Bernards Township 2019 Profile

Area: 24.5 sq. miles
Population: 26,743 (2010 Census); 28,682 (Current Estimate)

2019 Municipal Budget $39,113,636.40

2019 Library Budget $2,400,487.00

2019 Tax Levy: $138,824,029.00
County $22,610,677.62, School $91,387,676.00
County Open Space $2,110,274.99, Municipal $20,314,913.39
Library $2,400,487.00

2019 Tax Rate/$100: $2.034
County $.332, School $1.339, County Open Space $.031
Municipal $.297, Library $.035,

Police Force: 38

Form of Government: Township Committee

Carol Bianchi
Mayor
Term Expires 12/31/2019

James Baldassare, Jr.
Deputy Mayor
Term Expires 12/31/2020

John Carpenter
Term Expires 12/31/2020

Joseph F. Esposito
Term Expires 12/31/2021

Joan Bannan Harris
Term Expires 12/31/2021
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<tr>
<td>BERNARDS TOWNSHIP TOWN HALL</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Location of Services

Mailing Address: 1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
Main Phone: 908-766-2510
Emergency (Police, Fire, First Aid): 911
Web: www.bernards.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADMINISTRATION BUILDING</th>
<th>ENGINEERING SERVICES BUILDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Collyer Lane</td>
<td>277 S. Maple Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 908-766-2510</td>
<td>Phone: 908-204-3018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Administration
Computer Systems Administrator
Finance
Mayor & Township Committee Office
Parks, Recreation, Pool, Golf
Personnel
Pool Commission
Prosecutor
Purchasing
Senior Citizens Information
Tax Assessor
Tax Collector
Township Clerk
Train & Bus Decals
Violations Bureau/Court Administrator
Voter Registration

Building Inspector
Bulky Waste Disposal
Construction Permits
Engineering
Environmental Commission
Bureau Fire Prevention
Grounds
Inspections
Pill Hill Recycling Center
Planner
Planning Board
Public Works
Roads
Sewerage Authority
Smoke Detector Test Scheduling
Zoning Board
Zoning Officer

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>HEALTH DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>POLICE BUILDING</th>
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<tr>
<td>262 S. Finley Avenue</td>
<td>1 Collyer Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 908-204-3070</td>
<td>Phone: 908-766-1122</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Animal Warden
Board of Health
Dog & Cat Licenses
Environmental or Health Complaints
Environmental or Health Inspections
Local Assistance Board
Marriage Licenses
Registrar of Vital Statistics
Septic
Welfare
Well Water

911 Information
Accident Reports
Detective Bureau
Emergency Management
Handicap Parking Placards
Records
Security Alarm Permits
Traffic Control
Weapon Permits

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</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone 908-204-3031</td>
<td>Phone 908-766-9748</td>
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### Bernards Township Meeting Date Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultural Advisory</td>
<td>Meets 3rd Thursday after 1st Monday, Quarterly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Adjustment:</td>
<td>Meets 1st Wednesday after first Monday of Month; special meetings 2nd Thursday after the 1st Monday in January through June and September through November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Health:</td>
<td>Meets 2nd Thursday after 1st Monday of Month (no meetings in July, August, and November)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Day Committee:</td>
<td>3rd Monday of Month January, February, March, then bi-weekly April through Charter Day (Daytime meetings)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer Management</td>
<td>Meets 1st Thursday after 1st Monday, Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Commission:</td>
<td>Meets 2nd Monday of Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Advisory Board</td>
<td>Meets 3rd Monday in March, May, July, September &amp; October (call to confirm dates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEPC &amp; Flood Mitigation</td>
<td>Meets 3rd Wednesday after 1st Monday in January, May and September (Daytime Meetings)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Board:</td>
<td>Meets 4th Wednesday after 1st Monday of month (no meetings in July and August)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Court:</td>
<td>Meets Tuesdays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Alliance/Youth Service</td>
<td>Meets 1st Tuesday after 1st Monday, Monthly except July &amp; Aug. (6-7:30 PM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks, Pathways &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>Meets 1st Monday, Monthly (except when a Holiday then on 2nd Monday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Subcommittee</td>
<td>Call of the Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Board</td>
<td>Meets 1st &amp; 3rd Tuesdays after 1st Monday, Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pool Commission</td>
<td>Meets 4th Monday, Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Subcommittee</td>
<td>4th Tuesday after 1st Monday, Monthly (Prior to TC Meetings)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewerage Authority</td>
<td>Meets 2nd Tuesday after 1st Monday (prior to TC Meetings) 6:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shade Tree Commission:</td>
<td>Meets 2nd Wednesday after 1st Monday, Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township Committee</td>
<td>Meets 2nd &amp; 4th Tuesdays after 1st Monday, Monthly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
N. J. Representatives
U.S. Senators

Cory Booker
www.booker.senate.gov

Washington D.C.
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-3224

Newark, New Jersey
Gateway One
11-43 Raymond Plaza West, Suite 2300
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 639-8700

Camden
One Port Center
2 Riverside Drive
Suite 505
Camden, NJ 08101

Robert Menendez
www.menendez.senate.gov

Washington D.C.
528 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-4744

Newark, New Jersey
Gateway One
11-43 Raymond Plaza West, Suite 1100
Newark, NJ 07102
(973) 645-3030
(973) 645-0502 (fax)

