# New Jersey Historic Trust Board of Trustees Meeting, December 9, 2009 Funding Recommendations From the Grants and Loans Committee 2009 Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund

# HISTORIC SITE MANAGEMENT GRANTS Recommending \$1,279,941 in matching grants to 38 projects

#### **Ellis Island Recreation Building**

2009.0004 Location: Jersey City, Hudson County Applicant: Save Ellis Island, Inc. Recommended Award: \$50,000 Work Proposed: Structural engineering and interior preservation studies Initiative: Urban Community

The hospital buildings on Ellis Island were one of the largest medical facilities built at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to treat newly arriving immigrants. Of the 12 million immigrants processed on the island, 1.2 million were kept and treated (including over 300 births) in the hospital. During both World Wars military personnel were also treated on Ellis Island. The Recreation Building sits at the center of the Ellis Island hospital complex. Built in 1936, it exhibits a classical Art Deco style with a red brick and terracotta exterior. The building is in poor condition having suffered years of moisture penetration.

The grant will help fund structural engineering and preservation studies that will guide future stabilization, repair and restoration.

Bloomfield Presbyterian Church 2009.0029

Location: Bloomfield, Essex County Applicant: Bloomfield Presbyterian Church on the Green Recommended Award: \$50,000 Work Proposed: Structural assessment

The town of Bloomfield takes its name from the church, where construction of the sandstone house of worship began in 1797. The parish house was built in 1840 and was used as the town hall during part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Sagging and cracking in the sanctuary ceiling called for truss repairs in the late 1980s, but in 2008 additional deformities were noted. The building was closed, as a precaution, while under investigation by a structural engineer and preservation architect.

The grant will help fund a thorough structural assessment of the sanctuary ceiling and truss system.

#### Newark Symphony Hall

2009.0045 Location: Newark, Essex County Applicant: Newark Performing Arts Corporation, Inc. Recommended Award: \$50,000 Work Proposed: Preservation plan Initiative: Urban Community

Originally known as the Mosque Theatre and officially called the Salaam Temple, the Hall was built from 1922 to 1925 and includes Neo-Classical, Greek, Roman and Egyptian design elements. The building was in private ownership until 1964 when purchased by the City of Newark. It is now leased to the Newark Performing Arts Corporation and remains the primary concert space for the Newark Symphony. The building suffers from some localized water infiltration.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan that will help guide future efforts to maintain, repair and restore this 1920s urban landmark.

Sybil's Cave 2009.0033 Location: Hoboken, Hudson County Applicant: Hoboken Historical Museum & Cultural Center Recommended Award: \$15,750 Work Proposed: Archeological investigation and preservation plan Initiatives: Urban Community, Heritage Tourism

Sybil's Cave is the oldest man-made structure in Hoboken, created in 1832 by the Stevens Family as a folly on their property, containing a natural spring. By the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century the cave was a recreational destination with a walk from Hoboken to the cave and a restaurant offering outdoor refreshments beside the cave. When the Steven's family property became Stevens Institute, the cave became the property of the Institute. It was closed, though periodically opened to the public in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. By the late 20<sup>th</sup> century the cave had been covered with building debris. In 2007 the cave was rediscovered and cleared by the City of Hoboken. With limited research, the City erected a new cast stone arch and fence in front of the cave marking the cave but preventing the public from entering.

The grant will help fund an archaeological investigation that will provide more information about the cave's construction, a preservation plan that will identify future repair priorities, and an evaluation of tourism potential for this unique urban historic resource. 2009.0046 Location: Paterson, Passaic County Applicant: Paterson Historic Preservation Commission Recommended Award: \$18,000 Work Proposed: Design guidelines Initiative: Urban Community

The Paterson Downtown Commercial Historic District contains 211 contributing buildings. Its period of significance extends from 1850 to 1935. The district includes buildings used for commerce, office, government, civic and cultural activities and architectural styles that include Beaux Arts, Romanesque Revival, Late Gothic Revival, Moderne, and Second Empire.

Overall, the buildings within the historic district are in poor to fair condition, and most ground level storefronts have been altered over time, affecting the historic appearance of the streetscape. The grant will help fund design guidelines that will provide information to business and real estate owners, to encourage thoughtful renovations that take historic character into consideration.

