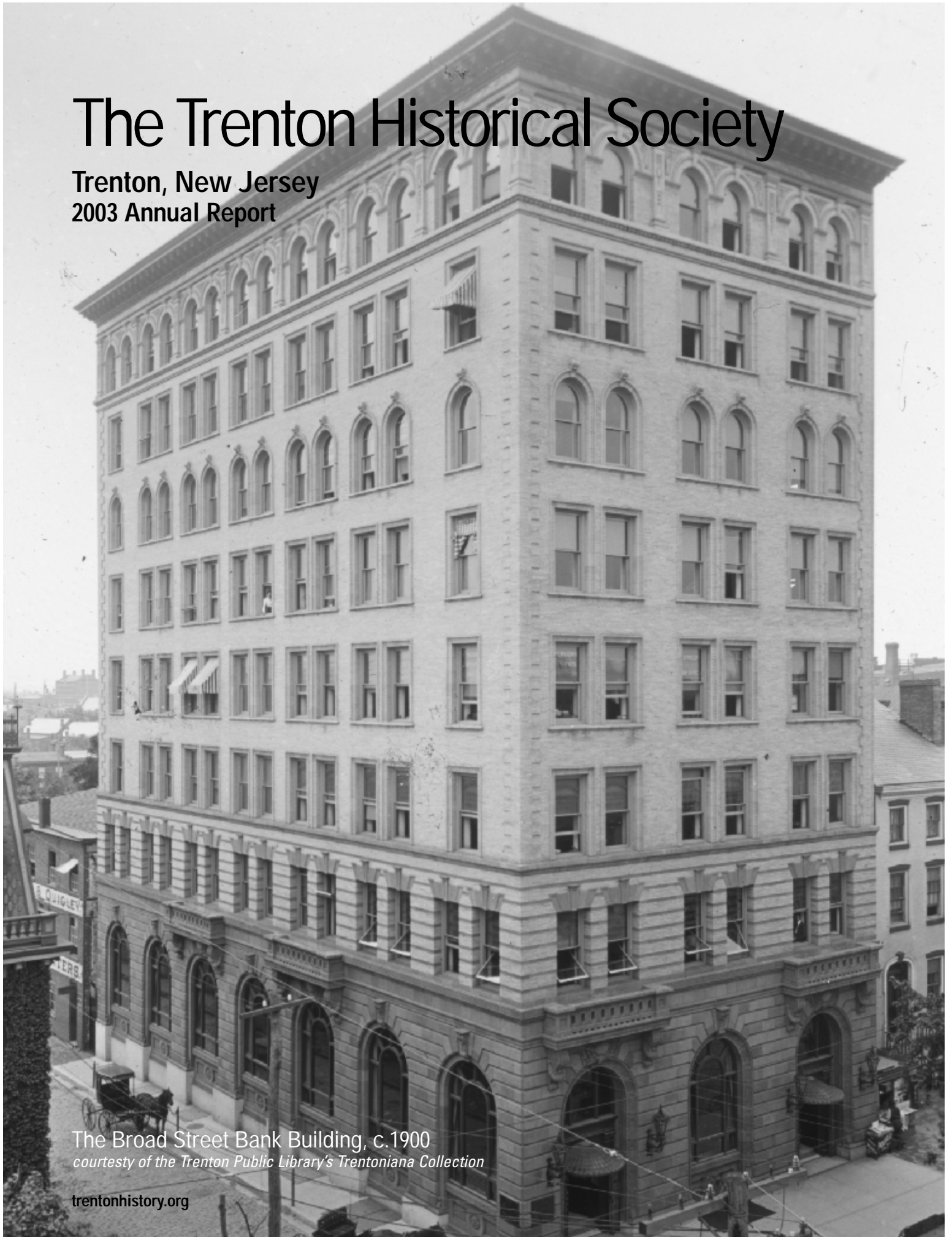


The Trenton Historical Society

Trenton, New Jersey
2003 Annual Report



The Broad Street Bank Building, c.1900
courtesy of the Trenton Public Library's Trentoniana Collection

2003 ANNUAL REPORT

The Trenton Historical Society (THS) was founded in 1919. For the entirety of its existence the society has sought to educate its members and the general public about the rich heritage of the capital city. A membership organization governed by a Board of Trustees from whom officers are selected, the THS is a New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation, and has a 501(c)(3) tax exempt status. This Annual Report reflects the THS' activities during the 2003 calendar year.

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Preserving Trenton's threatened heritage assets continued to be a top priority of the Trenton Historical Society. Work started in 2002 came to fruition in 2003, while new efforts were begun. The Trenton Top 10 Endangered Buildings List was released and publicized as part of National Preservation Week in May 2003. Two events, "In and Around Adeline: A Walking Tour of a South Trenton Neighborhood" in March, and "Stop the Wrecking Ball" in November, educated and raised funds for preservation projects. Also in November, the THS learned that a \$15,000 grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission was secured to be used to write a National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Trenton Ferry District in South Trenton.



Guests mingle at Stop the Wrecking Ball

Trenton Top 10 Endangered Buildings List

Throughout 2002, the Endangered Buildings working group was busy surveying and compiling an extensive list of buildings of historic or architectural significance throughout the city. In 2003, the buildings were further evaluated and ranked based on their significance and potential threats. Drawing inspiration from Preservation New Jersey's annual list of the state's most endangered historic sites, the Preservation Committee released the Top 10 Most Endangered list for buildings found in Trenton. With this, the THS hopes to focus attention on some of the capital city's most interesting buildings and history.

