

Somerset County

New Jersey

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History Travel Contest Back Co	ver

Make a vibrant connection to history at Somerset County's annual



Somerset County invites you to ...

EXPLORE historic sites... LEARN about the past... DISCOVER YOUR history!

What will you find when you step back in time?

www.SCHistoryWeekend.com



VISIT SITES... TAKE OUR SURVEY... WIN PRIZES!

Tell us about your journey and be entered to win some great prizes from Somerset County Tourism and several of our amazing local businesses (visit www.SCHistoryWeekend.com for a list of prizes)!



Here's what you have to do:

- 1. Visit three (3) or more participating sites during Somerset County's annual Journey Through the Past.
- 2. Make sure to locate this year's password—it should be on display at every participating site.
- 3. Go to www.SCHistoryWeekend.com and click the History Traveler Contest tab for more information and to access our survey.
- 4. Submit your answers by October 27, 2023 to enter.

Random winners will be selected and notified by email in late November. Participants must be 18 years of age or older to enter.

A Message from Somerset County Tourism:



From golf courses to gardens, parks to preserves, al fresco dining to live entertainment, Somerset County has all this and more waiting for you! We invite you to visit us (and stay over!) with family and friends amidst the best we have to offer:



https://visitsomersetnj.org/fall-harvest/

is the resource to find places and experiences ready for you to feel those fall vibes. Be sure to check this page regularly for the most up-to-date offerings.

Get drinks, explore local, and win prizes as you 'Sip & See' your way through Somerset County. This fall, visit all of our craft beverage locations to win a shirt. Make sure you check out the area attractions on your journey! Find out more at: **sipandseesomerset.com**





WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SOON!



Somerset County History Trading Cards!

Somerset County is pleased to offer Journey Through the Past visitors our free commemorative history trading cards—a fun way to learn about the people and events that shaped life in Somerset County, the state of New Jersey, and the United States of America. Each card features a notable person, place, event or theme taken from four centuries of Somerset County's rich history and deals out unique facts, activities... and even a few mysteries to solve! Ask for trading cards when visiting the participating historic sites across the County—most sites offer at least one card.









FALL FOR NEW JERSEY

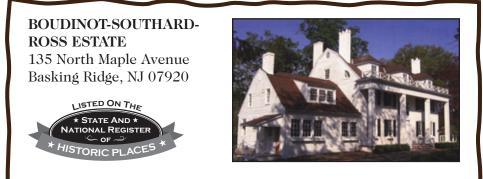
Find cool-weather adventures from the sands of the Jersey Shore straight up to the Skylands. Enjoy pumpkin patches, hayrides, apple picking and wineries. Distinctive arts and culture. Parks with leaves of crimson, amber and gold. And journeys, like our Scenic Byway Itinerary. With 130 miles of ready-to-explore coastline, you'll find hundreds of destinations worth falling for.

Get your free official travel guide and explore more at VisitNJ.org



] GET THE MOBILE APP 🛛 🖪 💆 🗖





Known locally as "The Ross Farm," this fifty-acre site is on the State and National Registers of Historic Places because of the influential people who lived there. Elias Boudinot (President of the Continental Congress from 1782 to 1783) and Samuel Southard, (New Jersey Senator, Governor, and Secretary of War and Secretary of the Treasury for Presidents James Monroe and John Quincy Adams), are primary examples. Members of the Ross family were the most recent residents.

The Friends of the Boudinot-Southard-Ross Estate is a communitybased volunteer organization that produces cultural, historical, and educational events throughout the year. In addition, the group maintains Boudinot's Giving Garden which has donated more than 12,500 pounds of fresh produce to local food banks over the past several years.

Website: www.rossfarm.org Email: info@rossfarm.org Organization: The site is managed by the Friends of the Boudinot-Southard-Ross Estate, is owned by Somerset County and maintained by the Somerset County Park Commission. General Public Hours: Only open to the public during scheduled events Parking: Parking available on premises ADA Accessibility: Email for current accessibility information **THE BRICK ACADEMY** 15 W. Oak Street Basking Ridge, NJ 07920





In 1764, the Rev. Dr. Samuel Kennedy, pastor of the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church, founded a classical school at his farmstead in Basking Ridge. The school prepared young men for college, with many going on to the College of New Jersey (later Princeton University). In 1809, the Rev. Dr. Robert Finley, Kennedy's successor, built the Federal-style Brick Academy in the center of the village. Theodore Frelinghuysen, William L. Dayton and Samuel Southard were some of its prestigious alumni. Today, the Brick Academy serves as the headquarters of The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- 1895 period schoolroom with pot belly stove, desks and all!
- Permanent exhibit: "What Put Somerset Hills on the Map," featuring people, places and events from the Somerset Hills town of Bedminster, Bernardsville, Bernards Township (Basking Ridge), Far Hills, and Peapack-Gladstone
- Rotating exhibits of historical interest
- Gift shop

Website: http://www.thssh.org/

Contact: Sue Zibelli, Chair

Organization: The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills **E-mail:** info@thssh.org

Phone: (908) 221-1770

General Public Hours: Museum is open the first Sunday of each month 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Research requests online.

Speaker programs as scheduled. Schoolhouse educational program as scheduled.

ADA Accessibility: Ground floor only; designated parking

DR. JOHN VERMEULE HOUSE 223 Rock Avenue Green Brook, NJ 08812





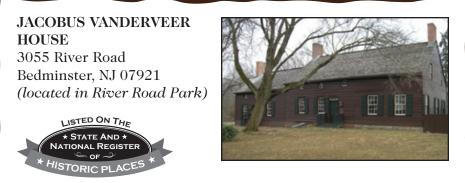
Construction on this Georgian Colonial-style farmhouse began in 1799 by Dr. John Vermeule, the first physician in the rural area of what would become Green Brook. It is situated on a 2.2 acre tract, and it is all that remains of the original 116-acre plantation purchased by Cornelius Vermeule for his eldest son Adrian, a local militia man and dispatch rider during the Revolutionary War. Adrian was wounded and captured by the British and imprisoned in the famous Sugar House in New York City where he died. Dr. John Vermeule, Adrian's son, inherited the land and built the farmstead. He practiced medicine and operated a farm on the property until his death in 1813. After his son sold the property in 1824, numerous owners have occupied the house, including a Jewish dairy farmer, Quakers and the Mundy family. They operated the Grotto Farm Dairy into the mid-1960's and sold the house and property to Green Brook Township in 2008. The house was relatively untouched over its 220-year history and offers a rare glimpse into early-mid 19th century architecture.

