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The Historic Village at Allaire

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# *The Village Star*

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	Spring/Summer 2023	
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**FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY PEOPLE ARE DRAWN TO  
ALLAIRE'S CHARM AND BEAUTY.**

**"One of the most interesting drives in the neighborhood of Ocean Beach is along the southern banks of Shark River to the now deserted iron works of Allaire, which in the last generation enjoyed wide prosperity and national fame. It may be noted here that the drive to Allaire is frequently taken from all the resorts south of Ocean Beach to Bay Head,"**

**-Gustav Kobbé, *The New Jersey Coast and Pines: An Illustrated Guidebook*  
1891**

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## The Historic Village at Allaire

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### Letter from the executive director

**Visit the Village this Summer** and immerse yourself into our fundraising and historic activities! Craft Shows, Flea Markets, Antique Car Show, and more! These key fundraisers, along with grants, chapel rentals, and other programs allow us to offer expanded hours this summer of the village grounds and the historic buildings (homes, craft shops, exhibit halls, general store, bakery, chapel, etc.). We have several new initiatives to celebrate, including the re-opening of our village library, a general 90 minute "Village Life Tour" at 1:30 pm on days the village opens (meet at the General Store), new rotating exhibits in the Historic Row House & Village Museum and Enameling Building, and expansion of our popular "History Kids Program" including its counter part - "Beyond the Counter" for adults!

If you or anyone you know are interested in volunteering at The Historic Village at Allaire, we are always looking for historical interpreters (docents), craftspeople, researchers, event helpers, and more! Come out and share your talents! We appreciate any time you can spare to help our historic village and preserve its history. We are grateful to ALL of our volunteers - whether you've been here for one month or 50 years!

This Spring we hosted near 3,500 students on group tours of the village. We look forward to hosting summer groups, and students in the Fall. It was awesome to hear the laughter and sounds of children visiting the village in large groups once again. A big thank you to all our tour guides and interpreters that helped make this year's spring group tour season a huge success.

I am thrilled to announce that Allaire Village Inc. has received the necessary funding to replace the roofs of the Chapel and Enameling Building, and make the necessary repairs from water damage endured. This will not interfere with any planned weddings or events. There are several buildings being queued up for heating, air conditioning, and dehumidification replacements and/or enhancements. In April Allaire Village, Inc. submitted a grant request to address critical repairs at the Carriage House and Gardner's Cottage. Ensuring these 185+ year-old buildings get the TLC they need is a huge priority in our museum's preservation plan.

How best can you support this important treasure we call The Historic Village at Allaire? Visit the village this summer. Step into a building you may never have stepped in before (e.g. the Enameling Building), or haven't been in a while. I bet you'll be surprised! Grab a cookie at the Bakery and enjoy the barrel tables overlooking the Mill Pond. Take a tour. Become a member. Share your talents or gift of time by volunteering. Allaire is truly a special place with very talented people. I welcome you to come out this summer season. You can make history too!

-Hance M. Sitkus, CPA  
Executive Director







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**Can't make it  
during the  
weekend? We are  
open on weekdays!  
Visit us from  
Wednesday to  
Friday! 11 am to 4  
pm! The buildings  
are open and free  
of charge!**



**SCOUT PATCH  
PROGRAM  
AVAILABLE!  
REACH OUT TO  
(732) 919-3500  
EXT 14**



**More than just Weddings.  
The Allaire Chapel is open for  
all ceremonies, memorials, and  
events. Book your family  
reunion or corporate retreat at  
The Historic Village at Allaire.  
(732) 919-3500 ext 16**

## We would like to thank the Questers !

The Questers Chapter Metedeconk #859 has very generously gifted \$1,200 to the Historic Village at Allaire. This donation will be used towards the History Kids Program at Allaire.

The Questers are a group dedicated to preservation and restoration. Their motto, "It's fun to search and a joy to find", speaks of their purpose to educate through the research and study of antiques. The group was founded in 1944 and now has 7,300 members in the United States and Canada.

**"QUESTERS KEEP HISTORY ALIVE BY  
SUPPORTING PRESERVATION,  
RESTORATION AND EDUCATION"**



Joanne and Janice of the Metedeconk #859 Chapter of the Questers (Left and Right) with Linnea, Manager of Historical Programming & Volunteer (Center)

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## *Select Events at Allaire*

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# *Summer Events*

Tours are back! Need a little more guidance in the village? Interested in learning new things? Our daily 1:30 pm tours are back for the summer! \$5 a person on Wednesday to Friday, Included in admissions on Saturday and Sunday. Space is limited and first come, first serve. This tour is meant to be an intimate experience and not designed for large groups. For group sizes of 12 or more please reach out to Ren Kelly, Tour Coordinator at (732) 919-3500 ext 14!

