Steve Mouzan, author of Original Green, made a dynamic keynote presentation at the annual New Jersey History and Historic Preservation Conference. Read more about the conference on page 9.

Greenwood Gardens recently completed its grant-funded project to restore its main terrace and garden steps. Read more about completed projects on page 15.

The Trust-funded Great Falls Hydroelectric Plant is now part of Paterson Great Falls National Historic Park. Read more about events and outreach starting on page 14.

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

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Dear Friends –

Over the last year, the Department of Community Affairs has continued to make smart investments across New Jersey to build communities where families thrive and economies flourish. I’m proud that we are “Reclaiming our History” building an even brighter future, in part, by restoring the important reminders of our great past. We’ve been able to help fund many projects including the rehabilitation and restoration of the Noah Hunt House in Mercer County, Greenwood Gardens in Essex County and the Bayshore Discovery Project in Cumberland County all which contribute to the historic landscape here in New Jersey. We are building innovative collaborations and acting as a catalyst for preservation and community revitalization activities.

As the Department of Community Affairs Commissioner and a lifelong New Jerseyan, I fully understand that historic preservation is important for so many reasons. Each restored site advances historic preservation in New Jersey for the benefit of future generations, families and the guests we welcome to our state. I believe that by preserving those parts of our history that have shaped the character of the Garden State, we better understand and embrace the common ground that we all share – across every geographic, social or economic division. I am committed to fostering smarter planning and historic preservation in communities across New Jersey.

Governor Christie and I are committed to restoring New Jersey’s historic sites as we move towards a dynamic future. Together, we can restore vitality in our cities and older suburbs and help rural communities thrive.

Thank you for your hard work and leadership in making this vision a reality.

Regards,

Richard E. Constable, III
DCA Commissioner
Message from the
NEW JERSEY HISTORIC TRUST CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends to Preservation:

As this report is being prepared, New Jersey continues to recover from Superstorm Sandy’s unprecedented destructive forces that damaged natural and man-made resources and uprooted families. Thankfully, many of the historic places in which the Trust has invested grant funds weathered the storm with repairable damage.

It will take some time to fully understand that need for preservation and restoration that historic sites and collections may have suffered. Establishing an emergency natural disaster relief fund to assist historic places is an important goal in the months to come.

The New Jersey Historic Trust had another successful year, both in seeing construction projects to their completion (see Completed Projects on page 15) and initiating new grant cycles in partnership with the private 1772 Foundation and the New Jersey Cultural Trust (see Grants Awarded starting on page 21).

The grant awards are modest, less than $50,000, but the need for funding remains high. Only ten out of 37 Cultural Trust applications were able to be funded. Letters of Inquiry requested $458,600 from the 1772 Foundation grant program, when $190,000 could be awarded.

Initial results of the Capital Needs Assessment that the Trust analyzed conservatively estimate that the state’s historic sites need nearly $800 million in funding for repairs, preservation, site improvements and heritage tourism development. These figures make a strong case for supporting a long-term commitment to funding the preservation of New Jersey’s history.

Regards,

Chris Perks, P.E.
Chair

Dorothy P. Guzzo
Executive Director
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chris Perks, P.E., (Chair), Camden County
Carolann Clynes, Union County
John D. S. Hatch, AIA, Mercer County
Deborah Marquis Kelly, (Immediate Past Chair), Burlington County
Kenneth Alan Miller, Morris County
Meme Omogbai, (Vice Chair), Somerset County
Elan Zingman-Leith, Cape May County

Ex-officio MEMBERS

Bob Martin
Commissioner and State Historic Preservation Officer,
Department of Environmental Protection
Represented by Daniel Saunders (Treasurer), Acting Administrator,
Historic Preservation Office

Richard E. Constable, III
Commissioner, Department of Community Affairs,
Represented by Ana A. Montero, Assistant Commissioner

Andrew Sidamon-Eristoff
State Treasurer
Represented by Raymond Arcario, Secretary, Deputy Executive Director,
Division of Property Management and Construction

Citizen MEMBERS

Chris Perks, P.E., Camden County
In his second year as Board Chair, Mr. Perks also chairs the Legislation and Policy Committee and has served on the board since 2002. Mr. Perks is a professional engineer who resides in Camden City. Mr. Perks is also treasurer of the Camden County Historical Society, and represents the Trust on the NJ Cultural Trust Board.