Year Round Features and Activities:

• Open for special occasions and by appointment

Website: www.gbhsnj.org Contact: Denise Wolf Email: info@gbhsnj.org Phone: (732) 331-2078

Organizations: Green Brook Cultural, Heritage and Historic Preservation Committee, Green Brook Historical Society **General Public Hours:** Open every third Sunday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and on special occasions. **ADA Accessibility:** Yes, no restrooms available



The Jacobus Vanderveer House is the last surviving building associated with the Pluckemin Encampment of 1778-1779 and the Vanderveers, a family prominent in Bedminster history. General Henry Knox and his family lived in the house while he oversaw the Artillery Cantonment, considered to be the first installation in America to train officers in engineering and artillery. The house is owned by Bedminster Township.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- The interior contains massive exposed beams as well as Federal and Greek Revival woodwork and wide plank flooring
- Original Barrel-Back cabinetry, fireplaces and exterior
- Fully furnished with changing exhibitions throughout the year

Website: www.jvanderveerhouse.org

Contact: Craig Sutherland

Email: info@JVanderveerhouse.org

Phone: (908) 397-3377

Organization: The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House **General Public Hours:** By appointment except for scheduled events (see website)

ADA Accessibility: First floor only wheelchair accessible; ramps and accessible bathrooms available



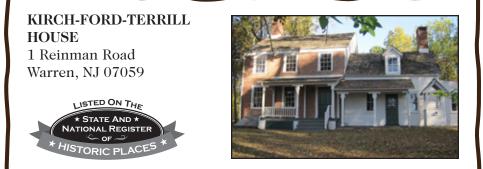
The Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead dates back to the Revolutionary War. The four-acre site includes a farmhouse, wagon house, cow shed and English barn which are significant as early examples of English and modified Dutch framing techniques. The site is also important for its associations with the Reverend Samuel Kennedy, a distinguished local minister and educator, Colonel Ephraim Martin, a Revolutionary War hero and New Jersey Legislator, the politically prominent Stelle family, and Gerald Pearson, the Bell Labs physicist who created the first successful solar cell. The house is owned by Bernards Township.

Year Round Features and Activities:

• Also known as Farmstead Arts, the center offers art lessons, art shows, concerts, theater, community events and studio space

Website: www.FarmsteadArtsCenter.org Contact: Robin Storms Email: admin@farmsteadarts.org Phone: (908) 636-7576 Organization: Friends of the Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead General Public Hours: Wednesdays and Fridays 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Gallery hours are on Sundays from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. and by appointment ADA Accessibility: Farmhouse and English Barn are ADA

ADA Accessibility: Farmhouse and English Barn are ADA accessible

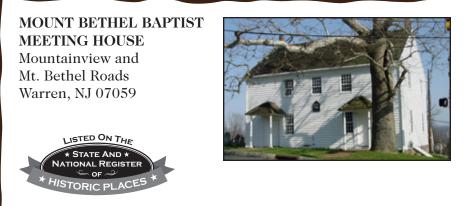


The original section of the Kirch-Ford-Terrill House predates the American Revolution. It's among the earliest buildings in the township and is a fine example of an 18th century vernacular dwelling. The western portion of the house, also of 18th century vintage, may have been moved to the site. Captain William Ford owned the house during the Revolution. In the 1830s it was owned by Thomas Terrill who was the first clerk of Warren Township, a school board member, and a magistrate and judge for Somerset County. The house is owned by Warren Township and maintained by the Warren Township Historic Sites Committee.

Year Round Features and Activities:

• Visitors are welcomed for tours during General Public Hours

Website: www.warrennj.org/254/Historic-Sites-Committee Contact: Rory Britt, Chairman Email: rorybritt@gmail.com Phone: (732) 598-3922 Organization: Warren Township Historic Sites Committee General Public Hours: April through December, the second Sunday of each month, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ADA Accessibility: Site is not ADA accessible



The Mount Bethel Meeting House was built in 1786. Some of the materials used in its construction were salvaged from an earlier structure that was the home of the county's first Baptist congregation. The building was used for religious purposes until the congregation moved to its new church in 1960. It is one of the few 18th century timber-frame meeting houses in New Jersey that retains much of its original character. The post and beam frame structure has gunstock posts at the front and rear walls. Handcrafted pews and wall panels show evidence of hand planed surfaces. The house is owned by Warren Township and maintained by the Warren Township Historic Sites Committee.

Year Round Features and Activities:

• Docents provide full or tailored tours of the house by appointment

Contact: Rory Britt, Chairman Email: rorybritt@gmail.com Phone: (732) 598-3922 Organization: Warren Township Historic Sites Committee General Public Hours: By appointment only ADA Accessibility: Site is not ADA accessible PLUCKEMIN SCHOOL HOUSE also known as THE CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART 2020 Burnt Mills Road Bedminster, NJ 07921



The Pluckemin School House was built in 1912 as a two-story four-room school designed by Peter C. Van Nuys of



Somerville and built by John Gulick of Lamington and remained in operation until 1958. In 1993 it was leased to the Somerset Art Association, later The Center for Contemporary Art.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- The Center for Contemporary Art ("The Center") offers hundreds of studio art classes in a variety of media for all ages and levels of expertise, a popular summer art camp, rotating exhibitions of contemporary art presented in three galleries, free community events, and community partnership programs bringing art to children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, at-risk youth, adults with disabilities, people affected by cancer, and senior citizens
- The Center is located in a fully-accessible facility with convenient access to routes I-78, I-287, and 202/206

Website: https://ccabedminster.org/ Email: info@ccabedminster.org Organization: The Center for Contemporary Art General Public Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Parking: Parking available on property ADA Accessibility: Fully accessible **TEXIER HOUSE MUSEUM** 10 Mountain Boulevard Watchung, NJ 07069

The Texier House Museum had its grand opening on October 5th, 2013. Hippolyte



Texier and his family built the home in the late 1800's and lived there into the early 1900's. The house has served as Borough offices, the Police Department, and now Watchung's home for history. Popular exhibits include historical homes and businesses, former commercial activities, Borough athletes and artists, displays on World War I & II, the Moldenke Castle, Adella (Tiby) Wotherspoon, and much more!

