

BERGEN NEW JERSEY *County*

MUSEUMS & HISTORIC SITES TO VISIT IN BERGEN COUNTY

AFRICAN ART MUSEUM

23 Bliss Ave., Tenafly, NJ 07670-3001

www.smafathers.org/museum/

201-894-8611

Established in 1980, this outstanding museum is one of only a rare few in the U.S. dedicated solely to the arts of Africa. Its permanent collections, exhibited on a rotating basis, offer a unique advantage in the study and research of sub-Saharan sculpture and painting, costumes, textiles and decorative arts, religion and folklore. The African Art Museum of the SMA Fathers is one of five museums around the world founded and maintained by the Society of African Missions. Open year-round.

AVIATION HALL OF FAME OF NEW JERSEY

400 Fred Wehran Rd., Teterboro, NJ 07608

www.njahof.org

njahof@verizon.net

201-288-6344

Founded in 1972, the AHOF of NJ exists to showcase New Jersey's 225-year contribution to the history of human flight. In addition to the Hall of Fame, which recognizes those who have made outstanding aeronautical achievements that have brought worldwide recognition to the state, the museum contains a number of unique exhibits: the rocket engine that propelled the X-15 to incredible speed and height records; the first American hovercraft invented by Charles Fletcher; helicopters; newly restored OV1 Grumman Mohawk; many airplane models and other exhibits. The museum holds public events throughout the year including the Wings & Wheels Expos. Open year-round 10-4PM, Tuesday-Sunday.

BAYLOR MASSACRE BURIAL SITE

County Historic Site and Park

Rivervale Rd. & Red Oak Dr., River Vale, NJ 07675

www.co.bergen.nj.us

201-336-7267

County-owned park that was the site of the *Baylor Massacre*: the Sept. 28, 1778 brutal surprise attack on the 3rd Continental Light Dragoons by British forces, and the burial site of slain Revolutionary War soldiers whose remains were reentered in 1970 here along the Hackensack River. Site contains accessible pathways with historic interpretive panels. Open year round during daylight hours.

BELSKIE MUSEUM OF ART & SCIENCE

280 High St., Closter, NJ 07624
www.belskiemuseum.com
201-768-0286

Located in Closter, the Belskie Museum of Art and Science was founded by the Closter Lions Club to preserve, house and exhibit the works of Scottish-born Abram Belskie who was a sculptor, medical illustrator and medallic artist. Museum has new art, history and science exhibits throughout the year. Open Saturdays and Sundays and by appointment.

BERGEN COUNTY COURT HOUSE & OLD JAIL

County Historic Site

Bergen County Justice Complex
10 Main St., Hackensack, NJ 07601
www.judiciary.state.nj.us/bergen/index.html
201-527-2700

The Bergen County Court House was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. The building is significant as *“important to the judicial governmental and criminal justice history of Bergen County.”* At least two of the components of the Bergen County Justice Complex – the Court House, built in 1910-1912, and the “Old Jail”, built in the fortified Medieval Revival style in 1912, were the work of an important architect and possess architectural quality and interesting examples of early 20th century technology. The Court House was designed by James Riely Gordon (1863-1937), the prominent architect responsible for the design of about 70 courthouses and two state capitols, in the Beaux Art style reflecting monuments of classical Rome and Italian Renaissance. With a dome modeled on the U.S. Capitol, it incorporated other art forms including painting, sculpture and stained glass. The dome’s interior is decorated with Tiffany stained glass panels. Three of the courtrooms have elaborate stained glass skylights fabricated by the famous Lamb Studios. Some of the courtrooms contain large murals painted in the 1930s by artists working for the Federal Art Project of the WPA. The Bergen County Superior Court is open for court business Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and closed in observation of certain holidays.

BISHOP HOUSE

(Ackerman-Dewsnap House)
176 East Saddle River Rd., Saddle River, NJ 07458
www.saddleriver.org/content/845/950/955.aspx
201-327-2727/4879

The 1835 Ackerman-Dewsnap House, last occupied by the Bishop family, is a local historic landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Owned by the borough, it is used as a museum for Saddle River memorabilia, a meeting place for community organizations, a gallery for cultural exhibits for local artists and artisans, and an historical site for student groups serving as a community center for the Saddle River Valley. Open for special events and by appointment.

CADMUS HOUSE BOROUGH MUSEUM

14-01 Politt Dr., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
www.cadmushouse.org
201-796-7692

The Cadmus House is the official museum for the Borough of Fair Lawn. A c.1815 old Dutch-style stone house it is located next to the Radburn railroad station. The Museum has historical artifacts of Fair Lawn ranging from Native American arrow heads to World War I and II uniforms, from rural community to suburbs. Open 3rd Sunday March–June and August–Dec., 1-3 pm, and by appointment.

