

**TEANECK HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
7PM MEETING VIA ZOOM**

**AGENDA**

**December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**(Info on accessing this Zoom meeting is at the end of this agenda)**

**Meeting Called to Order**

**Roll Call**

**Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

**Approval of Minutes:** November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Correspondence, News, and Updates/Reports on Old Business:**

- **As of this date**, the Thurnauer House is the sole historic property for which a historic marker has been made, but not installed nearby in the public's right-of-way, due to the homeowner's objection.
- New replacement markers, with updated information, have replaced the older markers at the John Ackerman House and the Zabriskie-Kip-Cadmus House.
- **The last five park markers for the township** (i.e., for Continental, Coolidge, Feldman, Sagamore, and Hawthorne parks) are being

created at Sewah Studios and should be in Teaneck in about six months.

- **Update on connecting the THPC's Google map to a list of Teaneck's street names** with their underlying meanings (drawn up mainly by Chairman Norris) and the honorary street names list that Secretary Stokes has put together. Vice-Chair Force has received the street-name list and thinks it can be added; this list has been sent over to Kate Norris, a copyeditor at *The New Yorker*, who will copy edit the text.
  
- **Master Plan** status?
  
- Status of placing **Teaneck's Armory** on the National Register of Historic Places?
  
- **No updates** from the township manager on the following items:
  - **Assembling a task force to review Block 212, lots 1 and 2** (671 and 662 Pomander Walk), perhaps following, in the case of 662 Pomander Walk, Schedule E of its Deed of Conservation Easement with the Meadowlands Conservancy of October 2009--the Conceptual Park Improvement Plan--created by Christopher P. Statile, with improvements suggested by the Advisory Board of Teaneck's Historic Burial Ground.
  - **Creating an ad hoc committee** to select personages and events from local Black history for nomination for standing markers from The New Jersey Black Heritage Trail (<https://nj.gov/state/historical/his-black-heritage-trail.shtml>)

- **Update on having a township-sponsored event near the honorary “Ulysses Kay Way” street sign** (across from his home at 1271 Alicia Avenue) on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 1995; Answer from Doug Ruccione by email on 11/7/2024: “For the UK event, and any street renamings, its always a group that leads the event; not necessarily initiated by us. If there is to be some renaming 'ceremony', I would prefer having others who know the individual/significance to take lead. We can provide certain resources should it come together.”
- **Update on using MOST money for the preservation of the exteriors of historic properties with private owners after natural disasters:** Chairman Norris will be drawing up possible guideline for the Commission’s consideration in the future. He has already sent an email to Elaine Gold, the Administrator of the Bergen County Historic Preservation Trust Fund for the Bergen County Historic Preservation Advisory Board and the Bergen County Trust Fund, enquiring about what the County does when historic sites are in peril from natural disasters.

## **New Business:**

- None, unless the Commission wishes to discuss items from the agenda’s “Possible Future Business,” or perhaps some other project, for the Commission to take on

## **Citizens' Comments**

## **Adjournment**

**Next meeting** – January 29th, 2025 at 7:30 P.M.

## **Possible Future Business:**

The HPC's **USA 250th anniversary offerings (in 2026)**, possibly including a virtual tour

Does the Commission wish to merge its bus tour plans of the above with Teaneck's Chamber of Commerce (see email below from Larry Bauer of June 30, 2024): Daniel, copied here is Michael.

Attached is the complete file for the bus tour that we (Teaneck Chamber of Commerce, initiated a few years back. At the end is also a survey. This survey also provides some good feedback for any programs we manage to compile.

I think there is much we can do here and I am sure that the Teaneck Chamber would like to be involved with this as well.

If we do initiate this, we should not only properly plan this out we should also make sure that the Township also posts this on the Township website we should make every effort that it does not compete with any popular programs for the date we might have planned. The Teaneck Public Library will hopefully help advertise any program we will do in their newsletter.

The good thing with the bus is that it should also attract many folks from the senior community (Age Friendly) and those that might have limited mobility.

Much more to write but this at least is a good start. Larry

## **Discussion of internships and the HPC....**

### **Background:**

- **Larry Bauer kindly invited the Chairman to a Rotary Club lunch meeting on July 24<sup>th</sup>**, which introduced him to Nick Campestre, the FORUM Coordinator of Teaneck High School: <https://www.teaneckschools.org/TheFORUM.aspx>. The Chairman mentioned the idea of having high-school interns help with researching and writing up the lives of famous Teaneckian personages, the text to be placed on the Google map where their homes were. Nick was enthusiastic, especially foreseeing help from the student publications at the high school. However, FORUM financial support from the township has been reduced, which may hinder this possibility.
- At the October 20<sup>th</sup> HPC meeting, **Councilmember and HPC liaison Denise Belcher** expressed support for the HPC considering having an intern,

mentioning her own positive experiences at her business with those from Bergen Academies, though agreeing that interns require good oversight, a place to work, and worthwhile projects. Even so, should the Commission pursue this possibility at this time?

