



THE WILLIAM PATERSON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
300 POMPTON ROAD • WAYNE • 07470

Office of Information and Publication Services
Morrison Hall
(201) 881-2110

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L. J.*

For further information contact: Dennis Santillo or Celeste Fasone at 881-2110

For Immediate Release

WPC BUILDING IS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

A William Paterson College campus building has been designated a national historic site by the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

Haledon Hall, this year renamed Hobart Manor, in honor of its former owners was proclaimed a state historic site by the Department of Environmental Protection's State Review Committee for Historic Sites earlier this year. It is now entered as Ailsa Farms, its earliest known name, in both the National and State Register of Historic Places.

The 100-year-old building, Paterson's center of social and political activity at the turn of the century, was then occupied by the family of the 24th vice-president of the United States, Garret Hobart.

"We are greatly satisfied that our efforts to achieve lasting national recognition for this unique building, so rich in heritage, have been worthwhile," said Mr. Ron McArthur, WPC's assistant director of admissions and chairman of the WPC Bicentennial Historic Site Committee.

"I hope our success spurs others to apply for similar recognition of other historic landmarks," McArthur added.

The committee, which also included Dr. Ken Job, WPC's Bicentennial activities coordinator, Mrs. Virginia Randall, retired coordinator of Alumni Affairs, and Mrs. Sally Burke, retired college librarian, worked nearly a year researching the tradition of the building. An example of an upper class 19th century home, it's architectural structure was once popular in North Jersey. Hobart Manor is one of the last remaining "Victorian castle's" in the Paterson area. It now houses the college's registrar, admissions, and academic affairs offices.