

PRESERVATION *perspective*

Fall 2021

Read on for the Announcement of the 2021 NJ Historic Preservation Awards, Fall Activities in Somerset County, PNJ's Recent Activities and Much More!

Celebrating Excellence in Preservation - Announcing the 2021 NJ Historic Preservation Award Winners

Preservation New Jersey, a statewide member-supported non-profit historic preservation organization, announced the recipients of the 2021 New Jersey Historic Preservation Awards. The awardees were celebrated at an event on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at the 1867 Sanctuary in Ewing, New Jersey.

"This year Preservation New Jersey is celebrating excellence in preservation with the introduction of new categories like the Young Preservationist Award, Dr. Doris C. Carpenter Excellence Award, and Constance Greiff Writing Award, in addition to established awards like the Preservation Projects and Preservation Documents Awards," stated Executive Director Emily Manz. "These projects all contribute to the preservation of our state's historic resources and the understanding of our state history."

"Preservation New Jersey is excited to be recognizing so many diverse, innovative projects from all across the state and the people and organization making preservation possible," shared Matthew Pisarski, President of the Board of Director of Preservation New Jersey.

The awards were presented on October 13th from 4-7PM at the 1867 Sanctuary in Ewing. The event featured outdoor food, drinks, music, and networking followed by presentation of the Awards in our airy, spacious 1867 Sanctuary. Sponsors for the event are HMR Architects, Kreilick Conservation, Architectural Window Corporation, The Litt Law Firm, Jablonski Building Conservation, Lear & Pannepacker LLP, Kaese Architecture, Mills + Schnoering Architects, and Connolly + Hickey Historical Architects.

2021 NJ Historic Preservation Award Winners

David H. Knights New Preservation Initiatives Award: Dolly Marshall, Mount Peace Cemetery, Lawnside

Dolly Marshall is a preservation activist and trustee of Mount Peace Cemetery in Lawnside, New Jersey. Founded in 1902 as a burial ground for African Americans, many of those interred were excluded from whites-only cemeteries or burial grounds that were affiliated with specific houses of worship. Mount Peace became a resting place for freed blacks, formerly enslaved individuals, and at least 77 Civil War veterans. Dolly has also identified her own ancestors in the Cemetery. Through Dolly's vision, she has created and implemented many new initiatives to raise the profile of



Photo by Heather Khalifa

Mount Peace Cemetery. She has increased local and national attention to the Cemetery by engaging with media including articles and news stories featured in the Philadelphia Inquirer, 6ABC Action News, New Jersey Network's "New Jersey Matters," NJ 101.5 and Fox29 News. She is always seeking out new ways to collaborate with businesses and other organizations. Last Memorial Day, Dolly put together an educational and informative "Decoration Day" event honoring the veterans of Mount Peace Cemetery. She partnered with the Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to host an outdoor commemoration event to educate the public about the history of Decoration Day and military history.

David H. Knights New Preservation Initiatives Award: Mayor Paul M. Kanitra & The Borough of Point Pleasant Beach, Point Pleasant Beach

After winning election, the Mayor Kanitra served as the catalyst to save one of the town's most historic buildings, The Gottlieb Building, just days before the wrecking ball destroyed it forever. He also conceptualized a new ordinance that created a historic district and incentivized building owners to restore and recreate historic aesthetics in downtown Point

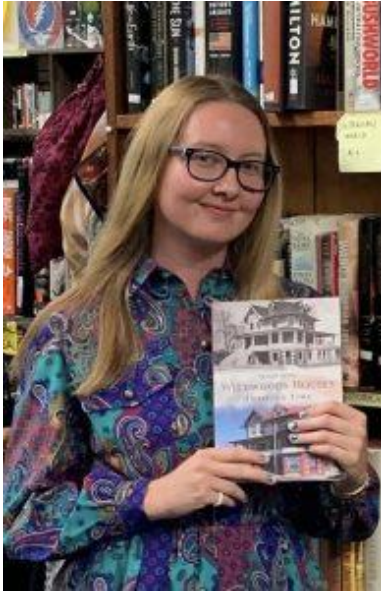
Pleasant Beach, and passed a new signage ordinance to clean up signage and mandate wooden and faux wooden materials be used. Mayor Kanitra had the vision to leverage the history of the town to create a year-round destination for businesses and visitors alike.