**Working with the Teaneck Public Library** to create a local history/museum/research space at the library, which could possibly receive archaeological/historic artifacts uncovered in Teaneck? (Note: Apparently, Teaneck has an ordinance forbidding the use of a metal detector in its parks.)

**Discussion of future outreach opportunities for the HPC**, including library presentations of the Google map and participation in Teaneck Day 2024. If ready, Vice-Chairman Force will present a draft informational brochure to the commission. Larry Bauer of the Chamber of Commerce would be glad to have them at the Chamber's table on Teaneck Day.

**Vice-Chairman Force et alii: Update the 1996 publication "A Guide to the Historic Landmarks of Teaneck, New Jersey,"** that had been put out by this Commission with assistance from the New Jersey Historical Commission (see [https://archive.teanecklibrary.org/A%20guide%20to%20the%20Historic%20Landmarks%20of%20Teaneck,%20New%20Jersey\\_2.pdf](https://archive.teanecklibrary.org/A%20guide%20to%20the%20Historic%20Landmarks%20of%20Teaneck,%20New%20Jersey_2.pdf))

**Consider whether the Commission should begin evolving and refining its Design Guidelines and Standards**, which would be a long-term project. Perhaps, like the British for some of their historic buildings (Grade II), the commission should investigate allowing some changes to the external fabric of a historic building. The commission is currently following the "Standards for consideration" in the township's Code, specifically Article IVA, Sec. 33.21.5 (see Appendix C of the agenda of September 19th, 2023).

Here is some info on how the British allow some listed buildings to be altered, extended, or even demolished within government planning guidance:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/what-is-designation/listed-buildings/>

For further help in this evaluation, see Developing Design Guidelines: An Introduction (<https://www.nj.gov/dep/hpo/3preserve/designguides.pdf>) and those for Haddon

Heights here:

[https://www.heritageconsultinginc.com/assets/pdfs/COMPLETE\\_Haddon\\_Heights\\_Design\\_Guidelines\\_FINAL\\_7-14-21.pdf](https://www.heritageconsultinginc.com/assets/pdfs/COMPLETE_Haddon_Heights_Design_Guidelines_FINAL_7-14-21.pdf) and these standards from the National Park Services: <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1739/secretary-standards-treatment-historic-properties.htm>

Possible financial resources for this task are the NJ Historic Trust (<https://www.nj.gov/dca/njht/>); the Certified Local Government Program (<https://www.nj.gov/dep/hpo/3preserve/local.htm>) ; and Bergen County's Historic Preservation Grant Program (<https://co.bergen.nj.us/grant-programs/historic-preservation-grant-program>)

**Continue the work of refining the language in the township's ordinance concerning finding artifacts on public land in Teaneck** (see Township Code, Chapter 7A-1-7A-3). Vice-Chairman Force is the THPC's lead negotiator on this issue with interested parties, such as Larry Bauer of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission, with the goal of drawing up a list of suggestions for the Township Clerk.

**Consider creating an inventory** of mixed-use buildings at least 50-years-old in Teaneck for special revenue-generating grants; same with the Warner District.

### **Possible Candidates for Historic Designation:**

**The Teaneck Armory:** At the successful conclusion of such a designation, Chairman Norris strongly suggests making up a text for a historic marker before the facts grow dim. Lindsay Thivierge, of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, has digitally sent to Doug Ruccione, Township Clerk, material relevant to the armory. Other resources:

The Teaneck Armory (ID#4338) Block/lot 5301/1) is considered historic site in an opinion from State Historic Preservation Office 9/10/2004; it is also listed on the map of the 2007 Master Plan of Teaneck and on p. 40 of the *Bergen County Historic Sites Survey, Township of Teaneck, 1980-1981 Survey, with 20024-2011 Updates*, Prepared by Bergen County Department of Parks, Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs, Bergen County, New Jersey.

*From the Oral History of Teaneck in the Teaneck Library Archives-Interviews Conducted in 1970s-*

Mrs. Frank Scolpino & Det. Sgt. Anthony Scolpino: "In the area of Teaneck Armory were houses without cellars. Those houses were built about 22 years ago, When they dug down 3 feet for footings they found skulls--one with a hole in it. We thought we had a murder but where the Armory is used to be the Poor Farm. When inmates died they'd wrap them in a black sheet and dig a grave. Those were the bodies that were unearthed. They built the Armory in 1938. This was when they built the houses on Ward Plaza near the Armory property."

Frederick Andreas: "The site of the present armory was the Tri-Township Poor Farm. Although there were not many indigents, they worked the farm. This was later given over to the county and then to the state as the site for the armory."

