

Somerset County's

# *Weekend Journey*

through the

*Past*



**Saturday, October 13, 2018**

**10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, October 14, 2018**

**Noon - 4:00 p.m.**

An initiative of the  
**Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders and  
Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission**  
in partnership with local history organizations,  
artists, and Somerset County Tourism.



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# Make a vibrant connection to history at Somerset County's 13th annual



**Visit** 30 significant participating County historic sites, all open to the public and free of charge. Participating sites are open on Saturday, October 13, 2018 from 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. and Sunday, October 14, 2018 from Noon to 4:00p.m.

**Explore** our quaint villages, rolling farmsteads, lively towns and unspoiled natural areas, North to South, and East to West.

**Learn** about former Somerset County residents: celebrities, politicians, artists, military heroes and ordinary people who made a difference.

**Witness** what life was like 50... 100... or even 200 years ago, from daily work responsibilities and pleasant pastimes to the difficult hardships endured during the American Revolution.

**Discover** our many and varied individual Revolutionary War histories—major contributions to the County's designation as a Crossroads of the American Revolution State Heritage Area.

## What will you find when you step back in time?



[www.SCHistoryWeekend.com](http://www.SCHistoryWeekend.com)





## Stay, Shop, Play... and WIN in Somerset County!

Make a vibrant connection to Somerset County's rich history—but don't stop there! Explore [www.visitsomersetnj.org](http://www.visitsomersetnj.org) to find great restaurants, shops, parks and more! Somerset County has everything you need to make your Weekend Journey an adventure to remember.



Visit three (3) or more participating historic sites during Somerset County's annual Weekend Journey through the Past and qualify to win one of several prizes! Go to [www.SCHistoryWeekend.com](http://www.SCHistoryWeekend.com) and click the History Traveler Contest tab to learn more and access our survey. Submit your answers by Wednesday, October 24, 2018 to enter. Random winners will be selected and notified by email on Wednesday, November 7, 2018. Participants must be 18 years of age or older.



Somerset County restaurants serve up an appetizing array of authentic global cuisine in local settings. Experience five-star dining in a fine establishment, leisurely fare al fresco in one of our beautiful downtowns, a tasty dine-in theater or a quick mall bite at Bridgewater Commons. Enjoy nourishing farm-to-table cuisine that showcases homegrown produce and meats.

Plan your Weekend Journey meals with Somerset County Tourism's Restaurant Guide at <https://visitsomersetnj.org/dine/>. You'll find something to suit any taste including:

Afghan	Indian
American	Irish
Bakery	Italian
BBQ	Japanese
Chinese	Mediterranean
Cuban	Mexican
Dessert	Seafood
European	Spanish
Filipino	Steak
French	Thai
Greek	Vegetarian



# Introducing Somerset County History Trading Cards!

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

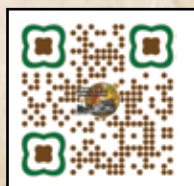
Collect, trade... and play! Visit [www.SCHistoryWeekend.com](http://www.SCHistoryWeekend.com) and click the Trading Cards tab to access more fun stuff!



# NORTH COUNTY TOUR



*Scan the QR Code to access  
our interactive map!*



## BOUDINOT-SOUTHARD-ROSS ESTATE

135 North Maple Avenue  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920



This fifty-acre site, which borders the Basking Ridge Country Club and Lord Stirling Park, has three historic buildings: a house, a barn and an outbuilding. Elias Boudinot, President of the Continental Congress (1782- 1783) and Samuel Southard, a New Jersey Senator, Governor, and Secretary of War and Secretary of the Treasury for Presidents James Monroe and John Quincy Adams, resided on site. Members of the Ross family were the most recent residents. The property can be accessed from North Maple Avenue--the route George Washington and his troops traveled from Jockey Hollow into Basking Ridge. French General Rochambeau also followed this route on his march to Yorktown.

**Website:** [www.rossfarm.org](http://www.rossfarm.org)

**Email:** [info@rossfarm.org](mailto:info@rossfarm.org)

**Organization:** County owned, overseen by Somerset County Park Commission. Please visit the website for information on the Friends of the Boudinot-Southard-Ross Estate

**General Public Hours:** Open for special events

**Parking:** Parking available on premises

**ADA Accessibility:** Email for current accessibility information

## **CODINGTON FARMSTEAD**

15 Mt. Horeb Road  
Warren, NJ 07059



The Codington Farmstead encompasses 55 acres and a farmhouse dating back to 1742. Built by Issac Codington, the house is the oldest structure in New Jersey owned and operated continuously by the same family. Codingtons resided in the house from 1742 to 2003 when Lora Codington, known locally as the Somerset County “Peach Lady” passed away. Identified as one of the original Warren families when Warren Township was established (1806), the Codingtons also founded the Mount Horeb Methodist Episcopal Church (1820), and rebuilt it after it burned down in 1866. They fought in all of America’s wars (the French and Indian War through WWII and Desert Storm). The house is now owned by Warren Township, and was restored by the Friends of the Codington Farmstead who maintain an exhibit of Codington family history; the furnishings and decorative arts collections span the 18th to 21st centuries.

