In late August the Society concluded the $181,500 purchase of a two-acre section of the Morris Canal, which will be permanently preserved as an historic site and pocket park. Located in Port Morris, Roxbury Township, the property once contained a large basin at the head of Plane 1 West and is adjacent to the former DL&WRR Port Morris rail yard, now part of New Jersey Transit.

The acquisition was made possible through a $90,750 Green Acres grant, a matching $90,750 from the Morris County Preservation Trust and approximately $20,000 in funds from Roxbury Township. The municipal funds covered the cost of an appraisal, environmental assessments, surveys, and other expenses associated with the property closing. Throughout the more than two year land acquisition process Professor Charles Auffant and many of his student attorneys from Rutgers Law School in Newark provided pro bono services to bring the land purchase to a successful conclusion. An astonishing number of roadblocks were encountered that at times threatened to kill the project. The Canal Society expresses its great appreciation to Rutgers Law School Professor Auffant and his students who diligently stuck with our land deal to bring it to a successful conclusion! With his usual good sense of humor Professor Auffant noted that “…the Canal Society’s land purchase was a wonderful learning exercise for my students since just about every possible complication associated with a land purchase was encountered!”

We also want to acknowledge Green Acres for its funding support, and especially Lisa Stern from the Green Acres Program, who was extremely helpful in guiding our project through the state funding process. We are also very grateful to the Morris County Preservation Trust for its generous funding support and to Morris County Open Space Program Coordinator, Barbara Murray who was especially

(Continued on page 2)
helpful and supportive throughout the acquisition process. Roxbury Township has been a wonderful partner in helping the Society implement the Morris Canal Greenway and we greatly appreciate their financial contribution to the project as well. Canal Society Director Laura Szwak also coordinated many aspects of the project. All of these agencies and individuals were crucial to our ultimate success in concluding the canal preservation project!

**Preserves Another Piece of the Morris Canal!**

(Continued from page 1)

survive and today are sought after by collectors. Tonight our presentation will feature examples of Morris Canal & Banking currency and stock certificates along with some of the history behind them.

Harry Rescigno is one of the Canal Society Directors, is a member of the Society’s Morris Canal Greenway Committee and is an avid collector of historic currencies. In fact, he makes his living with a company that trades in historic international currencies. Harry is a member of several coin clubs and is a lecturer on the numismatic circuit.

Friday – November 19, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. – Refreshments at 7:10

**Exploring the Delaware & Raritan Canal’s Bordentown Outlet Lock**

Richard Hunter and James Lee III

Bordentown and Crosswicks Creek were once bustling with marine commerce associated with the southern terminus of the Delaware & Raritan Canal. An early masonry lock provided access between the tidal creek and the canal and in later years was replaced by a timber crib lock which still remains very much in evidence to this day. In fact it is one of the more intact historic timber canal locks in the region. Surrounding the locks was a complex of support buildings, including a canal company office, toll collection site and a locktender’s house and shed.

At present the area surrounding the locks is densely overgrown. Last May the Canal Society sponsored a public boat ride which entered into the timber lock during high tide. As part of plans for reclaiming the lock and vicinity as part of the Delaware & Raritan Canal State Park, Hunter Research has been conducting historical research and archeological investigations. The State plans on improving the towpath as a public recreational trail and erecting a pedestrian bridge over the historic timber outlet lock. Richard Hunter and Jim Lee III have been exploring the archeological remains surrounding the lock and the lock itself to recommend stabilization measures. Tonight’s presentation will discuss the fascinating history of this end of the D&R Canal and the archeological discoveries that have been revealed during the recent project.

Richard Hunter, Ph.D. is the President/Principal Archeologist of Hunter Research, a highly respected, New Jersey-based consulting firm offering a full range of cultural resource services to public and private clients throughout the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern US. Richard has specific expertise in historical and industrial archeology, histori-
This past June 26th the Canal Society’s Annual Waterloo Canal Day welcomed nearly 700 members of the public for programming celebrating the rich Morris Canal heritage of historic Waterloo. Once again we were able to open Smith’s Store and the Rutan Cabin for public visitation and interpretation. The Society has greatly enhanced both buildings with more period appropriate furnishings to facilitate their interpretation to the public.