Barrington, New Jersey
208 White Horse Pike, Suite 18
Barrington New Jersey, 08007
(856) 757-5353; (856) 546-1526 (fax)

Congressman - District 7
Congressman Tom Malinowski
http://malinowski.house.gov/

Washington DC Office
426 Cannon HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-5361
Fax: (202) 225-5361

New Jersey 21st Legislative District
Senator Thomas H. Kean Jr.
Senator Thomas H. Kean Jr.
425 North Ave. East, Suite C
Westfield, NJ 07090
(908) 232-3673

Assemblyman Jon M. Bramnick
251 North Ave. West, 2nd Floor
Westfield, NJ 07090
(908) 232-2073

Assemblywoman Nancy F. Munoz
57 Union Pl., Suite 310
Summit, NJ 07901
(908) 918-0414

Somerset County Freeholders
20 Grove Street
Somerville, NJ 08876
www.co.somerset.nj.us
Brian D. Levine, Director
Patricia Walsh, Deputy Director
Brian Gallagher
Shanel Robinson
Sara Sooy
Community Services & Highlights

**Somerset County**

Somerset County’s Free E-Newsletter  
[www.co.somerset.nj.us/newsletter](http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/newsletter)

Email Updates on more than 90 items on the County Website  
[www.co.somerset.nj.us/subscribe.html](http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/subscribe.html)

Resource Somerset  
[www.LeadershipSomerset.org](http://www.LeadershipSomerset.org)

Somerset County Environmental Center  
[www.somersetcountyparks.org/parksfacilities/eec/eec.html](http://www.somersetcountyparks.org/parksfacilities/eec/eec.html)

Somerset County Park Headquarters  
[www.somersetcountyparks.org/geninfo/information.html](http://www.somersetcountyparks.org/geninfo/information.html)

Somerset County Riding Stables  

**Public Safety**

Basking Ridge Fire Company and First Aid Squad  
[www.brfco.com](http://www.brfco.com)  
908-766-9874  
30 Washington Avenue  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

Bernards Township Bureau of Fire Prevention  
Fire Prevention Bureau  
908-204-2511  
277 S. Maple Avenue  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

Bernards Township Police  
BT Police  
908-766-1122  
1 Collyer Lane  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

Liberty Corner Fire Company  
[www.libertycornerfire.org](http://www.libertycornerfire.org)  
908-647-3530  
95 Church Street, POB 98  
Liberty Corner, NJ  07938

Liberty Corner First Aid  
[www.lcfas.org](http://www.lcfas.org)  
908-647-1145  
Martinsville Rd., POB 57  
Liberty Corner, NJ  07938

**Hospitals**

Morristown Hospital  
[www.atlantichealth.org/morristown/](http://www.atlantichealth.org/morristown/)  
973-971-5000  
100 Madison Avenue  
Morristown, NJ  07960

Overlook Hospital  
[www.atlantichealth.org/overlook/](http://www.atlantichealth.org/overlook/)  
908-522-2000  
Beauvoir Avenue  
Summit, NJ

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset  
[http://www.rwjuh.edu/rwjuh/home.aspx](http://www.rwjuh.edu/rwjuh/home.aspx)  
908-685-2200  
110 Rehill Avenue  
Somerville, NJ  08876

Veterans’ Affairs Medical Center  
[www.newjersey.va.gov/](http://www.newjersey.va.gov/)  
908-647-0180  
Lyons, NJ  07939
Post Offices [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post Office</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge Post Office</td>
<td>908-766-0611</td>
<td>21 Brownlee Place, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Corner Post Office</td>
<td>908-647-0841</td>
<td>8 Church Street, Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Utilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Utility</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Phone or Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cable/Internet</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cablevision.com">www.cablevision.com</a></td>
<td>732-356-1300 or 908-766-5008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric</td>
<td><a href="http://www.firstenergycorp.com">www.firstenergycorp.com</a></td>
<td>800-545-7741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garbage</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kohlerwasteservices.com">www.kohlerwasteservices.com</a></td>
<td>908-903-9031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.republicservices.com">www.republicservices.com</a></td>
<td>800-273-7539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.raritandisposal.com">www.raritandisposal.com</a></td>
<td>1-800-342-5783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pseg.com">www.pseg.com</a></td>
<td>1-800-436-7734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling</td>
<td><a href="http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/recycle">www.co.somerset.nj.us/recycle</a></td>
<td>732-469-3363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewer</td>
<td><a href="http://SewerageAuthority">Sewerage Authority</a></td>
<td>908-204-3020 (Administrative)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>908-647-2460 (Plant)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>908-204-3078 (Payment)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cablevision.com">www.cablevision.com</a></td>
<td>732-356-1300 or 908-766-5008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.verizon.net">www.verizon.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td><a href="http://www.amwater.com">www.amwater.com</a></td>
<td>1-800-652-6987</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Schools**

**Public Schools**
Board of Education  
www.bernardsboe.com  
908-204-2600  
101 Peachtree Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

Cedar Hill  
http://cedarhill.bernards.boe.com  
908-204-2639  
100 Peachtree Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

