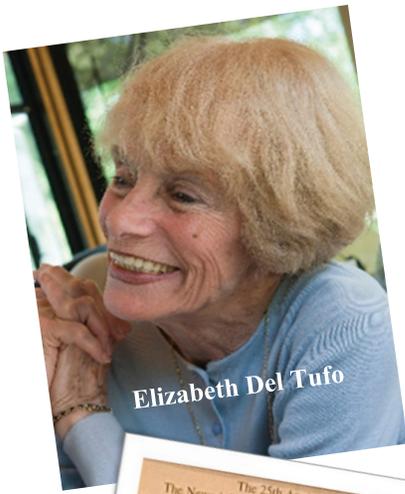


Newark Landmarks

A Half Century of Activism



Elizabeth Del Tufo

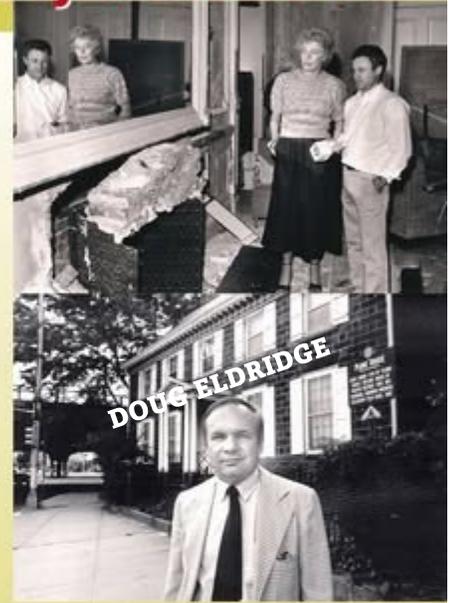
More than 50 years ago, a small group of Newarkers came together and formed what was then called the Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee. These were people interested in preserving the history of Newark, one of the Nation's oldest cities.

Newark Landmarks, as the group is now known, has worked to protect what it can of the past. This effort has been difficult, and not always successful, in a city that often seems to be trying to overcome its past rather than protect it.

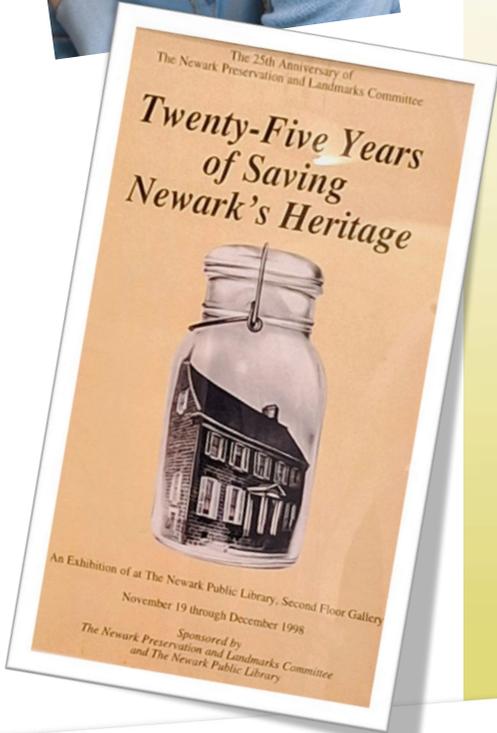
This exhibit marks NL's 50th anniversary. It highlights some of the group's successes. It also explores some disappointments in an attempt to show the challenges faced by historic preservationists.

Curated by Thomas Ankner

On view until
August 31, 2025



DOUG ELDRIDGE

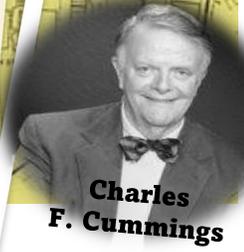
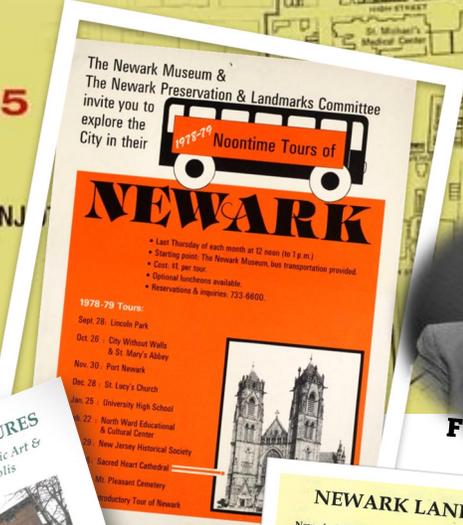


