

# Historical and Cultural Affairs

The historic preservation and museums newsletter of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.

July 2, 2020 \* Volume 13, Issue 6

## News

**We support the elimination of racial injustice, racism, discrimination, and exclusionary history. We believe that Black lives matter.**

**We strive to practice inclusive history.** History is not a series of one-sided, happy stories. It is a combination of uncomfortable truths, differing perspectives, and difficult narratives. At the John Dickinson Plantation in Dover, for example, we tell the story of the enslaved, indentured, and free Black men, women, and children who worked, and died, on the plantation. We welcome the difficult conversations that come from interpreting the land of a founding father who wrote of freedom and liberty for all while holding human beings in bondage.

**We struggle with how to tell Delaware's more troubling history.** We are stewards of Delaware's history. This history includes stories of pain, courage, and defeat. We will not shrink from the pain of our shared history.

**We are listening.** We want people to be heard and to know that we are listening. Your voices will give shape to how we collect, interpret, preserve, and present history to the public.

**We need your help.** We can't do this on our own. We want to be an active participant in the force for change in our communities.

**We are here.** We will be undeterred in bringing forth diversity in our stories and we want all voices to be heard. We strive to be a safe place for difficult conversations and uncomfortable truths.

**We promise to preserve and share Delaware history, commit to expanding the parameters of that history, and preserve the history of this movement for current and future generations.**

*-Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs*

### Last Delaware whipping post removed from public display

Artifact placed in storage pending development of future exhibits.

[Read more ...](#)

### Race and equity resources

Reference materials from the museum and historic-preservation communities.

[Read more ...](#)

### Declaration of Independence to be read aloud in front of The Old State House on July 4, 2020

Recitations to take place at 2 and 4 p.m.

[Read more ...](#)

### Zwaanendael Museum to hold "Uniquely Lewes" photo contest

Open between July 8 and 15, 2020, contest seeks photos of what makes Lewes unique.

[Read more ...](#)

### Rehabilitation work underway at the Zwaanendael Museum

Project began on June 22, 2020 and will continue for approximately one month.

[Read more ...](#)

## Phase II museum reopening information

Division's museums now open with self-guided tours that allow visitors to experience the history of the First State while continuing to take all recommended steps to safeguard public health.

[Read more ...](#)

[Go here for more news items ...](#)

## Help Save Delaware History

### Grant funds repairs for DAR's Thomas Maull House in Lewes

Cape Gazette, Lewes, Del.—June 11, 2020

\$1,000 award provided by Preservation Fund Inc.

[Read more ...](#)

### No barriers remain to demolition of historic Houston House

Delaware Public Media, Dover, Del.—June 6, 2020

Historic Middletown house built circa 1880.

[Read more ...](#)

### “Partners in Preservation: Planning for the Future—Delaware’s Historic Preservation Plan, 2018–2022”

Document outlines six broad goals for preserving Delaware’s heritage for the future.

[Read more ...](#)

## Media Roundup

The following Delaware history-related articles have recently appeared in the media:

### [Zwaanendael Museum Stays Open During Exterior Improvements](#)

WGMD Radio, Rehoboth Beach, Del.—June 23, 2020

Lewes museum to get a facelift.

### [State-run museums reopen by reservation June 5](#)

Hockessin Community News, Del. —June 4, 2020

Self-guided tours now permitted in accordance with Gov. Carney’s Phase II guidance for reopening the state.

### [Town of history: Founders, patriots and stars have all made their way to New Castle](#)

Jacksonville Daily Times, N.C. —June 4, 2020

Article on Delaware’s first state capital.

### Coverage of the removal of Delaware’s last publicly displayed whipping post

More than a dozen media reports have been published about the July 1, 2020 removal of the whipping post that had been displayed on the grounds of the Old Sussex County Court House in Georgetown, Del. To read the reports, go to the end of the following [blog](#).

### Coverage of the launch of the “At Home Concert Series”

In keeping with coronavirus safety measures, the division presents local musicians performing, without an audience, at historic sites across the First State. For press reports about the series, go to the end of the following [blog](#).

## Events, exhibits and displays

In keeping with Gov. Carney’s [Phase II guidance](#) for reopening the state in wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the five museums administered by the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs are open for self-guided tours via reservation only. Go to the following for [information](#).

To explore Delaware history online, go to the [Delaware Digital History Museum](#).



## Historical and Cultural Affairs

The historic-preservation and museums newsletter of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.

Historical and Cultural Affairs is designed to stimulate public interest in the division's museums, programs and services, and to increase awareness of the value that history and historic preservation bring to the lives of Delaware's citizens and visitors. The newsletter is distributed during the last week of each month, via e-mail, to division staff members, Delaware's historical- and preservation-related communities and friends. Please submit relevant articles, news items and suggestions to Jim Yurasek, newsletter editor, at [jim.yurasek@delaware.gov](mailto:jim.yurasek@delaware.gov).

### [Non-Discrimination Statement and Acknowledgement of Support](#)

If you would like to be added to, or removed from, the e-newsletter mailing list, please e-mail the editor.

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