Young Preservationist Award: Dr. Lynne Calamia, Roebling

Dr. Lynne Calamia is a public history professional with over a decade of professional experience in the field of preservation and public history. She has led museums, preserved historic sites, conserved cultural landscapes, protected industrial history, and raised money as a tireless advocate for historic preservation every step of the way. Currently, as Executive Director of Roebling Museum (Burlington County, NJ), Lynne manages a museum that tells the story of a 1905 company town with a majority immigrant/migrant workforce. Lynne has also involved been involved for the last seven years with an important historic preservation project in Camden, the oldest extant religious building in Camden which is a small Quaker meetinghouse.

Young Preservationist Award: Taylor Nicole Henry, Wildwoods

Taylor Nicole Henry began volunteering with the Wildwood Historical Society in 2017 and quickly rose to become its youngest President in October 2019. During that time Taylor authored the book Wildwoods Houses Through Time that showcased local vernacular architectural and began the popular blog @Tiny Churches documenting NJ places of worship. In the same year she co-founded



the preservation advocacy group Preserving the Wildwoods that eventually led to the Wildwoods' nomination to Preservation New Jersey's 2019 Top 10 Most Endangered Places. In 2020 and 2021 she was honored by National Trust for Historic Preservation as a PastForward Diversity Scholar.

Preservation Project Award: Lake Hopatcong Train Station, Landing

The Lake Hopatcong Train Station was built in 1911, possibly the only of its kind in New Jersey designed to integrate passenger rail and canal service, as a link between the Morris Canal and the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad. In 2014, the Lake Hopatcong Foundation acquired the then-vacant train station for use as their headquarters and an environmental and cultural center. The Foundation hired Connolly & Hickey Historical Architects who began with preparation of a Historic Preservation Plan and a successful National Register nomination. Restoration and rehabilitation of the train station was then accomplished

over multiple phases of work in five years. The adaptive reuse was accomplished over multiple phases of work across five years. The project began with structural stabilization and restoration of the Ludowici clay tile roof and progressed with upgrades to comply with barrier-free requirements, masonry restoration, window and door restoration, and restoration and upgrade of interior finishes and features so the building reflects its use as a train station while being adaptively reused as the headquarters of the Lake Hopatcong Foundation and its new Environmental and Cultural Center, which opened in 2019.

Preservation Project Award: The Enameling Building at the Historic Village at Allaire, Farmingdale



The Enameling Building at the Historic Village at Allaire was constructed in 1828, and by the early 1830's it contained a state-of-the-art enameling furnace. This past year, it underwent a \$65 thousand restoration. The project was for both the exterior and interior of the building, and prepared the building for a new exhibition and education space. Exterior renovation involved restoring the cupola and a restoration of both the exterior brick and woodwork on the building. The large furnace stack, with the enamel kiln at the base, is a distinguishing feature of this building. During the current renovation the

stack was stabilized, patched up, a new seal placed on the chimney top, and the stack whitewashed. The interior of the building was painted and redesigned as an education center.

Preservation Project Award: Stickley Museum, Craftsman Farms Education Center, Morris Plains

The garage and workshop building at Craftsman Farms was constructed in 1912, approximately one year after the construction of the log house, the key building at the National Historic Landmark site. The building suffered a major fire around 1950 after which the upper portion of the building was reconstructed as two residential apartments. Working with HMR Architects, construction was recently completed on the rehabilitation of the administration building for use as the new Education Center. The upper floors were reconstructed to replicate the original building, reinstating the stucco finish, gable roof, symmetrical fenestration, and rear shed extension. The building will house administration offices at the first floor with flex space for educational programming, lectures, and conference space in the original garage at ground level. A library, reading room and archival storage space are being provided at the second floor.