**Teaneck High School building** (dedicated January 31, 1929; Ralph E. Hacker, architect; see Mildred Taylor, *The History of Teaneck*, pp. 82-83). Possible resources:

*From the Oral History of Teaneck in the Teaneck Library Archives-Interviews Conducted in 1970s-*

Miss Louise Jordan: "When the town got the 13 acres for the high school. Mrs. Campbell offered to buy the property behind the high school down to Teaneck Road and give it to the town, but the town refused. She was a Democrat and the town fathers were Republican. Mother tried to persuade the board that it would be better to build one senior high school and a junior high in each end of town. She was far sighted."

Chris Sheffe: "I'm 92 years old. I was born in New York City and remember swimming across the Hudson. I had a good fishing friend in Ralph Hacker, the architect for Teaneck High School, Hawthorne School and the addition to School 2. Teaneck High school cost about \$200,000. They later made an addition and after that built the gymnasium. Building Route 4 made a difference in the high school location. I remember Jim Brett, who became mayor, used to work for the good of the town."

**804 Old New Bridge Road** (listed as 780 New Bridge Road on Google Maps): It's identified in the Bergen County Historic Sites Survey, but not locally designated or on the National Register

**Teaneck Center Building**, 403-409 Cedar Lane (attractive tilework on exterior)

**34 State Street:** "The building at 34 State Street won an architectural award in 1929, was featured on the cover of *Architecture Digest* (Journal of the American Institute of Architects) and was voted the best of the year at a time when a great many apartments were being built all over the country. The developer had intended to erect eight five-story apartment buildings, but the Depression prevented the rest of the project from going forward. This was Teaneck's first fire-resistant apartment house (most others have wooden joists), and it probably contained the first apartment elevator as well." Larry Robertson, *Walking Tours of Teaneck*, pp. 76-77; also called the **Jacobean-Tudor Revival Apartment Building**, Block/lot 5003/3 on p. 40 of *Bergen County Historic Sites Survey, Township of Teaneck, 1980-1981 Survey, with 2004-2011 Updates*, prepared by Bergen County Department of Parks, Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs, Bergen County, New Jersey

### **Other possible sites for historic designation:**

*Bergen County Historic Sites Survey, Township of Teaneck, 1980-1981 Survey, with 2004-2011 Updates*, prepared by Bergen County Department of Parks, Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs, Bergen County, New Jersey, pp. 36-43:

**George H. Coffey House**, 733 Pomander Walk, Block/lot 202/17

**Forest Knolls District, Standish Road District**, centered around Standish Road and Lincoln Place (see p. 37 of survey for details)

**Winthrop Road (West Englewood Home Company) District**, Winthrop Road from Jefferson Street to Sussex Road (see p. 37 of survey for details)

**West Englewood Manor (The Strand and Pershing Circle) District**, area around The Strand and Pershing Circle, roughly between West Englewood Avenue at north, Windsor Road at east, Route 4 at south, and River Road at west (includes Thurnauer House) (see p. 37 of survey for details)

**Teaneck Bahai Center**, 130 Evergreen Place, Block/lot 2904/10 & 11

**Cedar Lane Commercial District**, Cedar Lane between Railroad and Larch Avenue (see p. 38 of survey for details)

**Bofinger Estate Mansion**, 721 Carroll Place, Block/lot 2503/3

**Arts and Crafts House**, 755 Pomander Walk, Block/lot 202/16

**180 Larch Avenue**, 180 Larch Avenue, Blcok/lot 115/18

**Arte Moderne House**, 658 Larch Ave., Block/lot 209/9

**Bungalow**, 191 Elm Avenue corner of Hillcrest St., Block/lot 119/5

**Cedar Lane Cinema** (included in the **Cedar Lane Commercial District**), Block/lot 818/10

**Student Union Building/Dining Hall**, 1000 River Road, south aide of Lone Pine Lane, Farleigh Dickinson University Campus, Block/lot 302/3

**Muscarelle Center**, 1000 River Road, northern part of campus, near Hackensack River, Farleigh Dickinson University Campus, Block/lot 401/1

**Forest Farm Stable**, 746 New Bridge Road, Block/lot 1001/7

**John D. Cole Cottage**, 804 Old New Bridge Road, southwest corner New Bridge Road, Block/lot 1001/1

**Dr. F. Curry House** (altered), 52 Hillside Avenue, Block/lot 3204/6

**Vernacular Eclectic House**, 121 Oakdene Avenue, Block/lot 3114/66

**Vernacular Classical Revival House**, 447 Queen Anne Road, Block/lot 3114/2

**Georgian Revival House**, 695 Palmer Avenue, Block/lot 2404/2

**Older buildings at Holy Name Hospital**, Teaneck Road between Cedar Lane and Vandelinda Avenue, Block/lot 3003/part of 4

