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Bernards Township 2019 Profile

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

2018 Municipal Budget $39,264,272.47

2018 Library Budget $2,399,932

2018 Tax Levy: $136,483,148.52
County $22,350,445.81, School $89,693,941.00
County Open Space $2,114,537.87, Municipal $19,924,291.84
Library $2,399,932.00

2018 Tax Rate/$100: $2.005
County $.329, School $1.317, County Open Space $.032
Municipal $.292, 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
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><strong>1 Collyer Lane</strong></td>
<td><strong>277 S. Maple Avenue</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basking Ridge, NJ</strong></td>
<td><strong>Basking Ridge, NJ</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phone:</strong> 908-766-2510</td>
<td><strong>Phone:</strong> 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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BERNARDS TOWNSHIP LIBRARY</th>
<th>COMMUNITY SERVICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>32 S. Maple Avenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>31 Stonehouse Road</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</strong></td>
<td><strong>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phone 908-204-3031</strong></td>
<td><strong>Phone 908-766-9748</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Meeting Schedule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<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
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**
  - [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
Basking Ridge Post Office  908-766-0611  21 Brownlee Place
                        Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
Liberty Corner Post Office  908-647-0841  8 Church Street
                        Liberty Corner, NJ 07938

Utilities
Cable/Internet  www.cablevision.com  Cablevision
                732-356-1300 or 908-766-5008
                https://www.verizon.com/local/new-jersey-fios/
                        1-800-837-4966
                        Verizon
Electric  www.firstenergycorp.com  JCP&L (First Energy)
                800-545-7741
Garbage  www.kohlerwasteservices.com  K.W.S. (Kohler Waste Services)
                908-903-9031
                www.republicservices.com  Republic Services
                        800-273-7539
                        http://www.pintoserviceinc.com/
                        908-561-8231  Pinto Bros.
                        www.raritandisposal.com  Raritan Valley Disposal
                                1-800-342-5783
Gas  www.pseg.com  Public Service Electric/Gas Co.
                                1-800-436-7734
Recycling  www.co.somerset.nj.us/recycle  Somerset County Recycling Program
                        732-469-3363
Sewer  Sewerage Authority  Bernards Twp. Sewerage Authority
                                908-204-3020 (Administrative)
                                908-647-2460 (Plant)
                                908-204-3078 (Payment)
Telephone  www.cablevision.com  Cablevision
                        732-356-1300 or
                        908-766-5008
                        www.verizon.net
                                1-800-837-4966  Verizon
Water  www.amwater.com  New Jersey-American Water Company
                                1-800-652-6987
## Schools

