

NEW JERSEY  
**HISTORIC  
TRUST**

ANNUAL REPORT  
2024





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# MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Dear Friends and Supporters of Historic Preservation,

It is my honor to present the 2024 Annual Report of the New Jersey Historic Trust, which showcases the vital work being done to protect and celebrate our state's historic treasures. New Jersey's heritage is deeply woven into the fabric of our communities, and preserving these sites is essential to understanding our past, strengthening our present, and shaping our future.

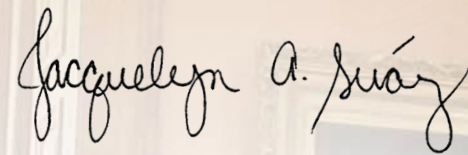
Over the past year, the Historic Trust has continued its mission to safeguard significant landmarks, ensuring they remain sources of education, inspiration, and community pride. Through strategic investments and dedicated partnerships, we have supported efforts that restore historic structures, enhance public access, and promote sustainable stewardship. These efforts not only protect our shared history but also contribute to economic vitality by driving heritage tourism and fostering local investment.

As we approach the nation's Semiquincentennial anniversary in 2026, our commitment to preserving New Jersey's Revolutionary War sites and other historic landmarks takes on even greater significance. The work we do today will allow future generations to walk through the same streets, enter the same buildings, and stand in the same places where history was made.

I am grateful for the unwavering dedication of the Trust's staff, board members, local historians, advocates, and all those who champion the cause of historic preservation. Your passion and hard work ensure that New Jersey's rich and diverse history remains alive for years to come.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to preserving the past while building a stronger future.

Sincerely,



Jacquelyn A. Suárez  
Commissioner  
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs



# MESSAGE FROM THE TRUST

Hello -

I am amazed that a year has gone by since I took on the role of Executive Director at the NJ Historic Trust. I am happy to report that 2024 witnessed a great number of successes for the Historic Trust and our grantees as you will see in this annual report. The Trust's continued success is due in no small part to Dorothy Guzzo's years of remarkable leadership at the Trust, of which I remain grateful. I am also grateful for the hard work and dedication of Trust staff, the support of the Trust's Board of Trustees, and the support of DCA Commissioner Suárez and her staff. I am pleased to report that the Trust brought on two new Historic Preservation Specialists, Tara Ritz and Olivia Chaudhury. I also want to welcome back to the Board of Trustees Jody Alessandrine.

In June, the annual conference – To and From: Connecting History by Road, Rail, & River – was held in Jersey City. The two-day event kicked off with a reception at the Central Railroad of New Jersey Terminal building in Liberty State Park and co-hosted by the NJ DEP - NJ State Historic Sites. Our featured speaker was Darley Newman, a pioneering entrepreneur known for her Emmy Award-winning series "Travels with Darley" and "Equitrekking." Day two of the conference featured a wide array of sessions that explored everything from the importance of archaeology on historic resources to navigating historic preservation commissions. Our keynote speaker, The Honorable Sara Bronin, Chair of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, shared her recent policy initiatives and changes to the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. She challenged the audience to engage with her federal agency and to think critically about how preservation could evolve in the years ahead.

In September, the Board of Trustees voted to fund over \$16 million in planning, capital, and heritage tourism grants. Being able to invest in New Jersey's rich and diverse heritage is one of the most rewarding and important parts of the Trust's work. The foresight and hard work of so many to establish the constitutionally dedicated Preserve New Jersey Historic Fund through the collection of corporate business tax dollars is reaping benefits beyond my imagination. The New Jersey Historic Trust is grateful to be in a position of supporting so many of New Jersey's irreplaceable treasures so that future generations will benefit from our past. Perhaps even more rewarding is that this past year witnessed the completion of over thirty Trust-funded projects and the reimbursement of over \$6 million to grantees.

The New Jersey Historic Trust looks forward to continuing to serve the people of New Jersey and protect New Jersey's historic resources throughout the upcoming year and for years to come.

Sincerely,



Glenn Ceponis  
Executive Director



# YEAR IN REVIEW



*Burlington County Prison Museum*

Throughout the year, the New Jersey Historic Trust staff helps plan and supports educational workshops and conferences that reached the history and historic preservation audiences. In 2024, the Trust participated in several events including the New Jersey Governor's Conference on Housing and Economic Development, New Jersey Conference on Tourism, New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference, Middlesex County History Day, and Washington's Landing. In addition, New Jersey Historic Trust staff and board members regularly attend events that celebrated a project's milestones, such as a ribbon cuttings or groundbreakings. This year, the Trust celebrated ribbon cutting and groundbreaking ceremonies at the Burlington County Prison Museum, Craftsman Farms, and Franklin Street School.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The History and Historic Preservation Conference: To and From: Connecting History by Road, Rail, & River was held at New Jersey City University in Jersey City on June 5 and 6. It was an exciting two-day event that included a half-day workshop on placemaking and storytelling; tours of Ellis Island, the Hudson River (on a historic schooner!), Loews Jersey Theatre, and a bus tour exploring Jersey City landmarks and historic districts ; an opening reception at the Central Railroad of New Jersey Terminal; 14 classroom sessions and six lightning sessions; a dynamic keynote speaker; and a closing reception highlighting the historic Margaret Williams Theatre at Jersey City University. To and From: Connecting History by Road, Rail, & River received generous financial support from over 40 sponsors, many of whom were showcased in the marketplace on the day of the conference.