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

- Docent-led tours of the home and farm
- Quilting exhibitions
- Independent and guided trail hiking; multiple hiking trails are available every day, dawn to dusk, some guide-led

**Contact:** Rory Britt

**Email:** rorybritt@gmail.com

**Phone:** (732) 598-3922

**Organization:** Warren Township Historic Sites Committee

**General Public Hours:** Open year-round on the first Sunday of every month, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**ADA Accessibility:** No

## JACOBUS VANDERVEER HOUSE

3055 River Road  
Bedminster, NJ 07921



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

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

- The interior contains massive exposed beams as well as Federal and Greek Revival woodwork and wide plank flooring
- Original Barrel-Back cabinetry, fireplaces and exterior
- Permanent furnishings and exhibitions are currently being planned

**Website:** [www.jvanderveerhouse.org](http://www.jvanderveerhouse.org)

**Contact:** Kristina Poggi, Museum Coordinator

**Email:** [info@JVanderveerhouse.org](mailto:info@JVanderveerhouse.org)

**Phone:** (908) 396-6053

**Organization:** The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House

**General Public Hours:** By appointment except for scheduled events (see website)

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

## **DR. JOHN VERMEULE HOUSE**

223 Rock Avenue  
Green Brook, NJ 08812



This Georgian Colonial-style farmhouse was built between 1799 and 1800 by Dr. John Vermeule, the first physician in the rural area of what would become Green Brook. It is situated on a 2.2 acre tract, and it is all that remains of the original 116-acre plantation purchased by Cornelius Vermeule for his eldest son Adrian, a local militia man and dispatch rider during the Revolutionary War. Adrian was wounded and captured by the British and imprisoned in the famous Sugar House in New York City where he died. Dr. John Vermeule, Adrian's son, practiced medicine and operated a farm on the property until his death in 1813. Numerous owners have occupied the house since, including a Jewish dairy farmer, Quakers, and the Mundy family who operated a dairy farm into the mid-1960s. The house, owned by Green Brook Township, was relatively untouched over its 200-year history and offers a rare glimpse into early 19th century architecture.

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

- Open only for special occasions until restoration is complete

**Website:** [www.gbhsnj.org](http://www.gbhsnj.org)

**Contact:** Denise Wolf

**Email:** [info@gbhsnj.org](mailto:info@gbhsnj.org)

**Phone:** (732) 331-2078

**Organizations:** Green Brook Cultural, Heritage and Historic Preservation Committee, Green Brook Historical Society

**General Public Hours:** Open for Weekend Journey through the Past

**Parking:** Parking is available on Rock Avenue and Sweeney Court

**ADA Accessibility:** No

**KENNEDY-MARTIN-  
STELLE  
FARMSTEAD**

450 King George Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920



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

**Year Round Features and Activities:**

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

**Website:** [www.FarmsteadArtsCenter.org](http://www.FarmsteadArtsCenter.org)

**Contact:** Kathy Harris, Director

**Email:** [FarmsteadArtsCenter@gmail.com](mailto:FarmsteadArtsCenter@gmail.com)

**Phone:** (908) 636-7576

**Organization:** Friends of the Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead

**General Public Hours:** Gallery hours are on Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and by appointment

**ADA Accessible:** Yes, Farmhouse and English Barn

## KIRCH-FORD-TERRILL HOUSE

1 Reinman Road  
Warren, NJ 07059

**Mailing address:**  
46 Mountain Boulevard  
Warren, NJ 07059



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

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

- Visitors welcomed for tours (see General Public Hours)

**Website:** [www.warrennj.org/wths/index.htm](http://www.warrennj.org/wths/index.htm)

**Contact:** Rory Britt, Chairman

**Email:** [rorybritt@gmail.com](mailto:rorybritt@gmail.com)

**Phone:** (732) 598-3922

**Organization:** Warren Township Historic Sites Committee

**General Public Hours:** April through December, the second Sunday of each month, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**ADA Accessibility:** No

## **MOUNT BETHEL BAPTIST MEETING HOUSE**

Mountainview Road  
and Mt. Bethel Road  
Warren, NJ 07059



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

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

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

**Website:** [www.warrennj.org/wths/index.htm](http://www.warrennj.org/wths/index.htm)

**Contact:** Rory Britt, Chairman

**Email:** [rorybritt@gmail.com](mailto:rorybritt@gmail.com)

**Phone:** (732) 598-3922

**Organization:** Warren Township Historic Sites Committee

**General Public Hours:** By appointment only, with the exception of Somerset County's Weekend Journey Through the Past

**ADA Accessibility:** No

## **TEXIER HOUSE MUSEUM**

10 Mountain Boulevard  
Watchung, NJ 07069



The Texier House Museum had its grand opening on October 5, 2013. Entrepreneur Hippolyte Texier and his family lived in the original building in the early 1900s. It was then transferred to the Borough of Watchung and initially served as the borough's Police Department. Today the house serves as the borough's official museum and contains many exhibits featuring founding families, historic homes, and former commercial activities. There is a sports exhibit highlighting Watchung's notable Bobby Thompson; other exhibits include Moldenke's Castle, WWI, WWII, and the Legend of Watchung.

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

- Special rotating exhibits
- Tours and programs by request
- Open during special town events, such as Veterans' Day and Memorial Day

**Website:** [http://watchungnj.gov/historical\\_committee.html](http://watchungnj.gov/historical_committee.html)

**Contact:** Dorothy Addario or Amber Murad

**Email:** [historic@watchungnj.org](mailto:historic@watchungnj.org)

**Phone:** Dorothy Addario (908) 757-0862 or  
Amber Murad (908) 285-7217

**Organization:** Watchung Historical Committee

**General Public Hours:** July and August by appointment only; for the remainder of the year, the house is open the first and third Sunday of every month from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by request; no entrance fee

**ADA accessibility:** Yes, entrance ramp and all exhibits are on the first floor

## **USGA MUSEUM**

77 Liberty Corner Road  
Far Hills, NJ 07931



The USGA Museum is home to the world's premiere collection of golf artifacts and memorabilia. The greatest champions and moments in American golf history come alive through engaging exhibitions. Designed by John Russell Pope, a prominent architect of the early 20th century, this Georgian Revival mansion was constructed in 1919 for Thomas Frothingham. Pope also designed the Jefferson Memorial, and National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, and the Lord Memorial Fountain on the Courthouse Green in Somerville, New Jersey.