**Friday, June 30th to Sunday,  
July 2nd:**

**Antique Flag Display**

See our collection of American Flags. Located in the Chapel and Visitor Center. Free Display.

**Saturday, July 15th:**

**James P. Allaire's Birthday & Guild Day**

Celebrate Allaire's birthday with games and historic demonstrations.

11 am - 4 pm, \$5 a person

**Fridays in August:**

**History Kids Club Summer**

Create a book from "page to binding" in four Friday sessions over the course of August. Ages 5-12. Advanced Registration Required. Each session is \$10 per child. Parents are expected to remain for the duration of the event.

**Sunday, August 20th:**

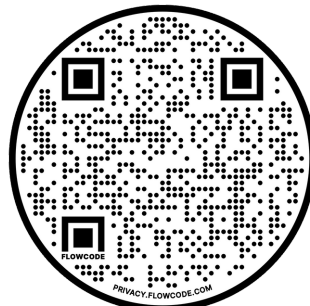
**Rolling Iron Antique Auto Show**

Classic, Vintage, and Antique automobiles. Pre-registration \$20, Day-of registration \$25

**Saturday, September 2nd:**

**Antique and Vintage Show**

Looking to buy or sell antiques? Look no further! Vendor spaces are \$65 advance registration required. Shoppers are \$5 a person, 12 and up.



*For tickets and more information, check out our Allaire Village Eventbrite Page!*  
*Scan our QR code to see more!*



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# The Village Star

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## New Exhibits for the Summer

**Take a break from the heat and visit our air-conditioned Enameling Building and Visitor Center.**

You most likely have a camera in your pocket or bag right now. A tiny powerful one that can snap a photo in the blink of an eye, record moments of time into a video format, and store thousands of photographs. The early days of photography were very much the opposite. In the latest exhibit ***Behind the Lens***, visitors can learn the history of cameras and photography during the 1800's. Examples of historic photography methods from our archives are currently on display in the back of the Visitor Center.



## ***You are Here!***

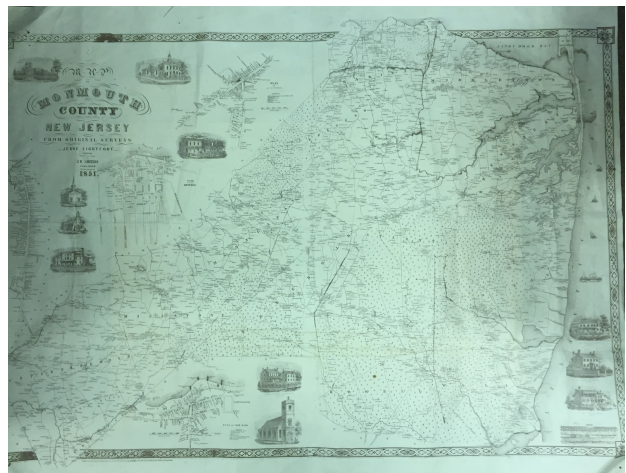
**A collection of Maps and Atlases of Monmouth County, now on display in the Enameling Building.**

An Atlas is a collection of maps that traditionally are bound in a book. The first known published Atlas was the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (Latin: "Theatre of the Lands of the World") by Abraham Ortelius in 1570. It collected over 50 maps from other cartographers (map makers) in a bound book.

However, in the 10th century, other map collections were created in Baghdad by the "Balkhī school" a group of geographers. The collections each held a world map and 20 regional maps. They focused only on the Muslim world and the Middle East. These were not published to the public.

In the 16th to 19th centuries, most Atlases were not sold as prebound books. They were created as custom orders. All the possible content was shelved separately and then bound for the customer after they selected their components. Different versions of each map existed from black and white prints to gilded versions.

The Atlases on display are "Desk Atlases" which are large reference books. Road books are a smaller type of Atlas meant for travel.



An 1851 Map of Monmouth County

Opposite page:

Lower: A detail of the map title

Upper: A map of New Jersey, year unknown

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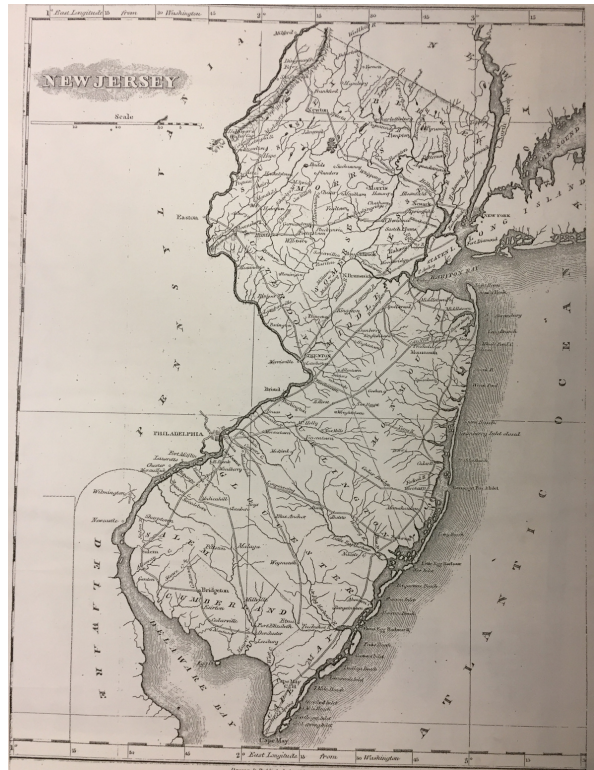
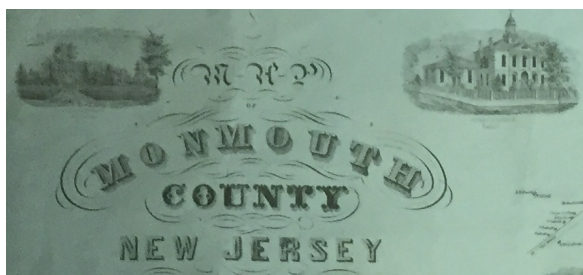
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Maps are ancient and no one knows for sure when the earliest surviving map was made. The best estimate is the oldest maps date back to 20,000 BC.

Babylonia was known for its map-making. The maps were accurate thanks to surveying techniques. They were labeled and used standardized symbols for things such as mountains or towns and were one of the first to display the cardinal directions.

The ancient Greeks made further improvements. Aristotle is credited with proving the earth was a sphere. However, the idea existed for a while amongst the Greeks. Eratosthenes was a geographer that aimed to improve the world map by using accurate linear measurements.

In 1037, al-Biruni, a scholar from what is now Uzbekistan, theorized that there should be a continent where America was later discovered. In *Codex Masudicus*, he calculated the Earth's circumference very accurately and wrote that all currently known landmasses only covered two-fifths of the planet. For Earth's gravity to work the way it did there needed to be another landmass. He also accurately theorized that it would span a similar length as Afro-Eurasia and would be populated by humans.



For a period of time, Map making shifted to be more symbolic. The Middle Ages in Europe had many examples of maps that were made without accuracy and used art and symbolism instead. Maps usually surrounded land with water or made the map circle around a location. They were not meant to be literal representations of the actual world.

In the Renaissance, there was an increased interest in basing maps on surveys again. This was due to the popularity of Classical works and of exploring the new lands in the Americas.

In the United States in the 18th and 19th centuries maps were incredibly important for creating new state lines and territories. During this time the National Geodetic Survey was created with the help of Army engineers and explorers.





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# Mr. Allaire's Portrait Wall of Announcements

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## **ALLAIRE WISH LIST**

- Cricut Machine
- Portable Projector
- Cardstock all colors
- Laminator
- Silk or Fake Flowers in Good Condition
- Battery Operated Candles

**Please call (732) 919-3500, Ext. 13  
if you would like to donate to  
our wish list.**

## ***Memorial Benches: Available at Allaire***

The purchase of a memorial bench at The Historic Village at Allaire supports our museum's mission, all while providing a space to honor a loved one. Spaces Limited.

Interested in purchasing a bench to memorialize your loved one? Please call (732) 919-3500, ext. 13

## ***Interested in Volunteering?***

Do you have a passion for history and a love for education? A desire to help in your local community museum? If so, please join us as a volunteer! We always have volunteer opportunities available. Our volunteers can learn a new trade or skill, teach the public the history of our site and our trades, or help behind the scenes.

Please contact Linnea Kuglitsch, (732) 919-3500, ext. 12, to schedule a volunteer orientation!

## ***Join as a Member!***

Join us as a member of Allaire Village to help preserve our site, and receive some exclusive perks to match! These include:

- Complimentary admission to the Village on General Admission days
  - A 10% discount at all Village retail shops, including the online general store
  - Free admission to our Flea Markets and Craft Shows
  - Invitations to exclusive members-only events
- Interested? Reach out to us at [info@allairevillage.org](mailto:info@allairevillage.org), (732) 919-3500, ext. 13 to learn more!



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## Villager Spotlight: Lauren Cummings

Lauren started as a part-time interpreter at Allaire in August of 2022. She graduated from York College of Pennsylvania with a BA in History and a minor in International Studies. Currently, Lauren is working toward her Master's in Information with a concentration in Archives and Preservation. As part of her degree, she will be helping out in our archives this fall! Around the village, you can find Lauren in the Chapel, Foreman's Cottage, and Manager's House.

Lauren's favorite part of working at Allaire is getting people, especially children, invested in history. She loves to learn about social and daily life and how people lived in the past.