*History and Historic Preservation Conference*

## BATTLESHIP NEW JERSEY DRY DOCK

On March 21, 2024 the Battleship departed the Pat Jones/John Matheussen pier for historic dry dock preventive maintenance for the first time in over 30 years. The ship was guided by tugboats to the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, in Dock #3, the same dock she was launched from on December 7, 1942. The Battleship remained in dry dock for 78 days and returned to her home port on June 20, 2024. While in dry dock, Trust staff got a unique opportunity to witness the ship out of the water which allowed them to walk around the exterior hull, observe the restoration work, and learn about the history and significance of the vessel. Funds from the Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund helped support the restoration.



*Battleship New Jersey Dry Dock*

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Historic Preservation Continuing Education Program at Rutgers University-Camden was launched in 2016 through a partnership between the New Jersey Historic Trust and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities (MARCH). Designed for those who desire to gain a deeper understanding of the vocabulary and discipline of historic preservation, students learn from professionals working in the field to gain a more realistic perspective on how the tangible remains of our past can be integrated within current environments. In 2017, the program began offering a Certificate in Historic Preservation, and in 2023 the program presented two full semesters of courses. For more information, visit: [www.preservation.rutgers.edu](http://www.preservation.rutgers.edu).



*William Trent House*

# NEW FACES AT THE NEW JERSEY HISTORIC TRUST



Joseph J. Alessandrino, Jr., MPA ("Jody") became Cape May MAC's Director & CEO in February 2020. Jody previously held Executive Director positions for two Special Improvement Districts (State College, PA and Toms River, NJ) and was the inaugural Director of the former Atlantic City Convention & Visitors Center Foundation. His role before joining Cape May MAC was as Director of Land Protection for the New Jersey Chapter of The Nature Conservancy.

As Cape May MAC's director, Jody oversees a 501(c) (3) with nearly \$5 million annually in receipts and disbursements; some 200 full-time, part-time and seasonal employees; and over 8,000 annual tours and events on the organization's annual calendar. A recent economic impact study determined that Cape May MAC is responsible for almost \$200million infused into the local economy annually.

Jody is also a former municipal administrator and served as a thrice-elected city councilman in Ocean City, New Jersey (1998-2008). Jody also has experience in public education, as well as tourism and casino marketing.

He returns to the Trust after previously appointed by two governors to serve in the early 2000s and currently serves as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Values Into Action New Jersey.

Jody earned a master's degree in public (Government) Administration with a certificate in Public Finance from The Fels Institute of Government at the University of Pennsylvania. He was also a Dr. Stephen B. Sweeney Fellow at UPenn. His bachelor's degree is in Communication Arts from Villanova University.

He and his wife Cheryl reside in the Town Bank section of Lower Township near the Delaware Bay.



Olivia VF Chaudhury is a new-New Jerseyan after eight years in Ithaca, NY where she earned her B.S. in Urban and Regional Studies and M.A. in Historic Preservation Planning at Cornell University, where she served as Co-President of Collective X magazine. Olivia explores her passion for research as a Resinger Scholar for the New York Preservation Archive Project. She is interested in the developments of the 250th anniversary and compared public history programming in the Bicentennial to the upcoming 250th in her M.A. thesis, centering Indigenous perspectives. Olivia comes to the Trust with experience in museums across New York State and NYC. In her free time, she enjoys thrift shopping, watching movies, and ice skating.

Tara Ritz is a recent graduate of the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York, where she earned a Master of Science in Historic Preservation. Her passion for history began in childhood, fueled by a love for learning about different histories, customs, and cultures. Tara believes deeply in the power of community and views preservation as a means to build more resilient, environmentally conscious, and holistic communities. When Tara isn't helping to preserve the history of her home state of New Jersey with the Trust, she can often be found with her nose in a good book or enjoying live music whenever she can.



## GRANT PROGRAMS

# COMPLETED PROJECTS

### PRESERVE NEW JERSEY HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND

The Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund was established by legislation in 2016 to provide an annual source of matching grants from the state's corporate business tax for historic preservation projects. The Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund continues the work of the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund (2000-2012) and the Historic Preservation Bond Program (1990-1997). Since 1990, more than \$200 million in matching grants have been awarded to worthy historic preservation construction and planning projects throughout the state.

Four categories of grants are awarded through the program. Historic Site Management; Municipal, County, and Regional Planning; and Heritage Tourism Grants, up to \$75,000, help support planning exercises that promote effective management and interpretation at historic sites. Capital Preservation Grants, up to \$750,000, help support construction expenses related to the preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic properties and associated architectural and engineering expenses. In 2024, over \$6 million was reimbursed for construction and planning activities. The following projects were successfully completed and closed out in 2024:



Moorestown Community House

Historic Site Management			
Project Name	Applicant	County	Grant Award
Palisades Interstate Park	Palisades Parks Conservancy	Bergen	\$50,000.00
Moorestown Community House	Community House of Moorestown	Burlington	\$34,163.00
Emlen Physick Estate	Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts & Humanities	Cape May	\$61,845.00
Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society	Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society	Cumberland	\$20,790.00
Millville Army Air Field Historic District	Millville Army Air Field Museum	Cumberland	\$22,500.00
Israel Crane House	Montclair History Center	Essex	\$45,150.00
Prallsville District	Delaware River Mill Society	Hunterdon	\$8,250.00
Solitude House	Borough of High Bridge	Hunterdon	\$7,500.00
William Trent House	Trent House Association	Mercer	\$42,360.00
First Presbyterian Church and Cemetery	120 East State	Mercer	\$75,000.00
Thomas A. Edison Memorial Tower	Edison Memorial Tower Corporation	Middlesex	\$28,688.00
Frelinghuysen Twin Oaks Mansion (Morris Museum)	Morris Museum	Morris	\$30,180.00
Mountain Lakes Train Station (Mountain Lakes Historic District)	Borough of Mountain Lakes	Morris	\$7,670.00
Newton Town Plot Historic District	Town of Newton	Sussex	\$30,000.00

Historic Site Management for Heritage Tourism			
Project Name	Applicant	County	Grant Award
Queen's Campus	Rutgers University	Middlesex	\$22,275.00
Hoffman Grist Mill-Asbury Mill	Musconetcong Watershed Association	Warren	\$50,000.00



*Historic Cold Spring Village Historic District*

Level I Capital Preservation Grants			
Project Name	Applicant	County	Grant Award
Christ Episcopal Church, Bordentown	Christ Church, Bordentown	Burlington	\$18,000.00
John Inskeep Homestead	Evesham Historical Society	Burlington	\$23,347.00
Emlen Physick Estate	Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts & Humanities	Cape May	\$38,763.00
Emlen Physick Estate	Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts & Humanities	Cape May	\$110,475.00
Historic Cold Spring Village Historic District	Historic Cold Spring Village (HCSV) Foundation	Cape May	\$88,415.00
Case-Dvoor Farmstead	Hunterdon Land Trust	Hunterdon	\$150,000.00
Squan Beach Life Saving Station	Borough of Manasquan	Monmouth	\$75,000.00



*Burlington County Prison*

Level II Capital Preservation Grants			
Project Name	Applicant	County	Grant Award
Burlington County Prison	County of Burlington	Burlington	\$526,500.00
USS New Jersey (BB-62)	Home Port Alliance for the USS New Jersey, Inc	Camden	\$750,000.00
Franklin Street School	Center for Community Arts, Inc.	Cape May	\$750,000.00
Connett Memorial Library	Township of South Orange Village	Essex	\$500,000.00
Hoboken Free Public Library and Manual Training School	Hoboken Public Library	Hudson	\$750,000.00
Case-Dvoor Farmstead	Hunterdon Land Trust	Hunterdon	\$750,000.00
East Trenton Public Library	Community Loan Fund of New Jersey	Mercer	\$750,000.00
Broadway Historic District (JC Penney Building)	Stand Up for Salem	Salem	\$630,000.00

# GRANT PROGRAMS

## NEW AWARDS

### PRESERVE NEW JERSEY HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND AWARDED PROJECTS

**Historic Site Management (HSM); Municipal, County, and Regional Planning (MCRP);  
Heritage Tourism; Capital Level I, Level II, and Level III - Multiphase Grants**

In 2024, the New Jersey Historic Trust awarded over \$16 million in matching grant funds to seventy-five preservation planning and capital projects in seventeen counties. Funded projects included National Register nominations, preservation plans, conditions assessments, design and construction documents, restoration, rehabilitation, and other projects that assist organizations in managing and stewarding their heritage buildings and sites. In addition to the 2024 Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund grant applications, the next phase of funding for two multiphase capital projects was allocated. Also included in the list is funding for one special initiative. Together, the two multiphase capital projects and one special initiative total \$1,600,000, which brings the total amount of grant funds for the 2024 round to \$16,598,738. The following grant awards were made in 2024:

Historic Site Management Grants (up to \$75,000)				
Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	County	Recommended Award
City of Atlantic City	Atlantic City Fire Station #6 / Atlantic City Fire Station #9	Atlantic City	Atlantic	\$49,999.00
Radburn Association	Radburn Historic District	Fair Lawn Borough	Bergen	\$75,000.00
Bordentown Historical Society	Clara Barton Schoolhouse (Bordentown Historic District)	Bordentown City	Burlington	\$43,867.00
Roebing Main Gate Museum	101 Second Ave (Roebing Historic District)	Florence Township	Burlington	\$75,000
Camden County Historical Society	Pomona Hall (Cooper House)	Camden City	Camden	\$43,110.00
Millville Army Air Field Museum (MAAFM)	Millville Army Air Field Historic District	Millville City	Cumberland	\$13,830.00