Year Round Features and Activities:

- Special rotating exhibits
- Tours and programs by request (See General Public Hours)
- Open during special town events, such as Veterans' Day and Memorial Day
- Free admission

Website: https://watchungnj.gov/boards/historic

Contact: Tim Logan

Email: historic@watchungnj.org

Phone: (908) 655-5221

Contact: John Malehow

Phone: (908) 416-8977

Organization: Watchung Historical Committee

General Public Hours: Open Houses are the first and third Sundays of each month from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (limited in July, August, September, and October); Be sure to check the website link provided for special events, hours or closures before your visit to our Museum

ADA Accessibility: Entrance ramp; all exhibits on first floor

USGA GOLF MUSEUM 77 Liberty Corner Road Liberty Corner, NJ 07938

The USGA Golf Museum and Library is the nation's oldest sports museum and



the world's leading institution for the collection, preservation, interpretation, and dissemination of golf history. Our collections, the world's largest and most significant related to the game of golf, serve as the foundation of our diverse roles, services, and initiatives. The greatest champions and moments in American golf history come alive through engaging exhibitions. Designed by John Russell Pope, a prominent architect of the early 20th century, this Georgian Revival mansion was constructed in 1919 for Thomas Frothingham. Pope also designed the Jefferson Memorial, and National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, and the Lord Memorial Fountain on the Courthouse Green in Somerville, New Jersey.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- Hall of Champions with 16 official USGA championship trophies and the name of every USGA champion in history
- Five additional dedicated rooms and multimedia exhibits on Ben Hogan, Bob Jones, Mickey Wright, Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus
- The Pynes Putting Course inspired by the world-renowned Himalayas putting course in St. Andrews, Scotland

Website: www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/history/visit-themuseum.html Contact: Maggie Lagle, Manager of Community Engagement and Public Programs Email: mlagle@usga.org Phone: (908) 326-1177 Organization: United States Golf Association General Public Hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; the museum is closed for major holidays

ADA Accessibility: First floor only

WASHINGTON ROCK PARK One Rock Road East Green Brook, NJ 08812

The strategic location of Washington Rock on top of the first Watchung Mountain made this site a valuable lookout post during the Revolutionary War. In June of 1777, General George Washington used this natural outcropping with its thirtymile panoramic view to direct his troops against the British forces under the command of General William Howe. The site, which became one of New

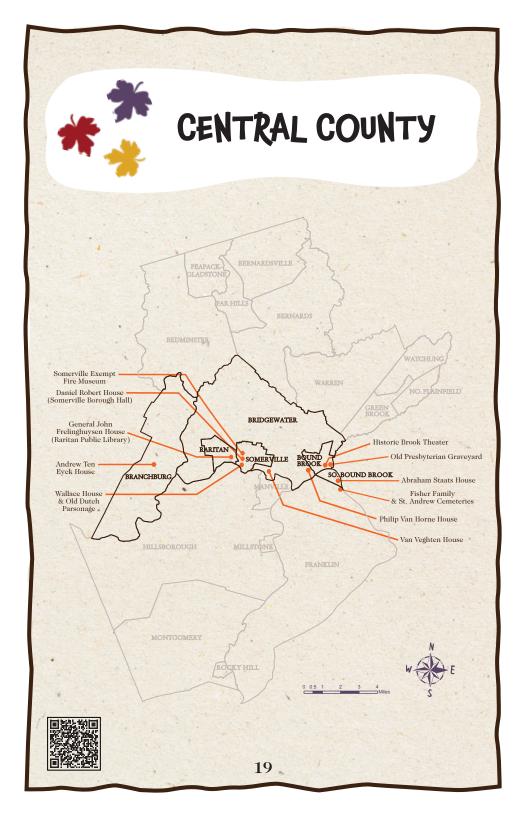


Jersey's first State Parks, still offers visitors breathtaking views of New York City, and surrounding towns, cities and landmarks. The site is maintained by Somerset County.

Year Round Features and Activities:

• Site and facilities are available for picnicking, hiking, and relaxing

Website: www.somersetcountyparks.org Contact: Karen Behr Email: kbher@scparks.org Phone: (908) 722-1200 ext. 5225 Organizations: Somerset County Park Commission General Public Hours: Washington Rock Park is open seven days a week, dawn to dusk Parking: Parking and restroom facilities are available just across from the park ADA Accessibility: Partial





The Abraham Staats House is one of the finest surviving buildings of the 18th century Dutch settlement of the Raritan Valley. The original core house was built around 1740 by the Staats, a Dutch family who inhabited the home for nearly two centuries. Expansions include a two-story, late-Federal/Greek Revival wing.

Abraham Staats and his family occupied the farmstead during the American Revolution. In 1779, during the Middlebrook Cantonment, their home served as military headquarters for Baron von Steuben, Inspector General for George Washington. The home was purchased in 1999 by the Borough of South Bound Brook, which now maintains the property with support from the Friends of Abraham Staats House.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- Living history events including the Annual Battle of Bound Brook; special programs and lectures
- Historic House Tours and Exhibits

Website: www.staatshouse.org Email: info@staatshouse.org Phone: (732) 369-3583 Organization: Friends of Abraham Staats House, Inc. General Public Hours: Open House on the second Saturday of each month, 10:00 a.m. to Noon (Closed July and August); check website for event schedule; tours also available by appointment ADA Accessibility: Accessible parking area and entry to the house; portable wheelchair ramp for access to main floor; restroom not wheelchair accessible



The Andrew Ten Eyck House, a brick English/Dutch Federal house, circa 1790-1810, is an important example of the township's early domestic architecture. The original brick portion of the house was constructed in the early 19th century, while the frame rear portion was added in the early 20th century. The early main block of the house exemplifies a side hall plan more common in the Delaware Valley than Somerset County. Early interior fabric still remaining includes door and window surrounds, door panels and fireplace mantels, as well as tongue-and-groove flooring and beaded baseboards. The second floor contains a local and regional history research library.