Another exciting new attraction this year was the Blacksmith Shop. Society volunteers cleaned up and catalogued the contents of the shop, enabling it to be opened for tours and public demonstrations of blacksmithing. We have been extremely fortunate to have Andy Drysdale and Bruce Hartnett as volunteer blacksmiths who have been providing outstanding interpretive demonstrations of the blacksmithing trade and specifically how the Waterloo shop serviced the adjacent Morris Canal. More new additions this year were a Canal History & Technology Exhibit in the White Barn behind the Society’s New Jersey Canal Museum and an exhibit delineating the full footprint of the Lock 3 West lock/aqueduct adjacent to Smith’s Store.

Once again we were able to offer the Society’s room-size traveling exhibit on New Jersey’s canals, tours of our New Jersey Canal Museum, interpretive boat rides on our pontoon boat on the canal, Richard Pawling portraying canal boat captain John Hummel, and guided walking tours along the main street of the village and of the canal sites. The public could also enjoy games of the 19th century and a Civil War encampment.

We were pleased to once again have Waterloo United Methodist Church open its doors for tours, provide lunch and snack foods throughout the day for the public, and cater the Society’s annual membership picnic in the evening.

We greatly appreciate the dozens of Society volunteers who worked throughout the day to not only make Canal Day possible but to make it a great success! We are also very grateful to carpenter/contractor Ken Dunham who provided his pro bono services to set up the White Barn carriage house with our Canal History & Technology Exhibit and to make it easily acces-(Continued on page 5)
The purpose of the Morris Canal Greenway is to preserve the surviving historic remains of the Morris Canal and its associated natural environment, to interpret canal sites to the public, and to offer recreational opportunities. The Greenway is an ongoing project of the Canal Society and is being implemented under the guidance of the Society’s Morris Canal Greenway Committee.

In addition to the activities at Waterloo and Port Morris, the Society has been actively working on the following projects:

**Allamuchy Township**

The Canal Society’s feasibility study along the Saxton Lake portion of the Morris Canal is nearly complete, with the finishing touches being inserted in the final draft report. This study was undertaken by Connelly & Hickey Historical Architects and was funded by a $39,000 New Jersey Historic Trust grant and an additional $13,000 in matching funds, raised by the Society through member donations. The Society is now planning to submit a new application to the Trust, seeking funding for the compilation of stabilization plans for the former lock tender’s house at the site of Lock 4 West. This house is very deteriorated and is one of a handful of surviving Morris Canal locktender’s dwellings. State Parks has expressed an interest in investing in the stabilization of the building and needs the required plans detailing how to proceed with the project. The Canal Society hopes to be successful in attracting funding for this project, which will represent another step in advancing the enhancement of the outstanding canal sites at Saxton Lake.

**Roxbury Township**

The municipality has been the recent recipient of a $30,000 grant from the Morris County Preservation Trust to continue historic preservation work at the remarkably intact Plane 2 East site in Ledgewood’s Canal Park. The project will develop the design for installing solar-powered lighting to illuminate the subterranean turbine chamber, reseating the stone block bases for flume supports, repairing stone walls along the edges of the tailrace and bypass channels, and addressing general landscaping issues.

The Roxbury Historic Trust has just completed a major project to entirely replace the slate roof on the historic King Canal Store on Main Street, Ledgewood. This remarkably intact canal store has been the focus of the Trust for decades and is being carefully restored by the organization. The Trust is currently applying for additional funding from the New Jersey Historic Trust to continue more restoration work on the exterior of the building.