Liberty Corner  
http://libertycorner.bernards.boe.com  
908-204-2550  
61 Church Street  
Liberty Corner, NJ  07938

Mount Prospect Elementary  
http://mountprospect.bernards.boe.com  
111 Hansom Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

Oak Street  
http://oakstreet.bernards.boe.com  
908-470-1600  
70 W. Oak Street  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

William Annin  
http://williamannin.bernards.boe.com  
70 Quincy Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

Ridge High School  
http://ridhigh.bernards.boe.com  
908-204-2585  
285 S. Finley Avenue  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

Somerset County Vocational & Technical Schools  
www.scvths.org  
908-526-8900  
14 Vogt Dr., P.O.B. 6350  
Bridgewater, NJ  08807

**Private Schools**
Albrook Montessori School  
www.albroomschool.org  
908-580-0661  
361-A Somerville Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

Bonnie Brae  
www.bonnie-brae.org  
908-647-0800  
Valley Road , POB 369  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

Lord Stirling  
www.lordstirling.org  
908-766-1786  
Lord Stirling Road  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

Pingry School  
www.pingry.org  
908-647-5555  
Martinsville Road, POB 366  
Martinsville, NJ  08836

St. James Parochial School  
www.sjbr.org  
908-766-4774  
200 S. Finley Avenue  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920
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<tr>
<th><strong>Pre-Schools</strong></th>
<th>website</th>
<th>address</th>
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<tr>
<td>Albrook Montessori School</td>
<td><a href="http://www.albrookeschool.org">www.albrookeschool.org</a></td>
<td>361-A Somerville Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 2-12</td>
<td>908-580-0661</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chabad Jewish Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.chabadcentral.org">www.chabadcentral.org</a></td>
<td>3048 Valley Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>908-604-8844</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Corner</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lcpc.org">www.lcpc.org</a></td>
<td>45 Church Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>908-647-8401</td>
<td>Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gentle Shepherd</td>
<td><a href="http://www.shlc.net/gentle-shepherd-christian-preschool">www.shlc.net/gentle-shepherd-christian-preschool</a></td>
<td>350 Lake Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Pre-School</td>
<td></td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Footprints Learning Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.littlefootprintsnj.com">www.littlefootprintsnj.com</a></td>
<td>520 King George Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Montessori</td>
<td><a href="http://www.somersethillsmontessori.org">www.somersethillsmontessori.org</a></td>
<td>173 Madisonville Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunshine Preschool &amp; Infant Care</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sunshinepreschool.net">www.sunshinepreschool.net</a> <a href="mailto:info@sunshinepreschool.net">info@sunshinepreschool.net</a></td>
<td>3575 Valley Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>908-221-0797</td>
<td>Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Tree House Child</td>
<td><a href="http://www.thetreehouseinc.org">www.thetreehouseinc.org</a></td>
<td>1 E. Oak Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caring Center</td>
<td>908-221-1619</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Weintal Preschool</td>
<td><a href="http://www.weintalpreschool.org">www.weintalpreschool.org</a> <a href="mailto:cbitots@optonline.net">cbitots@optonline.net</a></td>
<td>40 Whitenack Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>908-204-1294</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 0792</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Colleges</strong></th>
<th>website</th>
<th>address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raritan Valley Community College</td>
<td><a href="http://www.raritanval.edu">www.raritanval.edu</a></td>
<td>Rte. 28 &amp; Lamington Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>908-526-1200</td>
<td>North Branch, NJ 08876</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Houses of Worship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Millington Baptist Church</td>
<td><a href="http://www.millingtonbaptist.org">www.millingtonbaptist.org</a></td>
<td>520 King George Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chabad Jewish Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.chabadcentral.org">www.chabadcentral.org</a></td>
<td>3048 Valley Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congregation B'nai Israel</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cbibr.org">www.cbibr.org</a></td>
<td>40 Whitenack Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covenant Chapel (Reformed Episcopal)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.covenantchapel.org">www.covenantchapel.org</a></td>
<td>127 W. Oak Street</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelical Fellowship Chapel</td>
<td></td>
<td>3575 Valley Road</td>
<td>Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowship Deaconry</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fellowshipdeaconry.org">http://www.fellowshipdeaconry.org</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presbyterian Church of Liberty Corner</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lcpc.org">www.lcpc.org</a></td>
<td>45 Church Street, P.O. Box 55</td>
<td>Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Baptist Church</td>
<td><a href="http://www.somersethillsbaptist.org">www.somersethillsbaptist.org</a></td>
<td>510 Mount Airy Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Lutheran Church</td>
<td><a href="http://www.shlc.net">www.shlc.net</a></td>
<td>350 Lake Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. James Catholic Church</td>
<td><a href="http://www.saintjamesbr.org">www.saintjamesbr.org</a></td>
<td>184 S. Finley Avenue</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mark’s Episcopal Church</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stmarksbr.org">www.stmarksbr.org</a></td>
<td>140 S. Finley Avenue</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Presbyterian Church of Basking Ridge</td>
<td><a href="http://www.brpc.org">www.brpc.org</a></td>
<td>1 E. Oak Street</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Organizations

Association of University Women (AAUW)  
www.aauwnj.org 908-696-0375  POB 5  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