Preservation Project Award: Adaptive Reuse of Bell Labs, Holmdel

The transformation of Bell Labs into the rebranded Bell Works represents one of the largest adaptive reuse projects in the State of New Jersey. Constructed in three phases between 1959 and 1985, the Bell Laboratories – Holmdel building has been transformed, reimagining its function as a



destination for business, retail and culture in the heart of northern New Jersey. The building was designed by the prolific mid-century architectural firm of Eero Saarinen and Associates. Once the birthplace of many of the 20th century's most important technological innovations, today the redesign of the 2,000,000 square foot building is the vision of developer Ralph Zucker of Somerset Development. Alexander Gorlin Architects, G3 Architecture Interiors Planning, and NPZ Style & Decor led the design for this unique adaptive reuse project. Heritage Consulting Group successfully listed the building in the National Register of Historic Places and secured approvals for historic tax credits.

Preservation Project Award: The Proprietary House, Perth Amboy

The Proprietary House in Perth Amboy, one of two extant 18th century British Royal Governors' Mansions constructed in the United States, recently underwent a major restoration. In 2018 with a State Department of Community Affairs grant to The Proprietary House Association, CTS Group Architecture/Planning PA was retained for design with Paragon Restoration Corporation to undertake a major exterior restoration of the historic structure. Guided in part by a 1996 Historic Preservation Plan, CTS Group

undertook a detailed conditions assessment of the structure which was experiencing increasing and severe deterioration. Guided by the survey and a variety of scientific analyses, brick and brownstone units were repaired or replaced with appropriate matching units, a new mineral coating replaced the failing paint cover, wood windows and features were repaired and painted, the crumbling entry steps were replaced with matching units and slate roofing and wood gutters were restored.

Dr. Doris C. Carpenter Excellence Award: The March of America's Diverse Army through New Jersey to Achieve American Independence in 1781, Somerset County



According to a French officer who passed through New Jersey to help win American independence at Yorktown, Virginia, one-quarter of George Washington's Continental Army in 1781 were Black, Indigenous, or mixed race. Yet few Americans know how significant the non-white contribution was to Americans' quest for freedom. To put a spotlight on this diverse history, New Jerseyans Brad Fay, Elaine Buck, and Beverly Mills joined the Leadership Council of the Washington-

Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association in 2021 and organized an advocacy and public relations campaign. Their efforts produced a July 4, 2021, Op-Ed about this history in the Washington Post by their Congresswoman, Bonnie Watson Coleman. They also organized "dear colleague" letters to support funding for the Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail to tell this story. The letters were signed by 23 members of the US House and US Senate, including both New Jersey Senators and four New Jersey Representatives. They prepared a model resolution of support for the trail and its story, and they organized an August event to commemorate the 240th anniversary of the march, featuring African American reenactors from Trenton.

Dr. Doris C. Carpenter Excellence Award: The Trent House Association, Trenton

The Trent House Association manages and operates the 1719 William Trent House Museum, a National Historic Landmark, owned by the City of Trenton. For many visitors and potential visitors, the site has been associated only with early colonial life. Under the Association's leadership, many more aspects of the property's history are being told. Through exhibits, programs, and tours, the Association informs visitors and digital audiences about the lives of indigenous people, European exploration and colonization beginning in the 1600s, the institution of slavery in colonial New Jersey, industrialization and immigration, urban renewal and more. Recognized as a leader in interpreting slavery in the northern colonies, the Association is a co-founder of the Sankofa Collaborative, a group of history and cultural institutions that organizes workshops and compiles and

shares resources on African American history and contemporary experiences.

Preservation Documents Award: The Marshalltown Historic District National Register Nomination, Salem

The Marshalltown Historic District National Register nomination marked a first in New Jersey when it was listed in 2013. It was the first antebellum free-Black community to be listed as a historic district on the State and National Registers of Historic Places in New Jersey, and the first in New Jersey to signify the trending formation of such settlements across the American North, and, in a big way, across southern New Jersey before the Civil War. Prepared by Janet Sheridan of Down Jersey Heritage Research, the nomination includes detailed recording of a house, a church, a school house, and two cemeteries as primary sources, and also dove into primary as well as secondary archival sources, deed-mapped with GIS, and took oral histories. It emphasized the agency of newly-freed African Americans in the early Republic who acquired land, built homes, and established institutions. It continues to be a resource today, providing a model for nominating other historic settlements such as Timbuctoo in Burlington County, Springtown and Gouldtown in Cumberland County, and many others.

