nominations processed each year, it will be a very long while indeed before all eligible properties and districts are listed in the Registers. Prioritizing registration needs is based on several key factors:

- Is the historic property likely to be adversely affected by a public undertaking? (which would be reviewable by the HPO under the NJ Register of Historic Places Act)
- Is the property a candidate for rehabilitation, which would earn its owner an investment tax credit?
- Would the property be eligible to participate in the grant and loan programs of the NJ Historic Trust?

- Is the property owned by a non-profit organization that needs relief from real-estate taxes in order to continue maintaining the property?
- If the property is rehabilitated or restored, will it benefit from the new rehabilitation sub-code?
- Will registration spur wider interest in historic preservation in the neighborhood or municipality?
- If privately owned, is the owner likely to consent to listing?

For the Registers to be effective as a comprehensive planning or research tool, all kinds of historic properties need to be included in a balanced way. As the Register grows, however, some property types become over-represented and others under-represented. In addition, some counties have a much higher incidence of designation of their historic properties than other counties do. For reasons that remain unclear, the four "corner" counties of the state-Cape May, Salem, Sussex, and Bergen (except for the Dutch stone houses) - are under-represented in the Register. Currently, 175 municipalities in New Jersey (about 31%) have no registered properties at all. Many others have only a single listing. Only about a third of all eligible historic districts are listed.

Priority should be given to properties that possess strong architectural or historical significance, meet one or more of the registration priorities, and are likely to benefit from registration. We advise you to look beyond the immediate threats of today to the potential threats that can be anticipated three, five, or ten years hence. Preference should be given to properties of statewide or national significance. It may make more sense to nominate a very significant property this year even if no threat is likely for the next five years than to register a marginally significant property now simply because it is facing an imminent threat.

"Seated Lincoln", a famous statue by noted American sculptor Gutzon Borglum, in Newark, Essex County.

The Preliminary Application

The purpose of a preliminary application is to ensure that properties are eligible for listing before all the effort of preparing a register nomination application is carried out. Preparing a nomination is often a lengthy and complicated exercise, especially if extensive additional historical or architectural research needs to be performed. The preliminary application is important but its format is informal. Current photography of the subject property is required – interior and exterior – along with a map showing precisely where the property is located, and an explanation of the historical or architectural significance of the property. These three elements, together with an expressed interest in listing the property, constitute a preliminary application. The one-page questionnaire supplied in the application packet gives HPO useful guidance about how the application and a subsequent nomination will need to be handled.

The preliminary application also gives the applicant and the HPO an opportunity to practice applying the National Register criteria to the subject property. For the applicant it becomes a chance to rehearse the arguments for significance and integrity that will need to be presented in full in a nomination application later on. For the HPO it becomes an opportunity to advise the applicant whether those arguments appear sound enough to succeed, or to suggest a better alternative approach before the applicant has invested too much time and effort preparing a nomination that cannot be successful.

Finally, the preliminary application gives the applicant an opportunity to request a Certification of Eligibility (COE) for listing in the New Jersey Register, by checking the proper box in the questionnaire. A COE should be sought if the subject property is owned by a county or municipal government entity or a non-profit organization. A COE may also be sought for an unlisted historic property if relief is needed from the strict interpretation of the building codes. The New Jersey Rehabilitation Subcode carries flexible provisions for historic buildings, and the issuance of a COE is one of the ways in which a building can qualify as historic under the Subcode.

A preliminary application need not be submitted if the HPO already has enough information about a property to evaluate its eligibility. This can happen if the subject property has figured in the review of a public project by the HPO, or if architectural surveys or previous efforts to have a building listed have furnished enough information for eligibility to be evaluated. If a Part One application has been submitted to the HPO in the Certified Rehabilitation Program, that application can take the place of a preliminary application.

The preliminary application is followed by the regular application, which consists of the Registration Form, continuation sheets, and the accompanying documentation. It is with this application that the strict rules must be followed.

Why Are Nominations So Hard To Prepare?