#### Hinchliffe Stadium

2009.0038 Location: Paterson, Passaic County Applicant: Friends of Hinchliffe Stadium Recommended Award: \$31,823 Work Proposed: Preservation plan Initiative: Urban Community

Hinchliffe Stadium was built as a New Deal project, in 1932-34, laid out by Olmsted Brothers and designed by Fanning and Shaw. The stadium was the site of the final meeting of the 1934 Paterson Labor Strike. The New York Black Yankees team of the Negro League used the stadium for 12 seasons beginning in 1933 and in 1936 it was also used by the New York Cubans team. The stadium is one of only a few Negro League baseball stadiums of note still standing. Now owned by the school district, the structure has been closed since 1997 and is deteriorating due to a lack of maintenance.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan that will identify preservation priorities and potential costs, in anticipation of future repair and restoration.

# New Milford Plant of the Hackensack Water Works 2009.0015 Location: Hackensack, Bergen County Applicant: Bergen County Dept. of Parks, Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs Recommended Award: \$50,000

Work Proposed: Preservation plan

The waterworks were begun in 1886 as a massive state of the art water treatment and distribution facility. It was expanded through 1912 and updated in 1955, to provide water to northern New Jersey. The complex is a unique historic resource for New Jersey, retaining the

equipment chronicling the engineering technology of water purification. The resource is also distinctive for the scale and architectural beauty of the complex. The complex closed in the 1980s and is currently vacant. It is now owned by the County of Bergen.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan for the water treatment building and pump house.

# **Bivalve Shipping Sheds & Wharves**

2009.0049 Location: Commercial Township, Cumberland County Applicant: Bayshore Discovery Project Recommended Award: \$50,000 Work Proposed: Development of a capital campaign These buildings are one of the few reminders of the multi-million dollar industry that once flourished on the bay. Built by the Central Railroad of New Jersey, the sheds and their associated industries employed thousands of workers and defined the regional economy. The shipping sheds and wharves were constructed in 1904 with roofs added to the wharves in 1916. The row of seven remaining sheds was the centerpiece of the Maurice River Cove oyster industry. Since 2001, the site has been the headquarters, museum and educational facility for the Bayshore Discovery Project, which also cares for the A.J. Meerwald, New Jersey's official tall ship.

The grant will help fund the development of a capital campaign to continue the restoration of the site's historic resources. Federal and state grants have helped stabilized the sheds and wharves, which were in deteriorated condition, provide accessibility, and open interpretive space. Additional work is needed to make the site fully operational as an educational and tourism destination.

# **Edison Memorial Tower**

2009.0025 Location: Edison, Middlesex County Applicant: Edison Memorial Tower Corporation Recommended Award: \$18,000 Work Proposed: Strategic plan and capital campaign

The Edison Memorial Tower was constructed in 1937 as a tribute to Thomas Edison's significant and prolific work at Menlo Park, Edison Township. Edison received 400 patents for work developed at Menlo Park. The tower is also significant as one of only two Art Decostyled monuments in New Jersey and one of only a few monuments listed on the National Register. It is an excellent example of the work of J. J. Earley, a designer of exposed aggregate, cast-in-place architectural panels. It has been closed to the public since 1997 due to safety concerns.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a strategic plan and a capital campaign to assist with the multi-million dollar restoration of the exterior that will enable the tower to reopen to the public.

# **Evergreen Cemetery**

2009.0013 Location: Hillside, Essex & Union Counties Applicant: Evergreen Cemetery and Crematory Recommended Award: \$50,000 Work Proposed: Cultural resource master plan Initiative: Urban Community

Evergreen Cemetery was founded in 1853 as a picturesque, non-denominational cemetery, designed by Elizabeth's municipal engineer Ernest Meyer. The original 31 acres occupied the former John and Ellen Teas farm; the barn was converted to the cemetery maintenance building and Greek-Revival house used for offices. The cemetery retains its original layout and appearance, with winding roads, iron fences, and stone benches.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a comprehensive cultural resources master plan that will examine the conditions of the landscape, landscape furniture and gravestones as well as the original farmhouse that is actively utilized by the cemetery administration.