CAMP MERRITT MEMORIAL MONUMENT

County Historic Site

Knickerbocker Rd. & Madison Ave. Circle, Cresskill, NJ 07626

www.co.bergen.nj.us

201-336-7267

County-owned memorial monument marks the center of the largest World War I embarkation camp, where more than one million U.S. soldiers passed through on their way to and from the battlefields of Europe. The camp was 770 acres in size and had a capacity of 42,000 men (2000 of them officers). It was strategically built near major rail lines, facilitating the transport of soldiers to the camp. It contained 1300 buildings of all varieties. The base hospital alone was composed of 93 buildings. The memorial was dedicated May 30th, 1924 by Gen. John “Blackjack” Pershing in front of a crowd of over 20,000. Modeled on the Washington Monument, the memorial is a 65’ high granite obelisk. On the base are the names of the 578 people who died in the camp, mostly as a result of the 1918 worldwide influenza epidemic. A large Art Deco style carved relief by the sculptor Robert Ingersoll Aitkin shows a striding “doughboy” with an eagle flying overhead. Viewed daily, lit at night.

CARLSTADT HISTORICAL FIRE-HOUSE MUSEUM

Division Ave. & Sixth St., Carlstadt, NJ 07072

www.carlstadt.nj.us/historical.html

201-933-1070

The museum, run by the Carlstadt Historical Society, houses a remarkable collection that includes archival photographs, written documents, news articles, clothing and other items that bring the borough’s colorful history to life. You can find everything from 1930s-era school pennants to early 20th century fife and drum corp. uniforms to a vintage breathalyzer used by the police department. Open the 4th Sunday of the month or by appointment.

“CHURCH ON THE GREEN” (FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF HACKENSACK), CEMETERY AND THE HACKENSACK GREEN

42 Court St., Hackensack, NJ 07601

201-342-7050

Due to their national historic significance the church, cemetery and the adjacent Hackensack Green were placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. The Green dates back to 1696 and is one of the oldest public squares in NJ. A strategic point during the American Revolution, Hackensack was a small village centered on The Green, a public meeting place where public notices were posted. In the 18th century it was where punishments were inflicted on criminals and where the local militia trained. Gen. Washington headquartered here in November 1776 while he surveyed the local roads and bridges. On November 20, 1776 he led his army into Hackensack. The army camped on The Green as Washington made the important decision to continue the retreat from overwhelming British and Hessian forces. On March 23, 1780, the British raided

Hackensack and burned the courthouse that stood on the Green at that time. Since 1715, a Bergen County courthouse building faced The Green in Hackensack, the County Seat since 1710, making it the historic heart of Bergen County.

The First Dutch Reformed Church congregation was organized in 1686, the oldest Reformed Dutch congregation in Bergen County and second oldest in NJ. It built its first church edifice here in 1696. The current church was erected in 1791. The earliest burials in the cemetery date from this time. The church was the site of the historic 1780 funeral and burial of Revolutionary War Brigadier-General Enoch Poor. The funeral procession included Generals George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette. A statue of Poor can be seen in the road between the church and the Green. Also buried here is Hackensack's Richard Varick, Aide-de-Camp to Gen. Washington and Mayor of New York City from 1789-1801. The cemetery is the final resting place of the area's earliest families, the Revolutionary War-time Sheriff for the county Adam Boyd, several of the church's pastors, and veterans of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. The Green, Church and Cemetery can be viewed daily.

EASTON TOWER

County Historic Site

Red Mill Rd., Rte. 4 & Saddle River Rd., Paramus, NJ 07652

www.co.bergen.nj.us

201-336-7267

The 1899-1900 historic sandstone, irrigation tower with waterwheel adjacent to the Saddle River Bikeway, is the only preserved structure erected by Edward D. Easton, notable in the history of American technology. It was designed and erected on his now-gone, elaborately landscaped estate, by architect Henry S. Ihnen. Tower can be viewed during daylight hours from the Saddle River Bikeway. Parking next to site.

ELIZABETH CADY STANTON HOUSE

National Historic Landmark

135 Highwood Ave., Tenafly, NJ 07670

Private Residence

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, viewed as "the leading intellectual force in the emancipation of American women," by historian Eleanor Flexner, made her home in this stately two-story white painted frame house between about 1868 and 1887. The house is noteworthy for its slate mansard roof, Greek revival portico, porte-cochere and eleven gabled dormers. Colonial Revival elements have been added to the original Victorian Mansard styling. It was here that Stanton co-authored, with Susan B. Anthony and Matilda Joslyn Gage, the first three volumes of the History of Woman Suffrage, 1881-1885. From here Stanton, with Anthony, made the futile effort to vote at the Tenafly polls, in 1880. It was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1975 and is on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. It is marked by a New Jersey State Historical Plaque. Privately owned.

FORT LEE HISTORIC PARK

Palisades Interstate Park

Hudson Terrace, Fort Lee, NJ 07024

www.njpalisades.org/fortlee.html

201-461-1776

This historic park is dedicated to preserving and interpreting the role of Fort Lee during the American Revolutionary War. The 33-acre site, on top of the Palisades overlooking the Hudson River and next to the George Washington Bridge, contains Revolutionary War fortifications and features a museum with audio-visual exhibits, paved trails, reconstructed gun batteries and soldiers' huts. Cultural events are held year round in the 204-seat auditorium which is administered by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. Site and museum open weekly year-round and for special events and programs. Fee for parking.

