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**Historic Hunterdon County Courthouse Recommended for
New Jersey Historic Trust Capital Grant**

On September 18, 2019, the New Jersey Historic Trust, an affiliate of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) met at the Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse and approved \$11,902,723 in grants recommendations from the Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund (Fund) for 67 preservation planning, heritage tourism, and capital projects to save and promote historic sites throughout the state.

The grant recommendations, approved by the New Jersey Historic Trust Board, will be presented to the Garden State Preservation Trust at its next meeting on October 8, 2019. The grants will then require a legislative appropriations bill and the governor's approval before funds become available.

New this year, the Trust accepted applications for large-scale, multi-phased projects. Five of the thirty-eight capital grants were approved for their first phase. Future phases will be allocated in subsequent appropriations. The Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse complex, which encompasses the jail and warden's house, is among the sites recommended for large-scale, multi-phased projects funding; Phase 1 funding is recommended at \$747,000, which required assurance of a 1:1 match from the Board of Chosen Freeholders as part of the application.

Phase 1 work is limited to the Courthouse and includes exterior stucco repair/replacement, roof repair and replacement, stone repointing, the integration of unobtrusive banner hanging systems, and the addition of power at key locations to facilitate outdoor events. On the interior, work includes plaster repair and repainting of areas that have been damaged by water infiltration, lighting and other improvements to the exhibit display areas, significant security improvements for the exhibit and other areas, electrical improvements, lighting upgrades (including replacement of inefficient fixtures with LEDs and the installation of flexible lighting in the gallery spaces) and the installation of interior storm windows that will help to reduce energy usage.

Phase 2 work will focus on the restoration of the exterior and interior of the Jail and Warden's House. This project includes the repair and partial replacement of the roof, extensive stone repointing, and window replacement. On the interior, work includes plaster repair and repainting of areas that have been damaged by water infiltration, and ADA upgrades with the installation of automatic door operators.

The County of Hunterdon is delighted that the Trust chose to hold their meeting in the historic courthouse, and grateful for the opportunity to continue its stewardship of this nationally significant building.

The Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission received a grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.



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