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

- Hall of Champions with 15 official USGA championship trophies and the name of every USGA champion in history
- Five additional dedicated rooms and multimedia exhibits on Ben Hogan, Bob Jones, Mickey Wright, Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus
- The Pynes Putting Course inspired by the world-renowned Himalayas putting course in St. Andrews, Scotland
- Breaking New Ground: Women & Golf Course Architecture, temporary exhibition through December 2018

**Website:** [www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/history/about-museum.html](http://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/history/about-museum.html)

**Contact:** Kim Gianetti, Manager, Education and Public Outreach

**Email:** [kgianetti@usga.org](mailto:kgianetti@usga.org)

**Phone:** (908) 326-1948

**Organization:** United States Golf Association

**General Public Hours:** Tuesday through Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; the museum is closed for major holidays

**ADA Accessibility:** Yes, first floor only

## VERMEULE MANSION

*also known as*

## VAN DEVENTER BRUNSON HOUSE

614 Greenbrook Road  
North Plainfield, NJ 07063



The Van Derventer Brunson House is also known as the Vermeule Mansion. The Vermeules were one of the area's pioneer families and, according to local historians, "among the earliest and most influential settlers" along the Green Brook in what is now North Plainfield. Come see why the Vermeules called their homestead "The Blue Hills Plantation," learn about the family's military involvement in the Revolutionary War, and how the homestead supported thousands of American soldiers. The Vermeule property was purchased from the Brunson estate by the Borough of North Plainfield in 1976 and maintains the property with the support of the Friends of Vermeule Mansion (FOVM).

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

- Spring and fall concerts
- Giant spring yard sale
- Tours available by appointment

**Contact:** Johanna Salvemini, President, Friends of the Vermeule Mansion, Inc. (FOVM)

**Email:** johere@yahoo.com

**Phone:** (908) 656-6231

**Organization:** Friends of the Vermeule Mansion, Inc. (FOVM)

**General Public Hours:** Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. excluding state and federal public holidays

**Parking:** Parking is available behind the building and also on Vermeule Place behind the Vermeule Community Center Building; street parking is available on Clinton Avenue and Green Brook Road

**ADA Accessibility:** Accessible parking area and entrance to the house; permanent wheelchair ramp; restroom is wheelchair accessible

## **WASHINGTON ROCK PARK**

One Rock Road West  
Green Brook, NJ 08812



The strategic location of Washington Rock on top of the first Watchung Mountain made this site a valuable lookout post during the Revolutionary War. In June of 1777, General George Washington used this natural outcropping with its thirty-mile panoramic view to direct his troops against the British forces under the command of General William Howe. The site, which became one of New Jersey's first State Parks, still offers visitors breathtaking views of New York City, and surrounding towns, cities and landmarks. The site is now maintained by Somerset County.

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

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

**Website:** [www.somersetcountyparks.org](http://www.somersetcountyparks.org)

**Contact:** Carrie Springer, Manager, Environmental Education Center

**Email:** [cspringer@scparks.org](mailto:cspringer@scparks.org)

**Phone:** (908) 722-1200, ext. 5324

**Organizations:** Somerset County Park Commission

**General Public Hours:** Washington Rock Park is open seven days a week, dawn to dusk.

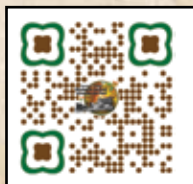
**Parking:** Parking and restroom facilities are available just across from the park

**ADA Accessibility:** Partial

# CENTRAL COUNTY TOUR



*Scan the QR Code to access  
our interactive map!*



## ABRAHAM STAATS HOUSE

17 Von Steuben Lane  
South Bound Brook, NJ  
08880



The Abraham Staats House is one of the finest surviving buildings of the 18th century Dutch settlement of the Raritan Valley. The original core house was built around 1740 by the Staats, a Dutch family who inhabited the home for nearly two centuries. Expansions include a two-story, late-Federal/Greek Revival wing. Abraham Staats owned the home during the American Revolution, when in 1779, during the Middlebrook Cantonment, it served as military headquarters for Baron von Steuben, Inspector General for George Washington. The home was purchased in 1999 by the Borough of South Bound Brook, which now maintains the property with support from the Friends of Abraham Staats House.

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

- Living history events/programs; special topic lectures; exhibits; cooking demonstrations
- Historic house tours

**Website:** [www.staatshouse.org](http://www.staatshouse.org)

**Email:** [info@staatshouse.org](mailto:info@staatshouse.org)

**Phone/Contact:** (732) 369-3583

**Organizations:** Friends of Abraham Staats House, Inc.

**General Public Hours:** Open House on the 2nd Saturday of each month, 10 a.m. to Noon (Closed July and August); check website for event schedule; tours also available by appointment

**ADA Accessibility:** Accessible parking area and entry to the house; portable wheelchair ramp for access to main floor; restroom not wheelchair accessible

**ANDREW TEN EYCK  
HOUSE**

671 Old York Road  
Branchburg, NJ 08876



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

**Contact:** William A. Schleicher

**Phone:** (908) 722-2124

**Organization:** Branchburg Historical Society

**General Public Hours:** Open the third Sunday of every month from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. as well as by appointment