Gallery
Library
Street, Newark, NJ
Newark Landmarks

Home of Donald T. Dust at 21 James Street with historic site plaque in the James Street Commons Historic District.



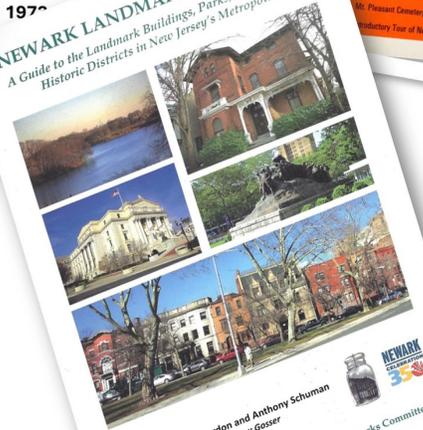
DONALD T. DUST
FOUNDER
OF NEWARK LANDMARKS IN 1977



Charles F. Cummings

NEWARK LANDMARK TREASURES

A Guide to the Landmark Buildings, Parks, Public Art & Historic Districts in New Jersey's Metropolis



Edited by Mark W. Gordon and Anthony Schuman
Photos by Matthew Gosser
Published by the Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee

NEWARK LANDMARKS

Newark has 75 listings on the National and New Jersey Registers of Historic Places. Following is a complete list of the often through nominations sponsored by the Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee (NPLC). Sites are classified by their original use with each category organized by date of construction. Corrected to February 2008.

Year	Category	Name
c. 1771	HOUSES	SVENHAM HOUSE, Old Road to Bloomfield, between Heller Parkway & Elmwood Ave.
c. 1725	HOUSES	PLUME HOUSE, now House of Prayer rectory, 407 Broad St.
1809	HOUSES	SYMMINGTON HOUSE, later Continental House and St. Philip's Academy, 2 Park Pl.
1871	HOUSES	CDE HOUSE, 698 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. (High St.)
1880	HOUSES	CLARK MANSION, now North Ward Center, 346 Mount Prospect Ave.
1884	HOUSES	BALLANTINE MANSION, Newark Museum, 43 Washington St.
1889	HOUSES	KRUEGER MANSION, later Scott Civic Center, now vacant, 681 King Blvd.
1905	HOUSES	FEIGENSPAN MANSION, now Community Agencies Corp., 710 King Blvd.
1901	COMMERCIAL & OFFICE BUILDINGS	HAHNE & CO., former department store, vacant, 609 Broad St.
1912	COMMERCIAL & OFFICE BUILDINGS	NATIONAL STATE BANK, office building, now vacant, 810 Broad St.
1925	COMMERCIAL & OFFICE BUILDINGS	SYMPHONY HALL, originally Salaam Temple and later Mosque Theater, 1220 Broad St.
1926	COMMERCIAL & OFFICE BUILDINGS	ESBERG CLUB, now New Jersey Historical Society, 52 Park Pl.
1927	COMMERCIAL & OFFICE BUILDINGS	GRIFFITH BUILDING, former music store, now vacant, 605 Broad St.
1927	COMMERCIAL & OFFICE BUILDINGS	MUTUAL BENEFIT LIFE INSURANCE CO., now Broadway House meeting home, 300 Broadway
1927	COMMERCIAL & OFFICE BUILDINGS	STANLEY THEATER, later Italian Cultural Center, now Newark Faberace, 985 South Orange Ave.
1928	COMMERCIAL & OFFICE BUILDINGS	FIREMEN'S INSURANCE COMPANY, now office building, 10 Park Pl.
1929	COMMERCIAL & OFFICE BUILDINGS	NEW JERSEY BELL TELEPHONE, now Verizon, 540 Broad St.