Because a nomination is intended to be a permanent document, one which may indeed outlast the resource that it describes, there should be nothing casual about its preparation. Loosely prepared nominations (including most written in the 1970s when technical requirements were fewer and narrative standards were more relaxed) can be quite frustrating to use, because they lack the clarity, reliability, and precision needed in a nomination. Nominations presented to the National Register staff must be archivally-stable, printed on acid-free paper or paper with a high rag content. The description narrative must be accurate and detailed. The historical associations for a property must be demonstrated, not merely asserted. For evaluations of significance to be credible, they must be based on a foundation of research solid enough that later, more detailed investigation will not overturn. The photographs must be of such quality that if the resource itself is ever destroyed, people in succeeding generations will have a clear understanding of what has been lost.

The Significance Statement

The heart of a nomination is its significance statement. The purpose of a significance statement is two-fold: first, to evaluate, explain, and defend the importance (and therefore the preservation-worthiness) of a historic place; and second, to explain and document the historical associations of a property that substantiate its identification as a historic place.

A significance statement is, therefore, an applied historical essay. It needs to follow the rules that apply to all good historical writing. All statements must be truthful and their accuracy must be demonstrable. A balance between fact and interpretation must be maintained. The factual statements must support the interpretive framework of the narrative. The narrative must make an effective argument to support the claims made in the summary paragraph. Avoid shortcuts. Make sure that the argument is logically complete. Just as you would not buy a ladder that was missing some of its steps, so a reader cannot be expected to believe an argument that has steps missing.

The narrative must begin with a paragraph that summarizes the significance of the property (or district) and the associations associated with that significance. This paragraph should also identify the specific National Register criteria under which significance is being claimed and the areas of significance associated with them. The paragraph need not be a long one, you need not recite the boilerplate from the National Register criteria. For example, don't write that a property was associated with an event that had an impact on the broad patterns of history; but rather state what the event was, briefly describe the impact, and indicate how closely the property was associated with the event.

The tower of Christ Church, Shrewsbury Borough, Monmouth County.

Follow the summary paragraph with several paragraphs that concisely explain and substantiate the background history that accounts for the origin and presence of the property during the historic period. Then carefully explain and substantiate the significant historical associations or architecturally significant features. Demonstrate the truth of the claims being made with sufficient detail to be convincing. Do your homework. Make use of the most recent published scholarly work. For a house being nominated as the residence of an important political figure, for example, consult the published biographies of that person.

Play fair with sources. Honestly consider contrary viewpoints that challenge a property's significance. Footnote all quotations and any questionable assertions that are drawn from sources consulted during the research.

Conclude the significance statement with a few paragraphs that summarize the history of the property from the end of the period of significance to the present. Doing so serves two purposes: it helps to convince the reader that the property being nominated is in fact the property for which the historic associations should be claimed; and it gives the reader a context within which to understand why a property may have been so little altered or how it is being threatened by a current or future undertaking.

How HPO Can Help You Prepare Your Nominations

- Technical assistance. HPO will answer your questions regarding the proper completion of nominations, how to conduct research and where to find relevant source materials, and will review and comment on drafts of nominations, when requested. HPO can also furnish sample copies of completed nominations for similar properties and perform limited searching of the New Jersey subset of the National Register Information System [NRIS] (see below).

- Acid-free paper. Nominations are photocopied onto acid-free paper by HPO before they are signed and submitted to the National Park Service.

- UTM Coordinates. HPO will determine a property's UTM coordinates for you if the space in Section 10 is left blank. Just make sure that the precise location of the property is indicated in sharp pencil on the USGS map.

Some Tips for Properly Completing National Register Nominations

- Call the HPO with your questions. No matter how unusual you may think your question is, it has been asked before.

- Use the Preparer's Checklist that is provided in all National Register application packets (not preliminary applications)

- Make each section of a nomination agree with the other sections. Don't make statements in the description narrative, for example, that conflict with the significance statement. Don't fail to describe in Section 7 the elements of a property that have been photographed. Conversely, remember to photograph the character-defining features of a property that have been described.

- Use a tripod, natural light, and longer exposures when taking interior photos for a nomination; flash lighting does not illuminate the subject properly in many indoor situations. It also helps to use 400-speed (ASA 400) film for both black-and-white photos and color slides.

