



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESERVATION NEW JERSEY'S 2012 10 MOST ENDANGERED HISTORIC PLACES LIST ANNOUNCED

In recognition of National Preservation Month, Preservation New Jersey, Inc. (PNJ) today announced its 18th annual list of the *10 Most Endangered Historic Places* in New Jersey. The *10 Most Endangered Historic Places* program spotlights irreplaceable historic, architectural, cultural and archeological resources in New Jersey that are in imminent danger of being lost. The act of listing these resources acknowledges their importance to the heritage of New Jersey and draws attention to the predicaments that endanger their survival and the survival of historic resources statewide. The list, generated from nominations by the public, aims to attract new perspectives and ideas to sites in desperate need of creative solutions.

Several challenges face properties included on this year's endangered sites list, including including neglect and deferred maintenance, vandalism, environmental hazards, and ownership challenges. On this year's list, the effects of an extraordinarily challenging economy remain particularly evident: a dearth of funds, a lack of viable rehabilitation plans, and taxed municipal and state budgets are just a few of the difficult issues with which not only those sites on this year's list, but historic properties throughout New Jersey, are currently grappling.

As we acknowledge each year, selections to the *10 Most Endangered Historic Places* list are based on the likelihood that historic buildings and places can be brought back to useful and productive life. PNJ proudly points to many properties previously listed among the *10 Most Endangered* that have now been saved and preserved or rehabilitated, and have once again become character-defining assets to New Jersey's communities.

The 2012 list:

The Franklin Inn-Van Liew Homestead

(more)

2371 Amwell Road, East Millstone, Franklin Township, Somerset County

- A 18th century house converted into an inn in the 19th century, currently vacant and threatened by deterioration and the possibility of environmental contamination on the property

Hope Fire Company / American Legion Post 254

15 West Second Street, Mays Landing, Hamilton Township, Atlantic County County

- An 1894 fire house threatened by deterioration and a lack of funding

Howell House

632 Lafayette Street, Cape May, Cape May County

- An 19th century house currently vacant and threatened by deterioration and a lack of funding

Jersey City Terminal Train Shed, Central Railroad of New Jersey

Foot of Audrey Zapp Drive (formerly Johnston Avenue), Liberty State Park, Jersey City, Hudson County

- A 1914 train shed threatened by deterioration

Kastner Mansion / Pride of Newark Elks Lodge #93

176-178 Clinton Avenue, Newark, Essex County

- A Victorian-era “beer baron” mansion threatened by deterioration

Lime Kilns of New Jersey

Multiple municipalities and counties, most prevalent in northwest New Jersey

- A common extant remnant of the lime industry in northern New Jersey, these 19th and 20th century structures are threatened by deterioration, vandalism, development, and limited viable reuse plans

Mount Peace Cemetery

Intersection of White Horse Pike and Mouldy Road, Lawnside, Camden County

- An African-American cemetery threatened by public disinterest

Salem County Insane Asylum

900 Route 45, Woodstown, Mannington Township, Salem County

- The only known surviving first-generation county insane asylum in New Jersey, currently vacant and threatened by deterioration

Tichenor-Gregory-Goddel-Wallisch Farmstead

65 Lincoln Avenue, West Milford Township, Passaic County

- A farmstead of 19th and 20th buildings, located on one of the original West Milford land tracts, threatened by deterioration and ownership challenges

Wheatsworth Mill and Gingerbread Castle

50 Gingerbread Castle Road, Hamburg, Hamburg, Sussex County

- A mill with origins in the 19th century and adjacent 20th century amusement park designed by celebrated architect Joseph Urban, threatened by deterioration

Detailed descriptions and local advocate contacts for the places listed this year can be accessed at www.pnj10most.org.

As always, selections to the 2012 *10 Most Endangered* list are based on three criteria:

- historic significance and architectural integrity,
- the critical nature of the threat identified, and
- the likelihood that inclusion on the list will have a positive impact on efforts to protect the resource

Founded in 1978, Preservation New Jersey is a nonprofit organization that helps homeowners, organizations, public officials and citizen advocates working to preserve the historic neighborhoods and sites that are important to our communities. Preservation New Jersey produces this annual list of New Jersey's *10 Most Endangered Historic Places* in addition to other advocacy programs; provides educational workshops; publishes a monthly online newsletter, interactive website, and blog; serves as a resource for technical assistance and general advice for the public; and addresses legislation and public policies that impact New Jersey's historic places and communities.

Visit Preservation New Jersey's websites at www.preservationnj.org and www.pnj10most.org for more information regarding the organization and the *10 Most Endangered* program. For details about National Preservation Month, visit the National Trust for Historic Preservation's website at <http://www.preservationnation.org>

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