Historic Site Management Grants (up to \$75,000)				
Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	County	Recommended Award
Van Riper House, Inc.	Van Riper House	Nutley Township	Essex	\$9,634.00
Township of Weehawken	Hackensack Water Company Complex	Weehawken Township	Hudson	\$45,713
The 1759 Vought House, Inc., A Revolutionary War Loyalist Homestead	Christoffel Vought Farmstead	Clinton Township	Hunterdon	\$16,111.00
The Kalmia Club	The Kalmia Club	Lambertville City	Hunterdon	\$26,250.00
Readington Township	Taylor's Mill (Taylor's Mill Historic District)	Readington Township	Hunterdon	\$34,290.00
Stockton Borough	District No. 98 Schoolhouse	Stockton Borough	Hunterdon	\$43,875.00
Historic Trenton Masonic Temple	Masonic Temple (State House Historic District)	Trenton City	Mercer	\$31,350.00
Greater Mt. Zion Community Development Corporation	Greater Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church	Trenton City	Mercer	\$18,700.00
Washington Crossing Park Association, Inc.	Washington Crossing State Park	Hopewell Township	Mercer	\$75,000.00
Old Barracks Association	Old Barracks	Trenton City	Mercer	\$66,450.00
The Founders Committee, NJ State Society of National Society Daughters of the American Revolution	Isaac Watson House	Hamilton Township	Mercer	\$53,400.00
Historical Society of Hamilton Township, Inc.	Isaac Pearson House	Hamilton Township	Mercer	\$20,145.00
Borough of Fair Haven	Fisk Chapel	Fair Haven Borough	Monmouth	\$38,625.00
Middletown Township	Dempsey Pump House	Township of Middletown	Monmouth	\$38,100.00
Friends Meeting House & Cemetery Association of Randolph Township, NJ	Friends Meetinghouse	Randolph Township	Morris	\$75,000.00



Historic Site Management Grants (up to \$75,000)				
Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	County	Recommended Award
Morris County Park Commission	Willowwood Arboretum	Chester Township	Morris	\$47,175.00
The Town of Boonton	Darress Theatre	Boonton Town	Morris	\$75,000.00
Franklin Inn-Van Liew Homestead Association, Inc.	Van Liew Farmhouse (East Millstone Historic District)	Franklin Township	Somerset	\$39,540.00
NJ Department of Environmental Protection	Old Dutch Parsonage	Somerville Borough	Somerset	\$75,000.00
Historical Society of Stillwater Township	Casper and Abraham Shafer Grist Mill Complex	Stillwater Township	Sussex	\$19,537.00
Vernon Township Historic Society	Hinchman-Rickey Farm	Vernon Township	Sussex	\$16,125.00
City of Rahway	Rahway Library	Rahway City	Union	\$35,250.00
City of Plainfield	Former YMCA (Plainfield Civic Historic District)	Plainfield City	Union	\$26,250.00
Jerusalem Lodge No. 26 F & AM	Plainfield Masonic Temple, Jerusalem Lodge No. 26 F & AM	Plainfield City	Union	\$75,000.00

Municipal, County, and Regional Planning (up to \$75,000)				
Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	County	Recommended Award
Borough of Dumont	Derick Banta House	Dumont Borough	Bergen	\$25,875.00
Borough of Red Bank	Monmouth Boat Club	Red Bank Borough	Monmouth	\$45,000.00

Historic Site Management Grants for Heritage Tourism (up to \$75,000)				
Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	County	Recommended Award
Atlantic City	Liberty Hotel	Atlantic City	Atlantic	\$75,000.00
Union Township Historical Society	Caldwell Parsonage	Union Township	Union	\$65,250.00

Level I Capital Preservation Grants (\$50,000 – \$150,000)				
Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	County	Recommended Award
New Hanover Township	General Edward S. Godfrey House	New Hanover Township	Burlington	\$149,257.00
Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts and Humanities (trading as Cape May MAC)	Cape May Lighthouse	Lower Township	Cape May	\$23,166.00
Lower Township	Judge Nathaniel Foster House	Lower Township	Cape May	\$150,000.00
Hunterdon County Historical Society	Doric House (Flemington Historic District)	Flemington Borough	Hunterdon	\$8,153.00
Township of Holland	Riegel Ridge Community Center	Milford Borough	Hunterdon	\$120,000.00
Borough of Hopewell	Hopewell Railroad Station	Hopewell Borough	Mercer	\$146,676.00
The Founders Committee, NJ State Society of National Society Daughters of the American Revolution	Isaac Watson House	Hamilton Township	Mercer	\$40,200.00
Historic Trenton Masonic Temple	Masonic Temple (State House Historic District)	Trenton City	Mercer	\$60,300.00
Dover Area Historical Society	Condict House (Blackwell Street Historic District)	Dover Town	Morris	\$150,000.00
Middle Valley Community Center, Inc.	Middle Valley Community Center (Middle Valley Historic District)	Washington Township	Morris	\$30,900.00
The Growing Stage - The Children's Theatre of New Jersey	Palace Theatre	Netcong Borough	Morris	\$150,000.00
Ocean County Historical Society	Elizabeth Sculthorp Force House	Toms River Township	Ocean	\$12,600.00
Preserve Shady Rest Committee	Shady Rest Golf and Country Club	Scotch Plains Township	Union	\$150,000.00
Liberty Hall Museum	Liberty Hall	Union Township	Union	\$89,844.00
Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum Association	Merchants and Drovers Tavern	Rahway City	Union	\$120,000.00
Township of Clark	Seventeenth Century Clark House	Clark Township	Union	\$145,950.00