**ADA Accessibility:** No

**HISTORIC BROOK THEATER**  
*also known as the*  
**SOMERSET**  
**CULTURAL ARTS CENTER**

10 Hamilton Street  
Bound Brook, NJ 08805



A classic vaudeville theater, the historic Brook Theater was opened in 1927 and presented a wide variety of live stage acts and talking picture shows. Two years later it was leased by the Metropolitan Fox Movie Corporation and became a first-run movie house. In 1999 and 2007 hurricanes caused extensive damage. In 2001 the Somerset County Cultural Arts Center Inc. purchased the theater as a cultural, educational, and entertainment venue and arts incubator. Through a generous Somerset County Historic Preservation Grant, a reproduction of the theater's marquee was installed in 2011, and in 2017, interior historic plasterwork was restored and repainted. The Theater also purchased acoustical curtains to replace the acoustic insulation and fabric destroyed in 1999. Come see what the Brook looks like now!

**Year Round Features and Activities:**

- Entertainment performances including concerts, musicals, operas, silent movies, plays, theater camps, historic presentations and recitals

**Website:** [www.brookarts.org](http://www.brookarts.org)

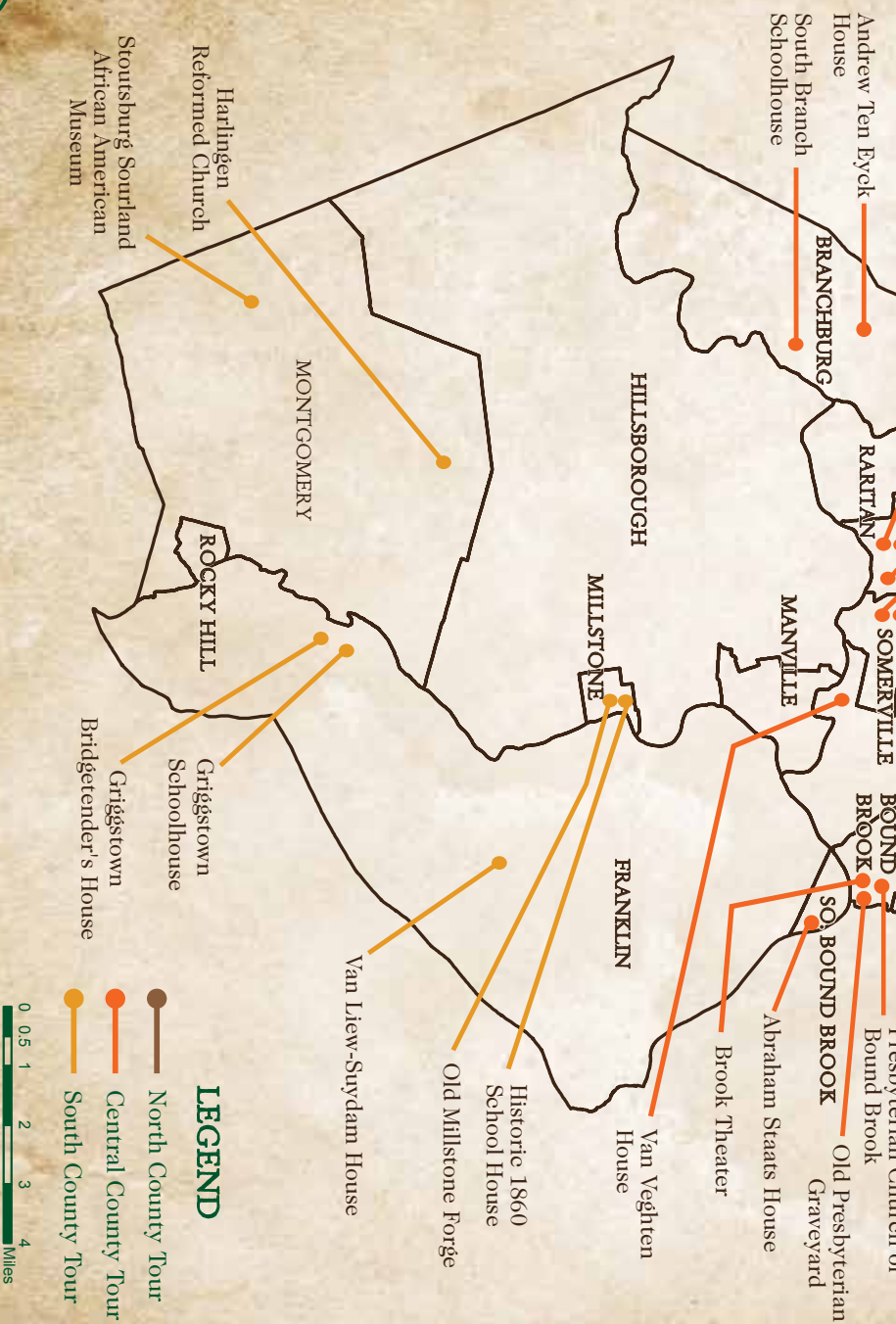
**Email:** [info@brookarts.org](mailto:info@brookarts.org)