THE FORT LEE MUSEUM AT THE JUDGE MOORE HOUSE

1588 Palisade Ave., Fort Lee, NJ 07024

www.thefortleehistoricalociety.org

201-592-3580

Located in the historic 1922 Judge Moore House, the museum is run by the Fort Lee Historical Society and exhibits documents, photographs and artifacts from Fort Lee's past. Included is material from the famed Riviera Nightclub, Fort Lee's early film industry [see the Fort Lee Film Commission www.fortleefilm.org] Fort Lee High School, the Fort Lee Athletic Club, the George Washington Bridge, the American Revolution, and special exhibitions. Located next to Monument Park, this beautiful stone building fits right into its surroundings in a particularly scenic area of downtown Fort Lee. Open year-round Saturday & Sunday, noon to 4 pm, Wednesday 7 pm - 9 pm, or by appointment. Free, donations welcome.

FRITZ BEHNKE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

330 Paramus Rd., Paramus, NJ 07652

www.paramushistoricalmuseum.com

201-445-1804

The Paramus Fritz Behnke Historical Museum is named after Fritz Behnke the municipal historian who was born in Paramus in 1919. As you walk through the first floor of the museum, check out the furnishings of the farmhouse, including the utensils used for cooking and cleaning, washing, ironing, and sewing, which were all part of a housewife's daily chores. One of the first electric washing machines is on display, a duplicate of which is currently in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC. Other items on exhibit include an old ice box (refrigerator!), a wood-burning stove, and an early gas stove. Take notice of the many toys that the children played with, such as dollhouses, scooters, toy tractors and board games. Open Sundays, 1-5 pm, year round, and by appointment. Free.

GARRETSON FARM

County Historic Site

4-02 River Rd., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

www.garretsonfarm.org

201-797-1775

This is a County-owned historic sandstone house with many farm outbuildings. The earliest wing of the house was built c.1720 and main house c.1800. It is listed on the National and State Registers of Historic places. The house and gardens, run by Garretson Forge & Farm Restoration Inc. and the Master Gardeners of Bergen County, feature a restored colonial kitchen and gardens of heirloom herbs and vegetables. Annual festivals with

hands-on activities are held year round. Open every 2nd and 4th Sundays 1-4, March – November, and by appointment. Most events free, donations welcome.

GETHSEMANE CEMETERY

County Historic Site

Summit Place off Liberty St., Little Ferry, NJ 07643

www.co.bergen.nj.us

201-336-7267

This County-owned historic African American cemetery, established in 1860 as a “cemetery or burial ground for the colored population of the Village of Hackensack...”, is on a 1-acre sandy hill located west of the Hackensack River in Little Ferry. It was entered onto the National Register of Historic Places in 1994 because of the significant role it played in the enactment of New Jersey’s early civil rights legislation, as well as containing evidence of West African burial customs. Although there are fewer than 50 stones, the graves of over 500 people have been documented, including that of Elizabeth Dulfer who was born a slave c1790, freed in 1822, and died in 1880. She was one of the areas wealthiest businesswomen and landholders. Three Civil War veterans, Peter Billings, Silas M. Carpenter and William Robinson, are buried here. The cemetery contains meditation areas with interpretive panels that include the names of over 400 who were buried here. Open by appointment only for self-guided tours and during special events.

HACKENSACK WATER WORKS

County Historic Site

Van Buskirk Island at Elm St., Oradell, NJ

www.co.bergen.nj.us; www.hwvc.org

201-336-7267

This historic site was the site of the Hackensack Water Company’s historic water pumping and filtration plant, established in 1882. It is on Van Buskirk Island, in an oxbow of the northern reaches of the Hackensack River, a man-made island that did not exist until 1802. Created by the dams built for the local mills, this stretch of the river was the highest point of navigable water where schooners regularly carried goods to and from New York. Now a part of the Bergen County Parks system, this 14-acre site contains the historic Romanesque brick buildings of the Hackensack Water Works. This is the oldest surviving representative of a water purification and delivery system from the late 1800s and early 1900s. In continuous operation from 1882 to 1990 it is a rare example of late 19th - early 20th century water works architecture and engineering. This industrial site was crucial to the development of a modern, safe water supply that was critical to turn-of-the-century metropolitan and suburban growth. Buildings can be viewed during the day and are closed while undergoing restoration.

THE HERMITAGE MUSEUM

National Historic Landmark

335 North Franklin Turnpike, Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ 07423

www.TheHermitage.org

201-445-8311

This National Historic Landmark building started out as c.1760 Dutch sandstone house that was visited during the Revolutionary War by Gen. George Washington. It was also the site of the marriage of Vice President Aaron Burr and Theodosia Prevost. Expanded and remodeled in 1847 by noted architect William H. Ranlett it is

now an outstanding example of the romantic Gothic Revival style of architecture that in 1970 was designated a National Historic Landmark. Educational programs for all ages, lectures and special events are held throughout the year. Open Tue. – Sun. Call for admission.

HINDU SAMAJ TEMPLE MUSEUM OF INDIA JOURNEY TO THE USA

247 West Ramapo Ave., Mahwah, NJ 07430

www.hindusamajmandir.org

201-529-1277

Open in Spring 2016, the museum is located in the Hindu Samaj Temple and cultural center of Mahwah. The Museum is open to all audiences especially children of the area's schools. Contains displays of: the recorded history of our immigration to the USA; narratives of our experiences and achievements; stories of our social integration within the adopted homeland; and profiles of our families, scientists, leaders, scholars and other visionaries from India.