Contact: Susan Winter Phone: (908) 369-2027 Organization: Branchburg Historical Society General Public Hours: Open the third Sunday of every month from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. as well as by appointment ADA Accessibility: Site is not ADA accessible



Built in 1888 for a wealthy New York businessman, the Daniel Robert Mansion was designed by architects Lambert and Bunnell of Bridgeport, Connecticut and is a faithful replica of an awardwinning Alexander Jackson Davis design. It is listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. A quintessential Gothic Revival residence with picturesque asymmetrical massing, it has a steep and varied roof line, pointed arches, brownstone detailing, and gothic motifs. A ballroom addition was added by the Elks in 1939. Though damaged by fires in 1967 and 1980, it still retains the majority of its original detailing. Recent restorations include stained glass windows, the grand hallway, the main tower, and exterior windows. The mansion serves as Somerville Borough Hall and houses the Somerville branch of the Somerset County Library System. The James L. Sommerville New Jersey Room in the library includes a variety of resources including historic maps and photos of the Garden State.

Website: www.somervillenj.org Contact: Kevin Sluka, Clerk and Administrator Email: KSluka@somervillenj.org

Phone: (908) 725-2300, ext. 1983

Organization: Borough of Somerville

General Public Hours: Open to the general public for business Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.to 4:30 p.m.; tours by appointment; weekends and special events as scheduled; closed Sunday and all state and federal holidays

ADA Accessibility: Yes, first floor only, via handicap ramp to library front door and entrance to Borough Hall from library

FISHER FAMILY & ST. ANDREW CEMETERIES 280 Main Street South Bound Brook, NJ 08880

Dedicated in 1954, St. Andrew Cemetery contains over 8,000 burials including many major figures from Ukrainian religious, military, political,



and cultural life. Many of the ornate stone monuments have been featured in national publications. The grounds also include the burial plot of the Fisher, La Tourette, and Van Nortwick families. Hendrick Fisher was especially known for bringing the first copy of the newly-signed Declaration of Independence to Somerset County, which he publicly read at the Frelinghuysen Tavern in Bound Brook on July 7, 1776. The cemeteries are owned and managed by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. Journey through the Past programming is produced by the Ukrainian History and Education Center.

Websites: uocofusa.org/cemetery uocofusa.org/fisher_graveyard UkrHEC.org Emails: info@UkrHEC.org (Journey Through the Past information) st.andrew.cemetery@uocofusa.org (cemetery administration) Contact: Natalia Honcharenko (Journey Through the Past information) Fr. Vasyl Shak (cemetery administration) Phone: (732) 356-0132 (Journey Through the Past) (732) 356-0090 (cemetery administration) Organization: Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and the Ukrainian History and Education Center General Public Hours: Dawn to dusk Parking: Ample parking is available ADA Accessibility: Cemetery has extensive grassy, unpaved, and uneven surfaces, but is otherwise accessible GENERAL JOHN FRELINGHUYSEN HOUSE also known as the RARITAN PUBLIC LIBRARY 54 E. Somerset Street Raritan, NJ 08869



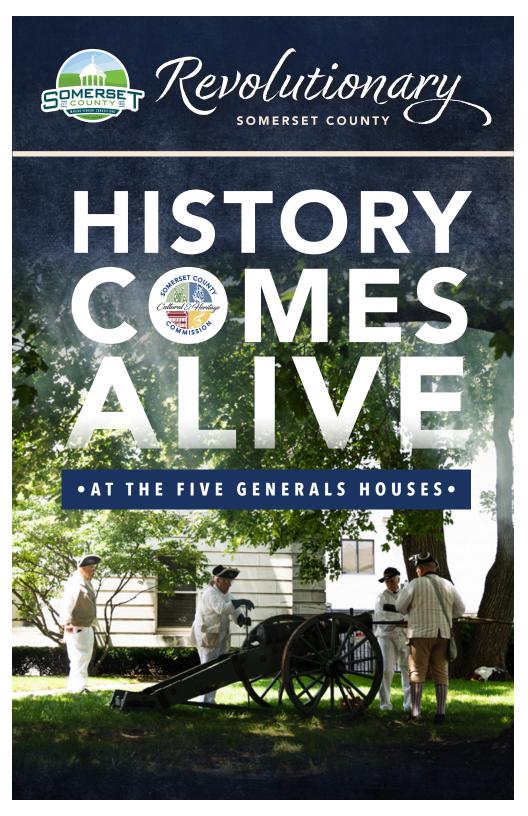
The General John Frelinghuysen House is a fine example of Georgian residential architecture with extensive Federal and Greek Revival modifications. It was the home of the Frelinghuysen family from 1800 to 1922. Congressman Peter Frelinghuysen regained possession of the house in 1970 and donated it to the Borough of Raritan for use as the Raritan Public Library. The house retains some original finishes and woodwork, as well as an early brick smokehouse in the attic.