Carolann Clynes, Union County
A professional real estate broker, former branch office manager, Vice President of Corporate Business Development and appraiser for 30 years, Ms. Clynes has been active in historic preservation since 1990. She chaired the Summit Historic Preservation Commission in the 1990s when the community identified its 12 historic districts in preparation for the 1994 master plan. She spearheaded the movement to save Summit’s Richardson-Romanesque town hall built in 1892 that had been slated for sale or demolition. Ms. Clynes has been a member of Who’s Who of American Women since 2002. She serves on the Grants & Loans Committee and was Committee Chair in 2004-2005; she served as Vice Chair of the Trust 2004-2005; and was Chair of the Trust from 2006-2007.

John D. S. Hatch, AIA, Mercer County
Mr. Hatch specializes in historic preservation design and the adaptive use of historic structures. He is a partner with more than 20 years of experience at the Trenton-based firm of Clarke Caton Hintz. In addition, he serves on the Historic Preservation Action Committee and the boards of the Trenton Landmarks Commission, and Trenton Historical Society. He is the Immediate Past President of Preservation New Jersey.

Deborah Marquis Kelly, Burlington County
Ms. Kelly is a former executive director of Preservation New Jersey and since 1996 has been an independent historic preservation consultant through her organization, Preservation Partners. She is the co-author of the New Jersey Women’s Heritage Trail, and is the current president of the Chesterfield Township Historical Society. She is a past member and chair of the NJ Historic Sites Council and served on the Chesterfield Township Planning Board for 20 years. Ms. Kelly chaired the Trust from 2009-2011 and continues to chair the Grants and Loans Committee.
Kenneth A. Miller, Morris County
Mr. Miller is retired from the financial services industry and serves in a number of volunteer positions, including Treasurer of the Joint Free Public Library of Morristown and Morris Township Foundation. He has been involved in preservation as a Commissioner and Chair of Morristown’s Historic Preservation Commission, as well as restoring his private residence, a National Historic Landmark. He also serves Morristown as a Commissioner on the Vail Mansion Redevelopment Agency. Mr. Miller served as a citizen member of the Trust’s Grants and Loans Committee for several years and will continue serving on that committee as a Trustee.

Meme Omogbai, M.B.A., C.P.A., Somerset County
Ms. Omogbai was appointed Chief Operating Officer of the Newark Museum in 2001 after serving six years as the Museum’s Deputy Director for Finance and Administration. She sits on the Board of Trustees for the Newark Museum Association, the American Association of Museums and several other nonprofit groups. At the 2009 New Jersey Historic Preservation Conference, Ms. Omogbai moderated and presented a session entitled, “Embracing Diversity: Timely Response for Long-Term Sustainability.” By using Newark Museum as an example, Ms. Omogbai addressed the importance of integrating diversity into the strategic plans of nonprofit organizations to assure continued economic growth and community support. In 2010 Ms. Omogbai was selected as one of 25 influential black women in Business in America and she also served on a national panel that recommended cultural funding allocations for Museums in the State of Florida. She serves on the Legislation and Policy Committee.

Elan Zingman-Leith, Cape May County
Elan Zingman-Leith is an innkeeper in Cape May, New Jersey. He is the Curator of the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts and Humanities which includes the Emlyn Physick Estate. He is chair of the West Cape May Historic Preservation Commission; and has been chair of the Cape May HPC, and Deputy Director of Preservation of the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission. He wrote the (National Register nomination for the Miami Beach Deco District) historic district; and with his wife, Susan, wrote The Secret Life of Victorian Houses, Creating Authentic Victorian Rooms, and The Secret Streets of Rome. He serves on the Education and Outreach Committee.

Former Trust Chair Dr. Thomas Brown helps the Plainfield Historical Society celebrate the start of construction at the Nathaniel Drake House in Plainfield (Union County).