Newark Landmarks - November 26, 1973

The first official meeting of the **Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee** (now known as *Newark Landmarks*) was held November 26, 1973, at the Plume House, one of the oldest buildings in Newark. The formation of the group grew out of a series of small, informal meetings organized by **Donald T. Dust**, a former newspaper reporter and the editor of the Greater Newark Chamber of Commerce magazine.

Newark Landmarks picked up where an earlier effort, known as the Historic Sites and Buildings Committee and based at the Newark Public Library, had left off in the early 1960s. The original board consisted of eleven trustees, some appointed by Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson and the Chamber of Commerce.

Dust was the first chairman of the board. The other members of the original executive committee and their positions at that time were: **Samuel Miller**, director of the Newark Museum; **Bernard Schein**, director of the Newark Public Library; **Alfred Schapiro**, director of city planning; **Bernard Grad**, partner in a Newark architectural firm; **Joseph Aramanda**, president of a real estate/mortgage company; **Rev. Joseph Jaremczuk** of St. James Roman Catholic Church; **William M. Ashby**, founder of the Newark Urban League; **Dr. E. Alma Flagg**, Newark assistant superintendent of curriculum; **Rev. Doris Belcher**, St. Stephan's United

Church; and **Harlyn Thompson**, first dean of the School of Architecture at Newark College of Engineering.

In 1974 Newark Landmarks incorporated as a private, nonprofit organization, became fully independent of business and government, and elected its own board of trustees.

Since Donald Dust, the other heads of the board have been **Edward Nebb**, a bank executive; **Elizabeth Del Tufo**, a community activist; **Douglas Eldridge**, a newspaper reporter and city official; **Victoria Snoy**, an advertising official of Prudential Insurance Company; **Rose Spears**, a retired federal official; and **William Mikesell**, an architect. At various times the organization has employed the following Executive Directors: **Margaret Manhardt**, **Anthony Vacca**, **Dust**, and **Eldridge**.

Today its most important and most persistent task has been the nomination of significant historic sites to the NJ and National Registers of Historic Places. Thanks largely to the efforts of *Newark Landmarks*, six different districts and more than 70 individual places — houses, churches, factories, statues, parks, and cemeteries — are now listed on the official registers. Two dozen of them display plaques, which quickly inform passersby about their importance.

Each year, *Newark Landmarks* produces a bi-yearly newsletter, maintains a website, and prints a

current directory of historic landmarks in Newark. It also has published two books: *Tales Without Hate*, the memoirs of William M. Ashby, who recorded the development of Newark's African American community through much of the 20th century; and *Newark Landmark Treasures: A Guide to Landmark Buildings, Parks, Public Art, and Historic Districts in New Jersey's Metropolis*.

At an Annual Award Ceremony, it presents the **Donald T. Dust Award** and the **Charles F. Cummings Award**. Dust was the founder of *Newark Landmarks* and this award recognizes a firm and/or particular building that demonstrates outstanding preservation and adaptive reuse.

The late Charles Cummings was the official historian of the City of Newark and was the Assistant Director of Special Collections at Newark Public Library and supervised the library's New Jersey Information Center, which is now named in his memory. When he passed away in 2005, the Charles F. Cummings Award was created to honor individuals or organizations for their distinguished contribution to historic preservation in the City of Newark.

Now in its sixth decade, *Newark Landmarks* is looking forward as well as backward — planning more nominations, plaques, and projects, and always preparing for new battles to save endangered historic buildings or neighborhoods.

(Continued from Page 1) - WALKER HOUSE EVENT

Moreover, it recognized **Jon Cortell**, Principal of **LMXD Management** with the *Donald T. Dust Award*, and acknowledged architects **Jak Inglese** and **Sherry Applegate** with certificates. Collectively, they were responsible for restoring and renovating Walker House as a mixed-use building with 264 apartments, offices and retail space. In 2005, it was listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places. The keynote speaker **Darius Sollohub**, an NJIT Professor of Architecture and a building resident, talked about the original architect, **Ralph Thomas Walker**.