Historic Preservation Commission Award: Haddon Heights Historic Preservation Commission, Haddon Heights

Haddon Heights, New Jersey in Camden County has had a historic preservation ordinance since 1975. The Haddon Heights Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) with its dedicated members over these

many years, has worked hard to designate the eight individual landmarks and the six Historic Districts. Over four months in 2021, Donna Ann Harris of Heritage Consulting Inc. worked closely with the Haddon Heights HPC to create the Design Guidelines for the Historic Districts in the town. The Design Guidelines present preservation treatments and activities that the HPC does, and does not, recommend throughout its handsome full color 160 pages, using more than 225 contemporary and historic photos, maps, text, and drawings to educate and explain these treatments and activities.

Constance Greiff Writing Award: Bonny Beth Elwell, Camden

Bonny Beth Elwell has published two books and countless articles on local history. Her books are Upper Pittsgrove, Elmer, and Pittsgrove, published by Arcadia Press, in 2013, on the history of eastern Salem County; and 18th Century Documents of Pittsgrove Presbyterian Church from 2016. She has written 24 Ancestors' Attic articles, numerous articles for the Elmer Times, and articles in the annual Greater Elmer Area Historical Society Pictorial Fundraising Book. As a volunteer Ms. Elwell serves as President of the Greater Elmer Area Historical Society, Vice President of the Genealogical Society of Salem County, a board member of the Salem County Historical Society, and a member of the Salem County Cultural and Heritage Commission.

Sarah P. Fiske Legacy & Leadership Award: Brian LoPinto, Paterson

Brian LoPinto is one of the founding members of The Friends of Hinchliffe Stadium and has spent nearly half his life

advocating for the preservation of Hinchliffe Stadium in Paterson, New Jersey. Brian has worked tirelessly to seeing the stadium preserved and revitalized as a great sports venue and centerpiece of a great and thriving city. Under Brian's dedicated guidance and perseverance, The Friends have joined with the Paterson Public Schools, who own the stadium, the City of Paterson, who have signed a Shared Services Agreement with the Schools, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which has declared Hinchliffe Stadium a "National Treasure" and the National Park Service, which has declared it a National Landmark and who has included it in Paterson's National Historical Park. On April 14, 2021, after nearly 20 years of campaigning to save this historic ballpark, the city of Paterson broke ground on a \$94 million renovation to restore Hinchliffe Stadium, one of the last remaining Negro League ballparks, to its former glory.

Somerset County's Weekend Journey Through the Past is Back

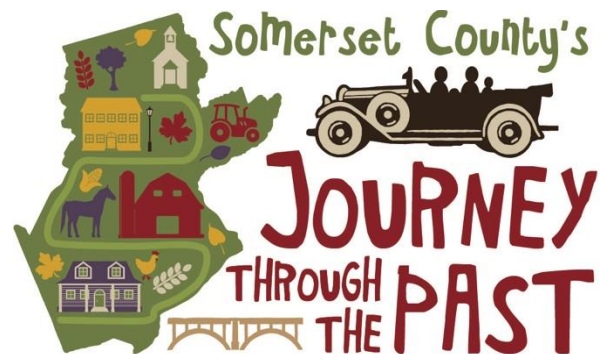
Rikki Massand

October 3, 2021

Somerset County's 2021 Weekend Journey Through the Past returns with in-person and free admission to all, on Saturday October 9th and Sunday the 10th. Across the county, 22 notable historic sites, properties and museums open to host visitors with special events, interactive historical presentations, new exhibits, demonstrations of life centuries ago and other innovative programming. Most of the sites participating are listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places.

Somerset County encourages residents and visitors from anywhere to visit participating historic sites, which will be

open on Saturday October 9 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday October 10 from noon to 4 p.m. of different experiences.