Thomas H. Brown, Ph.D.
In 2012, the Historic Trust board reluctantly accepted the resignation of Dr. Brown after nine years of service to the New Jersey Historic Trust. As Trust Chair, Dr. Brown was instrumental in streamlining the Trust’s transition into the Department of Community Affairs, hiring professional staff and developing a successful board committee structure. As President Emeritus of Union County College, Dr. Brown hosted the 2010 NJ Historic Preservation Conference in Elizabeth and remained on the Trust’s board to serve as Treasurer. Always available for an outreach opportunity, Dr. Brown visited many grant-funded sites for ground breakings, ribbon cuttings and other celebrations. The Historic Trust is grateful for Dr. Brown’s organizational leadership and contributions to the historic preservation community.

S T A F F

Dorothy P. Guzzo, Executive Director
Judith Adams, AICP, Senior Historic Preservation Specialist
Glenn Ceponis, Principal Historic Preservation Specialist
Lauren Giannullo, Historic Preservation Specialist
Catherine Goulet, Principal Historic Preservation Specialist
Paula Lassiter, Clerk/Typist
In 2012, the Historic Preservation Office recognized a number of historic preservation projects with awards that were presented during National Historic Preservation Month in May. Three of the award-winning projects were assisted by grants awarded through the New Jersey Historic Trust.

**Initiative for the Preservation of the 1759 Vought House**

Township of Clinton, Hunterdon County

The Christoffel Vought House, now listed in the NJ and National Registers of Historic Places, is significant not only for its unique German-American ornamental plaster, but also for its association with Loyalism in the American Revolution. A 2004 land purchase by the Clinton Township School District for a new middle school jeopardized this historic house, and initial plans called for its demolition. Community members recognized the significance of the house and gathered to save it. So this began an eight-year, grass-roots effort to save the Vought House. This collaborative effort involved the school board, municipal officials, local community members, preservation professionals, and even the descendants of Christoffel Vought.

As part of the effort to preserve the Vought House, the New Jersey Historic Trust accepted and holds a preservation easement on the property. A 2010 grant award of $30,000 helped to fund an initial conditions assessment, the first step toward its long-term preservation.
Demarest Railroad Depot  
Borough of Demarest, Bergen County

The 1872 Demarest Railroad Depot was designed by noted architect J. Cleveland Cady. Over time, many changes were made to the building and the Borough of Demarest decided to restore it to its period of significance. Its original Romanesque Revival design features heavy rough-cut stone walls, round arches, deeply recessed windows, and carved details. The restoration, completed in 2011, included a new roof and drainage system for the main building and tower, restoration of metal cresting and finials, new heating and air conditioning system, and the trackside doors, which had been blocked, were restored. The interior finishes were restored, and the ticket booth was reconstructed. The restored Depot now serves the Borough of Demarest as a community center.

This site was supported by two grants from the New Jersey Historic Trust, totaling $186,137, which supported the preparation of planning documents and the initial exterior restoration efforts.

Bayshore Discover Project  
Port Norris, Cumberland County

As part of its commitment to restore and interpret significant pieces of New Jersey’s maritime history, the Delaware Bay Museum completed the restoration of seven shipping sheds, four wharfs and one railroad artifact, all which dated to 1918-1920. The structures, which offer a unique look at the historic center of South Jersey’s oyster trade, were stabilized and restored. About 80 percent of the original architectural elements were preserved. The restored structures serve as a homeport to the A.J. Meerwald, a historic schooner that serves as a centerpiece for the Bayshore Discovery Project.

This unique site has been long-supported by planning and capital preservation grants from the New Jersey Historic Trust. Five grants, totaling $1,487,500 helped fund planning documents and construction on the restoration of the shipping sheds and wharfs.
A record number of participants attended June’s Historic Preservation Conference at Rider University in Lawrenceville. “Sustaining the Past – Inventing the Future” offered 15 educational sessions that explored topics about stabilized ruins, battlefield preservation, African-American historic sites, paranormal programming and archaeological findings. Three field workshops allowed behind the scenes tours of private historic homes, historic preservation and development in Princeton and Ewing’s modern landmark Louis Kahn bathhouses.
The day kicked off on an energetic level thanks to keynote speaker Steve Mouzan, architect and author. His presentation on sustainability and urban planning was well received, described as “down to earth, inspiring and motivating,” by one conference participant. Mr. Mouzan made the argument that in order for buildings to be preserved and used, they must be lovable, durable, flexible and frugal.