American Legion Post 216  151 Route 206 S.  
Gladstone, NJ 07934

Basking Ridge Business Alliance  www.ridgebusiness.org  
(908) 766-9300  
Barbara Long 5 Lyons Mall #325  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Basking Ridge Garden Club  www.brgcnj.com 908-340-4099  
Agnes Bailey sunnyb21@optonline.net 21 Allen Street  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Bernards Municipal Alliance  www.bernardsalliance.org 908-204-2523  
262 S. Finley Avenue  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Big Brothers / Big Sisters of Hunterdon & Somerset Counties  908-730-7773  
79 Beaver Ave.  
Clinton, NJ 08809

Bonafides of Somerset Hills  www.thebonafides.org 908-647-3741  
Mary Lynne Norris POB 91  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Boy Scout Troop 54  
Greg Healy 908-391-2113  
ghealy@att.com 65 Ramapo Dr.  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Boy Scout Troop 555  
Thomas Aiken  
Assistant Scout Master 350 Lake Rd.  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Bernards Township Regional Chamber of Commerce  www.bernardstwprgionalchamber.org 908-766-6755  
Al Licata P.O. Box 11  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Chamber of Commerce (County)  www.scbp.org 908-725-1522  
www.somercountychamber.org

Cub Scout Pack 451  
Greg Healy 908-391-2113  
ghealy@att.com 65 Ramapo Dr.  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Cub Pack 54  
Ken White 908-604-2467  
kennethwhite@yahoo.com 89 Harrison Brook Dr.  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
Farmstead Arts
farmsteadartscenter@gmail.com
www.farmsteadartscenter.org
347-9ARTS4U
(1-347-927-8748)
450 King George Rd.
PO Box 155
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Girl Scouts of Rolling Hills
www.girlscouts-rh.org
908-725-1226
Attn: Membership
1171 Rte. 28
North Branch, NJ 08876

Great Swamp National
Wildlife Refuge
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/great_swamp/
241 Pleasant Plains Rd.
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Great Swamp Watershed
Association
http://www.greatswamp.org/
973-538-3500
PO Box 300
New Vernon, NJ 07976

Judith G. Wharton Music
Center
www.whartonmusiccenter.org
908-790-0700
Andrew Nitkin Registrar
60 Locust Ave.
Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922

Junior Woman’s Club
of Somerset Hills
http://gfwc.homestead.com
Junior Women’s Club
POB 52
Bernardsville, NJ 07924

Kiwanis Club of Somerset Hills
908-735-2683
John Greene
POB 246
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Knights of Columbus
www.kofc.org
908-766-6163
14 Brook Avenue
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

League of Women Voters of
Somerset Hills
www.lwvnj.org
908-766-0747
181 Mountain Road
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Lions Club of Bernards
POB 352
Bernardsville, NJ 02924

New Neighbors
908-647-3610
Linda Arnold
POB 281
Liberty Corner, NJ 07938

Newcomers & Neighbors
of Somerset Hills
nnshpresident@gmail.com.
www.nnshclub.org
POB 161
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Passaic River Coalition
http://www.passaicriver.org/
973-532-9830
330 Speedwell Ave.
Morristown, NJ 07960

Resource of Somerset County
(Domestic Violence Services)
www.resourcecenterofsomerset.org
427 Homestead Rd,
Hillsborough, NJ 08844-1400

Raritan Headwaters
Association
www.raritanheadwaters.org/
908-234-1852
2121 Larger Cross Rd.
Bedminster, NJ 07921

Rotary Club of Bernardsville
908-295-7235

Senior Arts & Talents
Of Somerset County
908-647-3295
3020 Valley Rd.
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Senior Wellness Center
www.co.somerset.nj.us/senior.html
908-204-3435
202 Mt. Airy Road
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Somerset County 4-H
http://somerset.rce.rutgers.edu/4h/
310 Milltown Road
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>WebsiteURL</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Kennel Club</td>
<td><a href="http://www.somersethillskc.org">www.somersethillskc.org</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills YMCA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.somersethillsymca.org">www.somersethillsymca.org</a></td>
<td>908-766-7898</td>
<td>140 Mount Airy Road Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset/Hunterdon Chapter of Make-a-Wish Foundation</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wish.org">www.wish.org</a></td>
<td>800-252-9474</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Historical Society of Somerset Hills</td>
<td><a href="http://www.historicalsocietyofsomersethills.org">www.historicalsocietyofsomersethills.org</a></td>
<td>908-221-1770</td>
<td>P.O. Box 136 Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trilogy Repertory</td>
<td><a href="http://www.trilogyrepertory.com">www.trilogyrepertory.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>P.O. Box 199 Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Golf Association</td>
<td><a href="http://www.usgamuseum.com">www.usgamuseum.com</a></td>
<td>908-234-2300</td>
<td>77 Liberty Corner Road Far Hills, NJ 07931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Hospice</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mail@visitingnurse.org">mail@visitingnurse.org</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Club of Bernardsville</td>
<td>908-766-3289</td>
<td></td>
<td>25 Fairview Dr. E. Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Specialized Housing
Bernards Township
Affordable Housing
(Jersey Central Housing Resource Center)
908-704-9659
cjhrc@verizon.net
www.cjhrc.org
600 First Avenue, Suite 3
Raritan, NJ 08869

