



Friendship School - Circa 1830

S.H.O.U.T.

SAFEKEEPING THE HERITAGE OF UPPER TOWNSHIP

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF UPPER TOWNSHIP



Rooted in the Past - Enjoyed in the Present - Preserved for the Future

Volume 30 No. 1

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2022 "Comeback" Year for Historical Society

After two years of Covid-19 restrictions and shutdowns, the Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township came back to regular scheduling for this past year with monthly programs and the restart of the traditional festivals.

This edition of the SHOUT newsletter highlights most of the 2022 events with photos that have been shared on our website and social media for the past 12 months.

In addition to doing a successful restart of most of our annual activities, the HPSUT Board has been striving this year to bring in more volunteers. The Society has participated in numerous community events with our history information table, staffed with our

12 months of Photos

Board members.

This past year our HPSUT Board members attended New Jersey state and re-



HPSUT Board member volunteers at the roadside clean up around the Friendship School in Palermo in Oct. as part of the Upper Twp. Clean Communities program.

gional history meetings and conferences to bring back timely information for our Society.

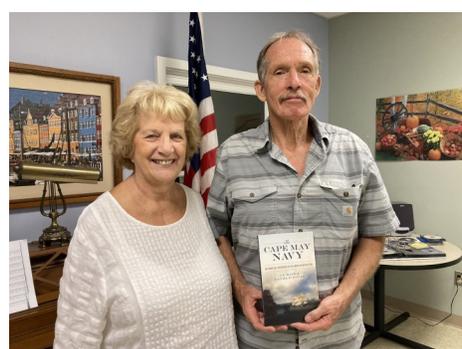
New Jersey's ongoing efforts to prepare history organizations for the 250th Anniversary is one example. Our HPSUT is planning future activities that will link to the theme "Constitutional Ideals" that can be commemorated in our communities in 2026.

Our Historical Society has strived to apply for grant opportunities on an annual basis and the Board's efforts have brought additional funds to the Township of Upper. Maintaining contact with the Cape May County Commissioners, and the County agencies has been one of the key focus areas for

Continued on Page 4



HPSUT program, Oct. 11, 2022, Patricia Chappine and her book "New Jersey Women in World War II" with Society President Carol Williams, left, and Barbara Horan, right, Society program co-chair. ##



HPSUT program Sept. 13, 2022, J.P. Hand and his book "The Cape May Navy: Delaware Bay Privateers in the American Revolution" with Society President Carol Williams.



HPSUT program May 10, 2022, co-author Rachel Dolhanczyk and her book "The AJ Meerwald and NJ Oyster Industry" with Society President Carol Williams, left & Mike Horan, Society program co-chair.



Renew Your HPSUT Membership - See Coupon on Page 13 - Or Online Payment

2022 Tuckahoe Transportation Heritage Festival



Tuckahoe Transportation Heritage Festival (TTHF), held 24 Sept 2022
An annual partnership with the Cape May Seashore Lines, the Volunteer Railroaders Association (VRA) and the Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township (HPSUT) [See TTHF 2022 Photo Gallery on HPSUT Facebook Page](#), www.seashorelines.org | <https://vratrips.org/blog> ##

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Historical Society Annual Potluck Dinner / Show & Share Mar. 8th



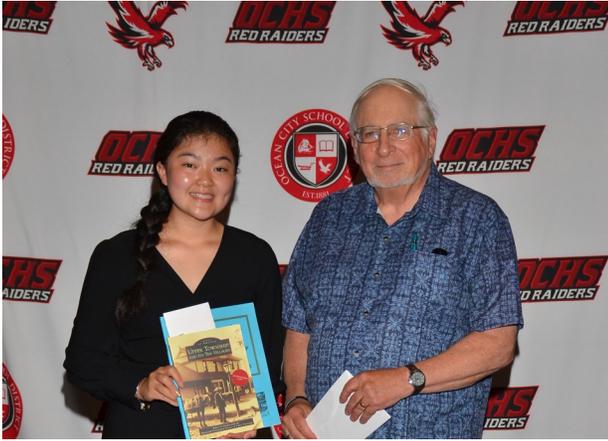
Members and friends of the Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township held the annual covered dish "Potluck" Dinner on Tuesday, Mar. 8, 2022, at the First United Methodist Church, Route 49, Tuckahoe. This is the first meeting for the Society's 2022 program year. There was no charge for this dinner / program. This Potluck Dinner gathering of Historical Society members and guests is always a popular event for our com-

munity. The Board of Trustees provided the meat dishes and everyone else brought a vegetable, bread, or dessert. A "show and share" session was held following the dinner. HPSUT members and guests told stories about their family artifact. ##