# **Read House**

2009.0017 Location: Camden, Camden County Applicant: Camden Area Health Education Center, Inc. Recommended Award: \$50,000 Work Proposed: Preservation plan and construction drawings Initiative: Urban Community

The three-story brick row house was constructed in 1903 as a Colonial Revival style residence for William T. Read, a prominent Camden attorney. His son, William Read, Jr. would later become a state Senator and Treasurer. The building was later divided into offices with an apartment on the upper floor, and was purchased by the applicant for its headquarters in 1997. The structure retains a high degree of architectural integrity on the exterior, with original windows on the first floor and side elevations, glazed brick laid in a Flemish bond and oriel bay window on the second floor. Interior finishes remain for the most part, but have been covered with modern materials in some areas.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan that will assess exterior and interior conditions of the structure and set priorities for future repairs and improvements. The grant will also fund the preparation of construction drawings for the exterior restoration of the building, based on the recommendations of the preservation plan.

Black Creek Site 2009.0024 Location: Vernon, Sussex County Applicant: Vernon Township Historical Society Recommended Award: \$18,750 Work Proposed: Interpretive plan

The Black Creek Site is an archaeological site consisting of 40 acres of field, partial woodland, and a creek. Its period of significance spans nearly 10,000 years, extending from approximately 8,000 BC to 1740. It is believed that the Black Creek Site served as a hub of

Native American subsistence pursuits, settlement behavior, and social activities. The site is also important for its associations with a major legal challenge to the NJ Register Act. The site was acquired by Wawayanda State Park from the Township and now features a hiking trail and an outdoor classroom. The site is in good condition and is maintained by the township maintenance department under direction of the Historical Society.

The grant will help fund the preparation of an interpretive plan for the site.

## **First Presbyterian Church of Ewing**

2009.0035 Location: Ewing, Mercer County Applicant: First Presbyterian Church of Ewing Recommended Award: \$50,000 Work Proposed: Design and construction documents, National Register nomination

The church was constructed in 1867, designed in the Romanesque Revival style with round arched windows, a central tower and brownstone exterior. It is one of four buildings on the 55-acre campus, which includes an active cemetery, an 1880 former manse (now the church office) and a contemporary fellowship hall. The sanctuary building has been closed since March 2007 because of structural concerns evidenced by a bowed wall and some exterior cracks. The church was listed as one of the state's most endangered properties in 2009.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a National Register nomination for the site, along with a detailed structural assessment and preparation of design and construction documents to remedy the structural deficiency.

#### **Strauss Mansion**

2009.0011 Location: Atlantic Highlands, Monmouth County Applicant: Atlantic Highlands Historical Society Recommended Award: \$27,000 Work Proposed: Preservation plan, National Register nomination

The wood-shingled Queen Anne house was built in 1893 as the summer residence of Adolph Strauss. It was designed by Solomon Cohen and built by Adolph Hutera. The Adolph Strauss family was part of the Jewish summer community at Atlantic Highlands, easily reached from New York City by ferry. The house was sold in the 1960s, divided into apartments and ultimately condemned in 1981. The Atlantic Highlands Historical Society bought the house 1981, made repairs and eventually opened the first floor to the public in 1986 as a house museum.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a nomination to the National Register, and a preservation plan that will guide future work to repair, restore and reuse the house for heritage education.

#### Vass Farmstead

2009.0007 Location: Hardwick Township, Warren County Applicant: Hardwick Township Historical Society, Inc. Recommended Award: \$24,170 Work Proposed: Interpretive plan and materials

The Vass Farmstead's stone house dates from 1812 and includes Federal and Georgian features as well as later nineteenth century alterations. The property also includes a 19th century bank barn and 20<sup>th</sup> century dairy barn dating from the first quarter of the twentieth century. The property is now owned by New Jersey and leased to the Hardwick Township Historical Society, which has stabilized and restored much of the house and barn. The buildings are currently open to the public for interpretive programs on a limited basis.

The grant will help fund the preparation of an interpretive plan and materials for the visiting public that will convey the history of the Vass family, agricultural development, and the preservation of the site.