Level II Capital Preservation Grants (\$150,001 - \$750,000)				
Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	County	Recommended Award
Atlantic City	Fire Station #8 (Northside Institutional Historic District)	Atlantic City	Atlantic	\$750,000.00
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority	Atlantic City Convention Hall	Atlantic City	Atlantic	\$750,000.00
Inlet Public/Private Association, Inc.	Absecon Lighthouse	Atlantic City	Atlantic	\$750,000.00
County of Bergen	New Milford Plant of the Hackensack Water Company	Oradell Borough	Bergen	\$750,000.00
Borough of Fair Lawn	Naugle-Vanderbeck House	Fair Lawn Borough	Bergen	\$537,509.00
Cherry Hill Township	Kay-Evans Farmstead (Croft Farmstead)	Cherry Hill Township	Camden	\$638,286.00
Borough of Gibbsboro	John Lucas House	Gibbsboro Borough	Camden	\$552,094.00
Home Port Alliance for the USS New Jersey, Inc.	USS New Jersey (BB-62)	Camden City	Camden	\$350,000.00
The Montclair Foundation	Van Vleck House & Gardens (Mountain Historic District)	Montclair Township	Essex	\$337,197.00
Township of Livingston	Theophilus Ward/Thomas Force House and Condit Family Cook House	Livingston Township	Essex	\$370,750.00
Save Ellis Island	Statue of Liberty National Monument, Ellis Island and Liberty Island	Jersey City	Hudson	\$191,152.00
Jersey City Free Public Library	Jersey City Public Library (Van Vorst Park Historic District)	Jersey City	Hudson	\$600,000.00
Roebing Machine Shop	Roebing Machine Shop	Trenton City	Mercer	\$750,000.00
Lawrence Township	Baker-Brearley House	Lawrence Township	Mercer	\$400,000.00
Asbury Park African-American Music Project Inc	Turf Club	Asbury Park City	Monmouth	\$313,075.00
Monmouth County Historical Association	Allen House	Shrewsbury Borough	Monmouth	\$200,000.00
Morris County Historical Society	Acorn Hall	Morristown Town	Morris	\$168,225.00
Township of Rockaway	Ford-Faesch Manor House	Rockaway Township	Morris	\$400,000.00

Level II Capital Preservation Grants (\$150,001 - \$750,000)				
Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	County	Recommended Award
The Woman's Club of Morristown, Inc.	Dr. Lewis Condict House	Morristown Town	Morris	\$350,900.00
Borough of Mendham	Cary Barn (Stephen Cary House)	Mendham Borough	Morris	\$434,845.00
Borough of Mountain Lakes	Mountain Lakes Train Station (Mountain Lakes Historic District)	Mountain Lakes Borough	Morris	\$270,950.00
Township of Wayne	Van Duyne House	Wayne Township	Passaic	\$407,520.00
The Friends of the Kennedy Martin Stelle Farmstead, Inc.	Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead	Bernards Township	Somerset	\$577,384.00
Township of Berkeley Heights	Littel-Lord Farmstead	Berkeley Heights Township	Union	\$384,067.00

Capital Level II: Multiphase (\$500,000 - \$750,000)				
Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	County	Recommended Award
Hunterdon Land Trust	Case-Dvoor Farmstead	Raritan Township	Hunterdon	\$750,000.00

Miscellaneous				
Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	County	Recommended Award
New Jersey Historic Trust	Easement Purchase	Trenton City	Mercer	\$100,000.00
Monmouth University	Shadow Lawn	West Long Branch Borough	Monmouth	\$750,000.00
County of Passaic	Passaic County Court House, and United States Custom House and Post Office Historic District	Paterson City	Passaic	\$750,000.00

Masonic Temple (State House Historic District)

GRANT PROGRAMS

# DISCOVER NEW JERSEY HISTORY LICENSE PLATE FUND



North Pemberton Railroad Station

The Discover NJ History License Plate Fund provides grants (up to \$5,000) to develop and promote visitor-ready sites as heritage tourism destinations. The Fund was established at the recommendation of the 2010 Heritage Tourism Master Plan for New Jersey. Since 2012, 58 projects have been awarded for a total of \$243,650. The following grant awards were made in 2024:

Discover NJ History License Plate Fund			
Project Name	Applicant	County	Grant Award
North Pemberton Railroad Station	Pemberton Township	Burlington	\$4,250
The Crawford House	Borough of Tinton Falls Historic Preservation Commission	Monmouth	\$5,000
Tuckerton Seaport	Tuckerton Seaport	Ocean	\$1,375

For a complete list of awarded projects, please visit: <https://www.nj.gov/dca/njht/programs/discover/>.

## DISCOVER NJ HISTORY LICENSE PLATE

Help us fund more projects by purchasing a Discover NJ History license plate today! It is easy to order your "Discover NJ History" license plate online from Motor Vehicle Services. The cost is a one-time fee of \$50 (or \$100 for personalized plates) and an annual \$10 renewal fee. Your purchase helps sustain the Discover NJ History License Plate Fund for Heritage Tourism. The greater number of license plate sales and renewals, the more funding there is available for heritage tourism projects! Go online and visit, [preservenjhistory.com](https://preservenjhistory.com) for more information and to purchase a Discover NJ History license plate.