Restored Train Cars a Feature of Annual Tuckahoe Transportation Heritage Festival



Historical Society 2022 Scholarships at Ocean City High School



The Historical Preservation Society of Upper Twp. (HPSUT) 2022 OCHS Scholarship was present graduating senior **Olivia Heng** by HPSUT Board member **Ralph Cooper**. Olivia was president of the Student Environmental Association (SEA) at Ocean City High School. Her organization helped with both the Strawberry Festival and the Apple Festival this year. ##



Scholarships were awarded to Ocean City High School graduating seniors **Isabelle Smith**, left, and **Madison Majors** by **William Eisele** at the OCHS Scholarship Gala on June 6, 2022. The scholarships were funded from the former Greater Tuckahoe Area Merchants Association, now administered by the Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township. ##

Salem Oak Sapling Planted @ Gandy



Salem Oak Tree seedling planting at the Historical Society's Gandy Farmstead in Upper Township. HPSUT Historian **Bob Holden**, pictured, and Board member **Ralph Cooper** recently planted the sapling. See link for article about this NJ state-wide campaign to provide seedlings to each of the 565 Garden State municipalities. > www.nj.gov/dep/newsrel/2019/19_0092.htm Further details will be posted concerning the Upper Cape Sustainability project that brought Salem Oak Tree saplings to Upper Twp. and the surrounding towns of Woodbine, Dennis Twp. Corbin City and Ocean City. ##



Dale Lonkart with the Atlantic County Historical Society provided a copy of the completed "Index" of the South Jersey Magazine editions to the Upper Twp. Historical Society. The handoff was the result of a discussion at a Atlantic County History Roundtable meeting earlier this year that **Ralph Cooper**, HPSUT board member attended. The Index will be useful for the HPSUT, since our Society has most copies of the South Jersey Magazine. ##

"Comback Year" for HPSUT Continued from Page 1

our HPSUT Board.

Engaging with the Township Committeeperson Kim Hayes on a regular basis has helped maintain steady communications and cooperation of the municipalities support for our Historical Society.

The HPSUT has maintained monthly connection with other historical groups and museums in Cape May and Atlantic County by attending regular meetings of both the Cape History Coalition and the Atlantic County Roundtable.

Noting historic milestones has been an ongoing activity. During 2022, the Strathmere UM Church marked 100 years; the Dollard Sew and Vac, in Marmora, marked 100 years in business, etc.

This year also marked the start of a major redevelopment project in the Beesley's Point district of Upper Township with the demolition of the B.L. England Power Plant and the announcement of plans for a tourism and residential development along the banks of the Tuckahoe River. ##

2022 Upper Twp. Historical Society Strawberry Festival



2022 Upper Twp. Historical Society Strawberry Festival



Coast Guard Lifeboat CG-36538



HPSUT program, April 12, 2022, Coast Guard Lifeboat CG-36538 Restoration ##

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Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township (HPSUT), P.O. Box 658, Marmora, NJ 08223-0658
Located in northern Cape May County, New Jersey



HPSUT Website



Bill Eisele with Aaron Wittkamp Colwell Post 239 American Legion presented a certificate of appreciation to the HPSUT for supporting the Post Golf Tournament this summer. Receiving the certificate was Historical Society President Carol Williams and Historian Bob Holden. ##

Historian's Report - Fall / Winter 2022

Robert Holden, Historian

Greetings fellow HPSUT members!

The year 2022 has been a good one for the Historical Society.

In September, we held our **Transportation Heritage Festival** at the Train Station and a great time was had by all in the crisp fall air. We had over 35 antique cars and trucks attend and the restored train car, Mineral Springs (restored by member, Paul Mulligan) was a big hit. It was a great day for train buffs.