Bethel Ridge Group Home
www.bethelridgenj.org
908-221-0852 or 908-221-0801 (Corp.)
175 South Maple Avenue
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Fellowship Village Continuing Care Retirement Community
www.fellowshipvillage.org
908-647-7600 or 1-800-458-6715
8000 Fellowship Road
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Ridge Oak Senior Housing
www.ridgeoak.org
908-221-0266
150 Manchester Drive
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Matheny Community Residence
www.matheny.org
908-204-0950
33 N. Maple Avenue
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Transportation
Lakeland Bus Line
www.lakelanddbus.com
973-366-0600
425 E. Blackwell Street
Dover, NJ 07801

New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles
www.nj.gov/mvc
1-888-486-3339
General Information
(Administrative Offices)

New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicle Services
(Inspection Station)
www.nj.gov/mvc
1-800-333-3879
10 Roosevelt Place
Somerville, NJ 08876
(Off Rt. 28)

Flemington VIS
181 Rtes 31 & 202

Plainfield VIS
160 S. Second St.

Randolph VIS
160 Canfield Dr. (off Rte 10)
New Jersey Transit Train  
www.njtransit.com  
973-275-5555

Newark Airport  
973-961-6000  
Newark, NJ

RideWise  
RideWise Transportation  
908-704-1011  
Somerset County  
20 Grove St.  
Somerville, NJ  08876

Taxi / Limo Services  
www.metro1limo.com  
973-220-2000  
Metro 1  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
908-696-9616  
Cedars Car Service, Inc.  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
908-542-1881  
Bernards Township Car and Limousine Service, Inc.  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Recreation Programs
Babe Ruth Baseball  
www.baberuthleague.org  
908-604-2220  
For boys and girls ages 13-15  
Registration in February

Basking Ridge Little League  
www.ridgebaseballclub.com  
Youth baseball for boys & girls 6-12  
- Registration in November

Bernards Township Recreation  
www.bernards.org  
908-204-3003  
A variety of programs and activities for all ages including basketball, girls softball, ant hockey, drama classes, tennis, summer camp, fitness, computer programs, karate, music, volleyball, golf, trips, senior citizen and therapeutic recreation services, and much more. Call for more details.

Fishing & Hunting Licenses  
908-359-1000  
908-561-4400  
908-575-8997  
908-756-1925  
www.Njfishandwildlife.com

Jr. Red Devils Football Club  
www.jrreddevilsflagfootball.com  
Girls & Boys, Ages 3-8  
7 on 7 Non-contact  
Practice begins September

Mavericks Soccer Club  
www.ridgemavericks.com  
Youth – Registration in spring

Wrestling  
www.ridgeyouthwrestling.com  
Instructional club for grades K-8. Registration in October

Ridge Ice Hockey Association  
www.ridgehockey.net  
Grades 6-8
Jr. Devils

Ridge Youth Sports, Inc. www.ridgeyouthsports.com Grades K-8
Football /Cheerleading andBoys Lacrosse Grades 2-8

Somerset Hills Bulldogs www.somersethillsbulldogs.com Youth football boys and girls ages 5-14 & Cheerleading – Registration in spring
Football & Cheerleading

Somerset Hills Lacrosse Club www.somersethillslacrosse.com Grades 4-8 – Registration in November

Somerset Hills Soccer Club www.shsc.net Youth soccer for boys and girls Intramural: grades K-8 Travel:U8-U14

Somerset Hills YMCA 908-766-7898 Extensive leisure programs. 140 Mount Airy Road www.somersethillsymca.org Competitive programs in Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 swimming, gymnastics.

Parks and Recreation Facilities

For a Complete Listing of Township Parks and Recreation Facilities visit www.bernards.org

Allen Street Gazebo Place to relax and enjoy a Intersection of Allen Street & brown bag lunch North Finley Avenue

Astor Fields 908-204-3003 3 multipurpose fields 1 Collyer Lane (behind municipal building)

Basking Ridge Country Club 908-766-9200 Private 18 hole golf course and swimming pool – Members only 185 Madisonville Road

Ridge Baseball Complex 4 Little League baseball fields & area flooded for ice skating in winter Valley Road

Bernards Township Activity room holds up to 35 people. Recreation room holds up to 50 people.
Community Center 908-204-3003 289 South Maple Avenue

Coakley-Russo Memorial Golf Course (V.A.) 908-204-3003 9-Hole Course – Memberships available. Valley Road