At the conclusion of the program, guests were invited to visit three apartments on the 18th floor (Darius Sollohub/Kelley Forsyth, Roger Smith/Leslie Dawe, and Bari Mattes) which had amazing balcony views of the city of Newark and beyond. The tasty hors d'oeuvres with wine and beverages were prepared by **Carolyn Thompson and Eclectic Catering**. Our appreciation to **LMXD Management** for hosting and to **Warren Grover, Cong. Ahavas Shalom, Ironbound Community Corporation, Newark History Society** and **Newark Public Library** for their assistance.



The Walker House in Newark, originally the New Jersey Bell Telephone Company building, was constructed in 1929 as an Art Deco skyscraper designed by Ralph Thomas Walker. After serving as the Bell company's headquarters and later Verizon's offices, it underwent a major renovation to become a mixed-use building containing apartments, offices, and retail space, reopening as Walker House in 2019. The building's exterior and grand lobby were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2005.

In 2016, the building was sold by Verizon for over \$16 million to L+M Development Partners and Prudential Financial. The partnership, which included Goldman Sachs, invested \$120 million to renovate the property. Rather than remaining exclusively as office space, the building was redeveloped into a modern, mixed-use space featuring market-rate and affordable units.

This included converting the upper 14 floors into 264 apartments. The lower floors were designated for office and retail spaces, with new commercial occupants including a rock-climbing gym and a brewery. Verizon continues to occupy some office space on the building's lower floors.

Newark Landmarks

Celebrating a half-century of advocacy for the City's landmark treasures!

2025 AWARDS CEREMONY



Thursday, October 16th at 6 pm

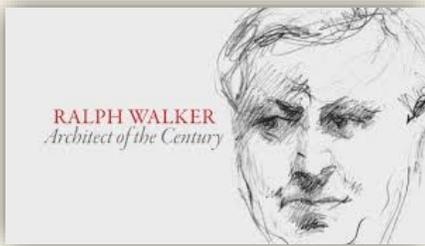


(L) NL Vice President Tony Schuman presenting the Donald T. Dust Award to Jon Cortell Principal, LMXD Management.

(M) Tony Schuman presenting Certificates to architects Jak Inglese and Sherry Applegate. (R) Tom Ankner, current NL President, presenting the Charles F. Cummings Award to Elizabeth Del Tufo, longtime past NL President. Newark at Night photos above were taken from an apartment balcony on the 18th floor of Walker House by Terri Suess on left and Max Herman on right.

Ralph Thomas Walker, the Architect of Walker House

On the evening of Newark Landmarks 2025 Awards Ceremony, Darius Sollohub, Professor of Architecture at NJIT and charter tenant at Walker House, was our keynote speaker. The following are excerpts from his outstanding presentation on architect Ralph Thomas Walker, who designed the Bell Telephone Company/Walker House building.



In celebrating its Centennial in 1957, the American Institute of Architects named Ralph Walker the Architect of the Century. Walker clearly deserved the award. He had recently served two consecutive terms as president of the organization and created its College of Fellows, which is like a Hall of Fame for architects. He had been the design leader of a prolific New York-based firm that, among other firms, created a brand new type of building: the skyscraper.

In the booming 1920s, Walker designed many of these tall buildings and, like Walker House, some of the most beautiful. He also designed the first think tank for Bell Labs, where much of the technology that we take for granted today, such as binary code and cellular telephony, was invented.

After winning design competitions and cutting his teeth at many firms, Walker entered McKenzie, Voorhees and Gmelin, a firm with a well-funded client base focused on the rapidly emergent telecommunication technology. The firm was led by engineers who were experienced in the telecommunications industry but had little interest in aesthetics.

As chief designer, the engineers gave the 30-year-old Ralph Walker full artistic control. His first building, Manhattan's Barclay-Vesey Building, commissioned by New York Telephone in 1921, was a masterpiece. Its sculpted urban form, its bold use of materials, and its sumptuous detail set the standard for a decade's worth of phone company buildings across the US. Today, we refer to these buildings as "art deco," a label that was not used until the late 1960s.

