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Historian's Report for activity in August 2025

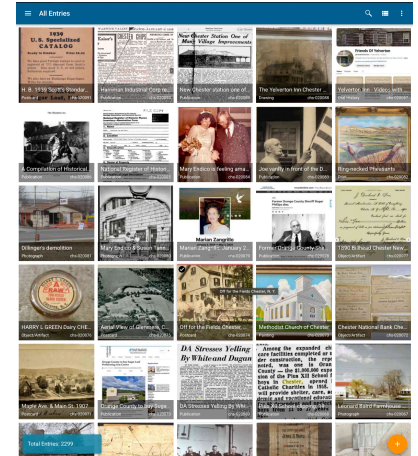
Dear Supervisor Holdridge and Board Members of the Town of Chester:

In cooperation with Chester Historical Society, I continued in our efforts, to post items from Chester's history on the Catalogit™ site. Now posted are 2,299 items, of which 1,081 are publicly accessible at: < <https://hub.catalogit.app/chester-historical-society> >.

I contacted several officials and organizations in the effort to safeguard the historically significant Yelverton Inn and Store properties the Village of Chester.



With the permission from Renee Arnold-O'Regan of Orange County DGS, Gina Chiusao and I accompanied Steve Reilly, AIA of Thaler Reilly Wilson Architecture & Preservation, of Albany, NY, during his survey of the exterior of Maple Ave. School on August 1st. Mr. Reilly's firm is seeking to provide their services to the County for the adaptive reuse of the School Building.



I took Basil LeBlanc from Loveland, Colorado, on a tour of Chester's 1915 Erie Train Station on August 15th. I also suggested he check out Baird's Tavern in Warwick, where his relative, Polly Van Duzer, once lived.

On August 16, I provided George Musser, Jr., a historian based in Glen Ridge, New Jersey, with information and documents pertaining to Cornelius Board, a pioneering figure in the establishment of iron mining in the Ramapo region. The documents also addressed the substantial influence of Board's numerous Chester descendants on the area.

I assisted Nicole Nazzaro of the Orange County Historian's Office in tracking down the principal investigators of the 1994 study "Archaeology of the Rhoades Site, A Mid-19th Century Household from the Delaware & Hudson Canal Era." This survey was conducted by the State Museum in preparation for a project undertaken by the New York State Department of Transportation aimed at enhancing NY 209 and constructing a bridge across the Neversink River.

Respectfully submitted,

Cc: Linda Zappala, Town Clerk, Town of Chester.
Aaron Lefkowitz, Historian, Village of Chester