## **Cumberland Bank Building**

2009.0040 Location: Bridgeton, Cumberland County Applicant: Friends of the Bridgeton Library Recommended Award: \$15,000 Work Proposed: Preservation plan Initiative: Urban Community

Constructed in 1816 as the Cumberland National Bank, the institution was the first bank in New Jersey located south of Camden and was founded to support the Cumberland Iron and Nail Works, an important local manufacturer throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. After the bank moved out, the Bridgeton Library purchased the structure in 1901 and the city acquired it in 1922. In 1967, a new substantial library was constructed adjacent to the historic bank building, which is now used for library offices and meetings but is not generally open to the public.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan that will assess the current conditions of the historic bank building, set priorities for repair and restoration, and explore possible uses for the structure that would allow public access to this historic resource.

# Emlen Physick House 2009.0005 Location: Cape May, Cape May County Applicant: Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts

Recommended Award: \$30,600

Work Proposed: Construction drawings and specifications

The Emlen Physick House is an outstanding example of Victorian Stick-style architecture. Constructed in 1879, the building is attributed to prominent Philadelphia architect Frank Furness. The building's architectural character, as defined by its ornate inverted chimneys, its arcaded porch, its dormers, and its combined roof forms is representative of the Stick Style. It is open to the public on a year-round basis.

The grant will help fund the preparation of construction drawings and specifications for the installation of a geothermal heating and cooling system for the house.

## **Bayonne Trust Company**

2009.0019 Location: Bayonne, Hudson County Applicant: City of Bayonne Recommended Award: \$15,000 Work Proposed: Designs for HVAC system and interior rehabilitation Initiative: Urban Community

This Beaux Arts-style bank building was built in 1912 and is characteristic of the many classical bank buildings constructed during this period. The building was in commercial use until the late 1990s when it was acquired by the city. The Vermont granite building is in relatively good condition, retaining most of its historic details and materials inside and out.

The grant will help fund design and construction documents for a new heating and ventilation system, as well as interior rehabilitation that will allow the building to open to the public as a City museum.

Cumberland Nail Mill and Iron Works Office 2009.0039 Location: Bridgeton, Cumberland County Applicant: City of Bridgeton Recommended Award: \$15,109 Work Proposed: Preservation plan Initiative: Urban Community

The nail mill office is the last building associated with the Cumberland Nail and Iron Works, a substantial local manufacturing company, which was in operation from 1815 to 1899. The office is sited at the entrance to Bridgeton City Park, whose 1,100 acres were purchased by the city from the Nail Works for recreational use. The resource is representative of Bridgeton's industrial manufacturing history, which has been long neglected in the city's public history. For most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the mill office was used to house a collection of artifacts stewarded by the Antiquarian League.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan that will guide future restoration and rehabilitation of the modest building as a visitor's center or museum that will explore Bridgeton's industrial history.

#### **First Presbyterian Church of Pennington**

2009.0028 Location: Pennington, Mercer County Applicant: Pennington Presbyterian Church Recommended Award: \$40,221 Work Proposed: Construction documents, National Register nomination

The landmark is a Victorian Gothic Revival style church completed in 1875 and is the centerpiece of a church campus that includes a fellowship hall, classrooms and offices occupying several 20<sup>th</sup> century additions (1920s, 50s, 60s and 80s). The property is bordered on one side and in the rear by a substantial cemetery. This is the fourth building for this congregation on this site; the first church dated to the American Revolution and was once occupied by the Hessian army.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a nomination to the National Register, as well as construction documents for roof and masonry repairs to the house of worship.

## **Ramsaysburg Homestead**

2009.0006 Location: Knowlton Township, Warren County Applicant: Knowlton Township Historic Commission Recommended Award: \$34,481 Work Proposed: Strategic plan for use and interpretation

The homestead was established in 1795 as the centerpiece of a hamlet that survived until the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, benefiting from Delaware River trading and shipping. Remaining buildings on the property include the former homestead/tavern, a cottage, barn, and wagon shed, which have been stabilized, but are not ready to be occupied. The township has been receiving county funding to facilitate stabilization and repairs.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a strategic plan for use and interpretation that will identify potential partners in the community and explore potential interpretive themes.

