



PRESS RELEASE

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NJMSC/NJSG Headquarters Restoration Recognized by Federal and State Officials

Sandy Hook, NJFederal and State leaders, including Congressman Frank Pallone (NJ 6th District) and Senator Sean Kean (NJ 11th District), participated in a special ceremony on July 12 to celebrate the first and only full exterior restoration of one of the key historical structures in Sandy Hook's Historic Fort Hancock District. The restoration of Barracks Building #22 by the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium/New Jersey Sea Grant, (NJMSC/NJSG) in partnership with the NJ Historic Trust Foundation and the National Park Service at Sandy Hook is being heralded an architectural renovation model for other non-park system groups and organizations at the Historic Fort Hancock section of Sandy Hook. The project has already received a restoration award from the Monmouth County Historical Commission.

The special gathering of guests and press included an official ribbon-cutting, the presentation of a joint-resolution by Senator Kean (11th District) and a mini-tour of the building by National Park Service Historian Tom Hoffman.

In presenting the joint Senate/Assembly resolution to NJMSC/NJSG Executive Director Claire Antonucci, Senator Kean praised the project and recognized the merits and significance of the independent year-long restoration effort "This project here today should be a footprint for what we can do with some of the other barrack buildings at Sandy Hook".

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Antonucci told the small audience of dignitaries and invited guests “We hope this project will inspire other groups like us to know that it is possible—not easy—but possible to bring these buildings back to life and use them in new and meaningful ways that complement Sandy Hook’s precious environment.”

U.S. Congressman Frank Pallone (6th District) who worked as a Coastal Law Specialist for the NJMSC/NJSG Extension Program early in his career, was also on hand to congratulate the organization and tour the building. Pallone has been a long-time supporter of dedicating federal dollars to restore and preserve Sandy Hook’s historic structures.

Now that this exterior phase of the restoration is complete, NJMSC/NJSG plans to continue seeking public and private funds and partners for additional restoration phases to fully restore the structure.

NJMSC/NJSG is an affiliation of colleges, universities and other groups dedicated to advancing knowledge and stewardship of New Jersey’s marine and coastal environment. It meets its mission through its innovative research, education and outreach programs. For more information visit njmsc.org.

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Cutline w/photo: (left to right) Dr. Howard Parish, NJMSC/NJSG Vice Chairman, Pete McCarthy Unit Coordinator of the National Park Service Gateway Sandy Hook Unit , Senator Sean Kean, NJMSC/NJSG Executive Director Claire Antonucci, Guy Hembling, President, Charles B. Hembling and Son construction, Robert DeSantis, of Kaplan, Gaunt and DeSantis Architects and Deb Meehan, NJMSC/NJSG Corporate Secretary and Building #22 Restoration Project Manager

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