

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM

Introduction to Research

July 2025

INTRODUCTION



RevolutionNJ

ENGAGE THE PAST. SHAPE THE FUTURE.

THEMATIC FRAMEWORK

Nominations must connect to one of RevolutionNJ's themes

Inclusion/ Exclusion

**Property and
Sovereignty**

Revolutionary Ideals

Political Participation

Movement of People

**New Jersey as a
"Battleground"**



APPLICATION PROCESS

Primary Sources

Original documents, objects, and sources that were created at the time under study.

Secondary Sources

Accounts that retell, analyze, or interpret events based on primary sources.

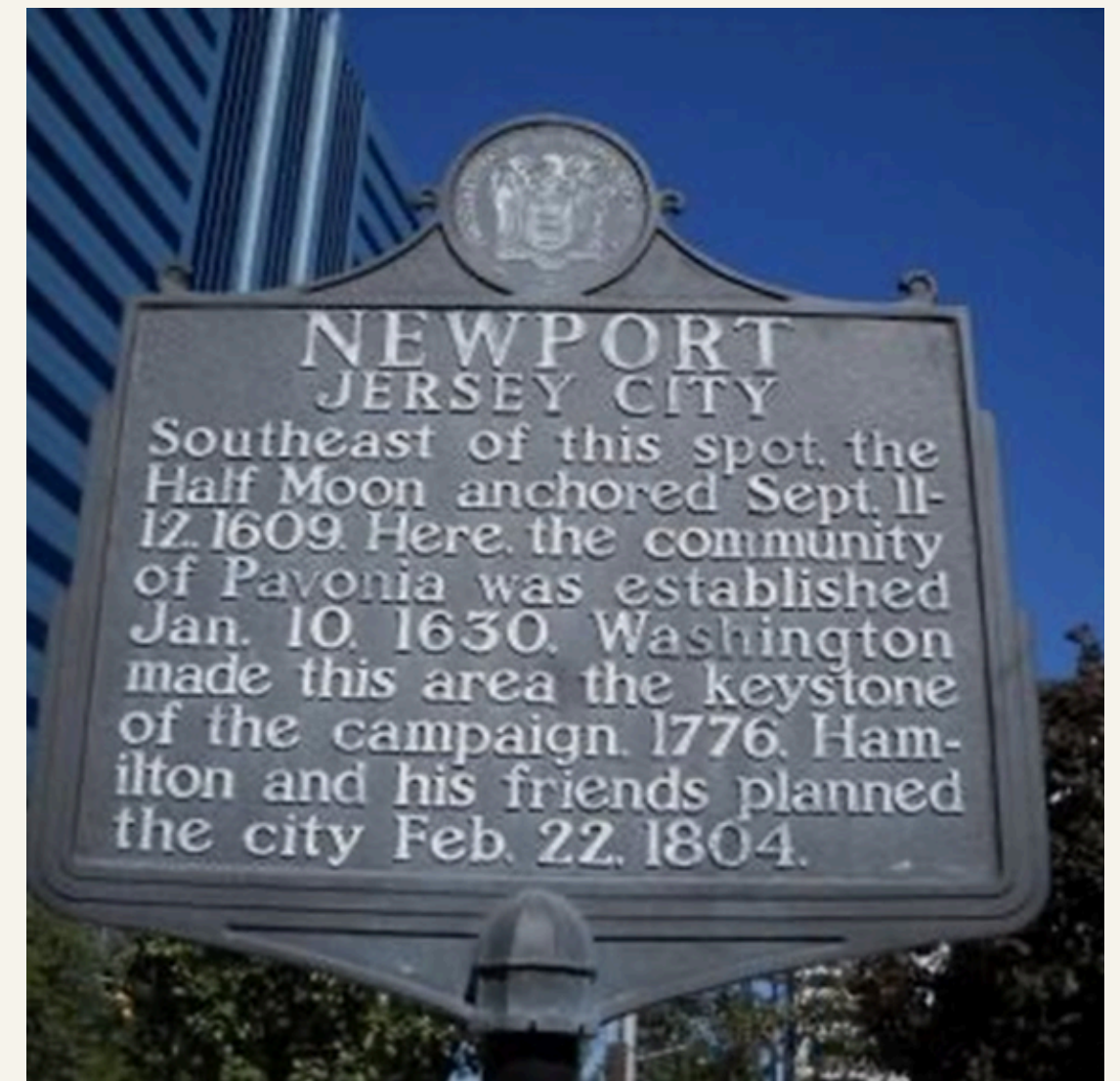
Nominators will be asked to provide draft marker text and location as well as primary and secondary sources supporting the marker's historical claims.