In yet another initiative, the Roxbury Township Historic Advisory Committee is applying for funding to prepare the nomination form to have the Main Street area of Ledgewood placed on the National and New Jersey Registers of Historic Places. Many Morris Canal related sites and structures are contained in this area, in addition to buildings that were present during the waterway’s operation.

**Borough of Wharton**

The next step toward restoration of Lock 2 East in Hugh Force Park is underway as bids are being sought to unearth and repair/partially reconstruct a portion of the lock’s masonry walls. This project is being funded by a $582,000 grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and NJDOT’s FY2010 Capital Projects fund. We look forward with excitement to see more of the buried lock unearthed and restored!
WATERLOO CANAL DAY

(Continued from page 3)

sible to the public. Ken also greatly helped with the Lock 3 West exhibit. Finally, we are very grateful to be able to once again partner with the New Jersey State Park Service and DEP to co-sponsor Waterloo Canal Day. We especially acknowledge State Park Superintendent Helen Maurella and her staff for tirelessly working to make the village ready for the event!

…at least in Stanhope

For approximately the past two years the section of the Morris Canal along Main Street, and the side branch of the canal in back of the Post Office, have been sitting drained and full of muck and weeds. These sections of the Morris Canal were among the few lengths of prism that remained water-filled after the State’s dismantling of the overall waterway in the 1920s. Water had to be maintained in the Stanhope portion of the canal due to water rights that were still owned by the industry located at the site of the historic iron furnaces.

The branch canal behind the Post Office is remarkably well preserved and contains the most intact stop gate and waste gate structures along the entire length of the Morris Canal. A turning basin is located at the end of the branch canal. The branch canal and its historic remains are owned by the Division of Parks & Forestry; the section of canal along Main Street is owned by the municipality.

In about 2008 the borough drained the sections of the Morris Canal in Stanhope due to their concerns about the condition of a concrete pipe that feeds water into the canal prism. This pipe has recently been examined with remote-controlled cameras and found to be in reasonable condition. After some removal of debris from the canal bed, water flow was restored and the canal was once again full. It is exciting to see the canal flowing once again in downtown Stanhope, especially since the canal and the local ironworks it promoted were such important factors in the community’s development.
The recent special appeal to Society membership has raised just over $5,000! These funds are critical to enable the Society to maintain its programming and meet its operational costs as we continue to strive toward keeping Waterloo alive, implementing the Morris Canal Greenway, caring for our collection and seeking new sources of funding to sustain these and other endeavors. We greatly appreciate the dedication and support of our members!

**Directions to the Morris County Cultural Center**

**From the Morristown Green,** turn right onto Washington St (County Route 510, formerly NJ Route 24). Travel 3.5 miles west toward Chester. Pass the roads to the Delbarton School and Lewis Morris County Park on the left. After the curve and long white picket fence, look for a sign for the MUA on the right, pointing toward the driveway, which is marked by a street light and lighted directional sign. Make a sharp left turn and drive uphill to a Spanish-style stucco building at the top. Parking is in the lot to the left at the top of the hill. Once inside the main entrance hall of the Cultural Center, the auditorium is to the left. Restrooms are upstairs, with elevator access.

**From Route 287 South,** take Exit 35, Madison Ave. Turn right at the top of the ramp onto Madison Ave (Route 124). Bear right at the next light onto South Street, continue straight through a series of traffic lights and around the Morristown Green. Turn right onto Washington St. (County Route 510, formerly Route 24). Continue as described above.

**From Route 287 North,** take Exit 35, South Street/Madison Ave. At the end of the ramp, turn left onto South St, continue straight through several lights and travel around the Morristown Green. Turn right onto Washington St, (County Route 510, formerly Route 24). Continue as described above.

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**ON THE LEVEL**

**THE CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY**

PO Box 737, Morristown, New Jersey

**ON THE LEVEL** is published three times a year by the Canal Society of New Jersey.

**Canal Society Administrative Assistant, Phyllis Stanaback – 908-832-2888**

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**MEETINGS**

(Continued from page 2)

cal geography and historic landscape analysis. His firm has conducted many projects relating to the D&RG Canal and Trenton’s historic industries, including the city’s famous potteries and its early steel works.