His buildings for the phone company were highly functional, satisfying myriad technical requirements of the many-million phone wires coming into them. His buildings also met the needs of a wide range of people coming to work every day, from the executives to the engineers down to the clerks, to the lineman and the many-thousand switchboard operators, almost all of whom were women.

Walker crafted these buildings as cities in miniature, creating a form that met all necessities. Where Walker differed with his European counterparts was over ornament: they hated it; he loved it. He wrote about his buildings being functional and humanistic, referring to the capacity of a building to bring joy to its users.

Here, materials and ornament played a significant role. Look around this room (the lobby in Walker House), the marble, the bronze grillwork, the artwork. Walker's dedication to material, detail, and ornament extended as well to the building's exterior, where you can see a beautiful arrangement of brick and carved stone that serves as a background to the colossal statuary that ennobles the common workers of telephony, from the switchboard operator to the lineman.

Walker was a master at using brick. His love for the material gave him honorary membership in the brick laborers' union. For Walker, the



Darius Sollohub

brick stood in for the worker, whose small yet essential role led to the success of the whole. Walker always gave the brick dignity and used it like an artist uses paint. His choice of brick was also budgetary. While he used it to great artistic effect, it was still relatively inexpensive.

Walker's biographer, Kathryn Holliday, notes that he got along best with laborers and with his artistic collaborators. One was Alfred Floegel, creator of the Mural of Mercury mosaic at the end of the lobby that serves as a global allegory for how the phone company functioned.

Walker's working-class roots, his love of humble materials such as brick, and the care and thoughtfulness he bestowed on the workers in his building made him a kind of people's architect. And it is this openness to the public that gives his architecture a universal quality.

I would like to end by giving tremendous credit to those who recognized that quality and had the foresight to reimagine this masterpiece as the home to 264 happy families.

Meet Tom Ankner Newark Landmarks New President



Thomas Ankner grew up in New Jersey and has lived in Newark for almost 20 years. A librarian, he runs the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center at the Newark Public Library. Tom has a bachelor's degree in history from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, and his interest in historic preservation grows out of his lifelong interest in history.

For the past 15 years, his professional life has revolved around helping library patrons research local history at the Newark Public Library (NPL). He has also worked as a professional genealogist, helping clients with research into their family histories.

Tom's love for the city of Newark also informs his interest in historic preservation. He is dismayed whenever a developer proposes to demolish a historic structure or to put forth plans for inappropriate development in a historic district. Newark is an old city with a lot of history, but he feels that some of our local history seems to disappear every day.

Tom has been an officer and board member of Newark Landmarks since 2013. Recently, he curated the organization's 50th Anniversary exhibit at NPL. He is excited to take on this new challenge of serving as the group's president. And he looks forward to working with NL's board members and others in protecting the history of Newark!

Welcome Our Two New Trustees

Susana Holguin-Veras



Susana is an architectural practitioner whose career bridges design, history, communications, and strategy. She approaches architecture as a broad and interdisciplinary practice encompassing cultural dialogue, civic participation, and education.

After contributing to civic and residential projects early in her career, she went on to guide the positioning and public voice of leading design firms including Diller Scofidio + Renfro, COOKFOX, and HLZA.

She is the founder of TheoryCo., a consultancy focused on supporting architecture studios through growth strategies that treat marketing as an essential form of practice.

Susana earned a Bachelor of Science from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and a Master of Science in Architectural History and Theory from the Bartlett School of Architecture at University College London.

She is a member of the Alumni Association of NJIT and the Hillier School of Architecture Design Showcase Committee, and also served as Vice-Chair of the Newark Landmarks and Historic Preservation Commission, where she helped shape the city's approach to historic preservation.

Susana lives in Newark with her husband and daughter.

Jorge C. Santos



Jorge is the Chief Real Estate and Investments Officer of Newark Alliance. He has an extensive background in real estate development, serving in senior leadership roles in local and state government over the past decade.

Before his current role at Newark Alliance, Jorge was the Chief Real Estate Development Officer at the New Jersey Economic Development Authority.

