



## **2017 Grants awarded for the benefit of the Abraham Staats House**

The Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission has awarded 2 grants from New Jersey Historical Commission under the County History Partnership Program for the calendar year 2017. One was awarded to the Friends of Abraham Staats House, Inc. (FASH) to support 2 projects arising from our 2015 Interpretive Plan: A Collection Management and new marketing materials, including a brochure. The other grant was awarded to Borough of South Bound Brook, owners of the Abraham Staats House, to develop a Furnishing Plan for 2 rooms; the South Parlor and the Southwest Bedroom. See below for more details about the projects under the grants.

### **Friends of Abraham Staats House, Inc. (FASH)**

The two projects to be funded will help us align with the 2015 Interpretive Plan that moves the Abrahams Staats forward into the next phase of implementing a house museum offering interpreted rooms and improvements to the grounds and outbuildings designed to provide an appealing, deepened historical educational experience for the public.

The grant will help provide for a consultant to assist with the development of a FASH Collections Management Policy so that we can properly acquire through donations and purchase the objects that will be needed for furnishing and operating the house, and also provide a process for cataloguing and caring for these objects. The grant will also help fund a consultant to update and redesign our brochure and provide guidance on other graphic/design elements so that we can provide cohesive, appealing information in a number of ways to the public as recommended in the 2015 Interpretive Plan.

### **Borough of South Bound Brook, Owner of the Abraham Staats House**

The grant funding will allow the hiring of a historic furnishings expert to develop a Furnishings Plan for two rooms in the Abraham Staats House for the South Bound Brook Historic Preservation Advisory Commission. The plan will cover Room 102 [South Parlor] and Room 104 [Southwest Bedroom], in the central portion of the Abraham Staats House in South Bound Brook, New Jersey. The rooms will be furnished to illustrate two key eras in the history of the house: Room 102 will focus on the house in 1779 when it served as the headquarters of General von Steuben during the second Middlebrook Encampment. Room 104 will depict the continued residence of the Staats family during the first quarter of the 19th century. The Furnishings Plan will create rooms representative of living and work spaces used by the Staats family during the American Revolution as well as the later Federal period.

For more information about the Abraham Staats House:

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The Friends of the Abraham Staats House, Inc. received an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.

