



In 1895, the New Jersey State Legislature formally established the New Jersey State Museum in the capital city of Trenton with a mission to collect and exhibit specimens in natural history, archaeology, and industrial history. Original collections included natural history specimens amassed in the 19th century. Between 1900 and 1912, the State Museum strengthened its archaeology focus by initiating a field research program.

The New Jersey State Museum is a center for the exploration of science, history and the arts. They preserve and share stories that inspire curiosity and creativity for the enrichment of our communities.

Collections

[Archaeology & Ethnography](#)

[Cultural History](#)

[Fine Art](#)

[Natural History](#)



October 20, 2022 - NJ State Museum, Trenton

Arts & Culture



Gateway to the World

Beginning in 1929, any North American call placed to Europe, the Middle East, or Africa was transmitted through Lawrenceville, NJ. In 1928, the Bell System purchased land in Hopewell and Lawrence townships for a radio transmission site, locally known as the "Pole Farm." This 820 acre tract was chosen for its flatness and distance from the criss-crossing telegraph signals of New York City. AT&T erected thousands of poles, each 80 feet high or more, to become the world's largest radiotelephone shortwave transmitting station. Lawrenceville's receiving sister station was located 50 miles away in Netcong, NJ.

At the height of its operation, the pole farm employed 80 radio men, who worked to keep the transmitters running, constantly replacing burnt out vacuum tubes. Outdoor equipment was maintained by linemen or "riggers."

With the laying of the transatlantic cable in the 1950s, more reliable calls to Europe could now be made over wire instead of radio. In 1973 AT&T closed the station. Today it is part of the Mercer County Parks System.

24 Transmitter Station with Curtain Antenna, Mercer Meadows, Lawrenceville, NJ, c. 1930. Courtesy of AT&T Archives and History Center.

25 Transmitter Building I with Sterba antenna and the first rhombic antenna, 1935. Courtesy of AT&T Archives and History Center.

26 Pole farm landscape taken from Blackwell Road, Lawrenceville, c. 1950. Courtesy of AT&T Archives and History Center.

27 Photo of Curtain Antenna or Sterba Antenna, Lawrenceville, NJ. Andrew Rutnik, photographer. Courtesy of Steve Heston & Family.



Six members toured the Festival of Trees at Morven Museum. There were 11 decorated trees and 6 decorated mantels with various themes displayed throughout the museum. The 2nd floor exhibit was about NJ's history with Bell Labs. This is so worth a trip on your own.



"Ode to her majesty the queen"

November 17, 2022 - Festival of Trees at Morven Museum, Princeton



December 1, 2022 - Andrea Bocelli Videos Enjoyed via Zoom