#### Willingboro School House

2009.0001 Location: Willingboro, Burlington County Applicant: Willingboro Township Recommended Award: \$12,413 Work Proposed: Preservation plan

The one-room school was constructed in 1866 in what was originally called Welling Borough, a small rural community. When the school was closed in the 1920s, the building was used for the town hall and community meeting place until being "restored" as a museum in the 1960s. This is one of New Jersey's first properties listed on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places. Open infrequently for community events, the modest building is suffering deterioration of its roofing, masonry and windows.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan that will assess current conditions and set priorities for stabilization, repair and restoration.

#### Hoff-Vannatta Farmstead

2009.0012 Location: Harmony Township, Warren County Applicant: Harmony Township Historic Preservation Commission Recommended Award: \$47,000 Work Proposed: Construction documents

The farmstead includes an 18<sup>th</sup> century stone house, 19<sup>th</sup> century two-story kitchen, large bank barn and three wagon sheds. The site retains a high degree of integrity and has recently undergone stabilization of its most deteriorated elements. The State-owned property is maintained and interpreted by the municipality. Ongoing construction work has been funded through state and county grants.

The grant will help fund the preparation of construction documents for the next phase of restoration. The site is open for public events several times a year.

## **Connett Memorial Library**

2009.0037 Location: South Orange, Essex County Applicant: South Orange Public Library Recommended Award: \$50,000 Work Proposed: Preservation plan Initiative: Urban Community

The library is a Richardsonian Romansque style public library in brick and sandstone, with a red slate roof. Built in 1895 and designed by Stephenson and Greene of New York, it is unusual for retaining most of its historic fabric and details inside and out. It stands within sight of the other three main public structures in the Village, the village hall, the train station, and the fire house. Since 1968 the Connett Library has been leased to a nonprofit organization for their headquarters after a new library was constructed.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan that will set priorities for repairs to the building and explore possible new uses for the building by the current library.

# Inclined Plane #10 West

2009.0041 Location: Lopatcong, Warren County Applicant: Warren County Planning Department Recommended Award: \$45,000 Work Proposed: Archaeological study and condition assessment

The Morris Canal played a crucial role in the industrial development of New Jersey. Begun in 1825, the Morris Canal's 109-mile length extended across New Jersey and it remained in operation until 1924. The use of incline planes enabled the canal to reach elevations that were not possible using the standard lock system. Incline Plane 10 West was completed circa 1831 and enabled the canal to overcome a forty-four-foot elevation change. Plane 10 underwent a number of improvements as technologies changed. It most likely reached its final form during

the mid nineteenth century. Following the closing of the canal, Incline Plane 10 remained in private ownership until Warren County's recent purchase.

The grant will help fund an archeological and conditions assessment of the site that will guide the county's efforts to both interpret the site to the public and protect its the archaeological resources.

#### **Cornelius Stoothoff Farmstead**

2009.0027 Location: Franklin, Somerset County Applicant: Franklin Township Recommended Award: \$50,000 Work Proposed: Stabilization plan and feasibility study

The farmstead was established in 1741 and continuously farmed, becoming a dairy farm in 1870. The property now includes the Dutch-framed farmhouse, and 20<sup>th</sup> century outbuildings including barns, well, silo, chicken houses, milk house and garden shed (sometimes identified as a privy). The farm is historically linked to several early Dutch settler families, and the house retains much of its historic fabric on the interior, including early woodwork, wainscoting, cabinetry and mantels. The township took stewardship of the vacant property in 2007.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a stabilization plan that will guide the most urgent work needed to save the house and barn. Also funded will be a feasibility study that will explore potential uses of the property that would allow it to be open to the public.

#### Christ Episcopal Church, Riverton

2009.0014 Location: Riverton, Burlington County Applicant: Christ Church, Riverton Recommended Award: \$25,875 Work Proposed: Preservation plan

The campus consists of three buildings, an 1884 church, earlier rectory and later parish house, all designs attributed to John Fraser and his son, Archibald. Born in Scotland, Fraser established his practice in Philadelphia with partners Furness and Hewitt, but lived in Riverton and was a member of Christ Episcopal Church.

The church features a massive bell tower, tracery and terra cotta decorations. The Shingle/Gothic style parish house originally functioned as a community center, housing a library, gymnasium, theater and bowling alley that were all used by Riverton residents.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan that will assess the conditions of the historic buildings and make recommendations for future repairs and improvements. In particular, the plan will examine accessibility options for the parish house to increase its use by the congregation and community.

