

# N.J.'s 10 most endangered historic sites for 2015



The 18th century farmhouse on The College of New Jersey's campus was once home to William Green, one of Ewing's earliest settlers. The oldest portion was built in the 1730s and the structure was later enlarged and brought to its current dimensions around 1830. (File photo)



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**TRENTON** — Preservation New Jersey's top 10 most endangered historic sites in the state this year include a dilapidated farmhouse on the grounds of The College of New Jersey, sites in the paths of proposed pipelines and Atlantic City.

The annual list, announced Thursday morning on the steps of the War Memorial in Trenton, is meant to raise awareness and rally support for the state's endangered historic treasures.

"Several challenges face properties of this year's endangered sites list, including neglect and deferred maintenance, threats incurred by proposed gas pipelines, stalled adaptive reuse proposals and lack of adequate historic preservation funding," Preservation New Jersey Vice President Margaret Hickey said. "Although the economy continues to improve, impacts to historic properties and places do not always reflect this, and some are threatened by it."

Preservation New Jersey provides a new list of 10 sites each year.

**From the full 2015 list of endangered sites, with descriptions provided by Preservation New Jersey:**

- **William Green House** (Ewing, Mercer County) — The 18th century farmhouse was once home to William Green, one of Ewing's earliest settlers. The oldest portion was built in the 1730s and the structure was later enlarged and brought to its current dimensions around 1830.

Preservation groups have been working with The College of New Jersey for 40 years to restore the building, which housed college employees until the mid 1970s. It was then when a plan to restore it as conference space for TCNJ was scrapped. The idea was revisited again in the 1990s but the project was not funded.

In 2006, TCNJ stabilized the building with plans to eventually reuse it as an alumni reception center. Construction costs were estimated at \$2 million in 2012 and Friends of the Green House made plans to raise funds and apply for grants to save it.

In March, TCNJ announced it would not endorse a fundraising effort or commit to any future use of the house.

"It's been a roller coaster. Several times we think everything has been decided," said Anne McArthur, vice president of the Friends of the William Green Farmhouse. "We really would like the college to reverse its decision and give us some support so we can reach out to the community to help us save this National Register building."