The sponsor and vendor exhibits around the periphery of the lunch room created a busy networking area, attracting many participants during the breakfast/registration time and during the luncheon hour. The exhibit tables included other state agencies and nonprofit organizations, as well as for-profit businesses and professional firms. The conference appreciates the continued support of its sponsors that help to make the event self-sustaining.

Princeton's Residential Treasures, a popular afternoon tour, gave guests an inside look at such landmarks as Tusculum, summer home and farm of John Witherspoon, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

In one educational session, participants worked in small groups to make decisions about preventative preservation measures.

Exhibitors met with conference guests during breakfast and lunch.

The closing session brought participants together to learn about future funding for historic preservation in New Jersey.

The Princeton Historical Society provided guides for one of the afternoon tours.
The 2013 conference, “Enriching Place” was held on June 6 at The Newark Museum. This conference is the first History and Historic Preservation Conference in New Jersey, combining the interest of the former History Issues Convention with the Preservation Conference. Specific tracks were directed to municipal commissions, history nonprofits, as well as architects and planners seeking continuing education credits. On June 5, the Advocates for New Jersey History hosted an awards ceremony and reception for history nonprofits and their board members to network prior to the conference. For more information, visit: www.njpreservationconference.org

The residential tour visited President Grover Cleveland’s Princeton home, Westland. Another tour took participants through Princeton’s historic downtown district.

Keynote Speaker Steve Mouzon and author Clifford Zink signed books at lunchtime.

Speaker Lisa Soderberg presented at an educational session about sustainability and historic buildings.

Exhibitors included professional firms, contractors, commercial businesses and nonprofit agencies.

Stephanie Cherry-Farmer speaking about the future of preservation funding.

Michael Mills leads a tour of the Kahn Bathhouses in Ewing.
The reception was a welcomed break at the end of a full day.
The theme for the 2012 Best Practices workshop series was Collections Care: Policies and Practices. The New Jersey Historic Trust, New Jersey State Museum and New Jersey Historical Commission presented a two-part experience to participants: a January workshop explored the fundamentals of collections care, ethics, policy and standards of excellence. Later in the year, field workshops at the Edison National Historic Site in West Orange and in Salem at the Old Salem County Courthouse showed on-site collections care practices.

The Best Practices workshop series is based on the Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations, which is a self-assessment tool created by the American Association for State and Local History. This self-study program encourages awareness and achievement of national standards for small to mid-sized history organizations.

Workshop participants learned about collections care at the Salem County Historical Society (left and middle pictures) and from the National Park Service at the Edison Historic Site in West Orange.
In addition to the conference and workshops, the Historic Trust staff participated at a variety of events including the annual Historical Commission Conference, History Issues Convention, Archives and History Day and outdoor NJ History Fair.

**NEW INITIATIVE**

With the Historic Trust approaching the 25th anniversary of its Preservation Grants Program and New Jersey poised to commemorate its 350th anniversary in 2014, the Historic Trust engaged a consultant to research and write a manuscript that documents and celebrates the leading tradition of historic preservation in New Jersey. The work, *Great Places, Compelling Stories: Preservation New Jersey’s Rich Cultural Heritage*, will explore stories of key leaders in the preservation movement, compile significant preservation stories of public and private initiatives, special sites, districts and cultural landscapes that have been saved, and document New Jersey’s leading public policy that has encouraged the preservation of many important historic sites.
In November 1998, voters approved a ballot initiative to preserve open space, farmland, and historic sites, with funding from state revenues guaranteed for the next decade. This legislation created The Garden State Preservation Trust, which was signed into law on June 30, 1999. This source of grant funds allowed the Trust to address the preservation needs of properties throughout the state through fiscal year 2009.

In 2007 and 2009, voters approved referendums to provide additional funding for the preservation of open space, farmland and historic preservation projects.

The Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund continues the work of the Historic Preservation Bond Program, which from 1990-1997, awarded $52 million in capital grants to assist preservation projects statewide.

Two categories of grants are awarded through the program. Historic Site Management Grants, up to $50,000, help support for planning exercises that promote effective management at historic sites. Capital Preservation Grants, up to $750,000, help support construction expenses related to the preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic properties and associated architectural and engineering expenses.

In 2012, the following nine capital and 22 planning projects were successfully completed.