#### Linwood Borough School #1

2009.0023 Location: Linwood, Atlantic County Applicant: Linwood City Recommended Award: \$18,000 Work Proposed: Preservation plan

The small school was constructed in 1873 and has been in continuous public use since that time, as a school, town hall, library and home to the Linwood Historical Society, which now operates it as a museum. In 1939, the original cupola was removed. Other changes to the property, inside and out, have not been fully documented.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan that will assess the building's current condition and make recommendations for its repair and preservation, including improving accessibility and the design and installation of an outside interpretive sign.

#### Indian King Tavern

2009.0042 Location: Haddonfield, Camden County Applicant: Friends of the Indian King Tavern Recommended Award: \$50,000 Work Proposed: Preservation plan

The tavern was constructed in 1750 for Matthias Aspden and was originally a three story brick structure, with kitchen and a paved cellar as part of the original tavern. Another wing, with a gambrel roof, was added in 1760, and removed in 1909. The tavern was expanded along the street façade in the 1880s, incorporating part of an early 18<sup>th</sup> century brewery. It was purchased by the state in 1903 and became the first property preserved as a museum by New Jersey. The building's historic integrity essentially dates to its 1909 restoration, as part of the Colonial Revival movement.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a comprehensive preservation plan that will pull together all the previous documentation and studies, and make recommendations for future repairs, preservation and use of the structure as a historic site. In particular, the plan will explore options for improving visitor amenities to the site that would improve public participation at the site.

#### **Bartlett-Rockhill House**

2009.0048 Location: Tuckerton, Ocean County Applicant: Barnegat Bay Decoy & Baymen Museum Recommended Award: \$35,616 Work Proposed: Preservation plan, National Register nomination

The house was constructed circa 1855 for Edmund Bartlett and was later owned by a sea captain before being purchased by Bartlett's nephew in 1910. The house contains a combination of late Federal and early Victorian styles. A number of additions and alterations were made to the house beginning in the nineteenth century and continuing into the 1930s.

The physical composition of the house reflects the period of J. Henry Bartlett's residency. Now owned by the museum, the house is used for temporary storage, occasional events and one room is used for Victorian-era interpretation.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a nomination to the National Register and a preservation plan for the house that will assess its current conditions and make recommendation for rehabilitation and future use of the building by the museum.

Sergeantsville Hotel

2009.0030 Location: Delaware Township, Hunterdon County Applicant: Delaware Township Recommended Award: \$28,538 Work Proposed: Preservation plan

This hotel/tavern was constructed in 1830 as a substantial five-bay stone building with wood trim. Expanded in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the hotel later served as a meeting place as well as commercial business. Today it remains a highly visible landmark in the community, located at a key intersection. It was acquired by the township for its municipal offices in 1974, at which time the wrap-around porch and stucco cladding was removed. The interior retains good integrity of windows and finishes.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan that will assess current conditions and make recommendations for future repair and rehabilitation, including improving accessibility to the public buildings. Under consideration is the opportunity to reconstruct the original porch and provide an accessible entrance.

Goshen Public School

2009.0034 Location: Middle Township, Cape May County Applicant: Goshen Volunteer Fire Company Recommended Award: \$30,000 Work Proposed: Preservation plan, construction drawings, and National Register nomination

The former schoolhouse, constructed in 1872, is currently owned by the Goshen Volunteer Fire Company. Used as a school through the 1950s, the school house was acquired by the fire company and maintains its rectangular plan, front entrance, and bell tower. It is currently vacant, having been used infrequently for public meetings and events.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a nomination to the National Register, a preservation plan that will assess current conditions and make recommendations for repair, as well as the preparation of construction drawings that will address the most urgent repair priorities from the preservation plan. The fire company intends to return the building to public use.

#### **Allentown Presbyterian Church**

2009.0031 Location: Allentown, Monmouth County Applicant: Allentown Presbyterian Church Recommended Award: \$15,000 Work Proposed: Preservation plan

The Presbyterian Church was established in Allentown in 1720, and the existing building is the second constructed on this site, completed in 1837 in the Greek Revival style. A grand portico and steeple were added in 1858. The steeple was reconstructed in 1929 after a fire. It is surrounded by an active cemetery on a four-acre site, and the church owns a number of other properties. An active congregation has programs for children and teens, as well as space that is used by other community organizations.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan for the church and investigate possible structural deficiencies. The plan will guide future repairs.

