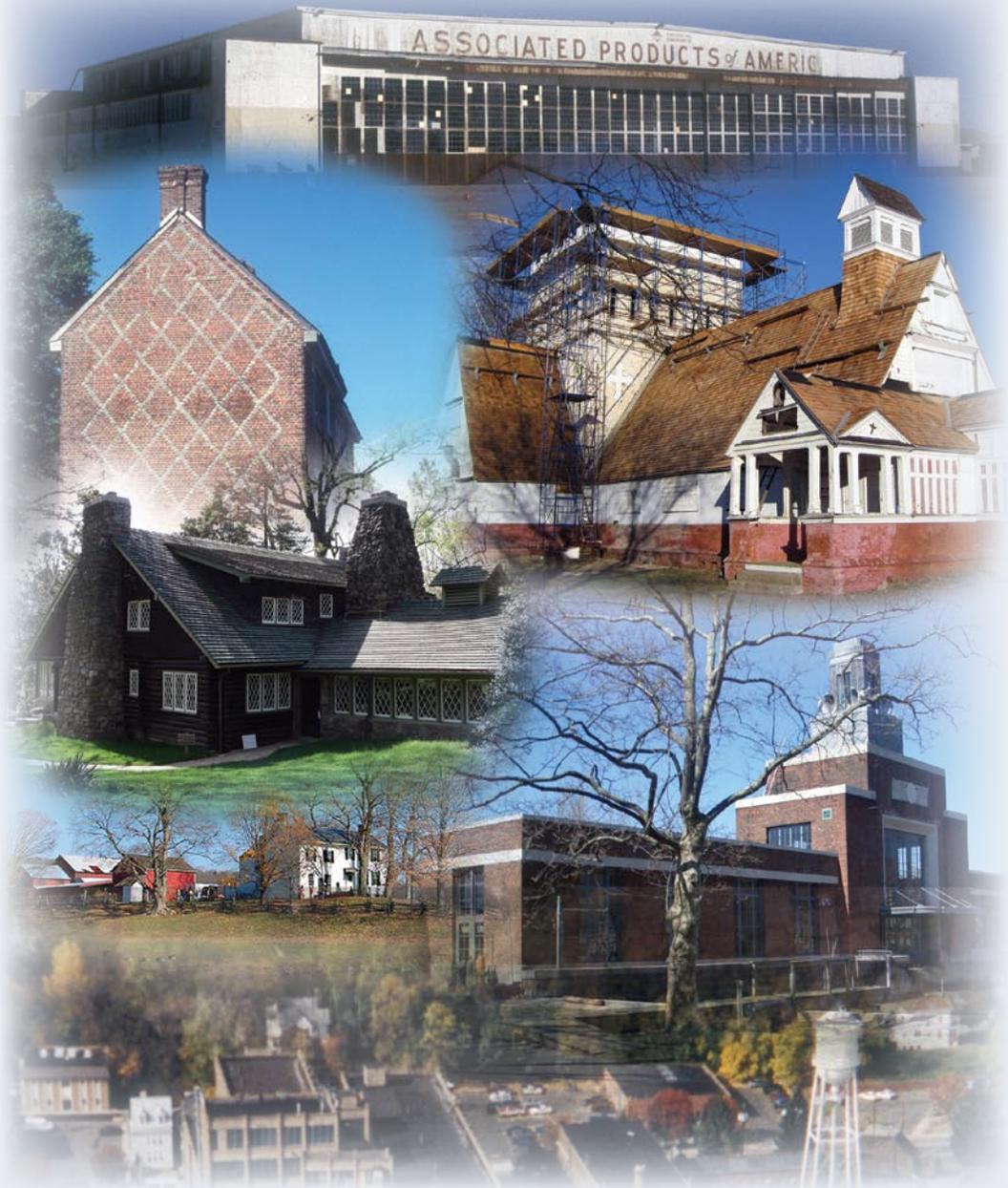


# *Historic Preservation in New Jersey*



# *Save America's Treasures*

**T**oo many of the historic sites, monuments, artifacts and documents that tell America's story are deteriorating and in danger of being lost forever. These treasures urgently require conservation and preservation to survive into the next millennium. To focus public attention on the importance of our national heritage and the need to save our treasures at risk, the White House Millennium Council teamed with the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1998 to establish Save America's Treasures.