Lauren has a special interest in the social life of the middle class in the 1800s and in childhood. She hopes to learn more about how growing up in a factory town would shape a child's life.

Through teaching about the day-to-day life of a child in the 1830's she hopes to give children a new perspective on their own life. Lauren is very excited to begin interpreting the Chapel. Another activity she enjoys at Allaire is hearth cooking.

Outside of Allaire, Lauren likes to read a wide range of books and travel. She hopes to one day visit all 50 states. Her favorite place to visit is the Outer Banks in North Carolina. Lauren also enjoys Broadway musicals and theatre. She loves going to shows together with her mom.



Ren Kelly (left) and Lauren Cummings (right) learning to make jingle bells together.





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## Volunteers learn New Skills in Training Program

Our volunteers are learning new skills in a monthly training program. From blacksmithing to canal walks, there's something offered for everyone. The trainings are offered to extend the skills of volunteers and part-time staff allowing them to interpret new spaces and learn new things. The 1830's skills are then demonstrated to visitors.

Many of the skills our volunteers learn are not known by many people. They are historical skills that are threatened to be lost to time if more people do not take an interest in them.

Developing these new trades and activities allows us as a village to create a richer, fuller image of life in the 1830s for our visitors. This past session taught by Regine Toffelsson, was about cooking on a woodstove. The event attracted volunteers who were interested in learning a new way of cooking much different than both modern cooking and hearth cooking which is often seen in the Manager's house. With more people knowing a skill we can have it available to visitors more often.

If you are interested in learning history from a hands-on perspective we are always looking for more volunteers. These training programs are just one benefit of the volunteer experience! Call (732) 919-3500 ext 12 for volunteer information.



Above: Regine prepared food during the woodstove cooking lessons.

Below: Paul, Ben, and Regine sit down for a meal after a hard days work in the Allaire Mansion kitchen.





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## First Time events and the Return of a Fan Favorite!

This spring was an exciting time at the Historic Village at Allaire. Several new events kicked off the season. Bloom and Blossom welcomed spring with a display of flowers and herbs. Over 700 people learned the ins and outs of seed saving, planting, growing a garden, and helpful pollinators. After positive feedback, our Easter event returned in its new form swapping out an egg hunt for a full day of fun including live animals, the easter bunny, games, and a scavenger hunt!

Summer started off with the return of the second Antique and Vintage show this Memorial Day weekend. We had over 30 antique vendors and 1000 shoppers. This year we extended to hosting this show twice a year. The second will be Labor Day weekend.

The first Annual Allaire Arts Festival premiered with great results. Over 50 vendors came out to display and sell their art. This event was created in collaboration with the Art Society of Monmouth County, which demonstrated various art skills. The staff, as well as our 600 visitors, had an excellent time. It is the start of a fun and creative new tradition!





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Back by popular demand is Ducky Derby! After a five-year hiatus the rubber duckies are back and ready to race down the stream. These daring ducks will face obstacles and mayhem on race day. While not racing, actual ducks will be available for viewing.

We are also very excited to announce that we have invited Gerald Charles Dickens to perform. The great-great-grandson of famed author Charles Dickens, Gerald is a world-renowned actor who will be performing his one-man show of *A Christmas Carol* with us this December. In a rare event, this performance will be hosted offsite at The Vogel Theater at the Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank. Mark your calendar for December 4th! Tickets will be on sale soon!



**We would like to thank everyone for their continuing support of our Beyond the Counter series!**

Hosted by the General Store staff this series of classes and lectures bring fun hands-on activities to adults. Much like our History Kids program these classes delve into history in an engaging and meaningful way. You also get to bring home a handmade object such as the flower presses seen above! Check our Eventbrite page for more information.



**Who's that at Allaire?**  
It's a Fowler's Toad!





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## *A Thank You To Our Annual Sponsors & Grantors*



**Allaire Village Inc. received a Monmouth County American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Covid19 Community Recovery Grant from the Monmouth County Commissioners.**

**Allaire Village Inc. received an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.**

**Allaire Village Inc. received a grant from :  
Ocean First Foundation  
Manasquan Bank Foundation  
New Jersey Council for the Humanities  
New Jersey Arts and Culture Recovery Fund  
Brisbane Associates  
Estate of Evelyn Frostick Kessler Morton  
Sandpipers  
Questers  
American Corner**

## **The Historic Village at Allaire**

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(732) 919-3500

[allairevillage.org](http://allairevillage.org)

Check out our Facebook and Instagram!  
[@TheHistoricVillageAtAllaire](#)

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## **State Parks, Forest & Historic Sites: Allaire State Park**

Mark Texel, State Historic Sites Administrator  
Jenny Felton, Central Regional State Park Superintendent  
Inga Gabliks, Allaire State Park Superintendent