- Do not use tape, adhesive labels, rubber cement, or color-coding. The nomination will be xeroxed on a black-and-white photocopier before it is sent to the State Review Board, the SHPO, and the National Park Service.

New Jersey-specific Requirements

Each state manages its part of the National Register program a little differently from the others, and New Jersey is no exception. As a result, the generic, Federal advice contained in National Register Bulletin 16 Part A will not contain all of the help you may need to complete an application for a historic property in New Jersey. Each state has its own State Review Board, which can effectively impose requirements that may be needed to help the board evaluate nominations, and each state historic preservation office has its own routine procedures relating to the handling and use of nominations, which can have implications for how nominations are prepared.

- Submit two identical sets of black-and-white photos. Remember, we only need duplicates of the photos; do not send two copies of the text. One set remains in Trenton, the other is sent to the National Register office in Washington.

- Submit one set of color slides. The slides are used for presentations at public meetings, before the State Review Board, and maintained in the HPO permanent slide collection. The slides should be substantially as comprehensive as the black-and-white photos, but they do not need to be identical, image for image.

- Provide a floor plan sketch, annotated to show where interior photographs were taken.

- Provide a site plan (to scale, if at all possible) that shows where exterior photos were taken.

Where You Can Obtain USGS Maps

Approximately 25 stores in New Jersey carry the U.S Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle maps that are required by the National Register (request list from HPO). The DEP Map and Publication Sales Unit, here in Trenton, which also carries these quad sheets, can be reached at (609) 777-1038. They can also be bought directly from the USGS, at 1-800-HELP-MAP, or over the Internet at www.usgs.gov.

Tips for Consultants Preparing Register Nominations

- Take 2 cameras (one for black-and-white film, the other for slides).

- Take your photographs and write your description the same day. Except for historic districts and the largest, most complex individual properties, it should be possible to both write the description and take the photos in a single day.

- Do not bind or staple the nomination in any way. Do not three-hole punch a nomination either. Nominations must be submitted unbound. Just enclose it in a file folder and place the folder in an envelope. (When a nomination arrives in a binder, the nomination is removed and the binder discarded.)

- Carefully evaluate research data received from your client. The most time-consuming (and therefore expensive) aspect of preparing a nomination is usually conducting the research.

Some Very Fine Nominations

The best nominations are those that make a significant contribution to our historical understanding, or document a historic property type

for the first time or unusually well. The following are particularly well developed examples:

- Frenchtown Historic District (Hunterdon County). Prepared by a very talented group of volunteers, this may be the technically finest district nomination written in New Jersey. It is a model for nominations of small town historic districts.

- Christ Church, Shrewsbury (Monmouth County). This heavily-documented nomination explains extremely well how changes in Episcopal liturgy resulted in the major alterations made to this 232 year-old edifice. It pieces together for the first time the complicated architectural evolution of an 18th-century Episcopal church and traces it to the parallel evolution of the congregation itself.

- High Point Park Historic District (Sussex County). This nomination traces the origins of New Jersey's first state park, from the donation of the land by the Kuser family through the landscape designs prepared in the 1920s and '30s.

- Public Sculpture in Newark... Multiple Property Submission [MPS] (Essex County).

What is the State Review Board and Who is the State Historic Preservation Officer?

The State Review Board is an advisory body, appointed by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, composed of archeologists, architects, architectural historians, historians, landscape architects, and planners, who judge whether properties meet the National Register Criteria and whether nominations effectively document the properties concerned. By Executive Order of the Governor, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection serves as the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).

What Happens if...

... the State Review Board does not approve the application? The Board may approve a nomination as written, approve it with conditions, table it, or reject it outright. Rejection is a clear indication that the Board finds that the property is not eligible for the Registers. The Board will table a nomination if it is unsure of the property's eligibility or if the quality of documentation is insufficient. A nomination with minor problems will be conditionally approved, especially if the deficiencies can be corrected by HPO staff without further work by the preparer. A well-prepared nomination for an eligible resource will be approved as written.