**Phone:** (732) 469-7700

**Organization:** Somerset County Cultural Arts Center

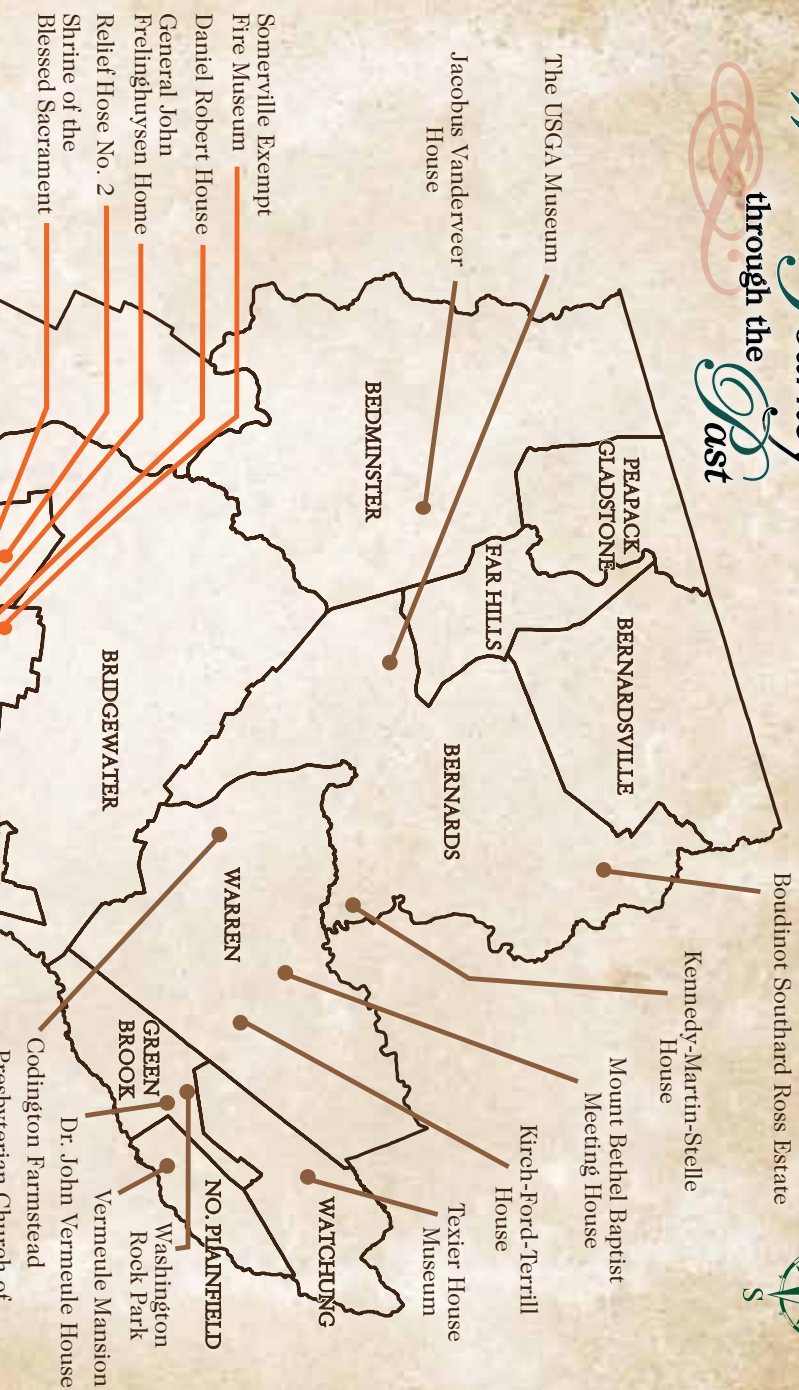
**General Public Hours:** Theater is open when entertainment is scheduled

**ADA Accessibility:** Yes



Somerset County's

# *Weekend Journey* through the East



**DANIEL ROBERT HOUSE**  
*also known as*  
**SOMERVILLE  
BOROUGH HALL**  
25 West End Avenue  
Somerville, NJ 08876



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

**Website:** [www.somervillenj.org](http://www.somervillenj.org)

**Contact:** Kevin Sluka, Clerk and Administrator

**Email:** [KSluka@somervillenj.org](mailto:KSluka@somervillenj.org)

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

**Organization:** Borough of Somerville

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

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

**GENERAL JOHN  
FRELINGHUYSEN HOUSE**  
*also known as the*  
**RARITAN PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**

54 E. Somerset Street  
Raritan, NJ 08869



The General John Frelinghuysen House is a fine example of Georgian residential architecture with extensive Federal and Greek Revival modifications. It was the home of the Frelinghuysen family from 1775 to 1922. Congressman Peter Frelinghuysen regained possession of the house in 1970 and donated it to the Borough of Raritan; it now serves as the Raritan Public Library. The house retains some original finishes, woodwork and door hardware, as well as an early brick smokehouse in the attic. The new Community Room and John Basilone Room house memorabilia honoring Purple Heart, Navy Cross and Medal of Honor recipient Marine Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone who served and died in WWII. The Library offers a computer kiosk showcasing numerous articles, profiles, old newspapers and historical photos on local history.

**Year Round Features and Activities:**

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

**Website:** [www.raritanlibrary.org](http://www.raritanlibrary.org)

**Contact:** Mary J. Paese, Library Director

**Email:** [Raritanl@yahoo.com](mailto:Raritanl@yahoo.com)

**Phone:** (908) 725-0413

**Organization:** Raritan Public Library

**General Public Hours:** Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**ADA Accessibility:** First floor only; back entrance handicapped-accessible ramp, and parking space

## OLD PRESBYTERIAN GRAVEYARD

Corner of East High Street and  
East Street

Bound Brook, NJ 08805

*(Next to the Bound Brook Memorial  
Library, 402 East High St.,  
Bound Brook, NJ 08805)*



The Old Presbyterian Graveyard in Bound Brook is the final resting place of Bound Brook's earliest citizens, as well as soldiers from the French and Indian War, the American Revolutionary War, the Whiskey Rebellion, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, and the Civil War. See the impressive artwork on memorial stones and learn the meaning behind the inscriptions and epitaphs!