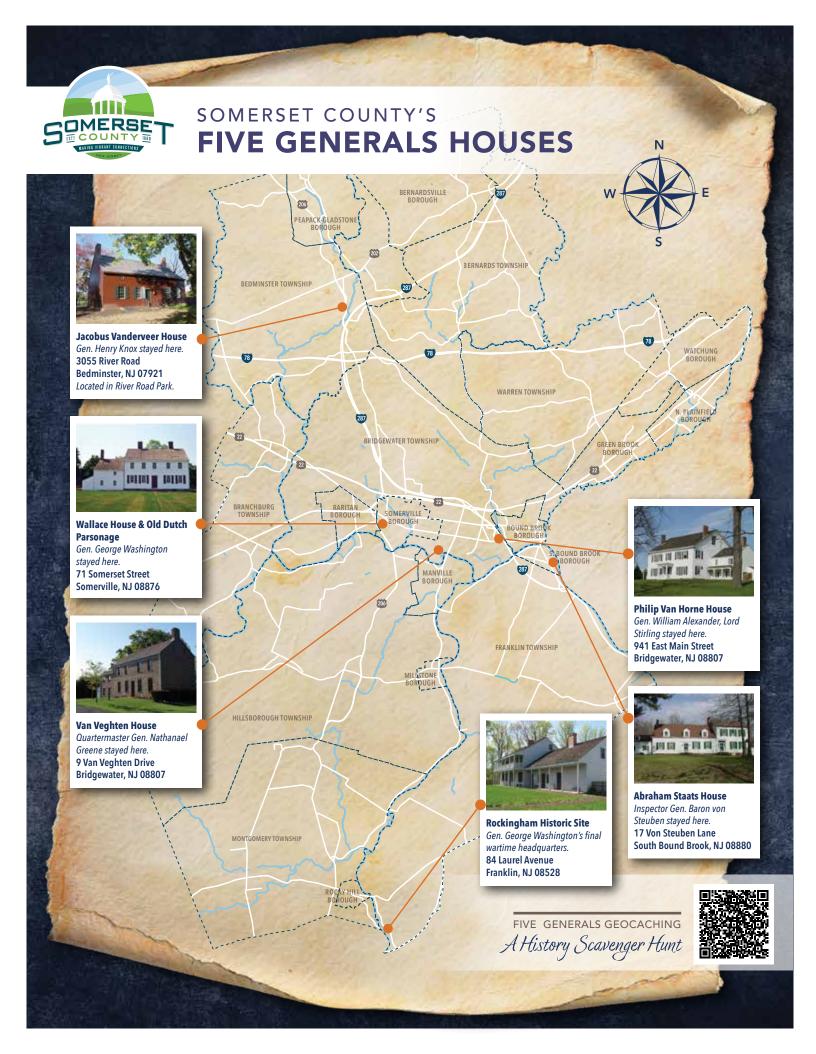
The Community Room and John Basilone Room house memorabilia honoring Purple Heart, Navy Cross and Medal of Honor recipient Marine Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone who served and died in WWII. The Library offers a computer kiosk showcasing numerous articles, profiles, old newspapers and historical photos on local history. The library has searchable and browsable electronic editions of the historic Raritan Valley News in the Local History section of its website.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- Local history and genealogy
- Display of excavated artifacts and antique items

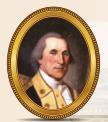
Website: www.raritanlibrary.org Contact: Adam Petroski, Library Director Email: apetroski@raritanlibrary.org Phone: (908) 725-0413 Organization: Raritan Public Library General Public Hours: Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. ADA Accessibility: First floor only; back entrance handicappedaccessible ramp and parking space





Who are the Five Generals?

It's been said that **George Washington** spent more time in New Jersey than any other state during the Revolutionary War. He and four of his top generals made their headquarters at some of the finest 18th century homes in Somerset County during the **Middlebrook Encampments**:



George Washington wintered at the Wallace House and was joined there by his wife Martha and aide-de-camp, Alexander Hamilton. In 1783, Washington's final wartime headquarters was at the Rockingham State Historic Site in Franklin.

General Baron von Steuben, who would become a naturalized citizen, drilled troops and entertained our Spanish ally, Bernardo de Galvez at the **Abraham Staats House** in South Bound Brook.





General Henry Knox's headquarters were at the Jacobus Vanderveer House in Bedminster. The nearby Pluckemin Artillery Park was America's first "West Point."

General Nathanael Greene and his wife Kitty took up residence at the Van Veghten House in Bridgewater. During one of their famous parties, Kitty danced with General Washington for over three hours straight!

NAME AND ADDRESS OF





General William Alexander, Lord Stirling was headquartered at the Van Horne House during the winter of 1778-1779. One of Washington's most trusted generals, he participated in the battles of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, and Germantown and especially distinguished himself at the Battle of Monmouth.



HISTORIC BROOK THEATER also known as the SOMERSET CULTURAL ARTS CENTER 10 Hamilton Street Bound Brook, NJ 08805

The Brook Theater is the only existing vaudeville theater remaining in Somerset County, and one of eight in New Jersey. Built by developer Alexander Morecraft and designed by W.H. Lehman and



Vincent Marilette, it was considered an architectural masterpiece. The theater opened in 1927 and presented a wide variety of live stage acts and talking picture shows. Two years later it was leased by the Metropolitan Fox Movie Corporation and became a first-run movie house. In 1999 and 2007 hurricanes caused extensive damage. In 2001 the Somerset County Cultural Arts Center Inc. purchased the theater as a cultural, educational, and entertainment venue and arts incubator. Through a generous Somerset County Historic Preservation Grant, a reproduction of the theater's marquee was installed in 2011, and in 2017, interior historic plasterwork was restored and repainted.

Year Round Features and Activities:

Theater, Concerts, Orchestra, Comedians, Silent Films accompanied by a Wurlitzer organ, Movies, Dance and Summer Theater Camps, Rental venue for events, film and photography shoots

Website: www.brookarts.org Email: Theatermanager@brookarts.org Phone: (732) 469-7700 Organization: Somerset County Cultural Arts Center General Public Hours: Tickets available online or by phone Parking: Parking and restroom facilities are available just across from the park ADA Accessibility: Partial

25

OLD PRESBYTERIAN GRAVEYARD

Corner of East High Street and East Street Bound Brook, NJ 08805 (Next to the Bound Brook Memorial Library, 402 East High St., Bound Brook, NJ 08805)

The Old Presbyterian Graveyard in Bound Brook is the final resting place of Bound Brook's earliest citizens, as well as soldiers from the French



and Indian War, the American Revolutionary War, the Whiskey Rebellion, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, and the Civil War. See the impressive artwork on memorial stones and learn the meaning behind the inscriptions and epitaphs!