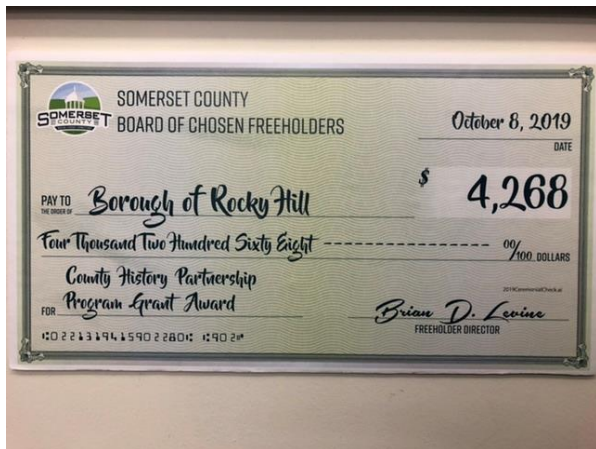
Somerset County's Journey Through the Past

"Learn what life was like 50... 100... or even 200 years ago. Discover our individual Revolutionary War histories, which are major contributions to Somerset County's designation as a Crossroads of the American Revolution State Heritage Area," says Cultural & Heritage Commission Manager Kaitlin Bundy, part of the team in Somerset's newly-created Office of Planning, Policy and Economic Development.

Located in the heart of the Delaware & Raritan (D & R) Canal State Park in Griggstown, the stone, two-story Bridgetender's House, on the causeway bridge between Franklin Township and River Road in Montgomery Township, will be open during Weekend Journey Through the Past.

Two must-see Somerset County historic schoolhouse buildings are ready for visitors October 9 and 10 for Weekend Journey. In Millstone Borough, up Millstone River Road (County Rt. 533) between Amwell Road and Manville, the historic 1860 Schoolhouse will welcome visitors with an array of artifacts and demonstrations on

19th century technology and educational tools. The building currently serves as the municipal offices and meeting venue. Another participating historic site is the renovated, circa 1912 Pluckemin Schoolhouse in Bedminster which houses the Center for Contemporary Art.



History Partnership Grant of Somerset County

Among the legendary sites open for Weekend Journey are several of the “5 Generals” houses in the central and northern parts of the county; five colonial era homes where George Washington and his generals visited, stayed and coordinated strategies during the second American Revolution Middlebrook Encampment of 1778-79. However at the c. 1725 Derrick Van Veghten House, Washington did not stay over — he danced for a full over three hours nonstop, inside the Frisk Room. The Van Veghten house is the Somerset County Historical Society’s headquarters, located west of County Rt. 533 (Finderne Avenue) between Bridgewater and Manville.

The Jacobus Vanderveer House in Bedminster, which served as headquarters for General Henry Knox during the winter of 1778-79, will also be open for Weekend Journey on October 9 and 10.

The county seat of Somerville is home to the Wallace House and Old Dutch Parsonage — another 5 Generals’ venue which will welcome all visitors for Weekend Journey’s open hours. While in Somerville visitors can check out the Fire Museum as well as the historic Gothic Revival-style Borough Hall; the Daniel Robert House at 25 West End Avenue, deemed “The County’s Handsomest House” by the Somerville Historical Advisory Committee in its 2020 book.

In South Bound Brook, the Abraham Staats House will be open during Weekend Journey. The event in October comes in between its larger-scale annual events. Every April, the commemoration of the Battle of Bound Brook is held (as 2021 marked the 244th anniversary). Each December the Staats House celebrates with traditional Holiday and candlelight events, as well as the Annual meeting.



Somerset County’s Revolutionary War Past in a Reenactment

In Montgomery Township, the stone exterior Dirck Gulick House built in 1752 and added to the National Register in 2003, will be participating on both Saturday and Sunday. Visit Vanharlingen.org for more information.



Kennedy Martin Stelle Farmstead

Another Weekend Journey historical site signifies the synergy of history and the arts. In Basking Ridge (Bernards Township) the Kennedy Martin Stelle Farmstead is a four-acre historical site, and home of the Farmstead Arts Center which features contemporary and inspirational exhibits. Members of the Stelle Family owned and occupied the farmstead from 1794 until 1945, and in 1999 Bernards Township purchased the property using Open Space funds, and a year later the basis for an arts space and performing arts center was set in motion due to survey results by the county. The venue hosts plays, musical events, and interactive demonstrations including beekeeping and nature talks. Its collection of buildings remain updated and some are still in-need, though the Farm House and English Barn are repurposed for use by the Farmstead Arts Center.

Full details of participating sites can be found at SCHistoryWeekend.com

--- Author, content strategist and historic preservation activist Rikki N. Massand serves as Associate Editor of his hometown Montgomery News in Somerset County. He also covers Hunterdon County government, planning and economic development for

Flemington's TAPInto online news and freelances for multiple tristate area 'newszines.'

