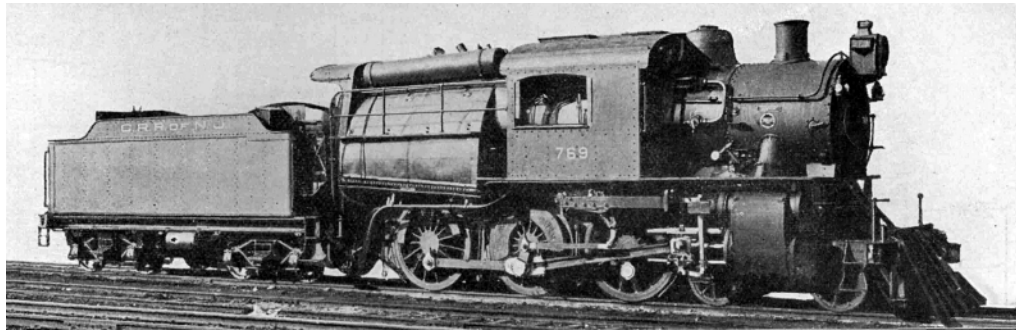


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# NJ TRANSIT PROJECTS

Multiple counties, New Jersey



Railroads, during the 19th and early 20th centuries, were the fastest means to move goods to market, and people from one location to another. In New Jersey, railroads were built at a dizzying pace during this period, and by the turn of the 20th century the state was literally crisscrossed with railroad lines. However, after the decline of passenger and freight traffic in the mid-twentieth century due to the emergence of highway travel, many of these historic rail lines were abandoned.

Today needs of New Jersey residents have changed; with many commuting daily from suburban locations into New York City, railroads once again have become an attractive and cost-effective transportation option. NJ TRANSIT recently has undertaken capital projects to restore rail service to historic railroad right-of-ways and tracks, or create new light rail corridors, moving commuters from outlying regions into New York City or from New York City through New Jersey.

Historical Perspectives, Inc. (HPI) has been a team player on a number of NJ TRANSIT corridor projects, including two complex and highly charged projects, the Monmouth-Ocean-Middlesex (MOM) Rail Project in New Jersey's Coastal Plain, and the Lackawanna Cut-Off Project in northern New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Both of these projects entailed archaeological assessments of multiple station and yard sites along historic railroad alignments and structures.

Additionally, HPI's work on the Staten Island West Shore Light Rail Project included assessment of the historic Bayonne Bridge, which links Staten Island's north shore with the existing Hudson-Bergen Light Rail System in Bayonne. Planned improvements for traffic across Barnegat Bay in Ocean County provided HPI the opportunity to conduct a historic structures survey of the 1937 Mantoloking Bridge. HPI was part of the team that evaluated the potential alternative routes of the elevated "people mover" at Newark Airport which connects the Amtrak rail line with the terminal.

These projects, and others, have given HPI extensive experience in identifying and evaluating archaeological and historic resources associated with railroads, bridges, and transportation corridors.