Website: http://sclsnj.org/graveyard/ Contact: Catherine DeBerry, Librarian Email: boundbrook@sclibnj.org Phone: (908) 458-8410 Organizations: Borough of Bound Brook; The Bound Brook Memorial Library maintains historical information and its staff hosts this event General Public Hours: Outdoor site, open every day Parking: On street parking; handicapped accessible parking is available on East High Street and behind the library ADA Accessibility: Site located on a hill; access by steps or through a site-level gate located behind library; a handicapped accessible bathroom is available in the library on Saturday; the library is closed on Sunday



Originally built in the mid-18th century, the Philip Van Horne House was extensively remodeled in the 19th and 20th centuries. During the American Revolution, the site was known as "Phil's Hill" or "Convivial Hill" after Philip Van Horne, a Bridgewater merchant well known for his hospitality to both sides of the conflict. During the Battle of Bound Brook, British troops captured three American cannons on the front lawn. The house was used as a headquarters at various times by Generals Lincoln, Stirling, Lee, and Cornwallis.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- Five Generals Bus Tour and customized tours
- World class speakers
- Educational programs for all ages
- Scouting Group Badge Program

Website: www.heritagetrail.org Contact: Cynthia Blumenkrantz, President E-mail: info@heritagetrail.org Phone: (732) 356-8856 Organization: Heritage Trail Association General Public Hours: Open for events and special occasions Additional Information: House available for private and public event rental Parking: Free, onsite ADA Accessibility: Onsite parking, entrance, restrooms

SOMERVILLE EXEMPT FIRE MUSEUM 23 North Doughty Avenue Somerville, NJ 08876



The Somerville Exempt Fire Museum is located in a restored firehouse built in 1888. Exhibits and artifacts include a pre-Civil War hand pumper and a horse



pulled steam engine as well as equipment, hoses, ladders, helmets, uniforms, photos and other related fire service memorabilia. Visitors are guided through the museum by Somerville firefighters and have the chance to operate a restored fire alarm box system that once summoned volunteers to their stations. The original structure was built by West End Hose Company #3 in the late 19th Century. The building initially housed a hand pulled hose reel, a horse-drawn hose wagon, and in 1916, the first motorized fire pumper in town. The last alarm response from this building was made by a 1942 Mack pumper in July, 1969. In 1970, West End Hose Co. relocated to larger quarters on High Street. The Mack pumper, now designated as Engine 5, has been restored and is used for ceremonial purposes.

Website: https://somervillefd.org/fire-museum-history/ Email: sfdno3@aol.com

Organizations: Borough of Somerville and Somerville Fire Department Exempt Association

General Public Hours: Saturdays 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m for guided tours. Group tours during weekdays can be arranged by e-mail

ADA Accessibility: First floor only

VAN VEGHTEN HOUSE 9 Van Veghten Drive Bridgewater, NJ 08807





The Van Veghten House still stands on its original site on the north bank of the Raritan River. The present structure evolved from the first house built by Michael Van Veghten c. 1695. There are five centuries of stories associated with the land he owned and the nearby bridge he built over the Raritan River. During the Revolution the house served as headquarters for Quartermaster Nathanael Greene during the second Middlebrook Encampment in 1778-1779. Units of the Continental Army's Pennsylvania Bridge under "Mad" Anthony Wayne encamped on Van Veghten land. In March 1779, General Greene and his wife hosted a gathering at the Van Veghten House. In a letter to his friend, he noted that General Washington danced with Mrs. Greene "upwards of three hours without setting [sic]down. Later Rochambeau and his troops passed the house on the way to Yorktown.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- Guided tours of the house, research library and collections
- Somerset County and vicinities genealogical consulting
- Museum with local artifacts
- Monthly rotating displays
- Facility rental (small groups up to 40)

Website: www.somersethistorynj.org Email: info@somersethistorynj.org Phone: (908) 218-1281 Organization: Somerset County Historical Society General Public Hours: Tuesday 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., 2nd and 4th Saturday monthly, noon to 3:00 p.m. ADA Accessibility: Limited. Rooms on first floor are at ground level. No restroom.

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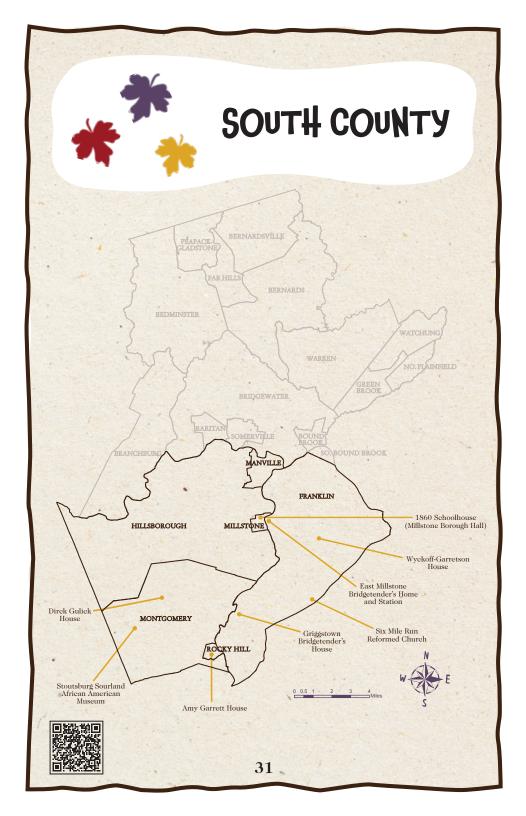
George Washington made John Wallace's house his winter headquarters during the American Revolution's 1778-1779 Middlebrook Cantonment. Martha Washington and Alexander Hamilton stayed here. Three congregations of the Dutch Reformed Church in New Jersey's Raritan Valley built the Old Dutch Parsonage in 1751 to house their shared minister. The State Park Service preserves and interprets these houses with support from the nonprofit Wallace House and Old Dutch Parsonage Association.