Rikki is a regional historian and local advocate in his present municipal government-appointed roles on the Montgomery Township Landmarks Preservation Commission and as township liaison to the Delaware & Raritan Canal Commission. He is also experienced in not-for-profit administration and advocacy as office administrator, records manager and bookkeeper for a local United Church of Christ.

The 1867 Sanctuary Today

Dale Perry and Lauren Wood

October 3, 2021

On Wednesday, October 13th, Preservation New Jersey will proudly host the 2021 New Jersey Historic Preservation Awards celebrating the achievements of the New Jersey preservation community. It will be the first time that PNJ will hold its annual awards ceremony at the 1867 Sanctuary in Ewing. The 1867 Sanctuary – formerly the Ewing Presbyterian Church, whose history stretches all the way back to 1709 – is itself a successful preservation project that exemplifies the commitment that Preservation New Jersey has for all of New Jersey's historic structures. Today the 1867 Sanctuary functions as a community center that continues to host events ranging from weddings to concerts to recordings and memorial services. But less than a decade ago, this 19th century historic structure was about to be demolished. That was until PNJ stepped in to save it.



A Wedding at the 1867 Sanctuary

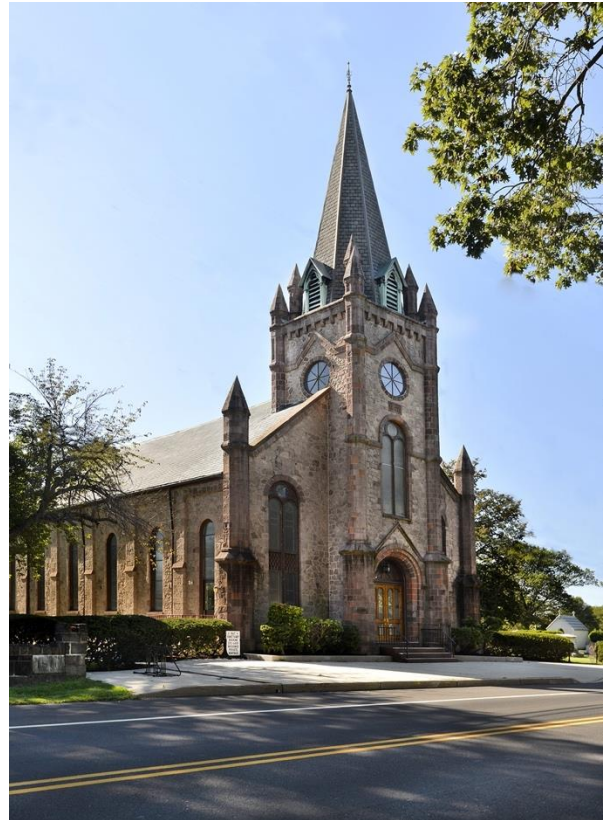
In the fall of 2008, facing tremendous financial pressures and serious concerns about their church's structural condition, the governing body of the Ewing Presbyterian Church reluctantly voted to demolish their historic and iconic Sanctuary. A last hope was a small, community-based group – Partners to Restore Ewing Sanctuary (PRES) – who set out to raise the funds to restore and maintain the Romanesque Revival structure.

During the next six months, an amazing \$250,000 in donations poured in from the local community. However, even this amount came nowhere near the \$2 million dollars needed to save the architecturally significant church. With the clock running out, PRES reached out to Preservation New Jersey for inclusion to their 10 Most Endangered Historic Places list. The Sanctuary's addition to the PNJ "10 Most List" was publicly announced on the steps of the New Jersey State Capitol and engaged the attention of both the media and more importantly the New Jersey preservation community.

The plight of the Sanctuary became so widely known that John Hatch and Ron Emrich, then the President and Executive

Director of PNJ, contacted church officials about saving 1867.

While their interest and concerns were listened to and appreciated, the church still maintained their intention to demolish the edifice and set the fast-approaching date of September 2009 for its demise.



Exterior of the 1867 Sanctuary

As the date drew closer, the congregation took a "final" farewell photo outside the Sanctuary. Demolition seemed unstoppable as the community's outrage increased and the press followed each step of the story. Yet, at the last minute, unexpectedly, the governing body of the larger Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of New Brunswick, stepped in and stayed the demolition.



