

To Help Build A Part of Monmouth County's History Purchase A Brick!

A historic event took place in Freehold Borough on June 27, 2003. A purchase of Monmouth County's history – the original "Columbia Triumphant" statue, once mounted atop the Battle of Monmouth Monument on Court and Monument Streets – was returned to her hometown. The statue is the centerpiece of the park constructed by the County of Monmouth. The park is located between the Monmouth County Hall of Records Annex and the Sun Bank on East Main Street in downtown Freehold Borough.

The cornerstone of the Battle of Monmouth Monument was laid on June 3, 1878, the Centennial of the Battle of Monmouth. The monument was completed on November 13, 1884 when the original statue was set atop the monument. The event was marked by a glorious celebration attended by 15,000-20,000 citizens, honorable dignitaries, and militia troops from around the state. On August 15, 1894, during a violent storm, the statue was struck by lightning causing damage to the lower half of the statue. The Monmouth Battle Monument Commission decided to remove the statue and have a duplicate made. In 1896, the duplicate was hoisted into place. The remaining bust of the original statue was to be sent back to Freehold and erected on a marble pedestal in the plaza in front of the Monmouth County Hall of Records formerly Monmouth County Court House. The statue, however, was never erected and somehow it ended up abandoned and discarded in what is now known as McGackin Triangle Parking Lot. A private citizen found the statue buried in mud in the 1940's alongside the railroad tracks and removed it to his property where it was recently discovered. After nearly sixty years, the statue has returned to its hometown.

To celebrate Liberty's glorious return home and to defray the cost of its acquisition, preparation and installation, personalized brick pavers are still being sold to the public for \$100.00 per brick. The bricks will be laid into the walkway on either side of the existing circle around the statue within the park. Bricks may be purchased for yourself, to honor a friend, or remember a loved one. There is no limit on how many bricks may be purchased. To purchase a brick or make a donation, please complete this form with your desired inscription and kindly send your contribution to the address below as soon as possible.

Colombia (Liberty) Triumphant Fund
c/o Freehold Center Partnership
17 Broad Street
Freehold, NJ 07728

Purchaser Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Inscription: MAXIMUM 15 CHARACTERS per line – 2 line maximum (includes spaces and punctuation)

Sample Inscription:
IN MEMORY OF = 10 Letters & 2 Spaces – 12 Characters
JOHN SMITH – 9 Letters & 1 Space = 10 Characters

Brick Inscription:

I prefer to send a donation/additional donation of \$ _____

Please make check or money order payable to: Freehold Center Partnership

For further information, please contact Jayne Carr of the Freehold Center Partnership at (732) 462-3584