Dead River Trail Wooded area with a rustic trail West of Acken Road, north of for walking use only
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dunham Park</td>
<td>Somerville &amp; Liberty Corner Roads</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>Picnic shelter, indoor pavilion, roller hockey rink, softball/baseball field, sand volleyball court, disc golf course, bocce court, barrier-free playground, bike/jogging path, nature trail, multipurpose field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Family Woods</td>
<td>Allen Road</td>
<td></td>
<td>Passive recreation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmstead Park</td>
<td>King George Road</td>
<td></td>
<td>Multipurpose field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Corner Tennis Courts</td>
<td>Church St. &amp; Mine Brook Rd.</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>2 Tennis courts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lord Stirling Park Riding Stables</td>
<td>256 S. Maple Avenue</td>
<td>908-766-5955</td>
<td>Full program of public riding instruction in English horsemanship for youth and adults. Seasonally the stables offer reserved hay rides, sleigh rides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manchester Drive Athletic Field</td>
<td>Manchester Dr.</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>Multipurpose field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCollum Farm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Passive recreation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Park</td>
<td>Mountain &amp; Martinsville Roads</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>4 Multipurpose fields (2 lighted) 1.25 mile paved bike/jogging path; 4 LL/softball fields (2 lighted)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Street Tennis Courts</td>
<td>West Oak Street</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>2 Tennis Courts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Valley Park</td>
<td>Valley Road</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>Multipurpose fields, softball &amp; baseball fields, tennis courts, picnic shelter, warming hut, stocked pond (no fishing permit required), pond shelter, walking trail, amphitheater, platform tennis courts, basketball court, sand volleyball court, barrier-free playground, fitness cluster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Valley Pool</td>
<td>Valley Road</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>50 Meter “Z” shaped pool w/diving tank, training pool with slide, wading pool, water &amp; play area, concession stand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebel Hill Park</td>
<td>Fairview Drive S.</td>
<td>908-204-3003</td>
<td>Neighborhood park with soccer/softball field, tennis courts, barrier free playground, picnic tables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schmidt Park
Pond Hill Road
908-204-3003
Passive recreation – hiking trails, fishing with permit

Somerset County
Environmental Education Ctr
190 Lord Stirling Road
908-766-2489
Nature walks, environmental programs and exhibits, classes

Sons of Liberty Farm
Allen Road
Passive recreation, hiking trails, fishing (no permit required)

Southard Park
North Maple Avenue
908-204-3003
Picnic shelter, soccer/softball field, basketball court, stocked pond for fishing (no permit required), sand volleyball court, barrier-free playground and bocce court, ice skating in winter, shuffle board court

War Memorial Field
South Maple Avenue
Paws Park Dog Run (dogs must be licensed), multipurpose field, baseball & softball fields

Washington Ave. Athletic Field
Washington Avenue
Soccer/Softball field

Whitenack Woods
Passive recreation

Libraries
Bernards Township Library
32 S. Maple Avenue
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
www.bernardslibrary.org
908-204-3031

Somerset County Library
N. Bridge St. & Vogt Dr.
Bridgewater, NJ 07920
www.somerset.lib.nj.us
908-526-4016

Historic Sites Listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Entered in State Register</th>
<th>Entered in National Register</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alward Farm House (Chimney Ash Farm) 1 Chimney Ash Farm Road Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>February 5, 1986 (ID #2468)</td>
<td>March 13, 1986 (NR Reference #86000388)</td>
<td>Colonial era farmhouse represents the simple and primitive lifestyle of early settlers. Built c.1740, it is one of the first structures in Bernards Township.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>October 24, 1974</td>
<td>Greek Revival style church built in 1839. A stately white</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>ID Numbers</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 E. Oak Street</td>
<td>(ID #2470)</td>
<td>oak tree over 600 years old stands in the churchyard where 35 Revolutionary War veterans are buried. Sanctuary, churchyard and tree on State and National Registers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>Entered in National Register December 31, 1974 (NR Reference #74001190)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boudinot-Southard Farmstead</td>
<td>Entered in State Register September 11, 2009 (ID #4955)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>135 North Maple Ave</td>
<td>Entered in National Register December 18, 2009 (NR Reference # 09001101)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>Entered in State Register  March 28, 1977 (ID #2471)</td>
<td>Built in 1804, the house is an example of a New Jersey frame farmhouse which later served as a crossroads tavern, meeting place and stage coach route.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee House</td>
<td>Entered in National Register November 7, 1977 (NR Reference #77000906)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Turner Homestead)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>214 N. Maple Avenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead</td>
<td>Entered in State Register  June 9, 2003 (ID #4200)</td>
<td>Built between 1750 and 1840, the Farmstead and three historic agricultural structures are part of Old Farmstead Park, a 36.5 acre property along the Passaic River. The Farmstead’s buildings are early examples of English and modified Dutch framing. The Farmstead is site of a classical school founded by the Rev. Samuel Kennedy; later relocated several times and finally housed in the Brick Academy. The 1740 home was also residence of founding father of State of NJ, Col. Ephraim Martin. Later home of prominent Stelle landowners. Property in agricultural use for more than 250 years. Other buildings include large English barn and wagon barn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>King George Road</td>
<td>Entered in National Register May 5, 2004 (NR Reference #03000868)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>COE: May 14, 2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lord Stirling Manor Site</td>
<td>Entered in State Register December 1, 1976 (ID #2475)</td>
<td>Two brick buildings are all that remain of the Lord Stirling/William Alexander estate. Research has established these were auxiliary buildings related to farm life (granary, farm office, perhaps used by domestic servants). Archeological digs are ongoing on site which is owned by the Somerset County Park Commission.</td>
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<tr>
<td>96 Lord Stirling Road</td>
<td>Entered in National Register May 22, 1978 (NR Reference #78001795)</td>
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<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Brick Academy</td>
<td>Entered in State Register November 25, 1975 (ID #2467)</td>
<td>Originally built to house the Basking Ridge Classical School in 1809. This is the oldest existing Federal style building in Bernards Township; it was</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 W. Oak Street</td>
<td>Entered in National Register July 21, 1976</td>
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<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
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Historic Districts