#### **Memorial Presbyterian Church of Wenonah**

2009.0009 Location: Wenonah, Gloucester County Applicant: Memorial Presbyterian Church, Wenonah Recommended Award: \$15,750 Work Proposed: Preservation plan, National Register nomination

The Memorial Presbyterian Church of Wenonah was constructed in 1904 in the Gothic Revival style from a design by Philadelphia architect Isaac Pursell. It replaced an early church constructed in 1873. The land and the cost of construction were donated to the church by Wenonah resident and Church Trustee Thomas Synnott as a memorial to his mother.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a National Register nomination and a preservation plan that will guide future repair and preservation efforts for the house of worship.

#### White Hill Mansion

2009.0032 Location: Fieldsboro, Burlington County Applicant: Borough of Fieldsboro Recommended Award: \$23,345 Work Proposed: Preservation Plan, National Register nomination

The White Hill Mansion was occupied for three generations by the Fields family, after which the borough was named, and is associated with people and events of the Revolutionary War. The original Georgian style house (c. 1740) with Flemish bond brick facades was expanded with a brick addition in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and later remodeled in a Queen Anne/Shingle style, with the addition of shingle-clad (now aluminum covered) bays, projecting additions and dormers, iron cresting and vernacular Gothic details. In the 1920s the house operated as a restaurant bar and grill. The restaurant closed in 1982, at which time the seven acre property was purchased by a chemical company that abandoned the house. The borough acquired the house in 2000.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a preservation plan that will assess the building's current condition and make recommendations for its stabilization and repair. A second project is the preparation of a National Register nomination.

#### Cedar Bridge Tavern 2009.0047

Location: Barnegat Township, Ocean County Applicant: Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission Recommended Award: \$49,500 Work Proposed: Preservation plan and National Register nomination

The Cedar Bridge Tavern was constructed circa 1775 by John Middleton, Jr. and retains good integrity, including a rare early-nineteenth century bar from when the building served as a tavern. The property may also be the site of one of the last land engagements of the Revolutionary War. The building was situated on a stagecoach road that was bypassed by later roads, which probably contributed to the resource's longevity. Acquired by the county in 2007, the currently resident has life tenancy.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a nomination to the National Register, and a preservation plan that will set priorities for future restoration and identify potential uses and interpretation for the site.

# **Bethlehem Loading Company**

2009.H044 Location: Estell Manor, Atlantic County Applicant: Atlantic County Division of Parks and Recreation Recommended Award: \$30,000 Work Proposed: Development of interpretative plan and materials Initiative: Heritage Tourism

The Bethlehem Loading Company was constructed from April 3 to July 1, 1918 in order to manufacture and ship munitions for World War I. Workers at the munitions plant lived in neighboring Belcoville, a town that had been built from the ground up in a six month period of time. Part of the site's significance is the rapid capability of US industry during WWI. Now within the Atlantic County Park system, the BLC District consists of 199 resources, most of them ruins, concrete foundations, and rail beds within 1,700 acres of swamp land.

The grant will help fund the development of an interpretive plan and materials to help visitors locate historic resources and understand the significance of this area during World War I. Signage and tours will complement the existing passive recreational use of the park.

#### Morris County Wayfinding Program

2009.H026 Location: Morristown, Morris County Applicant: Morris County Tourism Bureau Recommended Award: \$50,000 Work Proposed: Development of wayfinding signage program Initiative: Heritage Tourism

Morristown is an area rich with historic and cultural resources associated with important events and people of the American Revolution, industrial innovation and the development of Morristown as a center of transportation, culture and commerce. While heritage and cultural sites are promoted by the Morris County Tourism Bureau, helping visitors locate the sites is the purpose of the way finding signage. The current system is poorly designed and posted.

The grant will help fund the preparation of a wayfinding signage program for the city, and may serve as a model project for other municipalities and counties. The program will make recommendations on the design, placement and content of signs to help residents and visitors to locate the area's sites of interest.