Prior to joining state government, Jorge served in a variety of roles in local economic development in the City of Newark including senior roles at Newark Alliance, Newark Community Economic Development Corporation, and Brick City Development Corporation and was an aide to Governor Jon Corzine and Assemblywoman Linda Greenstein.

Jorge holds a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University and a dual master of public policy/ master of city and regional planning degrees from Rutgers University, the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. He was a fellow at the Eagleton Institute of Politics and serves on the board of the Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District.

Jorge lives in the Forest Hill neighborhood of Newark with his wife, two daughters, and their cat.

When Preservation Becomes Optional

What the vote to demolish Cathedral House “reveals about how preservation decisions are being made in our city.”



By Tammy Holloway,
*President of the Historic James
Street Commons Neighborhood
Association*



On January 7, 2026, the Newark Landmarks & Historic Preservation Commission voted to approve the demolition of Cathedral House, an irreplaceable piece of our city’s historic fabric. Cathedral House is located at 24 Rector Street.

As president of the Historic James Street Commons Neighborhood Association and a long-time advocate for Newark’s neighborhoods, I am deeply concerned not only by the outcome of that vote, but by what it reveals about how preservation decisions are being made in our city.

The Newark Landmarks & Historic Preservation Commission exists for one purpose: to protect Newark’s historically and culturally significant buildings for the public good. Commissioners are entrusted to act as stewards of our shared history. In this case, however, that responsibility was

not upheld. The Commission approved demolition even though Newark’s preservation ordinance sets a high and explicit standard, one that the applicant failed to satisfy through credible evidence or clear legal justification.

The ordinance is not ambiguous. Demolition of a landmarked structure is intended to be rare and permitted only when specific criteria are met, including documented hardship, serious exploration of alternatives, and a demonstrated public benefit that outweighs the loss. Assertions were accepted where proof was required. The burden of evidence was lowered rather than enforced. This is not how preservation law is meant to function.

Equally troubling are the apparent conflicts of interest surrounding this application. When those tasked with protecting Newark’s landmarks have close professional or institutional relationships within a system that consistently favors demolition over preservation, public trust erodes. Even the appearance of conflict compromises confidence in the process. Newark residents deserve decisions that are transparent, independent, and free from undue influence.

Cathedral House is not simply a structure. It is part of a historic ecosystem that reflects Newark’s architectural, religious, and community legacy. Once demolished, that legacy cannot be recreated. Every approval of demolition undercuts the promise that landmark designation is meaningful rather than symbolic.

This decision also reflects a broader culture of leadership. Mayor Ras J. Baraka has spoken powerfully about Newark’s culture and identity, yet a strong preservation ethic must be demonstrated through policy, appointments, and accountability. There are several credible examples of how this space could be preserved, activated

and repurposed for economic and community development.

Preservation cannot be treated as a nuisance or an obstacle to development. Cities across the country have shown that historic buildings can be adaptively reused, economically viable, and deeply beneficial to neighborhoods. What Newark too often lacks is not opportunity, but political will.

Most concerning is the growing expectation that residents must resort to litigation simply to ensure that city laws are followed. Communities should not have to sue their own government to get it to function as intended, particularly when decisions about land use and neighborhood character have permanent consequences. Litigation should be a last resort, not a substitute for oversight, enforcement, and good governance.

This is where the Newark City Council must step in. The City Council has both the authority and the responsibility to provide oversight of boards and commissions, to demand adherence to ordinances as written, and to ensure that preservation decisions reflect public interest rather than expediency. Council hearings, ordinance compliance reviews, and clear standards for commissioner conduct are not radical demands, they are basic tools of accountable government.

Newark stands at a crossroads. We can continue down a path where preservation protections exist on paper but collapse in practice, or we can recommit to a lawful, transparent, and community-centered preservation process. That means enforcing ordinances consistently, addressing conflicts of interest openly, and affirming that our history is an asset, not a liability.

The demolition of Cathedral House should be a wake-up call. If we allow this decision to pass without scrutiny or reform, we send a clear message that no historic building is truly protected. Newark’s future should be built with its past, not at its expense.