**Completed Projects:**

**GARDEN STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND**

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**Deserted Village of Feltville: Maskers Barn**

A $426,834 grant to Union County Parks and Recreation helped fund the rehabilitation and restoration of the former carriage house. The building now provides space for public educational programs and restrooms during the site’s open hours. Feltville was founded by Daniel Felt in 1845 as a small paper-producing company village. Later a vacation resort, it is now part of the Watchung Reservation. The former village store is now a visitors’ center, but most of the worker cottages are no longer occupied.

**Noah Hunt House**

A $733,585 grant to Mercer County helped fund the rehabilitation and restoration of the Noah Hunt House, which is significant for its early c. 1760 construction and its association with the Hunt family, prominent early local residents. The house, which stood vacant since 1968, now houses county park offices and a visitor/trail center at the 12-acre site.
Updike Farmstead

A $605,825 grant to the Historical Society of Princeton in Mercer County helped fund the rehabilitation and restoration of the farmhouse for office, exhibit and program space to compliment the Society’s activities in downtown Princeton. The property is one of the last surviving farms in Princeton and protected by a farmland conservation easement. The farm includes several outbuildings and a windmill that was also recently restored.

Long House

A $476,725 grant to the nonprofit Help Our Preservation Effort in Hope, Warren County helped fund the exterior restoration of the frame commercial building to its 1870 appearance. The building is named the Long House because the original 1777 stone house was added to four times over 100 years. It now houses office and small retail businesses while contributing to the significance of the Hope Historic District.

Raritan Firehouse

A $532,444 grant to the Borough of Raritan in Somerset County helped fund the restoration of the interior and accessibility improvements that will allow continued community use of this local landmark. Originally called the Relief Hose Company No. 2 Engine House, the building exhibits the High Gothic Style of a Victorian Era firehouse, constructed in 1894.

Abraham Staats House

A $339,898 grant to the Historical Commission of the Borough of South Bound Brook helped fund foundation repairs, restoration of doors and windows, as well as accessibility and security work that will allow assembly occupancy and greater use of the site. Built by several generations of the Staats family from c.1738 through 1825, the Staats House is the premier historic site in the borough.
Greenwood Gardens
A $750,000 grant to Greenwood Gardens in Short Hills/Millburn Township in Essex County helped fund the stabilization and restoration of the main terrace retaining walls and garden steps at this early 20th century estate, with buildings and garden features reflective of American Arts and Crafts aesthetics. Greenwood Gardens’ mission is to preserve the historic architecture and landscape of the property and inspire and educate the public on nature and land stewardship.

Dutch Reformed Church New Brunswick
A $487,797 grant to the church in Middlesex County helped fund roof and masonry restoration for the church and educational buildings. The present sanctuary of First Reformed Church of New Brunswick sanctuary was built in 1812 with an 1835 steeple. The 1871 education building houses classrooms, community meeting rooms, offices, and a gymnasium. The facility is shared with two other congregations.
Bivalve Shipping Sheds & Wharves
A $750,000 grant to the Bayshore Discovery Project in Cumberland County helped fund the fourth phase of restoration activities including interior and exterior finishes, wharf roof restoration and installation of systems equipment. The shipping sheds and wharves are one of the reminders of the multi-million dollar oyster industry that employed thousands of workers and defined the regional economy. The grantee purchased the site in 2001 for use as their headquarters, a museum, educational facility, and as the base of operations for the tall ship, A.J. Meerwald.
**Completed Projects:**

**HISTORIC SITE MANAGEMENT GRANTS**

**ATLANTIC COUNTY:**
- A $15,000 grant to Weymouth Township helped fund a preservation plan for the World War I-era Belcoville Post Office.
- A $12,724 grant to the Presbyterian Church, Mays Landing helped fund the preparation of a preservation plan.

**BERGEN COUNTY:**
- A $40,000 grant to Oakland Borough helped fund a preservation plan and landscape assessment for the Van Allen House and Vygeborg Farm Office Building.

**BURLINGTON COUNTY:**
- A $29,021 grant to the Perkins Center for the Arts in Moorestown helped fund signage and site interpretation for the site’s arboretum and surrounding historic district.

**CAMDEN COUNTY:**
- A $30,000 grant to Camden County helped fund “Pathways to Freedom,” a podcast tour of African-American sites.
- A $13,125 grant to the First Baptist Church of Haddonfield helped fund the preparation of a preservation plan.