HIRAM BLAUVELT ART MUSEUM

705 Kinderkamack Rd., Oradell, NJ 07649

<http://blauveltartmuseum.com/>

201-261-0012

The world-class Hiram Blauvelt Art Museum features the work of contemporary wildlife artists from around the world. The museum was established in 1957 by the Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation, a legacy of the late Hiram Blauvelt, philanthropist, conservationist and collector. Through the contribution of his private wildlife art and big game collections, he hoped to promote the cultural value of wildlife art and the need for conservation of its subjects and their habitats. Visitors can visit a collection of 200 stuffed mounts in the gentleman's trophy room or walk through the sculpture garden with its life-size wildlife statues. The permanent collection includes work by renowned wildlife artists, including Robert Bateman, Carl Rungius and John Banovich. It is located in the historic 1893 cedar shingle and turret-style building that was the original carriage house of the adjacent Blauvelt Estate. Open year round, Wed. – Sun. Free.

HISTORIC NEW BRIDGE LANDING:

Three Historic House Museums: CAMPBELL-CHRISTIE HOUSE

DEMAREST HOUSE

STEUBEN HOUSE

1201-1209 Main St., River Edge, NJ 07661

www.bergencountyhistory.org

201-343-9492

Historic site contains the Steuben House (*owned by the State of NJ*), the Campbell-Christie House (*owned by the County of Bergen*) and the Demarest House (*owned by the Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation*), all landmarks of Bergen Dutch sandstone architecture. The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission was established by NJ to coordinate and implement governmental and private development policies and other activities incidental to the preservation maintenance, restoration and interpretation of the historic riverfront village surrounding New

Bridge. Year-round events are coordinated by the Bergen County Historical Society which is headquartered in the Campbell-Christie House. The buildings at Historic New Bridge Landing are only open for special events. The grounds are open dawn to dusk.

HOPPER-GOETSCHIUS HOUSE MUSEUM

Upper Saddle River Historical Society
245 Lake St., Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458
www.usrhistoricalsociety.org
201-327-8644

The Hopper-Goetschius house, on the corner of Lake Street and East Saddle River Road, dates back to 1739. Built by the Hopper family, it is the oldest remaining house in Upper Saddle River. In 1814 the house became the home of the Rev. Stephen Goetschius and remained in the family for over 150 years. This site also contains the Van Riper-Tice New World Dutch Barn which was moved here in 1989 to save it from demolition. The site now serves as the headquarters of the Upper Saddle River Historical Society which regularly holds events and gives tours of the buildings. Open 2-4 pm, Sundays, July and August, by appointment and for special events.

JAMES ROSE CENTER

506 East Ridgewood Ave., Ridgewood, NJ 07451
www.jamesrosecenter.org
201-446-6017

James C. Rose was one of the leaders of the modern movement in American landscape architecture. In 1953 he began building one of his most significant designs, the Rose residence here in Ridgewood. Rose conceived of the design while stationed in Okinawa, Japan in 1943. This house and property became the *James Rose Center for Landscape Architectural Research and Design* after his death in 1991. Its mission is to promote sound environmental design through lectures, student internships, awards, public outreach, preservation, and research. It is open to the public for self-guided tours May – Oct., Tuesday – Sunday, 10 am – 4 pm.; closed for the winter season. Educational lectures. Group tours by appointment; call for entrance fee.

JOHN FELL HOUSE

475 Franklin Turnpike, Allendale, New Jersey 07401-1606
www.johnfellhouse.org/
201-783-8754

Operated by the Concerned Citizens of Allendale, the earliest portion of the Fell mansion was built in the 1760s by John Fell Esq., a “great Tory hunter” and member of the First Continental Congress of the United States. A wing was added to the “Mansion House” in the 1830’s. This stately home is set on 2.8 acres which also includes a Gothic Revival Barn, wetlands and a stand of old-growth trees. The house is across the street from the Celery Farm Bird Sanctuary, originally part of the John Fell estate, which is open to walkers year-round. The house and property are open for special events and available to be used for meetings, theatrical events, craft shows, weddings, and other family events.

KEARNEY HOUSE

Palisades Interstate Park
Alpine Approach Rd., Alpine, NJ 07620
www.njpalisades.org/kearney.html

201-768-1360 x108

The 18th century historic Kearney House, known also as the “Blackledge-Kearney House,” contains exhibits and holds public events that reflect Hudson River life. This circa 1750 house was restored to reflect three significant periods in its history: as an 18th century home; a 19th century fishing homestead; and the early 20th century park headquarters. It is located on the banks of the Hudson River at the Alpine Boat basin in Palisades Interstate Park. Open most weekends & holidays, May – October and for special events. Free.

LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE MUSEUM

400 Riverside Ave., Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

www.lyndhursthistoricalsociety.org

201-804-2513

This 1893 schoolhouse museum is the headquarters on the Lyndhurst Historical Society which was established in 1984 to preserve the building. In 1804 Jacob Van Winkle deeded a strip of land to local school trustees for the construction of a school here. The first schoolhouse was erected that same year with money raised by subscription and thus was born the first known public school system in Bergen County. The Little Red School House is the 3rd schoolhouse built on this site and contains the cupola and bell from the second school that was built in 1849. The museum contains the Society’s historical collections and has changing exhibits. The Schoolhouse is open on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month from 2 - 4 pm or by appointment.

