

# 12th Annual 'Weekend Journey through the Past' Oct. 14 & 15 at Historic Sites around Somerset County

## *New This Year: Interactive Map of Sites*

**ATTENTION WATCHUNG RESIDENTS: Our Texier House Museum is on the tour again this year and is featuring WW I posters! Please come and enjoy our many updated exhibits.**

Here is a sneak preview of **Somerset County's 12th Annual *Weekend Journey through the Past***, sponsored by the county Cultural & Heritage Commission. Mark your calendars now for **Saturday, Oct. 14**, from **10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** and **Sunday, Oct. 15**, from **noon to 4 p.m.**

"This popular fall event has something for all ages," said Freeholder Brian D. Levine, commission liaison. "This year there will be 29 historic sites countywide open free of charge."

Visit the event website at [www.SCHistoryWeekend.com](http://www.SCHistoryWeekend.com) for details and [watch our Weekend Journey video](#). You can view an interactive map of participating sites at <http://bit.ly/2017WJMap>

The weekend will feature tours led by costumed interpreters and actors portraying historical figures; old-time silent movies with live organ music in an old vaudeville theater; authentic, traditional blacksmithing; 19th-century firefighting wagons and apparatus; sights and sounds of 18th-century living; open-hearth cooking by reenactors; one-room schoolhouses; original Louis Comfort Tiffany stained glass windows; craftspeople demonstrating period crafts; live theater and music; a talking tour of Rocky Hill, a National Historic Site; an annual period antiques fair and community flea market; a live organ recital, including a stirring rendition of "The Battle of Trenton" by James Hewitt; access to local genealogical resources to aid in tracing your local family's roots; SNAG golf and a scavenger hunt for children at the U.S. Golf Association Museum and a guided tour of the USGA equipment standard lab, both on Saturday; and much more!



Test your powers of observation and deduction by challenging yourself, friends and family to a Detective Mystery activity, "**What in the World is That?**" by downloading your own official detective task booklet from [www.SCHistoryWeekend.com](http://www.SCHistoryWeekend.com) or accessing the mystery items for each site from your smartphone or tablet.

**Prize Drawing.** Adults visiting four or more participating historic sites during this weekend event will qualify for a free drawing to win one of several \$25 prepaid gasoline gift cards. Visit [www.SCHistoryWeekend.com](http://www.SCHistoryWeekend.com) for details.

**The British are coming!** At the Van Horne House in Bridgewater (across from the ballpark), experience British-occupied New Jersey as it was in 1776. During your interactive guided tour, put quill to paper and sign the King's Loyalty Oath. Join a dance to meet genuine loyalists and secret patriots. Get a military briefing on the war against the rebels. Join a loyalist-versus-patriot debate in the pub. Witness the raising of a liberty pole. Which side will you identify with? The free tours run 1 hour and 15 minutes each.

**New Locations.** There are two new participating sites this year, both in Franklin Township: the Van Liew-Suydam House at 280 South Middlebush Road and the Griggstown Bridgetender's

House at 2 Griggstown Causeway. The bridgetender's house, among other things, will feature spinning wool on an antique spinning wheel, organic dyes and sheared wool to sample.

### **2017 Participating Historic Sites and Locations**

1. Blawenburg Reformed Church, Blawenburg (Montgomery)
2. Boudinot-Southard-Ross Estate, Basking Ridge
3. The Brick Academy, Basking Ridge
4. The Brook Arts Center / Historic Brook Theater, Bound Brook
5. Codington Farmstead, Warren Twp
6. Gen. John Frelinghuysen House / Raritan Public Library, Raritan
7. Amy Garret House, Rocky Hill
8. Griggstown Bridgetender's House, Princeton
9. Griggstown School House, Princeton Township
10. Historic 1860 Schoolhouse / Millstone Borough Hall, Millstone
11. Kirch-Ford-Terrill House, Warren Twp
12. Mount Bethel Meeting House, Warren Twp
13. Old Millstone Forge Blacksmith Shop & Museum, Millstone
14. Old Presbyterian Graveyard, Bound Brook
15. The Presbyterian Church at Bound Book
16. Relief Hose Company No. 2 Engine House, Raritan
17. Daniel Robert Mansion, / Somerville Borough Hall, Somerville
18. Somerville Fire Museum, Somerville
19. South Branch School House, Branchburg
20. Abraham Staats House, South Bound Brook
21. Andrew Ten Eyck House, Branchburg
22. Texier House Museum, Watchung
23. USGA Golf Museum, Far Hills
24. Philip Van Horne House, Bridgewater
25. Van Liew-Suydam House, Franklin Township
26. Van Veghten House, Bridgewater
27. Dr. John Vermeule House, Green Brook
28. Wallace House State Historic Site, Somerville
29. Washington Rock State Park, Green Brook

**Stay A While!** Why not make a relaxing long weekend of it? Stay overnight at any of Somerset County's fine hotels and dine at our great local restaurants during this special event weekend. A

listing of local restaurants and hotels can be found on the county's tourism website at [www.visitsomersetnj.org](http://www.visitsomersetnj.org)

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