TUCKER'S  
ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE

19

20

23

Tuckerton Seaport

# JOURNEY THROUGH JERSEY



*Parker Homestead*

In February of 2017, the New Jersey Historic Trust launched [journeythroughjersey.com](http://journeythroughjersey.com), the first website dedicated solely to promote heritage tourism in the state and to support and improve quality visitor experiences at the state's many and diverse historic sites. The development of the award-winning website arose from the needs identified in *Linking our Legacy to a New Vision: A Heritage Tourism Master Plan for New Jersey*, published by the Trust in 2010. This master plan documented the untapped potential for a robust heritage tourism sector and outlined the steps necessary to achieve that goal.

In 2024, the New Jersey Historic Trust continued implementing its comprehensive marketing plan to increase awareness of Journey Through Jersey. The plan included sponsored content articles and advertisements on NJ.com, full-page advertisements in Jersey's Best magazine, full-page advertisements in the Star Ledger Travel Guide, and targeted social media posts. The marketing plan was very successful as traffic to the website grew by 256 per cent!

Journey Through Jersey was also a prominent sponsor of the 2024 New Jersey Conference on Tourism. Ten Journey Through Jersey partners benefited with paid admission through our conference sponsorship where they learned about marketing trends and how to position their site to attract new audiences.

Moreover, Journey Through Jersey continued to accept site nominations throughout the year. In 2024, twelve historic sites were nominated and added to the Journey Through Jersey website representing all the themes identified in the 2010 master plan. New blog posts and travel itineraries were also added regularly that took visitors across the state, exploring Cape May for the holidays, thirty-five years of preserving and sharing the history of Craftsman Farms, the annual lighthouse challenge, a photo contest, celebrating a permanent art installation at Ellis Island, historic photos of NJ's coastal destinations, independent retailers, NJ's national parks, Morris County, Camden County, and NJ's women's history.

We look forward to keeping the momentum going and to exciting developments in the year ahead! To plan your journey, visit [journeythroughjersey.com](http://journeythroughjersey.com) for more information.



*Shady Rest Country Club*



**Today's Game**  
**CLEVELAND INDIANS**  
 VS.  
**CHICAGO WHITE SOX**  
 JULY 5, 1947

**The Barrier Breaker**

As the first Black player in the American League, Doby endured the same kind of abuse and discrimination as Jackie Robinson. He heard racial insults, was spat on, and was denied entrance to the same hotels and restaurants as his white teammates. The pressure to succeed was high, and even in this hostile environment Doby rose to the challenge. His trailblazing achievements on the field helped open the door for others.

**First Black player**  
 in the American League

**First Black player**  
 to hit a home run in the World Series

**First Black player**  
 to lead the American League in home runs

One of the **first Black managers**  
 in the major leagues

**198**  
 with the National and World Series

**June 1, 2002**  
 in the American League

**July 5, 2023**  
 as the first Black player to lead the American League in home runs

**World Series Champion**

**Seven-time All-Star**

**Batted .287 with 273 home runs & 1,094 RBI**

**1971-72**  
 with the Cleveland Indians

**1978**  
 with the Cleveland Indians

**1980-89**  
 with the Cleveland Indians

**1997**  
 with the Cleveland Indians

**Joe Judge**  
 1938-1998  
 1963-64 Cleveland Indians  
 1965-66 Cleveland Indians  
 1967-68 Cleveland Indians  
 1969-70 Cleveland Indians  
 1971-72 Cleveland Indians  
 1973-74 Cleveland Indians  
 1975-76 Cleveland Indians  
 1977-78 Cleveland Indians  
 1979-80 Cleveland Indians  
 1981-82 Cleveland Indians  
 1983-84 Cleveland Indians  
 1985-86 Cleveland Indians  
 1987-88 Cleveland Indians  
 1989-90 Cleveland Indians  
 1991-92 Cleveland Indians  
 1993-94 Cleveland Indians  
 1995-96 Cleveland Indians  
 1997-98 Cleveland Indians

**Monte Irvin**  
 1908-1972  
 1933-36 Pittsburgh Pirates  
 1937-44 Homestead Grays  
 Hall of Fame: 1972

**Frank Robinson**  
 1931-2018  
 1955-56 Cincinnati Reds  
 1958-60 Cincinnati Reds  
 1961-62 Cincinnati Reds  
 1963-64 Cleveland Indians  
 1965-66 Cleveland Indians  
 1967-68 Cleveland Indians  
 1969-70 Cleveland Indians  
 1971-72 Cleveland Indians  
 1973-74 Cleveland Indians  
 1975-76 Cleveland Indians  
 1977-78 Cleveland Indians  
 1979-80 Cleveland Indians  
 1981-82 Cleveland Indians  
 1983-84 Cleveland Indians  
 1985-86 Cleveland Indians  
 1987-88 Cleveland Indians  
 1989-90 Cleveland Indians  
 1991-92 Cleveland Indians  
 1993-94 Cleveland Indians  
 1995-96 Cleveland Indians  
 1997-98 Cleveland Indians