Save America's Treasures is a national effort to protect "America's threatened cultural treasures, including historic structures, collections, works of art, maps and journals that document and illuminate the history and culture of the United States." Established by Executive Order in February 1998, Save America's Treasures was originally founded as the centerpiece of the White House National Millennium Commemoration and as a public-private partnership that included the White House, the National Park Service and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Dedicated to the preservation and celebration of America's priceless historic legacy, Save America's Treasures works to recognize and rescue the enduring symbols of American tradition that define us as a nation.

The Federal Save America's Treasures program is one of the largest and most successful grant programs for the protection of our nation's endangered and irreplaceable cultural heritage. Grants are available for preservation and/or conservation work on nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and historic structures and sites. Intellectual and cultural artifacts include artifacts, collections, documents, sculpture, and works of art. Historic structures and sites include historic districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects.

Grants are awarded to Federal, state, local, and tribal government entities, and non-profit organizations through a competitive matching-grant program, administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

# *Hanger No. 1, Naval Air Station Wildwood*

Rio Grande, Lower Township Cape May County

\$98,529.00 (2006)

**H**anger No. 1, constructed in 1943, is one of only 20-30 Navy airplane hangars built nationwide during World War II. Hangar No. 1 is important for its role in training Navy fighter and dive-bombing pilots during World War II to fight in the Pacific theater. It is constructed of bolted wood Pratt trusses in 10-foot panels at the roof level, bolted cross-braced vertical supports at the north and south interior elevations and bolted center supports, which form the division between the two bays. The structure contains two 120'L x 200'W bays for airplane storage and maintenance and rows of offices and workrooms that form the north and south elevations. Twelve full-height telescoping doors form the east and west elevations of the hangar; these doors retract into door pockets at each corner of the hangar. Left to deteriorate by post-war airplane-related businesses, the immense 92,000-square foot structure was recently saved by the non-profit Naval Air Station Wildwood Foundation. The hangar currently houses an aviation museum and historic aircraft, and the Foundation sponsors fly-ins, lecture series, and fund-raisers with an aviation theme. Space leased to other concerns provides income to support the building's ongoing maintenance.

*This property also received grants from the New Jersey Historic Trust: \$33,917 (2002) \$535,246 (2000)*



# *Abel & Mary Nicholson House*

**Elsinboro, Salem County**

**\$147,917.00 (2005)**

**T**he Nicholson House, designated a National Historic Landmark, is an extraordinarily intact example of the 18th century patterned brick house distinctive for the checkerboard patterned brick on three elevations, and diamond-pattern and "1722" on the east gable elevation. The house has not been modified to accommodate heat or electricity, and retains a high level of integrity to the interior. The 1859 addition also retains its architectural integrity. Moreover, the house and its site are also noteworthy for their associations with the locally prominent Nicholson family and with the Quaker settlement in Salem County. It is the only known pristine survivor of an Anglo-American building tradition that existed for three quarters of a century.

*This property also received a grant from the New Jersey Historic Trust \$49,730 (2004)*



# *Henry Phillips Farmhouse* *Howell Living History Farm* Hopewell Township, Mercer County

\$147,917.00 (2005)

**I**n 1732, Joseph Phillips purchased 125 acres in Mercer County, and his land has been farmed continuously since that time. The Howell Living History Farm was a gift of its last owner, Inez Howell, to the Mercer County Park Commission for the purpose of teaching the children of New Jersey the history of farming. The Henry Phillips House is the farmhouse, the domestic centerpiece of the 130-acres that is interpreted as a self-sufficient, turn-of-the-century family farmstead. Hands-on, seasonal programs involve visitors in preparing fields for planting, harvesting, and caring for farm animals.

The house was built in sections, reflecting the changing needs of the family. The earliest part dates to the late 18th century. The center hall and parlor were added around 1840, and the "modern" kitchen around 1900. For many years, the house contained the farm's offices, reception area, gift shop, and classroom. These are now located in the visitor center and work is underway to restore and furnish the house to reflect its historic uses.

*This property has also received grants from the New Jersey Historic Trust \$28,453 (2000); \$50,000 (2004)*



# *Church of the Presidents* Long Branch, Monmouth County

\$98,611.00 (2005)

**T**he Church of the Presidents is the only remaining structure in Long Branch, New Jersey associated with any of the seven presidents who vacationed in the seaside resort during its Gilded Age. Moreover, it has the rare distinction of being the only building associated with all seven of them. Presidents Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James Garfield, Chester A. Arthur, Benjamin Harrison, and Woodrow Wilson all attended services at the church. Only one – Grant – was out of office when he worshipped there.