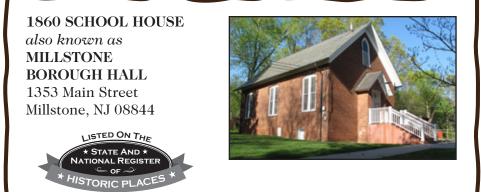
Year-Round Features and Activities:

- Historic house tours
- December: Colonial Colleges Yule Log
- July: New Jersey's Declarations of Independence

Websites:

www.njparksandforests.org
www.wallacehouseassociation.org
Contact: Paul Soltis, Interpretive Specialist
E-Mail: wallacedutch@dep.nj.gov
Phone: (908) 725-1015
Organizations: State Park Service with Wallace House and
Old Dutch Parsonage Association
General Public Hours: Wednesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Call to confirm tour availability before visiting
ADA Accessibility: Call for guidance





This one-room brick schoolhouse was built in 1860 on the west bank of the Millstone River and was used as a school until 1944. The masonry building, designed in the new "reformed" style current in mid-19th century America, is rectangular in shape with a large, light-filled meeting room, a simple gable roof, and a Gothic Revival style window above the entry. The original structure included a belfry with a bell to call the students to class. One teacher usually taught seven grades (occasionally eight). The Board of Education transferred the building to the Borough in 1949, at which time it became Millstone's Borough Hall.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- Borough meetings
- Holiday children's programs
- Exhibition of historic photographs: early school and Borough streetscapes

Website: www.millstoneboro.org Contact: (908) 281-6893 Organization: Borough of Millstone General Public Hours: Borough Hall is open for scheduled Borough meetings and open year-round by reservation ADA Accessibility: Accessible parking, entrance, and restroom

AMY GARRETT HOUSE 62 Washington Street Rocky Hill, NJ 08553





Listed on the National Register as a key building in the Rocky Hill Historic District, July 8, 1982. Locally known as the Amy Garrett House for its last private owner, the building consists of three sections, a low Dutch-framed east wing, a larger English-framed west wing, and a mid-20th century rear addition. The house, constructed in the vernacular Federal and Greek revival styles, is believed to have been built by Benjamin Hatwick circa 1835. It is one of the earliest surviving buildings in Rocky Hill and still contains many of the original exterior and interior features.

The house was purchased by Rocky Hill Community Group (RHCG) in 1965 and is currently under historic rehabilitation. Funding for the exterior restoration has been made possible in part by the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust administered by the New Jersey Historic Trust/State of New Jersey, and in part by the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission.

Website: sites.google.com/site/rhcg08553 Email: RHCG08553@gmail.com Contact: Walt Bradhering Phone: (609) 200-1835 Organization: Rocky Hill Community Group General Public Hours: By appointment only ADA Accessibility: Yes

DIRCK GULICK HOUSE 506 County Road 601 Belle Mead, NJ 08502





The Dirck Gulick House, built in 1752, is nestled at the base of the Sourland Mountain in the Dutchtown section of Montgomery Township. The building conforms to the Dutch construction of the 18th century in its story-and-a-half height, double room depth, and use of heavy timber running from front to back wall. What is rare is its use of stone as a building material. When Dirck died, his son Hendrick assumed ownership. The farm was divided into parcels in 1824 for Hendrick's 11 children. In addition to their shares of farmland, unmarried daughters Anne and Magdalena inherited the house. Upon their deaths, sister Jane's son Nathan Stout took possession. The house was sold out of the family in 1860. The house has been the headquarters of the Van Harlingen Historical Society since 1973 and is home to the Society's library, archives and collection of artifacts.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- Local history programs
- May in Montgomery
- Library

Website: www.vanharlingen.org Email: info@vanharlingen.org Phone: (908) 359-8304 to leave a message Organization: Van Harlingen Historical Society General Public Hours: Library is open 10:00 a.m. to noon on 4th Saturday of each month, March – November and by appointment; Please email library@vanharlingen.org with inquiries; Tours available by appointment ADA Accessibility: No



The Delaware and Raritan Canal operated from 1834 to 1932 and in one year carried more cargo than the more famous Erie Canal. The East Millstone Bridgetender's Home was built in the 1830s by the D&R Canal Company as a home for the bridgetender and his family. The job of the bridgetender was to swing open the bridge to allow the passage of canalboats. The boat captain would signal the bridgetender by blowing on a tin horn or a conch shell. The house, the adjacent station, and outhouse were restored and are listed in the State and National Registers of Historic Places. The buildings are open on request by the D&R Canal Watch, a nonprofit that supports the D&R Canal State Park.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- Visitors may explore the exterior of the buildings and walk the towpath of the canal
- Contact the D&R Canal Watch for a tour

Websites:

www.canalwatch.org www.dandreanal.com Email: info@canalwatch.org Phone: 908-240-0488 Organization: D&R Canal Watch General Public Hours: The grounds are open every day, but the house does not have public hours. ADA Accessibility: Yes, first floor and exterior



The historic Griggstown Bridgetender's House dates to 1834 and was one of 67 such houses built by the Delaware and Raritan Canal Company. Today only 17 remain and a few are occasionally open to the public. The house was a residence for the bridgetender's family; it was the responsibility of the bridgetender to open the A-frame swing bridge to allow canal boats to pass when the Delaware & Raritan Canal was in operation. The boats carried coal, lumber, and many other products from Bordentown on the Delaware River to New Brunswick on the Raritan River. The house was restored in 2010 and functions as the Visitor Center for the Millstone Valley National Scenic Byway as well as the headquarters of the Millstone Valley Preservation Coalition. The family kitchen is now a museum while the other first floor room is used for distribution of literature about recreation, especially hiking, biking, fishing and kayaking, and the history of the Delaware and Raritan Canal and the Millstone Valley.