**CAPE MAY COUNTY:**
- A $30,600 grant to the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts in Cape May helped fund planning documents to rehabilitate the Emlen Physick House heating and ventilation systems.

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY:**
- A $15,375 grant to the South Jersey Economic Development District helped fund an archaeological survey of the Ferracute Machine Company, a former industrial site in Bridgeton.
- A $50,000 grant to the Bayshore Discovery Project in Commercial Township helped fund design documents for a fourth phase of construction at the historic Bivalve oyster industrial site.
- A $29,831 grant to the Friends of Bridgeton Library that helped fund a preservation plan for the former Cumberland Bank Building, the first bank in Bridgeton established in 1816 and now part of the city library.
- A $10,000 grant to the Jewish Federation of Cumberland County helped support an interpretive plan for the Alliance Heritage Center, founded within a 19th century Jewish agricultural community.

**GLOUCESTER COUNTY:**
- A $12,000 grant to the Mount Zion AME Church in Woolwich helped fund a conditions assessment that also made recommendations about future stewardship of the site in a community that was founded by freed black slaves.
HUDSON COUNTY:
• A $50,000 grant to Save Ellis Island, Inc. in support of the planning for public visitation to the Hospital Buildings on the New Jersey area of the Island.

HUNTERDON:
• A $29,962 grant to St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Lambertville funded a preservation plan for this 1892 church built in the English Gothic style.

MERCER COUNTY:
• A $50,000 grant to the Crossroads of the American Revolution Heritage Area Association helped fund the production of orientation videos at kiosks at four locations throughout the state.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY:
• A $50,000 grant to the South Brunswick Historic Preservation Commission helped fund the preparation of a Cultural Landscape Report for the former Princeton Nurseries, one of the largest commercial nurseries in the U.S. established in 1913.

MONMOUTH COUNTY:
• A $44,625 grant to the Borough of Little Silver helped to fund a feasibility study of the Parker Homestead, which may be used for cultural and educational purposes.

MORRIS COUNTY:
• A $27,147 grant to Long Hill Township helped fund a conditions assessment of the Millington Schoolhouse in preparation for its rehabilitation.

• A $37,322 grant to the Passaic River Coalition in Morristown helped support the preparation of a Historic Structure Report for Willow Hall, the organization’s headquarters building, and capital fundraising efforts.

• A $50,000 grant to the Morris County Visitors Center helped fund the preparation of design guidelines for a new wayfinding signage system that will help identify cultural and historic sites.

UNION COUNTY:
• A $47,000 grant to the Reeves-Reed Arboretum helped support the preparation of a Historic Site Master Plan that addressed the needs of the historic structures and surrounding landscape.

WARREN COUNTY:
• A $38,888 grant to the Canal Society of New Jersey in Allamuchy helped fund a feasibility study for rehabilitation of the site’s locks, towpath and locktender’s house.
Grants Awarded
THE 1772 FOUNDATION

In 2012, the 1772 Foundation, in cooperation with the New Jersey Historic Trust, offered capital preservation matching grants up to $15,000, available to nonprofit organizations for repair and restoration projects.

The following 17 grants, totaling $190,000 were awarded.

Naval Air Station Wildwood Museum in Rio Grande, Cape May County, awarded $15,000 to repair windows, doors and paint portions of World War I era airplane Hangar #1.

Ralston Cider Mill Museum in Mendham, Morris County, awarded $15,000 to replace its wood shingle roof.

Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit, Union County, awarded $15,000 for roof and wood shingle repairs to the Carriage House.

Cape May Stage in Cape May, Cape May County, awarded $15,000 for window restoration and painting for the former Cape Island Presbyterian Church.

Morris County Historical Society in Morristown, Morris County, awarded $1,450 to restore original front doors of Acorn Hall, a Victorian-era museum.

Historical Society of Princeton in Princeton, Mercer County, awarded $9,900 for exterior painting of the 1766 Bainbridge House.
Van Harlingen Historical Society awarded $8,000 for roof and chimney repairs to Gulick House.

Historic Cold Spring Village in Cape May, Cape May County, awarded $6,600 for exterior restoration work on two buildings, the Douglas residence and the John Finley blacksmith shop.