### Public Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Corner</td>
<td>K-5</td>
<td><a href="http://libertycorner.bernards.boe.com">http://libertycorner.bernards.boe.com</a></td>
<td>908-204-2550</td>
<td>61 Church Street</td>
<td>Liberty Corner, NJ 07938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Annin</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td><a href="http://williamannin.bernards.boe.com">http://williamannin.bernards.boe.com</a></td>
<td>908-204-2610</td>
<td>70 Quincy Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset County Vocational &amp; Technical Schools</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.scvths.org">www.scvths.org</a></td>
<td>908-526-8900</td>
<td>14 Vogt Dr., P.O.B. 6350</td>
<td>Bridgewater, NJ 08807</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Private Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albrook Montessori School</td>
<td>Ages 2-12</td>
<td><a href="http://www.albrookschool.org">www.albrookschool.org</a></td>
<td>908-580-0661</td>
<td>361-A Somerville Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnie Brae</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.bonnie-brae.org">www.bonnie-brae.org</a></td>
<td>908-647-0800</td>
<td>Valley Road , P.O.B. 369</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lord Stirling Special Education</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.lordstirling.org">www.lordstirling.org</a></td>
<td>908-766-1786</td>
<td>Lord Stirling Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pingry School</td>
<td>Grades 7-12</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pingry.org">www.pingry.org</a></td>
<td>908-647-5555</td>
<td>Martinsville Road, P.O.B. 366</td>
<td>Martinsville, NJ 08836</td>
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</table>
**Pre-Schools**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Website/Mail ID</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albrook Montessori School</td>
<td><a href="http://www.albrookschoool.org">www.albrookschoool.org</a></td>
<td>908-580-0661</td>
<td>361-A Somerville Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge</td>
<td>07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chabad Jewish Center Preschool</td>
<td><a href="http://www.chabadcentral.org">www.chabadcentral.org</a></td>
<td>908-604-8844</td>
<td>3048 Valley Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge</td>
<td>07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Corner</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lcpc.org">www.lcpc.org</a></td>
<td>908-647-8401</td>
<td>45 Church Street</td>
<td>Liberty Corner</td>
<td>07938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gentle Shephard Christian Pre-School</td>
<td><a href="http://www.shlc.net/gentle-shepherd-christian-preschool">www.shlc.net/gentle-shepherd-christian-preschool</a></td>
<td>908-766-1430</td>
<td>350 Lake Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge</td>
<td>07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Footprints Learning Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.littlefootprintsnj.com">www.littlefootprintsnj.com</a></td>
<td>908-647-0011</td>
<td>520 King George Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge</td>
<td>07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Montessori</td>
<td><a href="http://www.somersethillsmontessori.org">www.somersethillsmontessori.org</a></td>
<td>908-221-0797</td>
<td>173 Madisonville Road</td>
<td>Basking Ridge</td>
<td>07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunshine Preschool &amp; Infant Care</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@sunshinepreschool.net">info@sunshinepreschool.net</a></td>
<td>908-604-2707</td>
<td>3575 Valley Road</td>
<td>Liberty Corner</td>
<td>07938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Tree House Child Caring Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.thetreehouseinc.org">www.thetreehouseinc.org</a></td>
<td>908-221-1619</td>
<td>1 E. Oak Street</td>
<td>Basking Ridge</td>
<td>07920</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Colleges**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>Website/Phone</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raritan Valley Community College</td>
<td><a href="http://www.raritanval.edu">www.raritanval.edu</a></td>
<td>3575 Valley Road</td>
<td>Liberty Corner</td>
<td>07938</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Houses of Worship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Website/Link</th>
<th>Phone Number</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>908-647-0594</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>908-604-8844</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>908-204-1412</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>908-766-6174</td>
<td>127 W. Oak Street</td>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelical Fellowship Chapel</td>
<td></td>
<td>908-647-1979</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>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presbyterian Church of Liberty Corner</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lcpc.org">www.lcpc.org</a></td>
<td>908-647-0340</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>908-647-7090</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>908-766-2858</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>908-766-0888</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>908-766-0510</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>908-766-1616</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
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.bernardswpregionalchamber.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/greatswamp/  
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  
nnsphpresident@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.  
Bedminsiter, 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>Website/Contact Information</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills YMCA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.somersethillsymca.org">www.somersethillsymca.org</a></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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Historical Society of Somerset Hills</td>
<td><a href="http://www.historicalsocietyofsomersethills.org">www.historicalsocietyofsomersethills.org</a></td>
<td>POB 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>POB 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>77 Liberty Corner Road Far Hills, NJ 07931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Nurse Association of Somerset Hills</td>
<td><a href="http://www.visitingnurse.org">www.visitingnurse.org</a></td>
<td>200 Mt. Airy Road Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Hills Hospice</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mail@visitingnurse.org">mail@visitingnurse.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Club of Bernardsville</td>
<td>908-766-3289</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)

Bernards Township
908-704-9659
600 First Avenue, Suite 3
Raritan, NJ 08869

Affordable Housing
(cjhrc@verizon.net)
www.cjhrc.org

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.lakelandbus.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
(Local Office – Somerville)
www.nj.gov/mvc
1-800-333-3879
10 Roosevelt Place
Somerville, NJ 08876
(Off Rt. 28)

New Jersey Division
of Motor Vehicles
(Inspection Station)
www.nj.gov/mvc
1-888-486-3339
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  
(transportation management agency for Somerset County)  
RideWise Transportation  
908-704-1011  
Somerset County  
20 Grove St.  
Somerville, NJ  08876

Taxi / Limo Services  
908-696-9616  
Cedars Car Service, Inc.  
Basking Ridge, NJ  07920

908-766-6402  
Bernardsville Coach and  
Livery 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  
Kmart, Hillsborough  
908-561-4400  
Ray’s Sport Shop  
908-575-8997  
N. Plainfield  
908-756-1925  
Wal-Mart, Manville  
www.Njfishandwildlife.com  
Wal-Mart, Watchung

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.  
Football /Cheerleading and Boys Lacrosse  
www.ridgeyouthsports.com  
Grades K-8

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

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

Parks and Recreation Facilities

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

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

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

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

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

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

Coakley-Russo Memorial Golf Course (V.A.)  
Valley Road  
9- Honolulu Course – Memberships available.