**Website:** <http://sclsnj.org/graveyard/>

**Contact:** Mary Nelson, Librarian

**Email:** [boundbrook@sclibnj.org](mailto:boundbrook@sclibnj.org).

**Phone:** (908) 458-8410

**Organizations:** Borough of Bound Brook; The Bound Brook Memorial Library maintains historical information and its staff hosts this event

**General Public Hours:** Outdoor site, open every day

**Parking:** On street parking; handicapped accessible parking is available on East High Street and behind the library

**ADA Accessibility:** Site located on a hill; access by steps or through a site-level gate located behind library; a handicapped accessible bathroom is available in the library on Saturday; the library is closed on Sunday

## **PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BOUND BROOK**

409 Mountain Avenue  
Bound Brook, NJ 08805



The Presbyterian Church at Bound Brook, the oldest congregation in Somerset County, was established by Scottish covenanters in 1688. It now occupies its fifth sanctuary, a historic building of English medieval revival style, designed by architect Oscar S. Teale and built between 1896 and 1897. The interior is unique with a semi-circular seating layout set on a diagonal axis, with original Louis Comfort Tiffany stained-glass windows and a magnificent pipe organ. This church was among the first buildings in Bound Brook to utilize electric lighting and telephone service.

### **Year Round Features and Activities**

- Tours with a brochure and PowerPoint presentation, by appointment
- Church services: Saturdays at 5:00 p.m., Sundays at 10:00 a.m. with choir

**Website:** [www.BBPC.org](http://www.BBPC.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/B.B.Presbyterian.Church](https://www.facebook.com/B.B.Presbyterian.Church)

**Contact:** Martha Costain

**Email:** [office@BBPC.org](mailto:office@BBPC.org)

**Phone:** (732) 356-3575

**Organization:** The Presbyterian Church at Bound Brook

**General Public Hours:** Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Parking:** On site and in cemetery across the street

**ADA Accessibility:** Yes

**RELIEF HOSE COMPANY NO. 2  
ENGINE HOUSE**

16 Anderson Street  
Raritan, NJ 08869



A High Victorian Gothic-style firehouse completed in 1894, the most distinctive features of this building include a three-story hose tower where 50-foot lengths of fire hose could be hung vertically to dry, delicate stained glass windows, Art Nouveau signage and sandstone trim. The building demonstrates the high level of craftsmanship that could be achieved by local architects and builders in Somerset County during the late 19th century. Features of the building include original wainscoting on the walls and ceiling, paneled doors and early fire apparatus. The ground floor consisted of a carriage house for fire wagons and a public meeting room for the town's Board of Commissioners.

**Website:** [www.raritanfire.com](http://www.raritanfire.com)

**Contact:** Brian Kredatus, Fire Chief

**Email:** [bkredatus@raritanfire.com](mailto:bkredatus@raritanfire.com)

**Phone:** (908) 707-8540

**Organizations:** Raritan Borough and Raritan Fire Department

**General Public Hours:** No year-round hours available at this time

**ADA Accessibility:** Ground floor only is wheelchair accessible through central overhead doors; restroom not accessible

**SHRINE OF THE  
BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
52 West Somerset Street  
Raritan, NJ 08869



First a mission and then the home of St. Bernard's Parish (part of the Diocese of New York), the Shrine Chapel is the oldest Catholic Church structure in Somerset County. People would walk from as far away as Flemington to attend Mass here! The church you see today was built in 1856 and replaced the original wooden structure which was lost in a fire. Many of the people involved in its construction were of Irish descent; these same families also worked in the nearby mills, making blankets for Yankee soldiers during the American Civil War. American hero and Medal of Honor recipient Sergeant John Basilone attended school and services here in his early youth. The pews, altar rail, brass ceiling lamps, stained glass windows, and wall and ceiling paintings (currently undergoing restoration) date from the 1930s and 1940s. The church was designated as the Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament on August 11, 1989.

**Year Round Features and Activities**

- Traditional Latin Mass, Extraordinary Form: Sunday, 11:00 a.m.
- Mass, Ordinary Form (English), Monday through Friday 12:15 p.m.

**Website:** [www.blessedsacramentshrine.com](http://www.blessedsacramentshrine.com)

**Contact:** Reverend Robert G. Gorman

**Email:** [shrinechapel@yahoo.com](mailto:shrinechapel@yahoo.com)

**Phone:** (908) 722-1489

**General Public Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 6:00 a.m. to 4:50 p.m., Wednesday: 6:00 a.m. to 6:50 p.m., Saturday: 6:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; the Shrine is closed on civil holidays

**Parking:** Street parking

**ADA Accessibility:** One step at church entrance; one step to access main chapel

## SOMERVILLE EXEMPT FIRE MUSEUM

23 North Doughty Avenue  
Somerville, NJ 08876



The Somerville Exempt Fire Museum was built in 1888 by the West End Hose Company #3 to provide fire protection to the west side of Somerville. Some of the bricks and stained glass used in its construction were salvaged from a residence known as the Cammann Castle, located where Somerville Borough Hall stands today. The building housed a hand pulled hose reel, a horse drawn hose wagon and a horse in 1900, and in 1916, the first motorized fire pumper. In 1970 the West End Hose Company relocated to larger quarters on High Street. This building became a Fire Department museum run by the Somerville Fire Department Exempt Association. The last alarm assignment responding from this building was made by a 1942 Mack pumper in July of 1969. That pumper is now restored and used for ceremonial purposes and is designated Engine 5.