**Tom Seaver**  
 1934-2020  
 1967-70 New York Mets  
 1971-75 New York Mets  
 1976-77 New York Mets  
 1978-79 New York Mets  
 1980-81 New York Mets  
 1982-83 New York Mets  
 1984-85 New York Mets  
 1986-87 New York Mets  
 1988-89 New York Mets  
 1990-91 New York Mets  
 1992-93 New York Mets  
 1994-95 New York Mets  
 1996-97 New York Mets  
 1998-99 New York Mets  
 2000-01 New York Mets  
 2002-03 New York Mets  
 2004-05 New York Mets  
 2006-07 New York Mets  
 2008-09 New York Mets  
 2010-11 New York Mets  
 2012-13 New York Mets  
 2014-15 New York Mets  
 2016-17 New York Mets  
 2018-19 New York Mets  
 2020-21 New York Mets

Hinchcliffe Stadium

# EASEMENT HIGHLIGHT



*Elmer Street Boiler and Engine Room (Exterior)*

In 2024, the New Jersey Historic Trust began the process of acquiring a historic preservation easement on the former John A. Roebling & Sons Elmer Street Boiler (1916) and Engine Room (1917) located at 10 Elmer Street, Trenton. The Elmer Street Boiler and Engine Room were listed in the New Jersey Register of Historic Places on August 22, 2012, and in the National Register of Historic Places on June 25, 2012, as key contributing buildings to the John A. Roebling's Sons Company, Trenton N.J., Block 3 Historic District. These buildings are significant for their association with John A. Roebling's Sons Company, for their association with Charles G. Roebling, and for their industrial construction.

The Roebling family made a significant impact on the state of New Jersey and on the nation. In New Jersey, John A. Roebling's Sons Company was, "the largest manufacturer in Trenton and one of the largest in New Jersey for many decades." Charles G. Roebling (President and Chief Engineer 1876-1918) during the construction of these buildings and was instrumental in expanding the company through his planning, design, and construction of the town of Roebling, NJ – creating a company town approximately 12 miles south of Trenton that still withstands the test of time.

In addition, John A. Roebling designed the landmark Brooklyn Bridge, and his son Washington built it. John A. Roebling's Sons Company famously produced cables for other major suspension bridges including the Manhattan, George Washington, and Golden Gate Bridges. The company is also known for manufacturing wire and wire rope at the Trenton facility for technology including telegraphs and telephones, cable cars, and airplanes – all of which has transformed modern life.

The John A. Roebling's Sons Company began operations in Trenton in 1849 and expanded their company to include Block 3 – where the Boiler House and Engine Room are located— in the 1880s. The Elmer Street Boiler (1916) was constructed to provide steam for powering turbines in the attached Engine Room (1917), as well as to power machinery and heat other buildings at the Roebling Company. According to the National Register listing, the Boiler House and Engine Room "...together represent industrial power production at a transitional time when factories produced their own power but were gradually shifting from steam to electricity as their power source."

The Elmer Street Boiler and Engine Room have been vacant for more than two decades. Plans are currently underway to transfer ownership from the Mercer County Improvement Authority to a private developer who will rehabilitate both the Boiler House and Engine Room for new uses.



*Elmer Street Boiler and Engine Room*





# ABOUT THE NEW JERSEY HISTORIC TRUST



The New Jersey Historic Trust advances historic preservation for the benefit of the state's diverse population today and for its future generations. Through its education, tourism, stewardship, and financial investment programs, the Trust saves New Jersey's heritage and strengthens its communities.

In order to present a fuller understanding of our heritage, the New Jersey Historic Trust actively supports the discovery, preservation, and appreciation of the tangible remains of history that have been previously under-represented in the historical record.

**The New Jersey Historic Trust seeks to achieve its mission by serving as:**

- A leading voice for preservation at the state level,
- A catalyst for preservation and community revitalization activities,
- A full partner in state policy development,
- A technical and financial resource for the stewardship of historic properties.

**The Trust also provides financial support, protection, and technical assistance through its programs:**

**The Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund** was established by legislation in 2016 to provide an annual source of matching grants from the state's corporate business tax for historic preservation projects. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations and government entities. The Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund continues the work of the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund (2000-2012) and the Historic Preservation Bond Program (1990-1997). Since 1990, over \$200 million in matching grants has been awarded to worthy construction and planning historic preservation projects throughout the state.

**The Discover New Jersey Historic License Plate Fund for Heritage Tourism** provides grants up to \$5,000 to develop and promote visitor-ready sites as heritage tourism destinations.

**New Jersey Cultural Trust Capital Preservation Grants** protect and improve historic properties that are used by nonprofit organizations that have history, humanities and arts programming. Grants may fund projects for stabilization, repair, restoration, adaptive use, and increased accessibility. Funding is offered on a schedule provided by the New Jersey Cultural Trust, which also qualifies eligible organizations.

The New Jersey Historic Trust offers long-term, low-interest loans through the **Historic Preservation Revolving Loan Fund** for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration of historic properties.

An **Emergency Grant and Loan Fund** has limited funds for critically needed work on endangered historic resources. Currently only loans are available.

**The Emergency Intervention Fund** was established in 2022 to address immediate stabilization needs of a historic resource following a natural or human-made disaster and/or to assist efforts when a resource is threatened by demolition.

**The Preservation Easement Program** ensures the preservation of privately-owned properties in perpetuity using deed restrictions. The Trust initiated the first statewide program of this kind, which enables easement donors to take advantage of charitable deduction tax benefits. In addition, the Trust can now acquire easements on special properties that meet certain criteria.