WHY RESEARCH?

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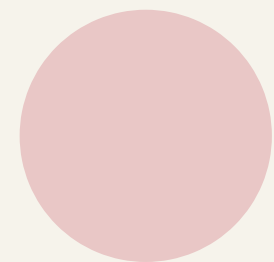
To confirm historical accuracy

Markers can last over 100 years!

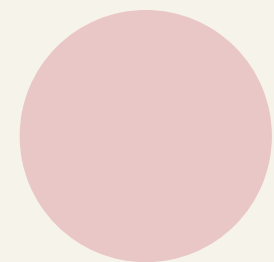


WHY PRIMARY SOURCES?

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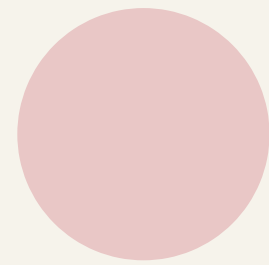
Key method of confirming historical accuracy



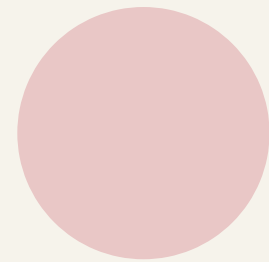
Provides an opportunity to learn more about the topic

SECONDARY SOURCES

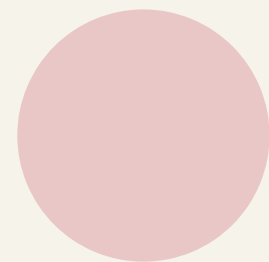
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Long-term perspective



Historical context for the event

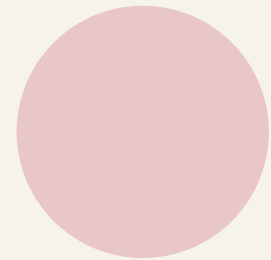


Resource for primary sources

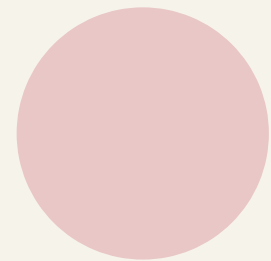


BIASES IN SOURCES

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What was the goal of the author when creating this piece?



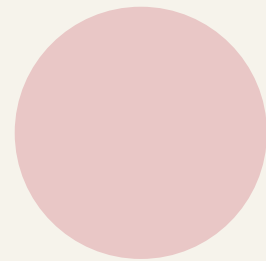
Who was the intended audience?

The background features three vertical stripes on the left: a wide pink stripe, a narrower blue stripe, and a medium-width beige stripe. The right side of the image is a light beige background with two rectangular areas of a pink dot pattern. The top area is a 10x10 grid of dots, and the bottom area is a 10x8 grid of dots.

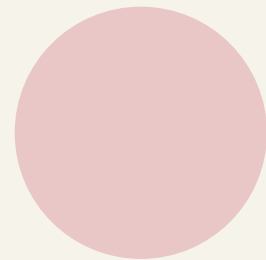
EXAMPLE

FINDING THE TOPIC

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Searched general New Jersey histories



Checked Historical Marker Databases



State Historical Markers Database



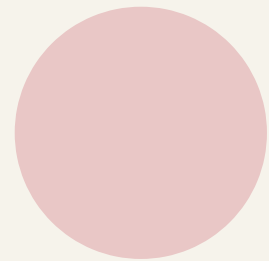
The Historical Marker Database



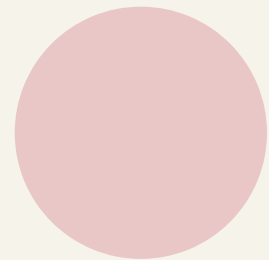
CLIO

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

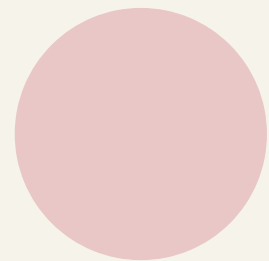
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Search general New Jersey histories