**Website:** [www.somervillefd.org/museum.htm](http://www.somervillefd.org/museum.htm)

**Email:** [sfdno3@aol.com](mailto:sfdno3@aol.com)

**Organization:** Borough of Somerville and Somerville Fire Department Exempt Association

**General Public Hours:** Saturdays 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**ADA Accessibility:** First floor only

## **SOUTH BRANCH SCHOOLHOUSE**

2120 South Branch Road  
Branchburg, NJ 08876



The South Branch School was built in 1873 in the rural Italianate style of the period. Children in grades one through eight from the surrounding areas of Branchburg and Hillsborough Townships were educated here. This schoolhouse is noteworthy for being the last one-room schoolhouse in use in Somerset County (1965). Famed opera star soprano and Thomas Edison protégé, Anna Case attended school here, as did Marion Van Fleet, the mother of actor Lee Van Cleef who starred in *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*. The School House is owned by Branchburg Township.

### **Year Round Features and Activities**

- Photographic exhibition: History of the School House
- Display on Neshanic Station history by the Neshanic Historical Society

**Contact:** Rita Bouwman

**Phone:** (908) 526-3094

**Organization:** Branchburg Woman's Club and the Neshanic Station Historical Society

**General Public Hours:** Scheduled by Township for meetings.  
Open year-round, by reservation

**ADA Accessibility:** Yes

## VAN VEGHTEN HOUSE

9 Van Veghten Drive  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807



The Van Veghten House stands on its original site on the north bank of the Raritan River. The present structure evolved from the first house built by Michael Van Veghten, circa 1700. The house served as headquarters for Quartermaster General Nathanael Greene during the Middlebrook Cantonment in 1778-1779. Units of the Continental Army's Pennsylvania Brigade were encamped on his fields. While in residence, General Greene wrote a letter describing a, "pretty little frisk" held in the house on March 17, 1779. Throughout the course of the evening, General Washington danced with Mrs. Greene "upwards of three hours without seting [sic] down." The house is the headquarters of the Somerset County Historical Society.

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

- Guided tours of the house
- Research library and artifact collections
- Somerset County history and genealogical consultations
- Museum featuring Native American artifacts and a display of antique farming tools

**Website:** [www.somersethistorynj.org](http://www.somersethistorynj.org)

**Email:** [info@somersethistorynj.org](mailto:info@somersethistorynj.org)

**Phone:** (908) 218-1281

**Organization:** Somerset County Historical Society

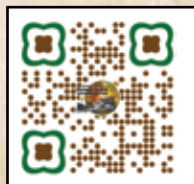
**General Public Hours:** Tuesdays, Noon to 3:00 p.m. and the second Saturday of each month, Noon to 3:00 p.m.

**ADA Accessibility:** No

# SOUTH COUNTY TOUR



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## GRIGGSTOWN BRIDGETENDER'S HOUSE

2 Griggstown Causeway  
(Franklin Township)  
Princeton, NJ 08540



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

**Website:** [www.millstonevalley.org](http://www.millstonevalley.org)

**FaceBook:** Millstone Valley Scenic Byway

**Phone:** (732) 930-2766

**Organization:** The Millstone Valley Preservation Coalition

**General Public Hours:** The Millstone Valley National Scenic Byway (MVSB) Visitor Center is open to the public April through October, Saturday and Sunday, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by appointment

**GRIGGSTOWN  
SCHOOLHOUSE**  
1065 Canal Road  
(Franklin Township)  
Princeton, NJ 08540



Built in the 1830s, the Griggstown Schoolhouse was the first schoolhouse to serve Griggstown residents on the east side of the Millstone River. Originally located along Canal Road in front of the Manse, it was moved to a site behind the Griggstown Reformed Church in 1854, and then moved again in 1957 when the Church built a new hall. The schoolhouse closed in 1932. Through a Historic Preservation Grant from the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission, the Griggstown Historical Society was able to restore the schoolhouse to its original 1830s appearance with board and batten siding.

**Contact:** John Thallemer, President, Griggstown Historical Society

**Phone:** (732) 354-5699

**Organization:** Griggstown Historical Society

**General Public Hours:** Tours by appointment

**Parking:** In front

**ADA Accessibility:** Two steps at entrance

## **HARLINGEN REFORMED CHURCH**

2142 US Highway 206  
Belle Mead, NJ 08502



The Harlingen Reformed Church is a member of the oldest continuous Protestant denomination in the United States. Brought to America in 1628 by the earliest settlers from the Netherlands, it has one of the oldest continuing congregations in New Jersey. The building you see today was built in 1851. Inside, the sanctuary holds a magnificent pipe organ installed in 1915, and a brilliant center chandelier. The church was renamed for the congregation's beloved pastor, Johannes Martinus Van Harlingen, as is the village of Harlingen, part of Belle Mead/Montgomery. Ask a docent where he was first buried—you will be surprised!

### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

- Church Services: Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
- Youth Group (9th – 12th graders) Sundays, September through June, 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- “Midway” Middle School Youth Group (6th – 8th graders), twice a month on Saturdays, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Family Night, second Sunday of every month at 5:00 p.m.
- Al Anon, Saturdays from 10:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
- Many Small Groups/Bible Studies meet at various times year round

**Website:** [www.harlingenchurch.org](http://www.harlingenchurch.org)

**Contact:** Pastor Chris Heitkamp

**Email:** [office@harlingenchurch.org](mailto:office@harlingenchurch.org)

**Phone:** (908) 359-3556

**General Public Hours:** Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to Noon

**Parking:** Parking lot

**ADA Accessibility:** There is an outdoor side ramp; parking lot is gravel; the bathrooms are on a mid-level, accessible by StairLift.

## **HISTORIC 1860 SCHOOL HOUSE**

*also known as*

### **MILLSTONE BOROUGH HALL**

1353 Main Street  
Millstone, NJ 08844



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

#### **Year Round Features and Activities:**

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

**Website:** [www.millstoneboro.org](http://www.millstoneboro.org)

**Contact:** (908) 281-6893

**Organization:** Borough of Millstone

**General Public Hours:** Borough Hall is open for scheduled Borough meetings and open year-round by reservation

**ADA Accessibility:** Accessible parking, entrance, and restroom

## OLD MILLSTONE FORGE

9 North River Street  
Millstone, NJ 08844



Constructed between 1828 and 1836, the Old Millstone Forge Blacksmith Shop has been open as a working museum since 1966. This two-story brick and timber building houses an unusual display of traditional metalworking and black-smithing equipment, demonstrated by docent-smiths. Displays focus on the transition from traditional blacksmithing to modern machining, with tools from the earliest days of the colonies through the 1920s, many hand-made. Especially interesting are the Dutch anvil and spike dating to the 1600s, and hand-operated mechanical equipment from early 19th and early 20th centuries.

### Year Round Features and Activities:

- Skilled blacksmiths working in the traditional manner
- Display of original tools and machines from various time periods
- Original tools and implements
- Hands-on experience when time allows
- Private tours and lessons available

**Website:** [www.oldmillstoneforge.org](http://www.oldmillstoneforge.org)

**Contact:** Eric Wolcott and RJ Robinson

**Email:** [blacksmiths@oldmillstoneforge.org](mailto:blacksmiths@oldmillstoneforge.org)

**Phone:** (908) 448-6624

**Organization:** Old Millstone Forge Association, Inc.

**General Public Hours:** April through June, and September through November on Sundays from 1:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m. and by appointment

**Parking:** Off-site, follow signs

**ADA Accessibility:** No

**STOUTSBURG SOURLAND  
AFRICAN AMERICAN  
MUSEUM**

*also known as*

**MT. ZION AME CHURCH**

189 Hollow Road  
Skillman, NJ 08558



Built between 1899 and 1902, the Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church is a modest, one-room, rural black church that represents the evolution of African-American heritage in the Sourland region of central New Jersey. From the 1860s to the early 1900s, the Sourlands supported a thriving peach industry with African Americans becoming known for weaving peach baskets and providing farm labor. When blight crippled the peach industry starting about the year 1900, an outward migration took place as the population of the Sourlands moved off to towns and cities in search of work. A diminishing number of African-American families persisted carrying on rural traditions, much of them centered about activities at Mount Zion AME. By the late 1950s, the church was recognized as one of the few places left in the Sourlands to offer a unique physical reflection of the African-American experience of this sub-region of New Jersey.

**Year Round Features and Activities:**

- Special topic events and programs
- School visits with follow-up lesson plans
- Visits by appointment
- Exhibits and collections

**Website:** [www.ssaamuseum.org](http://www.ssaamuseum.org)

**Contact:** Caroline Katmann

**Email:** [ckatmann@sourland.org](mailto:ckatmann@sourland.org)

**Phone:** (609) 309-5155

**Organization:** Stoutsbury Sourland African American Museum

**General Public Hours:** By appointment only

**Parking:** Several parking spaces are available, attendant will be present to assist

**ADA Accessibility:** No

## VAN LIEW-SUYDAM HOUSE

280 South Middlebush Road  
Franklin Township, NJ 08873



In the 1700s, Peter Van Liew settled on this site atop the hill where South Middlebush and Blackwells Mills roads meet—perhaps for spectacular sunsets and views of the fields and woods of the Six Mile Run Valley. Later, Joseph Suydam built part of the house that is seen today; the newest and largest portion of the house dates to 1875. The ornate woodworking on the porch and walls clearly demonstrate a perfect example of 19th-century Victorian farmhouse architecture. Purchased by the State of New Jersey for the Six Mile Run Reservoir Project, the house was left abandoned when the project was canceled. The Meadows Foundation became stewards of the house in 1988, restoring it to its former glory. The house is now owned by Franklin Township.

### Year Round Features and Activities

- Programs/presentations on various topics from birdwatching to Queen Victoria to WWII spies and genealogy—see website for details and dates
- Docent-led tours on announced public days or by private arrangement

**Website:** [www.TheMeadowsFoundation.org](http://www.TheMeadowsFoundation.org)

**Email:** [TMF.org.1289@gmail.com](mailto:TMF.org.1289@gmail.com)

**Organization:** The Meadows Foundation

**General Public Hours:** Vary, see website for events and open houses

**ADA Accessibility:** Yes (except kitchen); entrance, ramp and all exhibits are on the first floor

## ***Many thanks to our 2018 heritage tourism partners!***

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The Millstone Valley Preservation  
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Old Millstone Forge  
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The Shrine of the Blessed  
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South Bound Brook Historic  
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Stoutsbury Sourland African  
American Museum

United States Golf Association  
(USGA)

Watchung Historical Committee  
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Warren Township Historic Sites  
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*Made possible by funds from the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.*



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# Notes





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