MAHWAH MUSEUM & DONALD COOPER RR

THE OLD STATION MUSEUM

Mahwah Museum: 201 Franklin Turnpike, Mahwah NJ 07430

Old Station Museum: 171 Old Station Lane, Mahwah, NJ 07430

<http://mahwahmuseum.org/>

201-512-0099

Operated by the Mahwah Museum Society and located in the former Winter Library, these outstanding museums offer exhibits on Mahwah and regional history, the famed inventor, musician and local resident Les Paul, and houses documents and artifacts related to Mahwah’s past. The collections of artifacts, photographs, historical records and documents, carefully preserved, documented and catalogued, are available by appointment to historians and researchers. The Old Station Museum is located in the original Erie Railroad station building. The Mahwah Museum is open Sept.–June, Wednesday and weekends from 1-4 pm. The Old Station Museum is open 2-4 pm, June through October. The Mahwah Museum Society also presents public lecture series, concerts and events. Call or go on website for admissions.

MAYWOOD STATION MUSEUM

269 Maywood Ave., Maywood, NJ 07607

www.maywoodstation.com

201-845-3323

This National Register restored 1872 New York, Susquehanna & Western railroad station, one of oldest in NJ, is located in the heart of Maywood. Restored by the Maywood Station Historical Committee and opened Sept. 25, 2004, it contains an extensive railroad museum and collections. The site also contains a restored caboose and engine. This accessible museum is open to the public one Sunday a month and for other special events. Free, donations welcome.

MEADOWLANDS ENVIRONMENT CENTER & MCDOWELL OBSERVATORY

Two DeKorte Park Plaza, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

<http://www.njsea.com/njmc/about/meadowlands-environment-center.html>

<http://www.njsea.com/njmc/nature/observatory.html>

201-460-8300

The Meadowlands Environment Center was formed to increase awareness and enjoyment of this vital ecosystem. The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission and Ramapo College of NJ entered into a partnership in 2003 and together, the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission and the experienced team of educators encourage the use of the environment as a classroom, increase awareness of the resources of the Meadowlands, and help communities recognize the critical issues that affect the Meadowlands District. They also provide “life-long” learning programs throughout the year for young children, families, adults, older adults and members of the community living with disabilities. The William D. McDowell Observatory is located within DeKorte Park adjacent to state-of-the-art classrooms and the Meadowlands Environment Center. The Observatory’s 20-inch, research-grade telescope is open to the public, free of charge on viewing nights; a visit is incorporated in all learning series sessions and special events.

MEADOWLANDS MUSEUM

91 Crane Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070

<http://meadowlandsmuseum.com>

201-935-1175

The Meadowlands Museum was created to increase people’s connection to the heritage of the Meadowlands communities by collecting, preserving, exhibiting and sharing that heritage with the public. Housed in an early 19th century Dutch sandstone farm house, one of the few from this period in the Meadowlands area, the museum features changing exhibits of local history and decorative arts, permanent collections of antique toys, pre-electric kitchenware, colonial home crafts, rocks and minerals. The museum is open year round, Wednesday and Saturday, 10 am – 4 pm, and for special events. Free, donations welcome.

THE MUSEUM AT THE STATION

Glen Rock Main Line Station

176 Rock Road, Glen Rock, NJ 07601

<http://glenrockhistory.wix.com/grhs>

201-342-3268

The Glen Rock Historical & Preservation Society operates the Museum which is located inside the Main Line Train Station. It showcases items from Glen Rock's past with displays that change periodically as well as permanent exhibits featuring the Erie Railroad and artifacts from Glen Rock's farming history. Exhibitions are appropriate for all ages. Open on the last Sunday of each month, 1 - 3 pm. There is no admission fee although donations are gratefully accepted.

THE OCTAGON HOUSE

13 West Grand Ave., Montvale, NJ 07645

Private Business

One of the most famous Montvale landmarks is The Octagon House, which was built by John Blauvelt, Jr. in 1855-1860. It is considered an outstanding example of the “Gravel Wall and Octagon Mode of Building” made popular in the 1850’s by Orson S. Fowler, and is noted for its use of space, building materials, room plan and how it adapts to light. Past owners of the home served as Montvale mayors.

OLD NORTH CHURCH AND CEMETERY

120 Washington Ave., Dumont, NJ 07628
201-385-2243

The congregation was founded in 1723, but by 1755 dissension within the congregation led to a rupture. By 1798, the two parts of the Schaarlenburgh congregation decided to build separate churches and the northern group erected the building here in Dumont in 1801. This church's architecture was to be similar to the South Church's (Bergenfield), except the minister deliberately ordered that the steeple be made 20 feet taller. It was enlarged later, and the entry wooden porch added. The sanctuary is one of the finest examples of early American church architecture. This cemetery is the resting place for dozens of Revolutionary War and Civil War veterans. Well-known parishioners buried at this cemetery include members of the Blauvelt, Demarest, and Quakenbush families.