Website: www.millstonevalley.org

Phone: (908) 262-7364

Organization: The Millstone Valley Preservation Coalition **General Public Hours:** The Millstone Valley National Scenic Byway Visitor Center is open to the public April through October, Saturday and Sunday, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by appointment

ADA Accessibility: Side door is wheelchair accessible

SIX MILE RUN REFORMED CHURCH 3037 State Route 27 Franklin Park (Franklin Township) NJ 08823



Six Mile Run Reformed Church began its service to Central Jersey in 1703, just a bit north of its present location, as the

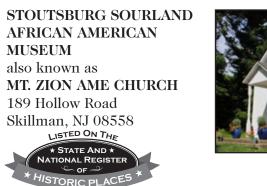


Three Mile Run Reformed Church. A 'run' was a brook in the days of the early Dutch settlers and marked a spot where the Kings Highway, now State Route 27, crossed a brook three miles south of New Brunswick. In 1717, half of the congregation at Three Mile Run moved south to Six Mile Run and built a church at what is now Elm Ridge Cemetery. The hamlet of Six Mile Run was actually the county seat of Somerset County in 1717!

In 1766 the congregation built a new house of worship at its present location, and in the Centennial Year of 1876 the name of the village was changed to Franklin Park. The present structure was built in 1879 in under one year. The first official pastor of the church was Theodorus Freylinghuysen, founder of the family that would become renown in NJ. The second pastor, Johannes Leydt, was one of the founders of Queens College, now Rutgers University. The church maintains its Harrison Tubular Pneumatic Organ, installed in and largely unchanged from 1892.

Website: www.sixmilerun.org Contact: Rev. Beverly Johnson, Church Administrator Email: admin@sixmilerun.org Phone: (732) 991-2538 Organization: Six Mile Run Reformed Church General Public Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday; 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Sunday ADA Accessibility: Ramp to first floor church sanctuary; restrooms on the same level

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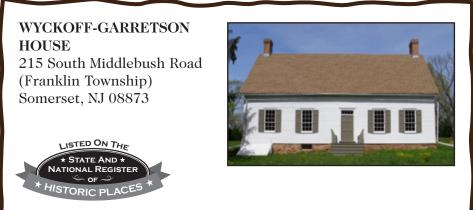


SSAAM tells the African American story in New Jersey from the trans-Atlantic Slave Trade to the present day. The museum is located at the Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church and historic True Farmstead. Mt. Zion AME was built in 1899 on land donated by Black residents Spencer and Corinda True, and served an active congregation until 2005. Until the 1930s, it was the site of annual camp meetings that brought black and white residents of the Sourlands together in fellowship. Adjacent to Mt. Zion AME, the True Farmstead is a five-acre, historically African American-owned property purchased by Union Army veteran William Reasoner in the mid-19th century. After William's death, his widow Corinda married Spencer True, a descendant of Friday Truehart, who was enslaved in Hopewell in the 18th century. The working farm remained in family hands until 1994. In 2022, SSAAM and the Sourland Conservancy purchased and saved the property.

Year Round Features and Activities:

- Special exhibits and public programming
- School group tours and presentations
- Visits by appointment

Website: www.ssaamuseum.org Contact: Donnetta Johnson, Executive Director Email: info@ssaamuseum.org Phone: (609) 309-5155 Organization: Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum General Public Hours: By appointment Parking: Several parking spaces are available; attendant will be present to assist ADA Accessibility: Site is not ADA accessible



The Wyckoff-Garretson House is part of the Six Mile Run Historic District. The older half of the house was constructed by John Wyckoff in 1730 (although the foundation dates to 1709), and the 2nd half was added on by Samuel Garretson in 1805. Considered a very important and rare example of the earliest period of Dutch American settlements in Somerset County, "The house survives remarkably intact for [293] years with a considerable amount of original fabric...most remarkable of which is the anchorbent frame built in two nearly identical building campaigns almost 100 vears apart. The timber frame is a marvel of European-influenced building craft...a major showplace of Dutch American vernacular architecture in NJ." (Source: Clifford Zink, Architectural Historian.) In 1775, John Wyckoff's son, Cornelius, converted a jam-less fireplace on the 1st floor to what we would recognize as a fireplace today, and added a new cooking fireplace with a beehive oven in the basement. In Samuel Garretson's later addition, he built a large cooking fireplace and beehive oven on the first floor. All three floors of the house have been restored and are included in the tours, and the carriage barn has been renovated as a visitor's center.

Year Round Features and Activities

• Monthly events and house tours (refer to website for details)

Website: www.themeadowsfoundation.org Email: tmf.org.1289@gmail.com Organization: The Meadows Foundation, Inc. Public Hours: Programs/tours throughout the year (see website) ADA Accessibility: Yes

AFTER YOUR JOURNEY ...

Visit one of Somerset County's local farmers markets!



- Bridgepoint Run Farm
 301 Bridegpoint Road, Belle Mead (Montgomery Township), NJ 08502
 Open July through November, Monday to Sunday, 8:00am to 5:00pm.
- Cichowski Farms

 Bennetts Lane, Somerset (Franklin Township), NJ 08873
 Open Tuesday through Sunday, 11:00am to 6:00pm.
- Hillsboro Farm Country Market 219 Hillsborough Road, Hillsborough NJ 08844 Open Tuesday to Friday, 11:00am to 5:00pm, and Saturday to Sunday, 10:00am to 5:00pm.

Find more farmers markets at:







Photo credit: Joe Cichowski





Photo credit: Montgomery News





Many thanks to our 2023 Heritage Tourism Partners!

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Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House Friends of the Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead Green Brook Cultural, Heritage and Historic Preservation Committee Green Brook Historical Society The Heritage Trail Association, Inc. The Historical Society of the Somerset Hills The Meadows Foundation Millstone Borough, Historic District Commission Millstone Valley Preservation Coalition Raritan Public Library Rocky Hill Community Group Six Mile Run Reformed Church Somerset County Historical Society Somerville Fire Department Exempt Association South Bound Brook Historic Preservation Advisory Commission State of New Jersev DEP State of New Jersey, Division of Parks and Forestry Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum The Sourland Conservancy Township of Branchburg Township of Bridgewater Township of Montgomery Township of Warren Ukrainian History and Education Center Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA United States Golf Museum Van Harlingen Historical Society The Wallace House The Wallace House and Old Dutch Parsonage Association Warren Township Historic Sites Committee Watchung Historical Society



Made possible by funds from the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, the New Jersey Historical Commission and the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel and Tourism.



Historical COMMISSION

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Scan the QR Code for more information!



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Special Thanks to Thomas D'Amico

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