Reflections of a Frustrated Historic Preservationist

By Zemin Zhang, Newark Landmarks Trustee and resident in the James Street Commons Historic District



As a 35-year Newark resident, I embraced "historic preservation" by responding to a few life-changing experiences.

Between 1990 to 1993, I was the next door neighbor of Donald Dust, who started the preservation movement in 1973 and was the founder of *Newark Landmarks*. From his front windows, skeptically and nervously, Don watched this "young" Chinese man wrestling with an 1893 brownstone on James Street that was vacant for over a decade.

I gathered every bit of my strength to lift up a borrowed 40-foot ladder against the falling facade with peeling paint. In exchange, from a short distance, I painfully observed him struggling against mental and physical decline. Preserving life in an old house is not easy....

In the late 1990s and the early 2000s, Newark residents did not have much protection against violent crimes, car thefts, or street garbage, while the city's failing schools were taken over by the state. In the James Street Commons Historic District, a possible exception were some "abstract" rules on historic preservation which stopped the local university from building an eight-story parking garage on Essex Street. Young Myles and Maia (my son and daughter) spent hours

outside the Chancellor's office while their self-interested parents argued to preserve their historic district.

In the 2010s, the Newark Public Library's NJ Room was my real graduate school about Newark's history of the brutal urban renewal that began some 50 years ago. More than Lewis Mumford and Jane Jacobs, the archives of an NJIT professor, Stanley Winters, brought light to me by his clear vision through his Clinton Hill Council in the 1970s: *urban renovation, not massive demolition, preserves the city's vitality.*

Most troubling, Cathedral House, a "contributing building" of the Military Park Historic District, will not survive for the next generation to learn about Newark's rich history, including the 1967 Black Power Conference. Is this only about stage loading docks, asbestos traces, project delays, operational costs, or the betrayal of responsibility and trust?

Since the early 1990s, when NJPAC began the construction of their entertainment complex, they have removed five historic buildings and most recently during their expansion the African Burial Grounds, the Military Park Hotel Arch, the Landing Monument — and soon Cathedral House will be forgotten history. All of these entities were to be protected by a 1993 Agreement with the State Historic Preservation Office. *So, it's hard to not feel frustrated.*



The historic commission in Newark (a government agency) was created to protect historic buildings and places in the city. But they often come across as a miserable conglomerate of individuals who don't listen, don't fully grasp the issues, and at times seem to invent their own narratives out of thin air. And then, mixed in with them, is the small number of individuals who understand every nuance and approaches these matters thoughtfully and knowledgeably. The stark contrast makes productive engagement feel unnecessarily complex.

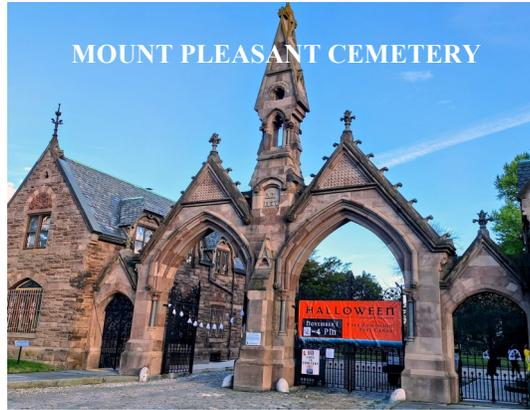
Historic preservation is not an aesthetic preference, but a fundamental vision about the city's (incremental and organic) growth against a lasting decline! It's truly about the soul of our community and the long-term health of our city, preventing it from being solely driven by market speculation.

Living in Newark and researching on urban renewal have convinced me that the market-driven approach toward American inner cities has created a doomed paradigm, which enriches a few, impoverishes many, and deprives the whole society of vibrant cities. A city truly belongs to its people when we nurture its history and character.