Barrow Mansion Development Corporation in Jersey City, Hudson County, awarded $15,000 for repairs to siding and gutters on the 1835 Barrow Mansion.

Waldwick Community Alliance in Waldwick, Bergen County, awarded $15,000 for the installation of gutters and flashing on its historic railroad station.

Montclair Historical Society in Montclair, Essex County, awarded $4,000 for exterior repairs to the Clark and Crane Houses.

Mauricetown Historical Society in Mauricetown, Cumberland County, awarded $15,000 for exterior painting of three historic buildings.

Greater Newark Conservancy in Newark, Essex County, awarded $15,000 for stained glass restoration at Oheb Shalom Synagogue, a Moorish Revival style former synagogue.

Historical Society of Rockaway Township awarded $3,285 for a fire and security system installation at Ford-Faesch Ironmaster’s House, which is undergoing a comprehensive restoration.

Preservation New Jersey awarded $15,000 for the installation of fire and security systems at the 1867 Sanctuary, a former Presbyterian Church.

Pinelands Preservation Alliance in Southampton, Burlington County, awarded $15,000 for the restoration of the siding on the former Dairy Barn.

Evergreen Cemetery & Crematory in Hillside, Union County, awarded $7,665 for repointing the administration building at this mid-nineteenth century historic site.
The Discover NJ History License Plate Fund provides small grants (up to $5,000) to develop and promote visitor-ready sites as heritage tourism destinations.

These technical assistance grants may be used to promote interpretation and marketing links among heritage sites; to assess visitor-readiness of a heritage site or sites; to establish performance evaluation systems; and to provide training initiatives, workshops and educational activities that foster the goals and objectives of the NJ Heritage Tourism Plan.

In 2012, the first grants were awarded from the Fund.

The First Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth in Elizabeth, Union County, awarded $3,000 to develop a mobile application that will offer interpretation of the historic markers in its Burial Ground, which pre-dates the Revolution.

NJ Council for the Humanities in Trenton, Mercer County, awarded $3,000 to develop a manual that will provide marketing guidance specifically to historic sites.

Morris County Tourism Bureau in Morristown, Morris County, awarded $3,000 to implement recommendations of its recently completed Wayfinding and Signage Program.

Rutherfurd Hall - Allamuchy Township Board of Education in Allamuchy Township, Warren County, awarded $3,000 toward public interpretation efforts.

The Discover NJ History License Plate Grant Program for Heritage Tourism is supported by income from sales and renewals of the Discover NJ History License plate, which was established in 1995. The plates feature a Victorian-style row house image, from a painting by New Jersey artist Harry Devlin. These beautifully designed plates will remind others that history is always ready to be “discovered” in New Jersey.

History supporters pay a one-time $50 fee (and a $10 annual renewal). Discover NJ History plates may be obtained at any motor vehicle agency or by mail. You can personalize your historical plates with up to five characters for an initial $100 fee (and a $10 annual renewal).

Visit Motor Vehicles Services for more information about the Discover NJ History plates.
The New Jersey Cultural Trust provides grants to support capital projects, endowments and institutional and financial stabilization of arts, history and humanities organizations in New Jersey. Funding for the grants comes from interest earned on the Cultural Trust Fund, which is a permanent investment fund.

In 2012, the following ten grants, totaling $439,164 were awarded.

- Red Mill Museum Village in Clinton, Hunterdon County, awarded $35,000 for the restoration of the Screen House, an outbuilding associated with the site’s 19th century limestone quarry.

- Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts & Humanities in Cape May, Cape May County, awarded $47,500 for the restoration of cedar shingle roofs on three outbuildings that support the Emlen Physick Estate House Museum.

- 1759 Vought House, Inc. in Clinton, Hunterdon County, awarded $50,000 for the stabilization and restoration of the roof on the Vought House, which was recently saved from demolition. The Revolutionary-era house has been changed over the years but retains unique serpentine plaster work (top right).

- Bordentown Historical Society in Bordentown, Burlington County, awarded $50,000 toward the stabilization of the Bordentown Friends Meetinghouse, constructed in 1740 and now used for history programs and exhibits.
Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum Association in Rahway, Union County, awarded $50,000 toward exterior wood and masonry repairs to this 1795 stagecoach tavern.