Dead River Trail  
West of Acken Road, north of  
Wooded area with a rustic trail for walking use only
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Facilities</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  www.bernardslibrary.org  32 S. Maple Avenue  Basking Ridge, NJ  07920
908-204-3031

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>State Register Date</th>
<th>National Register Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alward Farm House (Chimney Ash Farm)</td>
<td>February 5, 1986</td>
<td>March 13, 1986</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>1 Chimney Ash Farm Road  Basking Ridge, NJ  07920</td>
<td>(ID #2468)</td>
<td>(NR Reference #86000388)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>October 24, 1974</td>
<td></td>
<td>Greek Revival style church built in 1839. A stately white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Entered in State Register</td>
<td>Entered in National Register</td>
<td>Notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 E. Oak Street</td>
<td>(ID #2470)</td>
<td>December 31, 1974</td>
<td>oak tree over 600 years old stands in the churchyard where 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>(NR Reference #74001190)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Revolutionary War veterans are buried. Sanctuary, churchyard and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>tree on State and National Registers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boudinot-Southard Farmstead</td>
<td>Entered in State Register</td>
<td>Entered in National Register</td>
<td>Built in 1804, the house is an example of a New Jersey frame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>135 North Maple Ave</td>
<td>September 11, 2009 (ID #4955)</td>
<td>December 18, 2009 (NR Reference #09001101)</td>
<td>farmhouse which later served as a crossroads tavern, meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>(ID #4955)</td>
<td></td>
<td>place and stage coach route.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee House</td>
<td>Entered in State Register</td>
<td>Entered in National Register</td>
<td>Built between 1750 and 1840, the Farmstead and three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Turner Homestead)</td>
<td>March 28, 1977 (ID #2471)</td>
<td>November 7, 1977 (NR Reference #77000906)</td>
<td>historic agricultural structures are part of Old Farmstead Park, a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>214 N. Maple Avenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>36.5 acre property along the Passaic River. The Farmstead’s buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>are early examples of English and modified Dutch framing. The</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Farmstead is site of a classical school founded by the Rev.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Samuel Kennedy; later relocated several times and finally housed in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>the Brick Academy. The 1740 home was also residence of founding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>father of State of NJ, Col. Ephraim Martin. Later home of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>prominent Stelle landowners. Property in agricultural use for more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>than 250 years. Other buildings include large English barn and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wagon barn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead</td>
<td>Entered in State Register</td>
<td>Entered in National Register</td>
<td>Two brick buildings are all that remain of the Lord Stirling/William</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King George Road</td>
<td>June 9, 2003 (ID #4200)</td>
<td>May 5, 2004 (NR Reference #03000868)</td>
<td>Alexander estate. Research has established these were auxiliary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>(ID #4200)</td>
<td>COE: May 14, 2001</td>
<td>buildings related to farm life (granary, farm office, perhaps used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>by domestic servants). Archeological digs are ongoing on site which</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>is owned by the Somerset County Park Commission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lord Stirling Manor Site</td>
<td>Entered in State Register</td>
<td>Entered in National Register</td>
<td>Originally built to house the Basking Ridge Classical School in 1809.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96 Lord Stirling Road</td>
<td>December 1, 1976 (ID #2475)</td>
<td>May 22, 1978 (NR Reference #78001795)</td>
<td>This is the oldest existing Federal style building in Bernards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>(ID #2475)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Township; it was</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Brick Academy</td>
<td>Entered in State Register</td>
<td>Entered in National Register</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 W. Oak Street</td>
<td>November 25, 1975 (ID #2467)</td>
<td>July 21, 1976</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td>(ID #2467)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Districts</td>
<td>Entered in State Register</td>
<td>Entered in National Register</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Corners</td>
<td>December 12, 1974 (ID #2472)</td>
<td>May 12, 1975 (NR Reference #75001159)</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childs Road &amp; Route 202 Basking Ridge, NJ</td>
<td>Entered in State Register August 16, 1991 (ID #2473)</td>
<td>Entered in National Register October 11, 1991 (NR Reference #91001477)</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Corner Historic District</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyons Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District</td>
<td>April 29, 2013 (ID #2476)</td>
<td>July 3, 2013 (NR Reference #13000461)</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151 Knollcroft Rd. Basking Ridge, NJ 07920</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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 Nownoik 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.