Halloween History Tour at Newark's Mount Pleasant Cemetery



Halloween History Tour Actors



Phil Hawes as Albert C. Munn and Linda Morgan as Mary A. Sanford Munn



Kimberly Reeves as Florence Peshine Eagleton

With a few tricks and many treats the Halloween History Tour at Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Newark on Saturday, November 1st attracted more than 400 adults and children, many in costumes, for a fabulous stroll through 181 years of Newark's history.

Sponsored by the **Friends of Historic Mount Pleasant** and organized by its President Michele Butchko, the Friends' trustees, and volunteers Don Wallace, Susan Hershkowitz, and Karen Sheehan, the tour included reenactments by local residents of the stories of famous Newarkers at nine different grave sites.



Mike Sheehan as John Dryden



Anker West as Seth Boyden

The Friends is a volunteer-led nonprofit dedicated to preserving and promoting Newark's oldest cemetery as both a historic landmark and a community resource. Through tours, events, and educational outreach, the Friends work to keep local history alive for future generations.



Karen Dinkins as Mary Eliza Compton and Derek Walls as Alexander Compton

Within the gothic gates of **Mount Pleasant Cemetery**, founded in 1844 and listed on the NJ and National Registers of Historic Places, reside the fascinating tales of some of Newark's most famous individuals.

Historic preservationist, Elizabeth Del Tufo, is the president of the Cemetery's Board of Trustees. Staff are Carlos Melendez and Bert Silvano.

Friends of Historic Mount Pleasant recently received a grant for \$74,994 from the 2025 Preserve NJ Historic Preservation Fund to hire Hunter Research to develop a Preservation Plan. Contributions toward the \$25,000 match are welcome.



Don Charles as Thomas Alva Edison



Catharine Longendyck as Jeanette Boyd Ballantine



Gabrielle O'Shea as Mary Stillwell



Tim Hoey as Marcus Ward



Paula Baratta as Katharine Bates & Tom Alrutz as Samuel Ward



Dan Reeve as Peter Ballantine

Newark Landmarks

(Formerly Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee)

Board of Trustees

OFFICERS/STAFF:

President

TOM ANKNER

Vice President

ANTHONY SCHUMAN

Secretary

CATHARINE LONGENDYCK

Treasurer

TOM ALRUTZ

Parliamentarian

MARK W. GORDON

TRUSTEES:

MICHELE BUTCHKO

LINDA FORGOSH

SUSANA HOLGUIN-VERAS

LINDA P. MORGAN

LAUREN SAMUEL

JORGE C. SANTOS

ANKER WEST

PHIL YOURISH

ZEMIN ZHANG

Executive Director

Newsletter Editor

PHIL YOURISH

President Emeritus
ELIZABETH DEL TUFO

2026 Memberships

\$30 - Individual

\$50 - Family/Trustees

\$100 - Organization

\$200 - Patron

\$500 - Corporate

Pay online:

[www.NewarkLandmarks.org/
membership](http://www.NewarkLandmarks.org/membership)

Pay by mail:

P.O. Box 1066,
Newark, NJ 07101

*With Love and Gratitude
To our President Emeritus*



*From the Trustees & Members
of Newark Landmarks*

Dr. E. Alma Flagg *Remembering a Founding Trustee*



Dr. E. Alma Flagg (1918–2018), who served for 40 years as a trailblazing African-American educator in Newark, was an original trustee of Newark Landmarks from 1973 until 2006.

She was the first Black woman to lead an integrated school, Hawkins Street School, in 1964 and later became Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum until her retirement in 1983. Dr. Flagg was also a noted community leader, poet, advocate for education, and an active member of the NAACP, League of Women Voters, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

Born in Virginia, she moved to Newark as a child, graduating from East Side High School. She earned a BA degree from Newark State College, an MA from Montclair State College, and a doctorate in education from Teachers College, Columbia University.

In 1943, she was one of only 16 Black teachers in the Newark Public Schools. After challenging promotion discrimination, she was appointed vice principal in 1963 and principal the following year. Dr. Flagg had a reputation as a "no-nonsense" educator who served as a mentor for many beginning teachers.

The E. Alma Flagg Elementary School in Newark was dedicated in her honor in 1985. Dr. Flagg was married to fellow Newark educator and activist, J. Thomas Flagg.