Check with a local reference librarian



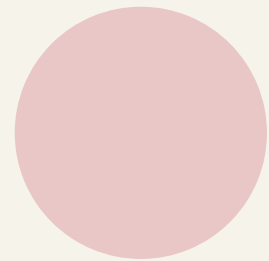
Search Google Scholar

Google Scholar

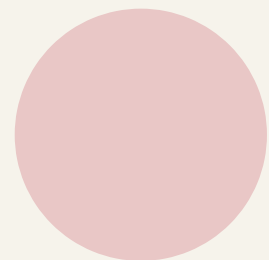
☒ Articles ☐ Case law

EXAMPLE: BACKGROUND

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Encyclopedia of New Jersey



The Fragile Bridge: Paterson Silk Strike

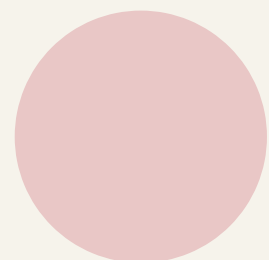
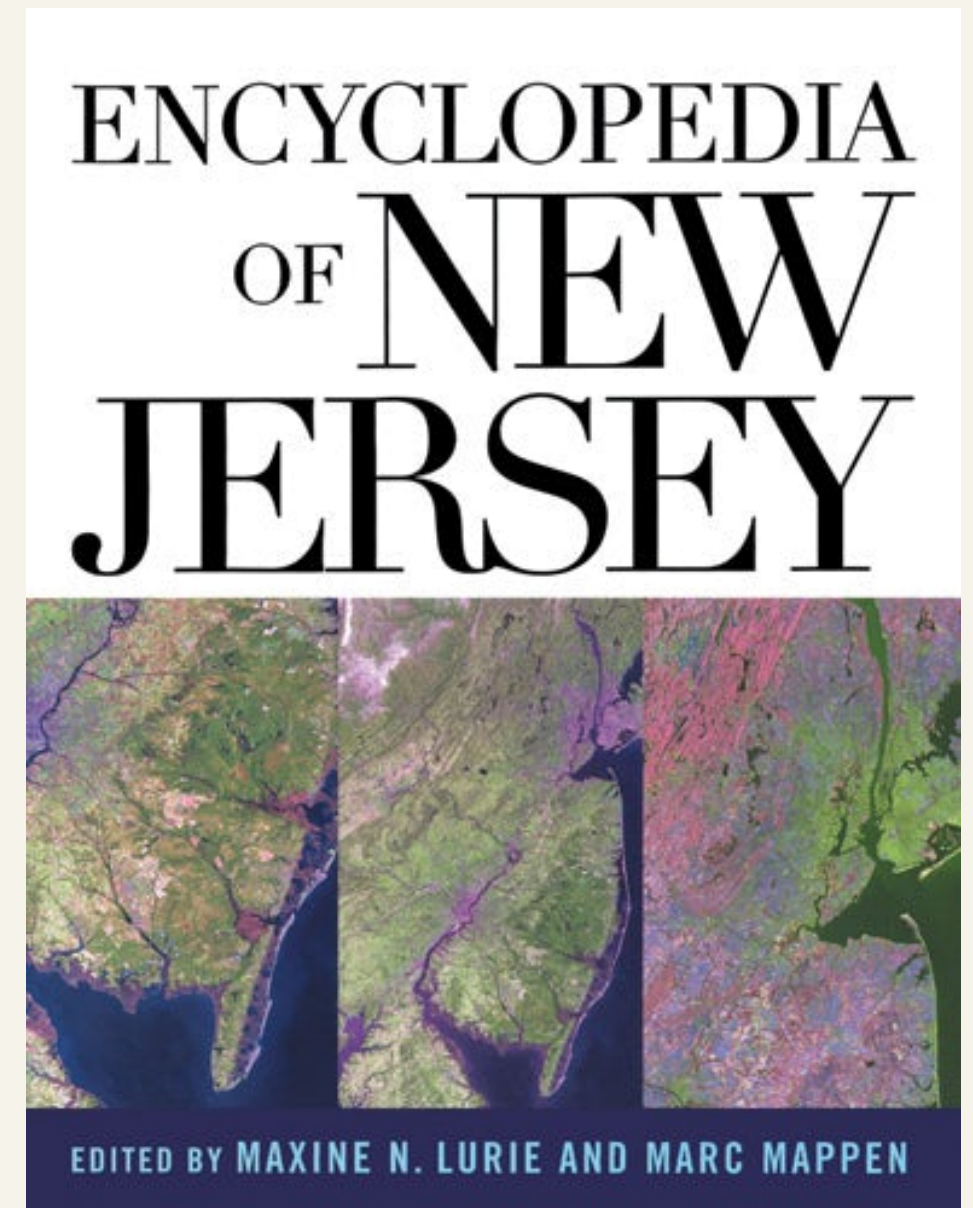
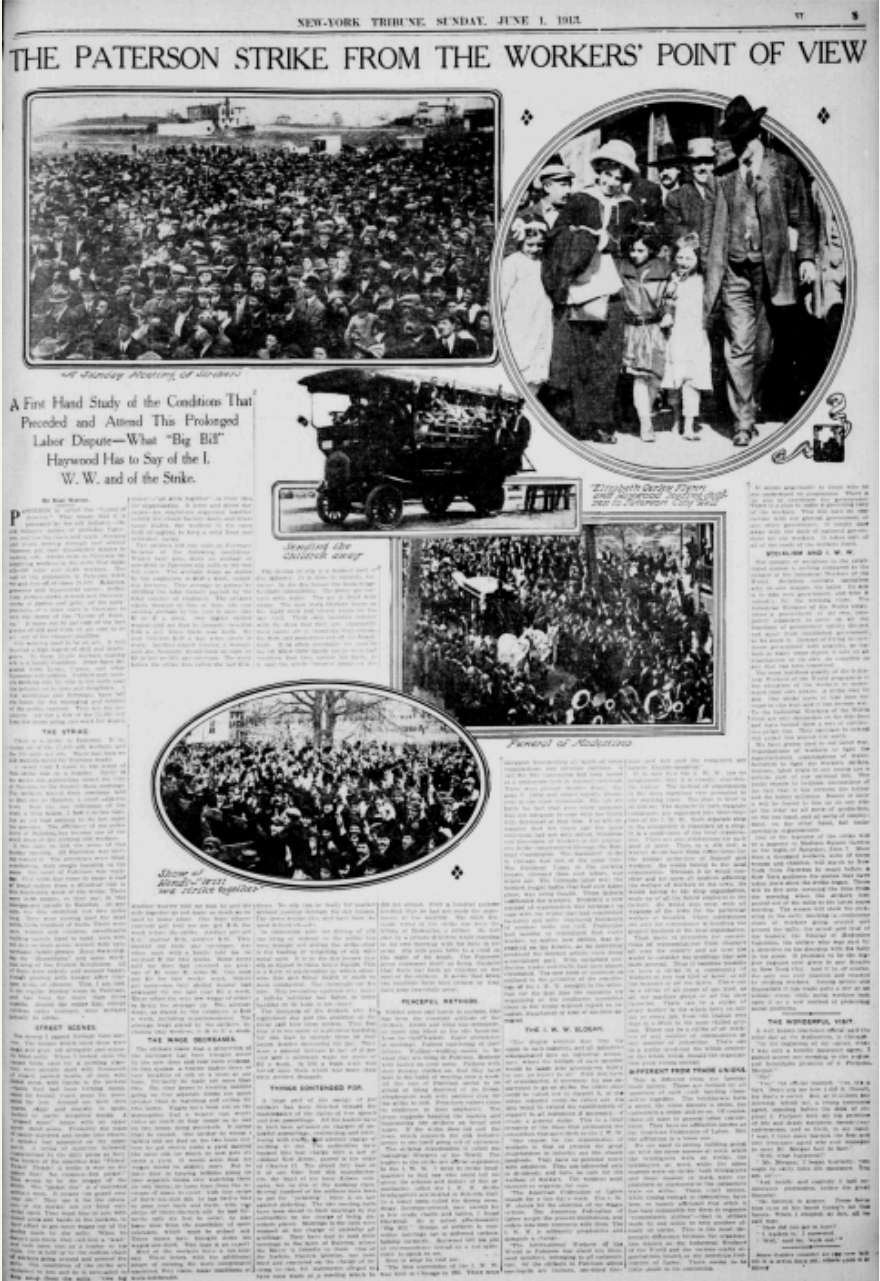


Exhibit at the American Labor Museum





DRAFT MARKER TEXT

I. Context

As labor conditions changed during the Industrial Revolution, workers came together to demand better conditions.

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2. Topic

One prominent example is the Paterson Silk Strike. In 1913, over 23,000 workers went on strike to protest long work hours, reductions in pay, and the demanding 4-loom system.

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3. Additional Information

The Industrial Workers of the World supported the strike bringing national and international attention to the cause. To build solidarity, workers met weekly at the Botto House in Haledon.

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4. Significance

After five months, the strike ended with few immediate gains, but its memory fueled the advancement of workers' rights for years to come.