Attendees could ride the train (drivers only-free) and the speeder car. We had one food truck (BBQ) and, after 12 noon, the *Mister Softee* Ice Cream Truck came to the delight of many.

We had plenty of live music which was greatly enjoyed.

The weather was perfect and everyone in attendance had a great time!

On October 22nd, the Historical Society sponsored its annual **AppleFest!** Coordinated by Linda Leonard, Barb and Mike Horan, the event was one of the best AppleFests ever. The Society made nearly \$3 thousand from the sale of apples, baked apple treats, hot dogs, bratwursts and soft drinks.

This event has always been a great fundraiser for the Historical Society and the event was well-attended.

Music was provided by Linda and Ollie.

Tours of The Gandy House were conducted by HPSUT President Carol Williams, dressed in period costume. This year Carol was joined by two young volunteers. (See Photo).

(Please visit our website for a film about the **Gandy House**, filmed by Ted Burke of Stone Harbor (an associate and friend of Jim Talone) starring our President, Carol Williams as a Gandy wife doing chores around the house, and narrated by yours truly!)

The coming year 2023 promises to be even better now that we have Covid "on the run". It was great to be outside during the Festival without masks!

Coming in May (The Saturday of Memorial Day weekend) will be our annual Strawberry Festival. If you are an HPSUT member and have not been involved, PLEASE come out and help us out! WE need you!

I will be visiting the Upper Township Elementary School on Thursday, Dec. 8th to give the entire fourth grade class (divided into two groups) an informative presentation about Upper Township history, showing them a power point of pictures from my book, **The Ten Villages of Upper Township**, AND artifacts from the archaeological digs done at the corner of Routes 49 & 50 as well as the Tuckahoe River at Mosquito Landing.

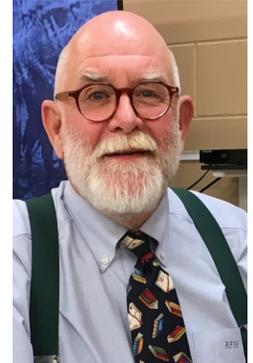
The artifacts taken from where the old Willets privy was located are fascinating. (They include pottery shards, pieces of fine china, beads, buttons, and a rusty lock from an old flintlock pistol or long gun.

The dig along the river produced oyster shells, clam shells, animal

bones (from a cooking fire) Native-American artifacts including an 8K year old arrowhead! The students each get to hold it in their hand.

The fourth-grade students will receive the same presentation I gave the fourth graders back in March of 2019 (before the pandemic!)

We start out with a globe exploring where they live in the world, and then which country, which state, and then where they live in the township and in which of the ten villages of the township.



Robert Holden

It's all great fun and the students get to see and, (in some cases), touch real artifacts that date back to the 18th/early 19th century.

I will have a full report in the next issue of the SHOUT.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes for a Merry and Blessed Christmas, and the Happy New Years!

Bob Holden, HPSUT Historian

PS: If you haven't bought your copy of our book yet, we still have a few left at \$23.99 - It's loaded with 185 old photos from around the township- ten chapters, ten villages. If you'd like a copy, contact any board member or email me and we can send/give you a copy and you can easily pay via PayPal, check, or



Volunteers **Rose Shawl**, left, and **Liz Louis** during their break at the AppleFest. The youths devoted hours in helping at the Gandy Farm House during Applefest. ##



Mr. & Mrs. Langford Townsend, Tuckahoe, NJ *

(* Seeking more information about them. This photo was found in a file cabinet at the Seaville Quaker Meeting in Seaville and HPSUT Historian Bob Holden is interested in learning more.)

Upper Twp. 2nd Graders Learn of Local History

Robert Holden, Historian

On Friday, Mar. 25th 2022 I went to the UT Primary School to speak to the second graders about Upper Township history. There are 8 classes of second graders (There are over 150 students with 8+ teachers) and the school district purchased a book for each teacher. (I donated one to the school's library) so the students were prepared before my visit.

The kids were excited after a long drought of no speakers and no field trips because of Covid. They were really ready for me!

I used the Friendship School teacher's bell to "ring in" each class as they entered the multi-purpose room. That got their attention!

I then explained how the bell was used by teachers in the past.