OLD STONE HOUSE MUSEUM

Ramsey Historical Society
538 Island Rd., Ramsey, NJ 07446
www.ramseyhistorical.org
201-327-2655

The Old Stone House, built in the 1700s, is a Dutch stone farmhouse and Ramsey’s oldest building. It was listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. It has also been known as the Westervelt-Ackerson House. The main floor is an example of Dutch colonial architecture. On the second floor there is a Junior Museum. Voluntary donations. Open four times a year, for special events, or by special appointment Call for hours

PALISADES INTERSTATE PARK, National Historic Landmark

West bank of the Hudson River
Fort Lee, Englewood Cliffs, Tenafly and Alpine, NJ
PIP Headquarters: P.O. Box 155, Alpine, NJ 07620
<http://www.njpalisades.org/>
201-768-1360

Located on the western shore of the Hudson River in northeastern New Jersey, the PIP is part of more than 100,000 acres of parklands and historic sites in NJ and NY managed by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. The two states formed the Commission in 1900 to stop the defacement of the Palisades by stone quarries, which were blasting the famous cliffs for crushed stone. Park includes Fort Lee Historic Park and the historic Kearney House (see separate descriptions). Open year round for hiking, exploring and special events it was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1965 and is also on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. See website for events and visitor information.

PALISADES INTERSTATE PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

A New Jersey Scenic Byway

Palisades Interstate Parkway from Fort Lee, Englewood Cliffs, Tenafly & Alpine NJ northward to Bear Mountain, NY. The 13-mile NJ section of the PIP was built within the historic Palisades Interstate Park. <http://www.njpalisades.org/parkway.html>

The Palisades Interstate Parkway, completed in 1958, provides a scenic 42-mile ride from the George Washington Bridge to the Bear Mountain Bridge. A “Palisades Parkway” was first proposed in 1928 and plans took shape in the 1930s, aided by a major gift of land from John D. Rockefeller Jr. The route was surveyed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). About 11 miles of the Parkway are in NJ, from the George Washington Bridge in Fort Lee to the New York state line at Alpine. Three overlooks in NJ offer views of the Palisades, the Hudson River, and the New York skyline: Rockefeller Lookout is a pull-off overlook in Englewood Cliffs, about 1 mile north of Parkway Exit 1, opposite Spuyten Duyvil and accessible from the northbound Parkway only; Alpine Lookout is a pull-off overlook in Alpine, about 3 miles north of Parkway Exit 1, opposite Yonkers and accessible from the northbound Parkway only; State Line Lookout has its own unnumbered exit in Alpine, about 2 miles north of Parkway Exit 2, accessible directly from the northbound Parkway and via a median U-turn from the southbound Parkway. The Palisades Interstate Parkway was been designated a *New Jersey Scenic Byway*. The designation includes both the NJ section of the parkway and the 8.5-mile Hudson Drive that parallels the PIP at the base of the Palisade cliffs along the Hudson River shoreline.

PASCACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

19 Ridge Ave., Park Ridge, NJ 07656

www.pascackhistoricalsociety.org

201-573-0307

This Pascack Valley Museum, headquarters of the award-winning Pascack Historical Society, is located in the 1873 church building that was dedicated by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. Extensive exhibits include a general store, colonial kitchen, dolls, clothing and other displays of American life in the Pascack Valley. A special exhibit features the world’s only wampum drilling machine. The Society also runs “Pascack Adventures,” the award-winning program for children. Events, lectures and programs for adults and children and held regularly. Open year round, Sunday and Wednesday afternoons, for special events and by appointment. Admission free, donations welcome.

PASCACK REFORMED CHURCH & CEMETERY

65 Pascack Rd., Park Ridge, NJ 07656

www.pascackreformedchurch.org

201-391-4066

One of the County’s most historic active churches and cemeteries, the church was erected in 1813 on farmland purchased from the Campbell and Wortendyke families. The front and Pascack Road side of the church, were constructed of locally quarried sandstone. Fieldstone was used for the rear wall and east side. Shortly after the founding of the church, a cemetery was established at the rear (north) side of the building. The largest cemetery is to the south and includes four separate historic burial areas and the burials of early settlers, African Americans and Native Americans. The church set apart an area measuring approximately 80 feet by 100 feet, called Section “C”, as a cemetery for the “People of Colour.” There are four African American men buried here who were soldiers in the Union Army during the Civil War. The cemetery contains many beautifully sculpted

and historic tombstones, including an area for the Wortendyke family containing many stones with Dutch inscriptions. Open daily.

PUFFIN CULTURAL FORUM

20 Puffin Way, Teaneck, NJ 07666-4111

www.puffinculturalforum.org

201-836-3499

The Puffin Cultural Forum, a project of the Puffin Foundation Ltd., is the gallery and performance space located at the site of the Foundation's administrative offices in Teaneck, NJ. Its work takes place at the intersection of the arts and the struggle for human rights as they seek to realize in the local community the Foundation's governing motto: "...continuing the dialogue between art and the lives of ordinary people". They believe in the crucial role that the arts play in shaping our consciousness, and the role of artists as agents of social change. Exhibitions and events held throughout the year. Gallery Hours: Tue.-Thur. 12-4 pm or by appointment. Please call before visiting as hours may change.