The New Jersey Historic Trust accepts donations of real estate through **New Jersey Legacies**. Property donors may realize significant income and estate tax benefits by their donations. Donated properties are resold by the Trust with protective easements to ensure their preservation.

# NEW JERSEY HISTORIC TRUST BOARD & STAFF

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State House

## BOARD BIOS

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### **Jody Alessandrine, Cape May**

Mr. Alessandrine, Jr., MPA is the Director & CEO of Cape May MAC. Jody previously held Executive Director positions for two Special Improvement Districts (State College, PA and Toms River, NJ) and was the inaugural Director of the former Atlantic City Convention & Visitors Center Foundation. His role before joining Cape May MAC was as Director of Land Protection for the New Jersey Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. Jody is also a former municipal administrator and served as a thrice-elected city councilman in Ocean City, NJ (1998-2008). Jody also has experience in public education, as well as tourism and casino marketing.

### **Lisa Easton, AIA, Hunterdon County**

Ms. Easton has worked on the restoration of some of the New York Metropolitan Region's most noteworthy landmarks. She has developed a reputation in the historic preservation field as an expert architect, planner, and historian. Her work consists of commercial, institutional, and residential projects set within urban and sub-urban settings. She teaches, lectures, and serves on a variety of non-profit boards, promoting the integration of architecture and preservation.

### **Janet W. Foster, Morris County**

An architectural historian and historic preservation consultant, Janet W. Foster is a proponent of New Jersey and its vernacular architecture. She lectures and writes on the topic. She serves on the Madison Borough Historic Preservation Commission and on the NJ State Review Board.

### **Deborah Marquis Kelly, Mercer County**

Ms. Kelly is a former executive director of Preservation New Jersey and since 1996 has been an independent historic preservation consultant through her company, Preservation Partners. She is the co-author of the New Jersey Women's Heritage Trail, the current secretary of the Chesterfield Township Historical Society, and immediate-past Chair of the Chesterfield Township Historic Preservation Commission.

### **Peter Lindsay, PE, Sussex County**

Mr. Lindsay has more than thirty-eight years of professional experience in engineering and holds a master's degree in mechanical engineering from New Jersey Institute of Technology. Mr. Lindsay participated in the structural stabilization project of the Hamburg Presbyterian Church's 1868 sanctuary. He is a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and several classic car clubs in addition to professional organizations.

### **Kenneth A. Miller, Morris County**

Mr. Miller is retired from the financial services industry, and serves in several volunteer positions, including treasurer of the Joint Free Public Library of Morristown and Morris Township Foundation. He has been involved in preservation as a Commissioner and Chair of Morristown's Historic Preservation Commission, as well as restoring his private residence, a National Historic Landmark.

### **Meme Omogbai, MBA, CPA, CGMA, Somerset County**

Named one of 25 Influential Black Women in Business by The Network Journal in 2010, Ms. Omogbai has been a leader in the nonprofit, corporate, museum and government sectors. As the first American of African descent named Board Chair of the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), Ms. Omogbai co-authored its ground-breaking strategic plan, The Spark, and led the initiative to rebrand the AAM as a global alliance. As Co-Director, Interim CEO, COO, CFO and Trustee, she led a major transformation in operating performance at the 105-year-old Newark Museum.

### **Chris Perks, PE, Camden County**

Mr. Perks is a professional engineer and construction manager who has worked on many historic projects including comprehensive renovations of the Philadelphia Academy of Music, the Philadelphia Water Works, and fifty-three Philadelphia Free Library buildings, with fifteen historic Carnegie Libraries. He served on the Camden City Historic Preservation Commission and is the president of the Camden County Historical Society.

### **Patricia Anne Salvatore, Cape May County**

Ms. Salvatore founded, developed, and preserved/restored two history sites as nonprofit museums: Historic Cold Spring Village (where she currently serves as executive director) and Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum. She is a leader locally and regionally in promoting historic preservation, history education, and heritage tourism.

### **Troy Joseph Simmons, Essex County**

Troy Joseph Simmons is Principal and Owner of McPherson, Simmons Brothers & Sons LLC. In 2006, he was curator to Form, Function & Faith, an exhibition held at Seton Hall University, highlighting the Arts and Crafts movement and its influence on Roman Catholic ecclesiastical architecture in America. He is the co-author of Guidelines Concerning the Handling of Ecclesiastical Patrimony, a document that instructs church pastors and parish administrators in the proper handling of art and artifacts that are of historical value to the Archdiocese. Troy has published numerous articles and has lectured both in the United States and Canada on the topic of American ecclesiastical art and architecture.

### **Linda Stender, Union County**

Linda Stender served as the Mayor of Fanwood Borough from 1988 to 1995, a member of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders from 1994 to 2001, and in the New Jersey General Assembly from 2002 to 2015, where she represented the 22nd legislative district. Ms. Stender now serves as the Director of Planning and Policy for the Union County Utilities Authority. As Councilwoman and then Mayor of Fanwood, Ms. Stender led the renovation of the Fanwood Community House/ Train Station building and helped protect the Farmhouse at Oak Ridge Park from demolition. As President of the Fanwood Junior Women's Club, she led the fight to save the Fanwood Carriage House and its adaptive reuse as the Patricia M. Kuran Cultural Arts Center.

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Franklin Street School



FRANKLIN STREET  
SCHOOL