



Morris County Historic Preservation Trust Fund

P.O. Box 900, Morristown, NJ 07963-0900

(973) 829-8120. FAX (973) 326-9025. WEBSITE: www.MorrisPreservation.com

Office located at: 30 Schuyler Place, Morristown, NJ

CONTACT: Ray Chang
973-829-8120 or
rchang@co.morris.nj.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Morris County Board of Freeholders has approved spending \$1.5 million from the county's Historic Preservation Trust Fund to help preserve 18 historic sites in 15 towns.

The freeholders approved funding the projects based upon the recommendation of the county's Historic Preservation Trust Fund Review Board, which reviewed a total of 24 applications.

Of the 21 grants approved, 13 were for construction or restoration projects and eight grants were non-construction projects, which may include acquisition and the development of plans for preservation.

Morris County voters approved the creation of the Historic Preservation Trust Fund in November 2002, allowing the freeholders to amend the county's Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund to include the acquisition and preservation of historic sites and facilities. The funds come from trust fund monies that have been traditionally set aside for administrative costs and were not diverted from open space or farmland preservation.

The trustees of the Ralston Cider Mill, which was built as a gristmill in Mendham Township in 1849, received the largest grant ever awarded during the program's three-year history, \$392,744. The funds will provide for the restoration of the mill equipment, windows and doors, utilities, and a new parking lot and access way.

Harding Township received \$223,000 for the Glen Alpin country estate. These funds will be used for a new roof for the Gothic Revival-style house, as well as other restoration and site work and professional services.

The First Presbyterian Church of Hanover was awarded \$190,320 for the complete restoration of the slate roof, chimney and cornice and site drainage. During the Revolutionary War, the church, which is in East Hanover, was used as a hospital.

BOARD MEMBERS: Janet Foster, *Chairperson*. Mary Prendergast, *Vice Chairperson*. Carl Allieri, Herbert Berman, Sherri Hieber-Day, John Dunado, Edward Engelbart, Larry Fast, Ann Granbery, Arturo Palombo, Charles E. Topping



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The freeholders also approved historic preservation grants for construction totaling \$96,112 to the Historical Society of Boonton Township for the Oscar A. Kincaid Home of History; \$94,816 to the First Presbyterian Church & Congregation of Dover for the First Memorial Presbyterian Church; \$80,000 to Mt. Olive for the Former Baptist Church; \$75,000 to Pequannock for the Pompton Plains Passenger Station; \$59,320 to Florham Park for the Little Red Schoolhouse; \$56,181 to the Ayres-Knuth Farm Foundation for the Ayres Farm House in Denville; \$39,200 to the Woman's Club of Morristown; \$27,074 to the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship; \$16,835 to the Community of St. John the Baptist in Mendham Township; \$12,800 to the Historical Society of the Rockaways for the Ford-Faesch House in Rockaway Township; \$12,552 to the Schuyler-Hamilton House Museum for the Schuyler-Hamilton House; and \$6,000 to the Roxbury Historic Trust for the King Homestead Museum in Roxbury.

The United Methodist Church in Madison received a construction grant of \$44,800 and a non-construction grant of \$5,000, while Montville received construction and non-construction grants totaling \$46,050 for the Nicholas Vreeland Out Kitchen and construction and non-construction grants totaling \$22,196 for the Montville Schoolhouse No. 10.

In 2003, the first year of the trust fund, the freeholders approved spending \$750,000 to help preserve 18 historic sites in 15 towns. Last year, the freeholders awarded \$1 million in grants to fund 16 projects in 14 communities.

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