I went on with a power point of photos used in my book, and a collection of household items used in homes at the turn of the century; both from the HPSUT's collection and my own. From my own I brought a stereoscope with picture cards, an Edison cylinder record, and an old lunch pail just to name a few.)

I also brought many items from the Friendship School, including the teacher's desk bell, many old school books, a 1927 Petersburg School teacher's register, and a 1928 student report card for a girl named Matty Gannon. The kids loved seeing the report card, and since it was in a closed plastic sleeve, I let them pass it around in each of the three sessions with the students, so every child could see it.

I started out showing them a globe, talking about the earth, and our place on it. Next, I focused on the 7 continents; focusing on North America, then asking, what country do we live in? (Several said, New Jersey) This was followed by how many states are in our country, and then what state do we live in?

The students were given a county map of New Jersey and a list of the ten villages in Upper Township, and a photo of an Upper Township (Tuckahoe) elementary school class from 1927 in advance, so they could refer to that and have something to take home.

After we reviewed how many counties were in New Jersey, (21!) I asked each group what county we lived in. Most did not know, so we proceeded from there. After we got Cape May County settled, I asked where was UPPER township? (Clue – It's called UPPER Township!) So it was eventually decided that it

was in the Northern Part of the county; after a few missed answers.) The students were great with hands up all over the crowd.

Then, I went to the Beers Map of Upper Township (up on the screen) which is at the beginning of the book. We went on from there. (I told them about the split with Dennis Township in 1872, and showed them where Strathmere beach was located.)

The kids loved looking at the old photos. Everyone could see them well, because the photos were projected from the laptop onto a big screen on the front wall. The I.T. guy did a great job setting me up!

For the photographs, I concentrated on the school photos, starting out with the 1899 photo of teacher Sally van Gilder and her students at the Farmers' School/Beesley's Point School.

Many said they had passed the old school (now a private home) numerous times.

I continued with other school photos until we were close to the end. I needed time for the object guessing.

The children loved guessing what items like sock egg darners and the egg separator were used for! Some answers were hilarious; others, very thoughtful.

All in all, it was a fun day for me and a great day for the kids as evidenced by their eagerness to get close to the items I brought as they filed out of the room.

These visits are great outreach for the HPSUT. I hope we get lots of HPSUT members now from the teachers and in the future from the students.

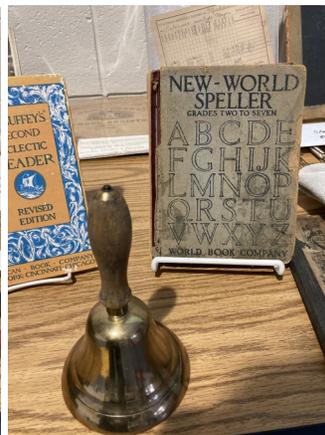
I intend to take membership forms to the school to distribute to the staff. The teacher told me that the kids talked all day about the visit. The pics and story went up on Facebook (of course!), and some parents called the school, happy about the event.

I received a great report from the coordinating teacher, Michelle Inserra, who sent me photographs from the day, a few of which accompany this story.