Interior View from the Stage of the 1867 Sanctuary

During the next few years, the Presbytery created a special commission to review the situation and ensure the appropriate outcome for both the structure and the community. This commission interviewed a wide range of individuals from the community, including contractors, community leaders, and members of the congregation. Most significantly, they met with members of PRES and the leadership of Preservation New Jersey.

Preservation New Jersey produced a compelling argument that they believed that any structure with such widespread community support deserved a chance to survive. In their view, the building's value for the larger community as a historic monument and a possible gathering place for the community far outweighed the reasons and arguments for its destruction. At last, the administrative commission decided to enter into a lease between themselves and PNJ for 50 years, a lease which they officially signed in May 2012, and three years after the Sanctuary was listed on PNJ's 10 Most Endangered Historic Places list.

For Preservation New Jersey, this was its first brick-and-mortar project, and thus

uncharted territory for the organization. With the leadership of PNJ President David H. Knights and the newly-formed 1867 Sanctuary Committee, work commenced to historically preserve the building and reimagine it as a center for the Ewing community. Since then, the Sanctuary has hosted an amazing range of events, including concerts, plays, weddings, funerals, memorials, audio and video recordings, and even Fall and Holiday festivals that feature the work of local artists.



Interior View from the Balcony of the 1867 Sanctuary

After closing in March 2020 in response to the very start of the pandemic, Preservation New Jersey staff and 1867 volunteers took the time to make and execute on plans to increase the sustainability and breadth of uses possible at the Sanctuary. Staff and volunteers also took the time to begin physical improvements that will allow community members to use the space long into the future and update the Sanctuary's website and marketing materials. Most recently staff and volunteers have focused on refinishing the doors, updating the interior and exterior lighting, cleaning and renovating the basement, and restoring the Sanctuary's beloved stained glass

windows. The committee is bringing the Sanctuary's historic past to light through a new donor exhibit, and plans for interpretive signage and historic exhibits. The Sanctuary is moving forward in providing a place for people to gather for life events like weddings and memorials, concerts and community events. Preservation NJ staff and volunteers look forward to carrying out needed preservation and restoration work, and ensuring a sustainable model that allows the Sanctuary to be enjoyed and appreciated by community members in the years to come.

Those interested in learning more about upcoming programs or rental opportunities at the 1867 Sanctuary can visit the updated website at: 1867sanctuary.org/.

--- Dale Perry is Office Manager at Preservation New Jersey and a Program Manager at 1867 Sanctuary.

--- Lauren Wood is a volunteer at the 1867 Sanctuary.

Recapping PNJ On Tour – September's Frenchtown Walking Tour and Reception

Rikki Massand
October 3, 2021

Preservation New Jersey's Executive Director Emily Manz led her first in-person PNJ event since beginning in the role at the time of the pandemic's onset in spring 2020. Our sold-out downtown Frenchtown Walking Tour served up camaraderie and cheer before and after sundown on Saturday, September 25, 2021. The group of 16 tour participants was led by

Frenchtown Borough's official Historian Rick Epstein and the owner of Frenchtown Walking Tours, as PNJ is eager to support local tour guides and companies as future tours are developed.

PNJ Board member and Marketing/Public Relations Committee Chair William Neumann brought his camera along for the ride down from Bergen County. He greeted those gathered with information about membership and events.



Enjoying Rick Epstein's Frenchtown Walking Tour

Three-and-a-half years after hosting the 2018 annual meeting in Flemington at the Historic Hunterdon County Courthouse, the County was once again an enthusiastic host to Preservation New Jersey, its members and guests. During the post-tour reception — held outdoors on the back patio of the historic National Hotel and its Rathskeller Tavern — Frenchtown's Mayor and Hunterdon County's Chief of Staff/Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners Brad Myhre, and Carrie Fellows, executive director of the Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission and director in the County's Department of Planning & Land Use, joined us for some light fare, announcements and networking. At the National, Fellows was

joined by her husband Mark Texel, director in the New Jersey State Park Service's Division of Parks and Forestry, and a member of the State Historic Sites Council under NJDEP/SHPO. Mayor Myhre welcomed everyone to experience Frenchtown as one of the premier examples of vibrant, historic downtowns you can plan a weekend trip to, along with several others in Hunterdon County as presented on HunterdonMainStreets.com. He spoke about annual events in Frenchtown such as Bastille Day in July, the new cultural center ArtYard, and plans for the holiday season in the downtown.

