Monroe Township Historic Preservation Commission – Update on the Holmes-Tallman House

The Monroe Township Historic Preservation Commission would like to update the public on the recent demolition of the Holmes-Tallman House, a historically significant structure dating back to approximately 1860. This notable landmark was located at the southeast corner of Cranbury-South River Road and Rhode Hall Road.

An exceptional example of Carpenter's Italianate architecture, the Holmes-Tallman House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. After many years of being unoccupied and succumbing to severe deterioration, much of its original architectural detail had been irreparably lost.

Although recognized for its historical and architectural importance, the Holmes-Tallman House stood on privately owned land, and decisions regarding its future ultimately remained at the discretion of the property owner(s).

In an effort to honor and preserve the house's legacy, the Historic Preservation Commission worked closely with the property owner and a historic architecture firm to document the site. This documentation effort included gathering photographs, measurable details, and salvaging recognizable artifacts. These efforts are part of an ongoing initiative to create a digital archive that will ensure the Holmes-Tallman House's story lives on.

Additionally, the Commission plans to feature an exhibit of artifacts and photographs at the Dey Farm Historic Site, offering the community a chance to engage with the history and architectural uniqueness of the Holmes-Tallman House. Through this exhibit, we hope to continue preserving and sharing Monroe Township's rich history with future generations.

Although it is with sadness that we see the site demolished, we appreciate the community's continued support in valuing and protecting Monroe Township's historic heritage.