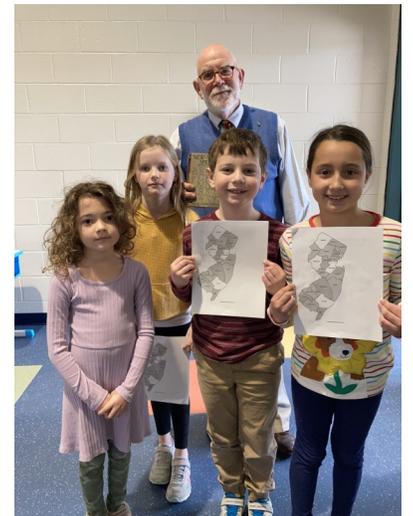
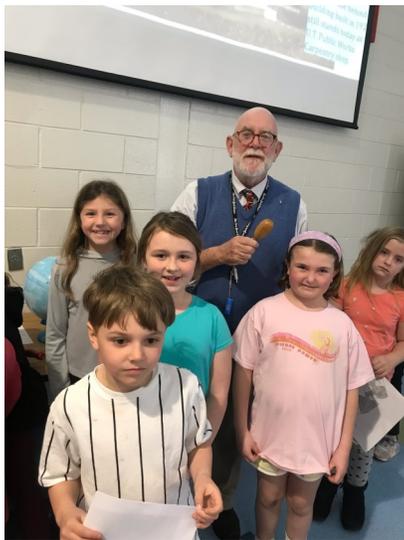
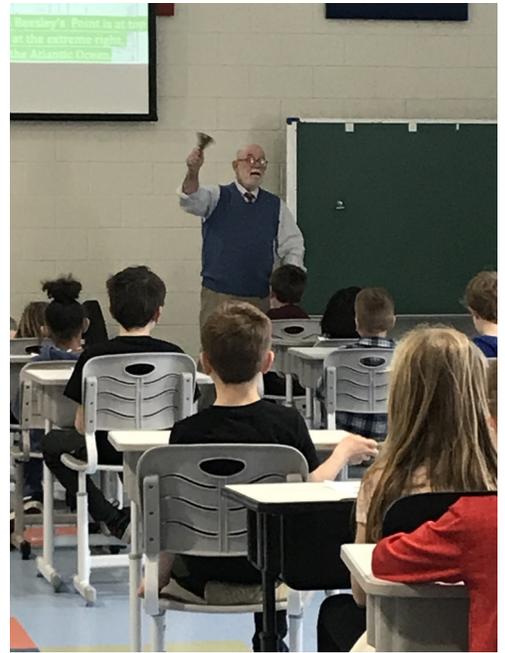
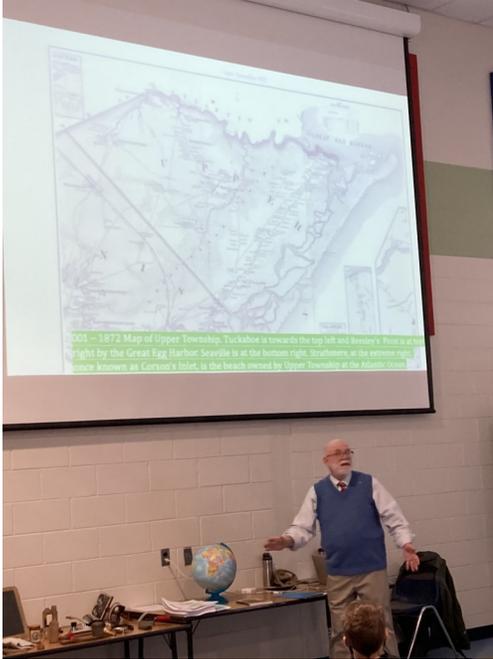
Thanks to all of the second-grade teachers and staff at the UT Primary School!

I'll be returning next year for sure! ##

Historian's Column



Local History Presentation for Eight 2nd Grad Classes @ UT Primary



Historical Society volunteers working the set up for the 2022 Tuckahoe Heritage Transportation Festival.