Jim Lee III is an archeologist with Hunter Research and is following in the footsteps of his well-known grandfather, Morris Canal historian Jim Lee.

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**THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS!**

The recent special appeal to Society membership has raised just over $5,000! These funds are critical to enable the Society to maintain its programming and meet its operational costs as we continue to strive toward keeping Waterloo alive, implementing the Morris Canal Greenway, caring for our collection and seeking new sources of funding to sustain these and other endeavors. We greatly appreciate the dedication and support of our members!

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

As the Canal Society becomes involved in more activities we need more hands to help out! Many opportunities are available – Waterloo programs, the Morris Canal Greenway project, our sales program, organizing our collection, etc. You don’t need to be an expert to help out. Please consider joining us for our expanding activities! Let us know about your interest by either calling Phyllis Stanaback at 908-832-2888 or e-mailing her at rstanaback@aol.com.
The Society is well underway in implementing its 2010 season of Canal Heritage Days at Waterlooo in partnership with the New Jersey State Park Service. Heritage Days are being held on the second and fourth Saturdays of July through October. So far this season the Canal Heritage Days have attracted nearly 600 people. The visitors continue to represent a wide cross section of age groups and all are expressing great gratitude to the Society for our efforts to keep the village alive and to make it open and available to the public on at least a limited basis.

The Heritage Days continue to offer electric motor-powered pontoon boat rides on the Morris Canal; tours of the interiors of Smith’s Store, the New Jersey Canal Museum, the Rutgers Cabin, the Blacksmith Shop, and a Canal History and Technology exhibit; our traveling exhibit on New Jersey’s canals, walking tours of the village and the canal sites, and a visit to the Lenape Village on Indian Island.

The Society’s goals for the Canal Heritage Days are to help keep Waterlooo alive, accessible to the public, and to continue to emphasize the unique and wonderful Morris Canal heritage present at the village. The Heritage Days are a terrific opportunity for us to reach large numbers of the public with interpretation about the Morris Canal and Waterlooo as an historic canal town. We are very grateful for our partnerships with the State Park Service and NJDEP that are making the Canal Heritage Days possible! We also are greatly appreciative for the volunteer time of many of our members who are staffing the buildings at the village, providing walking tours, crewing the pontoon boat and engaging the public in other activities.

The next Canal Heritage Days will be held on September 11 and 25 and October 9 and 23 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help on these days at the entrance gate, at the boat ride, at the various open buildings and to lead tours. Interested parties are encouraged to contact Phyllis Stanaback at 908-832-2888 to offer their services. Volunteering at the village is a great and fulfilling experience!

Visitors to a Canal Heritage Day enjoy reading one of the Society’s interpretive signs, strategically placed around the village.
A N N U A L  W H A R T O N  C A N A L  D A Y  
C E L E B R A T E S  T H E  M O R R I S  C A N A L

Once again Wharton Canal Day, held this past August 21st, drew a large crowd to its various booths, exhibits and concert stages. One of the big attractions throughout the day was the Canal Society’s pontoon boat ride on the one-quarter-mile section of the canal in Hugh Force Park. It is estimated that approximately 160 people went on the boat ride during the event, learning about the history of the canal. Concurrent with the boat rides were horse-drawn wagon rides along the canal towpath, guided walking tours of the canal site and canoeing and kayaking on the canal. It was a great day with much activity along the historic Morris Canal!

CANAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

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Canal Society exhibit and sales table at Wharton Canal Day.

ANNUAL WHARTON CANAL DAY
CELEBRATES THE MORRIS CANAL

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Canal Society exhibit and sales table at Wharton Canal Day.

Upcoming Meetings will be available at:
Waterloo Tee-shirts
Canal Society of New Jersey