Listed on both the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places, the Church of the Presidents was established as a branch of St. James Episcopal Church, which was located in the western reaches of Long Branch, and officially registered as St. James Chapel. However, its growing congregation of chief executives led it to become widely known as the Church of the Presidents.



In 1955, the building opened as the Long Branch Historical Museum and remained open until 1999, when structural concerns forced the building's closure for safety reasons. The building's structural instability is associated with the construction of the massive tower in 1895.

Construction activities undertaken in 2006 included: a new roof; wood-frame structural reinforcement; and repairs to the crenellated tower and roof.

*This property also received a \$342,410 grant from the New Jersey Historic Trust in (2004)*

# *Craftsman Farms*

## Parsippany-Troy Hills, Morris County

\$250,000.00 (2001)

**C**raftsman Farms is the former home of noted turn-of-the-century designer Gustav Stickley, a major proponent of "Arts and Crafts" home building and furnishing. The log house, built in 1911, is one of the most significant landmarks of the American Arts and Crafts movement, and the site, which consists of 26 acres of the original 650-acre tract.



Around 1905 Stickley moved his headquarters from Syracuse to New York City. In 1908 he began acquiring the property on what is now the western edge of Parsippany-Troy Hills, an area formerly part of Morris Plains where he envisioned establishing a farm school for boys. The focal point of his "Garden of Eden" was a large log house constructed of round, hewn chestnut logs that were cut from the property's woods and local stone also found

on the property. Stickley originally designed the main house at Craftsman Farms as a "club house", a gathering place for workers, students and guests.

A separate home for the Stickley family was originally planned to be built further up the hill. When Stickley decided that the school's opening would have to be delayed for several years, he modified the upstairs plans to accommodate his family. Stickley and his family lived at Craftsman Farms until 1915, when he filed for bankruptcy after several years of financial difficulties.

Craftsman Farms has been designated a National Historic Landmark. Craftsman Farms exemplifies Stickley's philosophy of building in harmony with the environment by using natural materials.

*This property has also received grants from the New Jersey Historic Trust \$299,763 (2002); \$156,174 (1995); \$114,362 (1991)*

# *South side of Ellis Island Laundry Building, Ferry Terminal*

*\$500,000.00 (2000) and \$1,178,369.00 (1999)*

**E**llis Island is a symbol of America's immigrant heritage. Opened on January 1, 1892, Ellis Island became the nation's premier federal immigration station. In operation until 1954, the station processed over 12 million immigrant steamship passengers. The main building was restored after 30 years of abandonment and opened as a museum on September 10, 1990. Nearly twelve million immigrants landed here in their search of freedom of speech and religion, and for economic opportunity. Today, over 40 percent of America's population can trace their ancestry through Ellis Island.



Ellis Island's south side houses its hospital complex and contagious disease wards. While Ellis Island served as the primary immigration station for the United States, sick, mentally ill or pregnant immigrants were not permitted to enter the country. Those who arrived in need of care, including those first- and second-class passengers

who normally would not have gone through Ellis Island, were detained on the south side for medical attention.

The 29 structures on the south side are in severe states of decay and have been empty and abandoned since 1954. Stabilization funds to save these buildings have been secured from the United States Congress, the State of New Jersey, and the National Park Service. The south side hospital and administration buildings now have been stabilized and work on the stabilization of the contagious disease wards is underway.

*The Laundry Building has also received grants from the New Jersey Historic Trust \$ 731,368 (2004); \$50,000 (2005)*

# *Thomas Edison Invention Factory* *Thomas Edison National Historic Site*

West Orange, Essex County

\$250,000.00 (2001)

**E**dison was one of the Nation's most prolific inventors. Over half of his 1,093 patents were earned during 44 years of work at his Invention Factory in West Orange, New Jersey, which he opened in 1887. The factory is actually a complex of several buildings including a chemistry laboratory, machine shop, and library where Edison did his research. It also includes a replica of the world's first building constructed as a motion picture studio, the Black Maria, which was part of the complex from 1893 until 1903.

General Electric Company – the corporate descendant of Thomas A. Edison – has donated \$5 million to help preserve and restore Edison's historic Invention Factory. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton announced this gift during her 1998 Save America's Treasures tour of the Northeast. It is impossible to imagine the 20th century without him.