Historic Cold Spring Village in Lower Township, Cape May County, awarded $14,825 for the installation of a custom stair lift on the original Cold Spring Grange, a former agricultural community center which now houses a restaurant and meeting space.

duCret School of Art in Plainfield, Union County, awarded $50,000 for the restoration of the porte cochere, chimney and roof of the George A. Strong Residence, a Colonial Revival style mansion that has been used as a school since 1933.

Kenilworth Historical Society, Inc. in Kenilworth, Union County, awarded $50,000 for the restoration of interior finishes in the Oswald J. Nitschke House, which will open as a museum.

InfoAge Science History Center in Wall, Monmouth County, awarded $45,609 for one HVAC system and interior repairs one building that is part of Camp Evans, a leader in radar technology development during World War II.

Borough Improvement League of Metuchen, Middlesex County, awarded $46,230 toward exterior repairs and stabilization of this 19th century school that has been a community center since 1901.
The New Jersey Historic Trust accepted the donation of its fifteenth perpetual preservation and conservation easement in December. The easement provides protection to the Ben and Bernarda Shahn House in Roosevelt, Monmouth County. The house is unique architecturally as a design of architect Louis Kahn, then in the office of Alfred Kastner, with additions designed by renowned woodworker George Nakashima.

The house was constructed in 1936 as part of the community of Jersey Homesteads, a New Deal project established as an agricultural-industrial cooperative community for Jewish garment workers and farmers. The design of the community included clusters of housing with common space left in the middle of each block. The government sold the homes and the factory to private individuals after WWII. In 1954 the town changed its name to Roosevelt in honor of the President. The entire town of Roosevelt is listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its significance in the area of planning.

Distinguished artists Ben and Bernarda Shahn moved to Roosevelt in 1938 after Ben Shahn painted a large-scale mural in the town's public school. George Nakashima, a personal friend of the Shahn's, designed additions for the Shahn's house in 1960 and 1965.

The preservation easement protects the entire exterior of the house as well as the interior and built-in features of the Nakashima additions.
About the New Jersey Historic Trust

The Mission of the Trust is to advance historic preservation in New Jersey for the benefit of future generations through education, stewardship and financial investment programs that save our heritage and strengthen our communities.

The Historic Trust seeks to achieve its mission by serving as:

- A leading voice for preservation at the state level.
- A catalyst for preservation and community revitalization activities.
- A full partner in state policy development.

The Trust also provides financial support, protection and technical assistance through six programs:

The Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund was created by legislation in November 1998, signed into law on June 30, 1999 for the purpose of preserving open space, farmland, and historic sites with funding from state revenues, guaranteed for the next decade. This source of grant funds allowed the Trust to address the preservation needs of properties throughout the state through fiscal year 2009. In 2007 and in 2009, voters approved referendums to provide additional funding for historic preservation projects. The GSHPTF continues the work of the Historic Preservation Bond Program, which from 1990-1997 awarded $52 million in capital grants to assist preservation projects statewide.

The Cultural Trust Capital Preservation Grants Program provides funding to protect and improve historic properties that are used by organizations that have history or humanities programming. Grants may be used for stabilization, repair, restoration, adaptive use, and increased accessibility. This funding is offered in cooperation with the New Jersey Cultural Trust.

The Discover NJ Historic License Plate Fund for Heritage Tourism provides small grants to develop and promote visitor ready sites.

In partnership with the 1772 Foundation, the Historic Trust offers Capital Preservation Grants up to $15,000 to nonprofit organizations for repair and restoration projects.

The Trust offers long-term, low-interest loans through the Historic Preservation Revolving Loan Fund, which provides for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration of historic properties. The maximum available from the fund is $370,000 and some matching funds will be required.

An Emergency Grant and Loan Fund provides limited funds for critically needed work on endangered historic resources. The grant portion of this program is temporarily suspended; loans are still available.

The Preservation Easement Program ensures the preservation of privately-owned properties in perpetuity through the use of deed restrictions. The Trust initiated the first statewide program of this kind, which enables easement donors to take advantage of charitable deduction tax benefits.

The Trust accepts donations of real estate through its New Jersey Legacies program. Property donors may realize significant income and estate tax benefits by their donations. Donated properties are resold by the Trust with protective easements to ensure their preservation.