**William Cullen Bryant School**, 1 Tryon Avenue at Teaneck Road, Block/lot 5512/15

**Vernacular Second Empire House**, 542 Englewood Avenue, southwest corner Spruce Street, Block/lot 5706/7

**Central Fire House**, Teaneck Road between Fairview Avenue and Circle Driveway, Block/lot 5808/1

**Washington Irving School**, 1-11 W. Forest Avenue at Teaneck Road, Block/lot 4913/15 & 16

**Chevron Service Station**, southwest corner of Teaneck Road and Forest Avenue, Block/lot 4807/4

**Van Brunt Farmhouse**, 243 East Forest Avenue, northwest corner of Lorraine Avenue, Block/lot 5803/3

**Saint Anastasia Roman Catholic Church**, 46 Robinson Street opposite Overlook Avenue, Block/lot 5919/1

**Jacob Fink Farmhouse**, 175 Fyke Lane, Block/lot 3809/22

**Nathaniel Hawthorne School**, 225 Fyke Lane between Lucy and Hawthorne Avenues, Block/lot 4208/12

**J. T. Brown House** (extensively altered and enlarged, 2004), Block/lot 3502/4

**Glen Orchard (Wendell Place/Academy Lane) District** (see p. 40 of survey for details)

**Historic New Bridge Landing State Park District**, part of district also in Hackensack, River Edge, and New Milford, Block/lot 1002/1 in Teaneck

**Teaneck Route 4 Greenbelt District, with New Jersey Historic Bridge Survey Structures** (see p. 41)

**Copley Estate District** (includes The Teaneck Jewish Center, 70 Sterling Place; Elston Howard House, 110 Edgemont Pl.; Matthew Feldman House, 110 Cherry Lane) (for details, see p. 42)

**Phelps Manor District** (including Howard Fast House, 692 Mildred St., Bofinger Estate Mansion, 721 Carroll Pl., Ferde Grosse House, 195 Norma Road) (for details, see p. 42)

**Williams Hall**, 1090 University Circle at 1000 River Road, Farleigh Dickinson University, Block/lot 401/1

**Rowhouses**, 240-252 East Forest Avenue, Block/lot 5909/2-8

**Old Saint Anastasia Church**, NW corner of Robinson Street and Overlook Avenue, Block/lot 5901/part of 1

**State Street over Conrail and Palisade Ave.**

**Route 6102 (State Street) Bridge, Conrail and Palisade Ave.**

**Old Grace Lutheran Church/Congregation Beth Am Synagogue**, corner of Claremont Avenue and Helen Street, Block/lot 808/2

**Cedar Lane Cemetery or Cedar Lane Burying Ground**, Cedar Lane, north site near Anderson Street Bridge and Hackensack River, Block/lot 302/3 or 5

**Old Burial Ground, Zabriskie-Kipp-Cadmus Cemetery, Zabriskie Family Burying Yard, Pomander Lane Cemetery**, 646, 654, 662 Pomander Lane, 636 Cadmus Ct., Block/lots 212/2,3,4, 12

**James Payne House**, 173 Englewood Avenue, Block/lot 5614/1

**Site of the Shooting of Phillip Pannell**, 19 Intervale Road, Block. Lot 5501/3

**Paul A. Volcker Sr. House**, 1301 Longfellow Avenue, Block/lot 4906/1

**Elston Howard-Mal Goode House**, 80 Howland Avenue, Block/lot 6511/20

**Isaac G. McNatt House**, 125 Voorhees Street, Block/lot 5405/18

**Lamar Jones House**, 1398 Van Duyn Place, Block/lot 5706/1

**John B. Gambling House**, 192 Grayson Place, Block/lot 2901/7

**Milton G. Votee House**, 95 Park Avenue, Block/lot 3106/1

**Country Club Estates "English" House**, 99 Lindbergh Boulevard, Block/lot 3804/14  
**House**, 647 River Road, Block/lot 213/19

**House**, 471 Kipp Street, Block/lot 213/5

**House**, 575 Kipp St., Block/lot 213/4

**Ricci-Kay House**, 1271 Alicia Avenue, Block/lot 490/9

**Further sites to be considered for historic designation:**

<https://archive.teanecklibrary.org/Teaneck%20Buildings/Council%20Declines%20Historic%20Status.html>

<https://archive.teanecklibrary.org/PublicSchools/EarlyHistory/firstschool.html>

Modified first school house in Teaneck (built ca. 1910), 365 Fort Lee Road

<https://archive.teanecklibrary.org/PictEssay/index.html>

A Very Old Well on the Grounds of the James Vandelinda House--Located at 566 Teaneck Road, this well was built between 1825-30.

**Zoom info for December 18<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, THPC Meeting:**

Historic Preservation Teaneck is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: THPC

Time: Dec 18, 2024 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83317672578>

Meeting ID: 833 1767 2578

Passcode: 215521

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