| Franklin Corners | Entered in State Register December 12, 1974 (ID #2472) | Entered in National Register May 12, 1975 (NR Reference #75001159) | Consists of 50 acres including 13 structures, and its focal point, the Van Dorn Mill, c.1843, one of the finest examples of stonework in N.J. First residents were farmers and millers, settled in mid-1700s. Present mill replaced original one of 1768 which supplied Washington’s troops with grain. Operational until World War II. |
| Liberty Corner Historic District | Entered in State Register August 16, 1991 (ID #2473) | Entered in National Register October 11, 1991 (NR Reference #91001477) | Consists of 142 acres; 84 contributing 7 non-contributing buildings, 1 stone bridge and liberty pole site, centerpiece is Liberty Corner Presbyterian Church, built 1868-69, an Italianate structure. |
| Lyons Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District | Entered in State Register April 29, 2013 (ID #2476) | Entered in National Register July 3, 2013 (NR Reference #13000461) | |

A Brief History of Bernards Township

Bernards Township is where the following events occurred:

- The Rev. George Whitefield, English evangelist, preached to 3,000 people under the white oak tree of the Presbyterian Church, during the Great Awakening of 1740.
- Lord Stirling (William Alexander) built his palatial estate, Stirling Manor, here. Local people called it The Buildings, because of its size; the road was called Building Lane.
- Washington and Lafayette picnicked and colonial troops rested under the old oak tree in Basking Ridge Presbyterian Churchyard.
- Young men attended a small private academy, entered the College of New Jersey and became prominent in State and National history.
- Uniforms were sewn for the Northern soldiers during the Civil War and four years after the war, the Chief Surgeon of the Union Army built a home two blocks away. Also, axles for the mess wagons onto the battlefields were made in a hub and spoke factory here.
• Liberty Corner was a popular summer resort, with vacationers staying at local homesteads and dairy farms. A carriage would meet guests at the Lyons depot.
• Governor Woodrow Wilson made a speech on the village green in Basking Ridge prior to World War II.
• Colonel John Jacob Astor IV donated stones to build the Methodist Church, 14 years before he perished in the sinking of the Titanic in 1912.
• Samuel Owen of Newark, a pharmaceutical magnate, built his English Tudor mansion in 1912, now Town Hall.

The Lenni-Lenape Indians, a branch of the Delaware (part of the Algonquin Nation) were the first known inhabitants of the Bernards Township area. Scattered throughout are traces of these people: arrowheads, tomahawks, hearthstones, hammerheads and camp rubble, which indicate long occupation. One of the most widely used Indian areas was near Madisonville Road—a major campsite was the present AT&T location on North Maple Avenue. A burial ground is known to have existed on the east side of Childs Road on the hillside across from the Indian Graves Brook.

The area was purchased by John Harrison, agent of King James II of England in 1717, from Chief Nowenoik of the Lenapes, a real estate package of 3,000 acres for $50. The remainder of the Township’s land was bought later that year by William Penn. Early settlers were Scotch, Irish and English. Harrison’s Purchase or Harrison’s Neck was the property’s designation. In 1733 the name Basking Ridge first appeared in ecclesiastic records of the Presbyterian Church and is recorded as being derived from the fact that “the wild animals of the adjacent lowlands were accustomed to bask in the warm sun of this beautiful ridge.” Baskeridge and Baskenridge were commonly used.

By 1740 a list of settlers included names as Alward, Annin, Conkling, Cross, Dayton, and Lewis. At the time of the American Revolution, as many as 100 men from Bernards answered the call to arms. Revolutionary troops came from Bound Brook through Annin’s Corner and Basking Ridge en route to Morristown. During this time, a liberty pole was placed on the village green, with Annin’s Corner renamed Liberty Corner. Basking Ridge was thought to be a secure place from the British Army as it was only seven miles away from the center of Washington’s army at Jockey Hollow. General Charles Lee, second in command, was captured by British forces at the Widow White’s Tavern in December, 1776. (This is at the corner of Colonial Drive and South Finley Avenue.) A local street, Old Army Road, was so named because it was the path trod through the country from Jockey Hollow to the Vealtown Tavern in Bernardsville by American troops.

In 1750 a classical school, designed to prepare young men for college, was established in Basking Ridge by Dr. Samuel Kennedy, fourth pastor of the Presbyterian Church, and later run by his successor, Dr. Robert Finley. The school, known as the Basking Ridge Classical School for almost 50 years, was conducted in the ministers’ homes. Through contributions and partly at Dr. Finley’s expense, the Brick Academy was built in 1809. Pupils came from many other states, as well as New Jersey; residents provided lodgings. The Academy was know as having contributed more men “to the bench, the bar and the pulpit”. Students entered
their junior year at the College of New Jersey (Princeton University). Among the
Academy students were Samuel Southard, governor of New Jersey, U.S. Senate
president and acting vice-president under President Tyler; William Lewis Dayton,
vice-presidential candidate with John C. Fremont in 1856, and President Lincoln’s
Minister to France during the Civil War; Robert Field Stockton, hero of the Mexican
War; Theodore Frelinghuysen, U.S. Senator, vice-presidential candidate with Henry
Clay in 1844 and president of Rutgers College.