RADBURN HISTORIC DISTRICT, "A Town for the Motor Age,"

National Historic Landmark

Fair Lawn, Berdan and Prospect Avenues; Plaza and Radburn Roads, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

The Radburn Association

29-20 Fair Lawn Ave., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

www.radburn.org

201-796-1300

Radburn, the internationally known planned community, was started in 1929 by the City Housing Corporation from the plans developed by Clarence Stein and Henry Wright. The concept of the "new town" grew out of the older planned communities in Europe and the work of Ebenezer Howard and Patrick Geddes. The intent was to build a community which made provisions for the complexities of modern life, while still providing the amenities of open space, community service and economic viability. The community was intended to be a self-sufficient entity, with residential, commercial and industrial areas each supplementing the needs of others. In 1974, the Radburn Association site was included in the National and State Registers of Historic Places. In 2005 Radburn was designated a National Historic Landmark.

THE SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM

650 East Glen Ave., Ridgewood, NJ 07451

www.ridgewoodhistoricalsociety.org

201-447-3242

The one-room schoolhouse in which the museum is housed was built in 1872 and was an operational school until 1905. It now serves as a museum of historic artifacts and is maintained by the Ridgewood Historical Society. Formerly District School No. 45, the Museum features outstanding exhibitions that emphasize the historic Saddle River Valley area in the 18th and 19th centuries, an area that was primarily Dutch when first settled. During the course of the year, the RHS sponsors lectures, workshops, concerts, exhibits and miscellaneous events. Museum open year round Thursday and Saturday, 1-3 pm, and Sunday 2-4 pm. Also open by appointment, for special events and groups visits. See website.

SOUTH SCHRAALENBURGH CHURCH AND CEMETERY

150 W. West Church St., Bergenfield, NJ 07621

www.southpresbyterian.net/

201-384-8932

The South Church is descended from the first established Schraalenburgh Dutch Reformed congregation. In 1799 the new South Schraalenburgh Church was built a short distance to the west of the original building. Because of differences within the congregation in the late 1700s, two groups were formed and when a decision was made to build a new church, the opposing group withdrew, purchased land and in 1801 built the Old North Schraalenburgh (now Dumont) Reformed Church. [See separate entry.] In 1866 the South Church building was enlarged and remodeled, adding 15 feet to the north end and replacing part of two windows in the front with doors on each side of the original single door. This was completed in 1867. In 1913 the church became Presbyterian. The South Presbyterian Church was placed on the National Register December 6, 1975. Many Revolutionary War soldiers are buried in the historic cemetery which surrounds the building and is enclosed by a wrought iron fence. There are many sandstone markers with Dutch inscriptions.

STONE HOUSES OF BERGEN COUNTY

County-wide.

One of the most important early American Building types is that of the pre-1840 stone house built in areas with Dutch cultural affiliation. Bergen County is unique in the abundance, variety, and architectural quality of these early stone houses. Materials and methods remained constant, but the houses which were built from the time of Dutch colonization in the 17th century through the early years of the 19th century vary in size, plan, and stylistic detail. Bergen County's surviving early stone houses, many located along major thorough-fares, provide county residents with tangible links to the formative years of the County, State, and Nation. The Survey of Early Stone Houses of Bergen County, conducted from 1978-79, identified and recorded 230 of these early houses. Of these, 208 retained sufficient architectural integrity to be placed as a thematic group on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places in 1980. Most of these, 190, were also listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983, 1984, and 1985. Nineteen of these historic houses have been demolished since the original survey. Many can be identified with historic Blue Markers from the Bergen County Historical Society.

TEANECK'S HISTORIC BURIAL GROUND

622 Pomander Walk Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666

Located on Pomander Walk Road near the Hackensack River, this land was in use as a burial ground by the Native Americans prior to the arrival of the European settlers. African slaves, who worked the farmlands of the early European settlers like the Zabriskie's, were subsequently buried at this location as were some of the early settlers. In 1663, the great elder Oratam was the Chief Sachem for the Ackingsacks who lived along the Hackensack River. Oratam promised to give Sarah Kiersted a parcel of land between the Hackensack River and Overpeck's Creek called "Neck of Land." It consisted of 2,260 acres which included Tea Neck, Bogota, and Ridgefield Park. The original patent was dated October 21, 1667. On March 25, 1685, the East Jersey Proprietors conveyed 183 acres of this patent, located on the Hackensack River in what is now Teaneck, to Albert Sabboresco (Zabriskie) of Bergen, a planter/farmer. Albert Zabriskie, his descendant, and later Henry Kip, owned the enslaved African American men who were used to work the farmland and build the early colonial sandstone houses. To prevent the loss of this sacred ground, the *Coalition to Preserve Teaneck's Native*

American/African Slave/Settler Cemetery, was organized. With the Coalition's encouragement, in 2006 Teaneck bought this open parcel of land on the banks of Hackensack River. It can be visited during daylight hours and is designated with Blue Historic Marker erected by Teaneck.

VAN ALLEN HOUSE

Oakland Historical Society
3 Franklin Ave. (& Rt. 202), Oakland, NJ 07436
www.oaklandhistoricalsociety.org
201-337-9652

This National Register historic house museum was the Revolutionary War headquarters of Gen. George Washington in 1777. It is open for tours and events during the year, including Dutch Christmas. Property also contains the 1902 "Stream House," currently being renovated by the Oakland Historical Society. Open for monthly events; call for hours.