HPSUT volunteers with roadside clean up, Oct. 2022

2022 Upper Twp. Historical Society Apple Festival

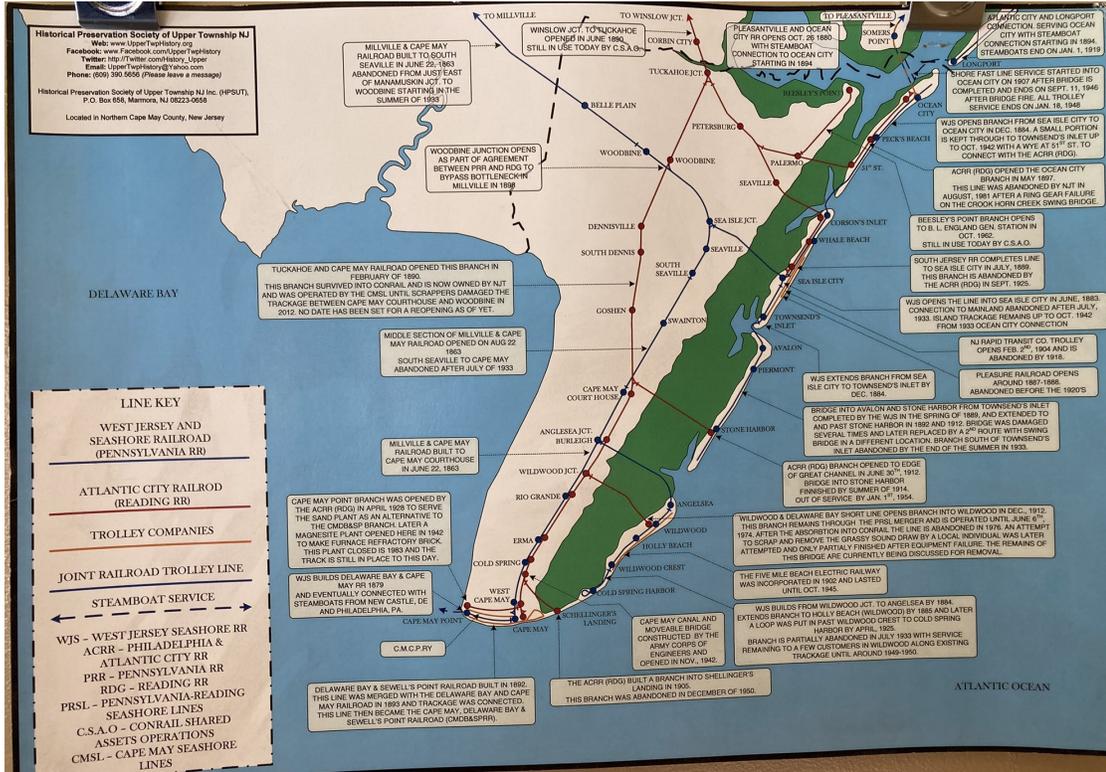


2022 Upper Twp. Historical Society Apple Festival



2022 Upper Twp. Historical Society Apple Festival





Detailed mapping of the multiple railroad systems that have passed thru the Township of Upper.

Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township
Rooted in the Past - Enjoyed in the Present - Preserved for the Future

HPSUT 2023 Membership

Name: _____
 Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____



Friendship School - Circa 1830

Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township (HPSUT)

Membership Category

- ___ Individual @ \$15.00/ea.
- ___ Couple (Both under 65) \$25.00
- ___ Business or Organization \$75.00
- ___ Student @ \$5.00/ea
- ___ Sr. Couple (Both 65 or older) \$20.00
- ___ Society Donations Always Welcome

Payments Accepted online via PayPal

www.UpperTwpHistory.org/membership.htm

or

Make your check payable to HPSUT

Remit with this completed form to Society Treasurer:

Carroll Bailey, PO Box 507, Tuckahoe, NJ 08250

Web: www.UpperTwpHistory.org | **Facebook:** www.Facebook.com/UpperTwpHistory
Email: UpperTwpHistory@Yahoo.com | **Phone:** (609) 390.5656 (Please leave a message)

Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township
Your Application



Boy Scouts from the West Cape May Troop worked their Railroading Merit Badge during the 5th Annual Tuckahoe Transportation Heritage Festival, held in Sept. 2022. Instructors were Paul Mulligan and Steve Grous, a conductor on the Seashore Line. (Photos by Curt Hudson)

Upper Twp. Historical Society - Fall - 2022 - Newsletter

Page 1 "Comeback Year" overview article; Sampling of 2022 membership programs

Page 2 Tuckahoe Transportation Heritage Festival

Page 3 Annual Potluck Dinner; Restored Train Cars

Page 4 Scholarships; Salem Oak Tree Planted

Page 5 - 6 Strawberry Festival Photos

Page 7 Historian Column

Page 8 - 9 2nd Graders Learn Local History

Page 10 - 12 Apple Festival Photos

Page 13 Railroad Map of Cape May County; HPSUT 2023 Membership Dues

Page 14 Boy Scout Railroad Merit Badge

In This Edition:



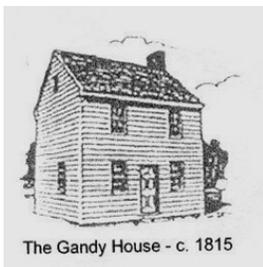
[New Gandy Film - See Video Here or Click Above Graphic](#)

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Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township

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The Gandy House - c. 1815

Address Correction Requested