The Trenton Top 10:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Broad Street Bank Building | 6. The Delaware Inn/ Champale Office Building |
| 2. Horsman Doll Factory | 7. D&R Canal Houses |
| 3. Mercer County Court House | 8. Golden Swan/ Caola Building |
| 4. Trenton Psychiatric Hospital | 9. Ferdinand W. Roebling Mansion |
| 5. Trenton Savings Fund Society | 10. General Philemon Dickinson House / The Hermitage |

LOOKING AHEAD

The Trenton Historical Society seeks to build on its strong performance in 2003, and will continue to enhance its successful programs while aspiring to broaden its horizons through initiatives to meet its continuing mission.

Goals for 2004 and beyond:

- Use grant funds to create the Trenton Ferry Historic District in South Trenton
- Promote awareness of the Top 10 endangered buildings in Trenton
- Find innovative ways to combine tourism with historic preservation
- Select an endangered building in dire need of stabilization
- Conduct workshops to inform the public on historic preservation issues
- Continue to acquire Trenton artifacts
- Update the THS website

TRENTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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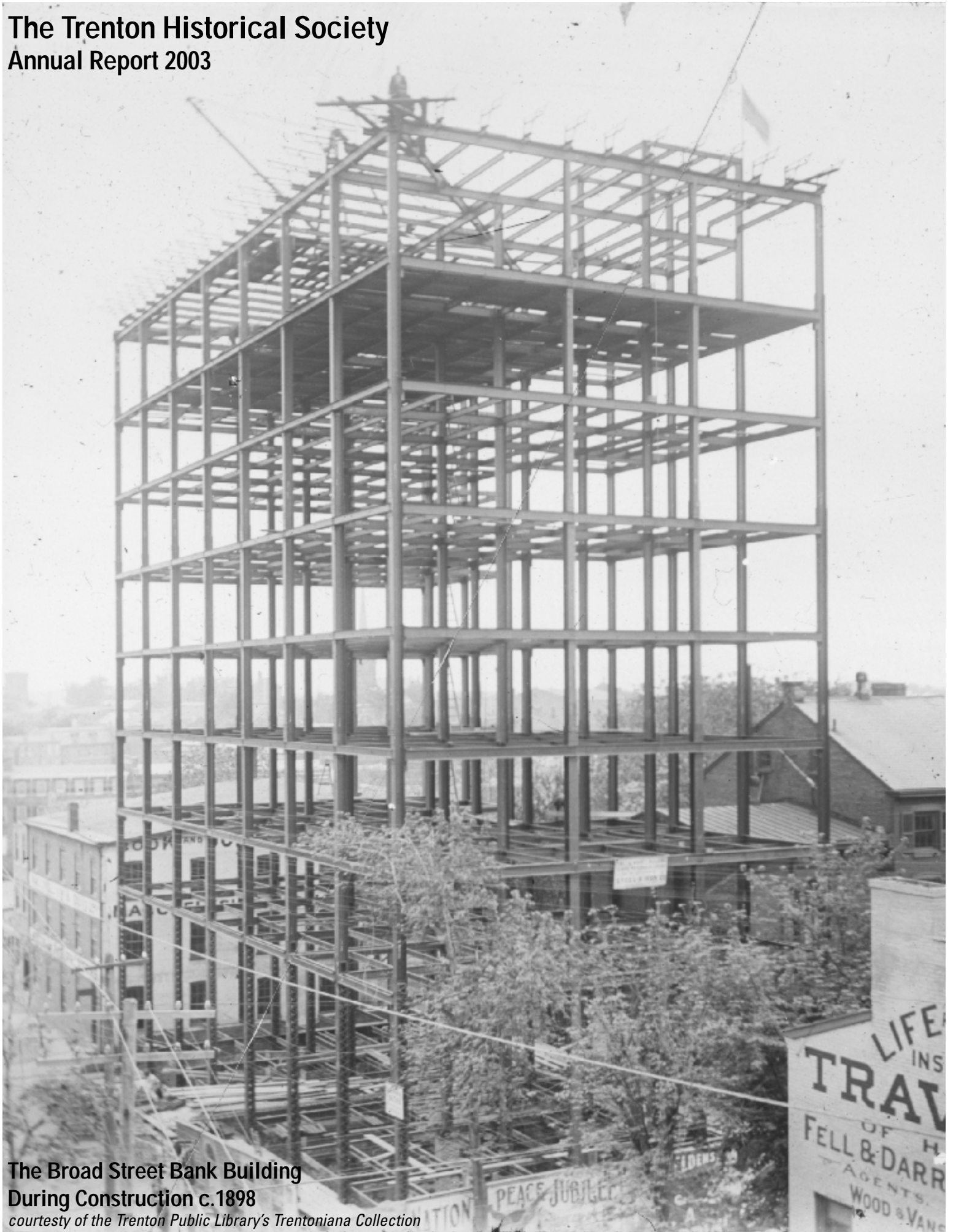
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The Broad Street Bank Building
During Construction c.1898

courtesy of the Trenton Public Library's Trentoniana Collection