VAN VOORHEES-QUACKENBUSH ZABRISKIE HOUSE

421 Franklin Ave., Wyckoff, NJ 07481
www.zabriskiehousewyckoffnj.org
201-891-9185

The original Dutch sandstone structure of the Van Voorhees-Quackenbush-Zabriskie House was built c. 1730 and greatly expanded by 1824 in the classically Dutch Colonial style. In 1867 it was sold to Uriah Quackenbush. During its almost 300-year history it was the focal point of family life while also serving as a village store, tavern, candy store and ballroom. The house and furnishings were willed to the Borough of Wyckoff in 1973 by its last resident, Mrs. Grace Quackenbush Zabriskie, granddaughter of Uriah. House and site contains period furnishings and beautiful gardens. See website for opening hours and group tours.

VARICK MEMORIAL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

120 Atlantic St., Hackensack, NJ 07601
www.vmamez.org
201-343-8240

Varick Memorial Church was the first African American church in Hackensack. Organized in 1864 this mission church was incorporated on December 7, 1866 and took as its name "The Olive Branch Colored Mission Number Three in Hackensack." A month later, on January 5, 1867, the trustees selected property at 120 Atlantic Street to build their new church on. Between 1869 and 1917 the Church went through several name changes. On April 18, 1917 when the Rev. I. B. Turner was pastor, the name that is still used today was selected to honor James Varick, the founder and first Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. They built their new church structure in 1919, the one that exists today.

WALDWICK MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY

4 Hewson Ave., Waldwick, NJ 07463
www.WaldwickMuseum.org
201-873-8919

The Waldwick Museum of Local History, which is located in the restored 1887 Waldwick Railroad Station, opened in 2016. Bergen County's newest history museum, with exhibits on Waldwick's railroad history, is

located in the beautifully restored award-winning station. It was restored - and the museum created - by the volunteers of the Waldwick Community Alliance. Open one Sunday afternoon a month and for special events

WALDWICK SIGNAL TOWER

1 Bohnert Place, Waldwick, NJ 07463

<http://allaboardwaldwick.org/>

Email: wctower@optimum.net

This 1890 Erie Railroad Signal Tower was restored and is operated by Waldwick Historical Society. Located along what was Erie's Jersey City-Chicago main line, it still overlooks the active multi-track yard in the heart of Waldwick, a lasting testament to the importance of the railroads to our history. This beautifully restored rare signal tower, which opened in Spring 2016, contains exhibits and displays. Open for special events and by appointment.

WASHINGTON SPRING GARDEN

County Historic Site

Van Saun County Park

216 Forest Ave., Paramus, NJ 07652

www.co.bergen.nj.us

201-336-7267

This County-owned historic site, a scenic, garden setting surrounding a natural spring, is a ½ acre area located within Van Saun County Park. This area is associated with Gen. George Washington and the movement of his Continental Army through this area during the Revolutionary War. On September 4, 1780, Washington moved the troops of the Continental army, numbering approximately 14,000, into a strategic encampment west of the Hackensack River between New Bridge in the south and Kinderkamack to the north in this area called "Steenrapie." These troops were part of the defense to challenge the British military stronghold on Manhattan and prevent any intervention with the landing of allied French troops in Rhode Island. Hendrick Banta reportedly sold a barrel of cider to these troops "every other day." His 10-year old son Cornelius said he saw Gen. Washington on his horse three times. During one these sightings the General was watering his horse at this natural spring, giving rise to the name "Washington Spring." It is open from 9 am to dusk year-round during Park hours and contains accessible paved pathways and sitting areas.

WESTWOOD HERITAGE SOCIETY MUSEUM

Westwood Train Station

Broadway & Westwood Ave., Westwood, NJ 07675

www.westwoodheritage.org

201-666-9682

The Westwood Museum, which is located in the Westwood Train Station building, was established in 2002 and held its 'Grand Opening' on Memorial Day 2002. The Museum serves as an exhibit gallery for the numerous artifacts of Westwood's past and records of its history that have been acquired or compiled by the Society. Open the 2nd Saturday of every month, 10 am – 2 pm.

WORTENDYKE BARN MUSEUM

County Historic Site

13 Pascack Road, Park Ridge, NJ 07656

www.co.bergen.nj.us

201-336-7267

The Wortendyke Barn Museum, a National Register landmark, and the original Wortendyke stone homestead across the street, is all that remains of the original Wortendyke family farm. The barn, built in 1760, is an outstanding example of the vernacular architecture referred to as a “New World Dutch Barn,” which was found throughout 18th and 19th century Bergen County. Most of these barns were built between 1624 and 1820, wherever Dutch farmers settled along the Hudson, Hackensack, Passaic, Raritan and Mohawk rivers. The museum’s exhibits include handmade 18th and 19th century farm implements and tools, the history of the Wortendyke family farm, and exhibits showing the agricultural history of Bergen County from the first settlers through the 20th century. This accessible museum is open Sunday afternoons May – October, and during the annual free “Concerts in the Barn” series. Group reservations available by appointment. Free.

COUNTY OF BERGEN



BERGEN COUNTY EXECUTIVE

JAMES J. TEDESCO III

AND THE

BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

James G. Koth

Director

DIVISION OF CULTURAL AND HISTORIC AFFAIRS

Cynthia Forster

Director

For information on these museums and sites call the
Bergen County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs at 201-336-7267

WWW.CO.BERGEN.NJ.US