There are twelve Houses of Worship of nine denominations. The Township
has two historic districts: Franklin Corners and Liberty Corner. There are eight
listings on the State and National Registers: The Brick Academy, Basking Ridge
Presbyterian Church, Van Dorn Mill, Coffee House Corners (Turner Homestead),
Chimney Ash Farm (Alward Homestead), Lord Stirling Estate out-buildings, and the
two historic districts.

Two transportation-related events changed Bernards Township. In 1872 the
railroad completed, opening the area to those who wished to live in the country and work in
the metropolitan environment. Almost 100 years later, construction of Route 287
and later Route 78, two Interstate Highways, made commuting much easier for
those seeking to live in residential climate.

Liberty Corner, settled since 1722, still maintains its gentle rural
atmosphere. However, large housing developments are under construction in that
village. In the later part of the 19th Century it was famous for its summer resorts.

Bernards Township Town Hall
Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, New Jersey

High on the ridge encircled on three sides by public roads stands an English
Tudor style mansion. Built in 1912, this Basking Ridge landmark was the home of
four wealthy families--Owen, Lee, Bissell and Astor, before it was purchased by
Bernards Township in 1968. Commonly called the Astor Mansion after its last
owner, this is the Bernards Township seat of government. The original choice 100
acres have a commanding view of Collyer Lane, South Finley Avenue and South
Maple Avenue. The entire tract extended to the northern boundary of Homestead
Village and included what is now War Memorial Field, plus the properties of Cedar
Hill School and Ridge High School.

This residence, built of brick laid in Flemish bond, was the dream of Samuel
Owen of Newark, a pharmaceutical manufacturer and gentleman farmer. The
manor house contained 20 rooms, had an attached servants’ quarters for the head
outside man, an unfinished third floor storage and servants’ quarters, an attached
three stall garage and a small building for garden equipment. There also were two auxiliary structures on the grounds—a gate or carriage house on South Finley Avenue and the estate manager’s cottage on South Maple Avenue.

The Owens named their new home, “Cedar Hill” and spent six months there and the remainder in Newark. Alice Burford Owen was related to Sir James Horlick, president of Horlick Malted Milk Products. To reflect his wife’s British ancestry, Mr. Owen attempted to reproduce an English country home with beautiful brick-walled formal gardens, a rambler rose-covered arbor and a rose garden. A handsome native stone wall surrounded the entire acreage.

Features of the house include a red tiled roof, French and pocket doors, mahogany and birdseye maple paneling, etched crystal and brass wall sconces, unique moldings, green and rare red marble fireplaces with large marble hearths. The Owen family crest appears on the fireplace wall in the crystal chandeliered dining room. Townspeople were invited to picnic in Owen’s woods; 35 acres were planted with 5,000 peach and 1,500 apple trees. Cedar Hill Farm provided summer jobs for local students and at harvest time, for residents.

Trustees of the Owen estate sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. George Ludlow Lee Sr. in 1940. Mr. Lee was owner/treasurer of the Red Devil Tool Company of Irvington, 1937-1950; he later became chairman of the board, renamed Red Devil, Inc., now at Union, N.J. Mr. Lee served on the Bernards Township Planning Board and was its vice-chairman in 1944. He and his wife, Dulcinea Harrison Smith Lee, continued operation of the flourishing fruit farm, where local markets and roadside stands were supplied with the produce.

In 1946, 28 acres were divided into two tracts: 11.3 acres Lee retained in its natural state; 17 acres including the house were sold to Eugene V.N. Bissell and Zita Gatlin Bissell. John Jacob Astor VI bought the smaller tract of 11.3 acres from Lee in 1947. In the mid-50s, Lee donated 60 acres of land to Bernards Township Board of Education to build Cedar Hill School and Ridge High School with their associated athletic fields. An additional 12 acres were sold to the Neill Card Post #114, American Legion, War Memorial Foundation, for its field on South Maple Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Bissell renamed the estate “Maple Way” and lived there from 1946-1950. Mr. Bissell was executive vice-president of the Continental Grain Company in New York City. They sold the property to John Jacob Astor VI in 1950. Mr. Astor acquired an additional 17 acres from the Bissells, adding to his original 11.3 from the Lees. He lived in the mansion infrequently, but employed a staff to run it. Vacated in 1960, it remained unoccupied for eight years before Bernards Township purchased the hilltop house and 28 acres for $140,000 in 1968. (Mr. Astor was the son born posthumously to Colonel John Jacob Astor IV, who perished in the sinking of the Titanic in 1912.)

An addition to the mansion (a new police wing in 1974) and further remodeling paved the way for the relocation of Bernards Township’s government,
which had been housed in an 1809 Federal style school house on West Oak Street. In 1975 for the first time Township offices were in a centralized location.

This picturesque real estate is almost entirely surrounded by public and semi-public lands. To the rear is the Board of Education property; across Collyer Lane is the St. James Church and School; and on the opposite side of South Maple Avenue is Lord Stirling Park, which includes the Somerset County Environmental Education Center and Riding Stables, covering almost 1,000 acres.