... the State Historic Preservation Officer refuses to sign the application? If the State Historic Preservation Officer declines to sign a nomination onto the NJ Register, any person or local government may appeal to the Keeper the failure or refusal of the SHPO to nominate a property to the National Register that is considered to meet the criteria for listing.

... the Keeper of the National Register refuses to sign the application? In rare, the Keeper may refuse to sign a nomination if it is felt that additional information is needed. At this time, the nomination is returned to the HPO with a request for more information.

How are Nominations Used After the Listing Process is Over

After the listing process is completed, the original nomination remains with the National Register office in Washington and a copy, along with related correspondence, is kept in HPO files in Trenton. From that point, the nomination is a public record available for inspection during business hours. Consultants and HPO staff make frequent use of nominations, most often during the review of public projects that may affect historic properties. The owners of listed properties and members of the general public also visit the HPO to read nomination files.

In Summary.....

The New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places is the nation's official registry for historic sites deemed worthy of permanent protection. While listing does not offer permanent protection from private owner action, it is the first step toward ensuring that our architectural and historical legacy survives into the future. While there are currently no incentives for private homeowners to either purchase or rehabilitate their historic house, investors may be eligible for an Investment Tax Credit if their income producing property is rehabilitated in conformance with appropriate Standards.

For more information on the **New Jersey and National Register** programs, contact:

Sara Andre
(609) 292-0032
or
Bob Craig
(609) 984-0541

For information on the **Investment Tax Credit** program, contact:

Kurt Leasure
(609) 777-3930

SAVE THE DATES!

Thursday, October 25, 2001

Rehabilitation *Tax Credit* Workshop

New Jersey Historical Society • 52 Park Place, Newark, NJ 07102

A one day workshop to familiarize developers, redevelopment agencies, investors, cultural resource firms and property owners with the

Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program.

Program will emphasize redevelopment of historic properties in urban New Jersey.

Registration Fee: $20.00
(Lunch included)

Registration 8:30

To be placed on our list to receive registration information, please contact:
Kurt Leasure at
(609) 777-3930
e-mail: kleasure@dep.state.nj.us
or
Meghan MacWilliams at
(609) 292-1253
e-mail: mmacwill@dep.state.nj.us

Saturday , September 29 , 2001

Applied Preservation:

Historic Preservation Commission & CLG Workshop

The annual state-wide
Preservation Commission/C.L.G. Program Workshop

This year,

the full-day training opportunity will examine some of the ways new and non-traditional materials are being used to restore historic buildings and the criteria that historic commissions should consider when reviewing applications incorporating these materials. Other sessions will address how to make your commission more user friendly.

For more information:
www.state.nj.us/dep/hpo

Workshop location:
Indian Springs Country Club
115 Elmwood Road
Marlton, NJ

Co-sponsored by:
Township of Evesham
&
NJ Historic Preservation Office

SAVE THE DATES!

St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church, Atlantic City

J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington City

Marine National Bank, Wildwood City

New Jersey & National Registers of Historic Places

The New Jersey & National Registers of Historic Places are the official listings of registered historic properties in the state. The National Register was established in 1966 and the New Jersey Register of Historic Places was created in 1970.

Twenty-nine nominations were added either to the New Jersey Register of Historic Places† or the National Register* during the past year.

Statewide Multiple Property Documentation

**Lustron Houses in New Jersey

The Multiple Property Document Form (MPDF) nominates groups of related significant properties. This form serves as a basis for evaluating the National Register eligibility of related properties and it may be used to nominate thematically related historic properties simultaneously or to establish the registration requirements for properties that may be nominated in the future. Each resource is made on a National Register Registration Form and then together, the MPDF and individual form constitute a multiple property submission.

The statewide Lustron MPDF includes the history of the Lustron Corporation from its formation in 1946 to its demise in 1950. For example, the document discusses the Lustron planning guides, the dealer networks, and Lustron home construction. Associated property types are also discussed and the MPDF sets forth the Registration requirements, detailing the characteristics that should be retained for Registration, such as the porcelain-enameled steel interior and exterior and aluminum casement windows. The Lustrons in New Jersey Multiple Property Documentation Form covers the entire state and creates an opportunity for Lustron homes meeting the requirements to be Registered.