Cemetery in Trenton joined us from the state's capitol.



Carrie Fellows, Mark Texel, Emily Manz



Networking at The National Inn

Richard Giffen, vice chair of the Flemington Borough Historic Preservation Commission, along with his wife Karen Giffen, a member of Flemington's Planning Board, attended the Tour. Another duo participating "On Tour with PNJ" was Linda and Bob Barth of Somerville, co-founders of the D & R Canal Watch nonprofit and co-authors of "Somerville Through Time." Linda J. Barth is also the president of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey, and an acclaimed author of books on the Delaware & Raritan Canal from Arcadia Publishing, as well as such titles including "The Millstone Valley Through Time" and "Bridgetender's Boy." Samuel Stephens, Treasurer of the Trent House Association and Bernard McMullan from Mercer

Hunterdon County resident Jackie Lubinski, the corresponding secretary, newsletter editor and trustee of the Somerset County Historical Society, also attended the tour and reception, as did preservation activist and Phillipsburg UEZ Board Member Gayle Rogers from neighboring Warren County and Susan Ryan, a member of Cranbury's Historic Preservation Commission. And Pennington Borough Historic Preservation Commission member — Katrina Homel, also a new member of the Hopewell Valley Historical Society, attended her first Preservation New Jersey event with the Frenchtown walking tour and reception.

Raffle prizes drawn September 25 included two (2) certificates for future dates of Rick Epstein's other Frenchtown Tours, with a choice offered — his Bad Luck & Poor Choices Tour, the Uptown Frenchtown tour, and two historic cemeteries' tours. Also raffled off were gift cards for special food & drink venues in historic West Jersey towns — in Hopewell Borough, Ottoburger restaurant and Brick Farm Market as well as two Stangl Road, Flemington hotspots of Factory Fuel Co. coffee lounge, located

inside the Stangl clay/pottery kilns, and the new Humdoo Ice Cream parlor a few doors down the street.

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Preserving the Wildwoods Pitches Historic Preservation to the City of Wildwood

Dennis Pierce
June 3, 2021

On Wednesday May 26th, Preserving the Wildwoods presented at the biweekly City of Wildwood commissioners meeting. The presentation was done in conjunction with Preservation New Jersey, the leading statewide historic preservation non-profit. Three speakers covered ways that historic preservation and sustainable development can help Wildwood prepare for a successful future.

First up was Matt Pisarski, Department Head of Cumberland County's Department of Planning, Tourism & Community Affairs. Matt gave an overview of new regulations that the State of New Jersey will be enacting to address climate change. The upcoming regulations will impact new development so it will be important for Wildwood to start planning ahead and avoid overdevelopment on a flood-prone island.

After Matt was Barton Ross, the principal architect at the firm Barton Ross & Partners. Barton explained how historic

commissions and districts work and he pointed out the many benefits available to communities that establish them such as access to state and federal grants and relief from strict code regulations that can make repairs easier for owners of older homes. Showing that communities all across New Jersey are already having success with historic preservation, Barton provided many examples of new projects that re-used existing historic buildings (adaptive reuse) making both developers and the community happy.

Closing things out was author and Preserving the Wildwoods president Taylor Henry whose presentation focused on how historic preservation is relevant to Wildwood. She explained how preservation is more than just saving buildings, but is also about building a sense of community through maintenance of older buildings and remembering the legacies of the previous residents. She stressed how the variety of unique buildings gives Wildwood its unique character and it is important for new development to fit in with the existing environment. Taylor pointed out that while many of Wildwood's residents are already informally preserving their historic homes, it is now time for the city to formally adopt historic districts and commissions to help preserve what makes Wildwood special.

Preserving the Wildwoods thanks Preservation New Jersey for donating their time and effort and also thanks the City of Wildwood for allowing us to present our ideas.

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PRESERVATION
new jersey
PO Box 7815, West Trenton, NJ 08628

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