Atlantic County

* St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church, Atlantic City

† Weymouth Road Bridge, Hamilton Township

Bergen County

** William A. Wittmer Lustron House, Alpine Borough

** Harold Hess Lustron House, Closter

* Hardenburgh Avenue Bridge, Demarest Borough

Burlington County

* J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington City

The Budd Baby Shoe Factory was built in 1892 and is the only surviving shoe factory in Burlington. Built in the traditional factory design of the late 19th century, it is a modestly detailed structure with remarkable integrity. This industrial building represents an important period in the economic and commercial growth of the city.

* Red Dragon Canoe Club, Edgewater Park

Camden County

* Sears, Roebuck & Company Department Store, Camden City

* Kay-Evans Farmstead, Cherry Hill

Cape May County

* Marine National Bank, Wildwood City

Cumberland County

* Landis Theatre, Vineland City

Essex County

* Pine Street Historic District, Montclair

* Ahavas Shalom Synagogue, Newark

* Four Corners Historic District, Newark

The Four Corners Historic District lies at the heart of Newark and claims a history of more than three

centuries. Over the years the layout of this district has remained intact as prescribed by its founders in the seventeenth century. Four Corners also contains an excellent collection of commercial and institutional buildings, which include some of the most architecturally prominent buildings in the state.

Gloucester County

* John C. Rulon House, Swedesboro

Hunterdon County

* Readingsburg Historic District, Clinton Township
* Wertsville Historic District, East Amwell Township

Mercer County

* King's Highway Historic District, Lawrence Township, Princeton Borough and Township

  A remarkable resource, the King's Highway began as an Indian trail and eventually became the major route linking New York and Philadelphia. Its history as a major transportation route has spanned two and a half centuries. In the 18th century, the road spurred the creation and growth of villages and small towns. The significance of King's Highway lies not just in transportation, but also in the role it played in commerce, exploration, settlement, politics, and government.

Middlesex County

* King's Highway Historic District, South Brunswick

Monmouth County

* Palace Amusements, Asbury Park

  The Palace first opened its doors as a carousel house in 1888 and throughout the years became an integral part of the Asbury Park and shore experience. It is the only enclosed amusement arcade on the Jersey Shore and has housed many unique amusements, such as an indoor boarding Ferris Wheel. Through the years of operation the Palace has had many additions to its first carousel house, all chronicling the changes in shore entertainment.

MORRIS COUNTY

* Tempe Wick Road/ Washington Corners Historic District, Harding and Mendham Townships
* Illuminating Gas Plant of New Jersey State Insane Asylum, Parsippany-Troy Hills

SALEM COUNTY

* James & Mary Lawson House, Woodstown Borough
* Hedge-Carpenter-Thompson Historic District, Salem City

SOMERSET COUNTY

* King's Highway Historic District, Franklin Township
* Higginsville Road Bridges, Hillsborough Township
* Maplewood, Montgomery Township
* Relief Hose Company Number 2, Raritan Township

Landis Theatre, Vineland City

Palace Amusements, Asbury Park

King's Highway Historic District, Lawrence Township, Princeton Borough & Township

Higginsville Road Bridges, Hillsborough Township

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Please help us update our mailing list. Complete and return this form to HPO at the address opposite, if you: (please check one)

- ❒ Have a name/address change.
- ❒ Are receiving duplicate mailings.
- ❒ Would like your name added to the Historic Preservation Office mailing list. *
- ❒ Would like your name removed from the Historic Preservation Office mailing list.

Please complete and return this form to HPO at address below with the original mailing label.

Thank you!

Name_____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____

County _____

State _____ Zip _____

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Donald DiFrancesco, Acting Governor
Robert C. Shinn, Jr., Commissioner

Historic Preservation Office

Division of Parks and Forestry
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(609) 292-2023, 292-2028, 984-0140
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Visit our website at:
www.state.nj.us/dep/hpo

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