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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Revisit a City on the Verge in “From Another Time: Hoboken in the 1970s,” the Latest Exhibit, Book and Lecture Series at the Hoboken Historical Museum

Hoboken, NJ – January 30, 2007 – The Hoboken Historical Museum's new exhibit, "From Another Time: Hoboken in the 1970s," depicts a Hoboken in limbo between its industrial heyday and its reemergence as a hotbed of residential development. In the 1970s, Hoboken's future was uncertain as it struggled to survive the shutdown of most of the working waterfront and many of its factories.

Beautiful, stark black-and-white photos form the heart of the exhibit and companion book, documenting the people, street scenes, parades and festivals in this turbulent decade. The exhibit is on view six days a week, at 1301 Hudson St., Hoboken, N.J., Tues. – Thurs., 2 – 9 p.m.; Fri., 1 – 5 p.m.; and Sat. – Sun., noon – 5 p.m., through July 1. A lecture series starting Sunday, Feb. 11, at 4 p.m. brings back many of the architects of change to talk about the times and the city's path from the '70s to today. For more details, visit www.hobokenmuseum.org.

A visitor today would be hard pressed to recognize the city presented in the exhibit and book: vacant storefronts, dilapidated apartment buildings, abandoned piers patrolled by feral dogs. Against this grim backdrop, three talented photographers capture the spirit of

Hoboken's diverse population: a colorful mix of people including "born and raised" Hobokenites, who proudly celebrated centuries-old religious festivals with ear-splitting feast bombs, along with more recent arrivals, Puerto Ricans with their own traditions, and artists and musicians lured by affordable rents and spacious lofts in abandoned factories.

The book presents three distinct views of the city: Caroline Carlson's photographs of the children of the city and their families; John Conn's images of local characters and buildings, some of which are long gone; and Benedict Fernandez' street scenes, interiors and images of the working waterfront. The photos are accompanied by two poignant essays: one by a born-and-raised Hobokenite, Anthony DePalma, now a *New York Times* reporter, who witnessed the changes to his hometown over the pivotal decade, and the other by Sada Fretz, who moved her family here in the 1970s and fell in love with all the city's quirks.

Lecture Series

The city's present character was largely determined in this pivotal decade, and the exhibit and companion lecture series detail the tensions and the influences that set the city on its current path. Many of the city's present-day amenities date from decisions made at this time: public access to the waterfront and the creation of waterfront parks, café dining, public festivals, the rehabilitation of existing buildings, appreciation for nineteenth-century architecture, pride in local history, cultural programming and the need for local government to be more responsive to the community.

Starting Sun., Feb 11, and running through the end of the exhibit, the museum is hosting a lecture series featuring many of the architects of these changes. Anyone with an interest in urban revitalization will have a rare opportunity to hear directly from many of the people who had a hand in guiding Hoboken's future direction, beginning with:

- Martin Bierbaum, PhD., executive director of the Municipal Land Use Center at the College of New Jersey, who will discuss his doctoral dissertation, "Hoboken – A Comeback City: A Study of Urban Revitalization in the 1970s," on Sunday, Feb. 11, at 4 p.m.;

- Joseph Barry, president of Applied Housing Associates during the 1970s, who will talk about his company's role in rehabilitating Hoboken's housing stock, on Sunday, Feb. 25, at 4 p.m.;
- Helen Manogue, head of the Environment Committee in the 1970s, which advocated for waterfront recreation and against a proposal to build oil tanks on some empty land, will discuss community activism on Sunday, Mar. 4, at 4 p.m.;
- A tribute to Don Cotter, organizer of the River City Fairs and advocate for recreational uses of the waterfront, will be held on Sunday, Mar. 11, at 4 p.m.;
- Photographer Virginia Rolston Parrott, whose photos will be featured in the Museum's upper gallery from Mar. 25 – May 6, will discuss her work on Sunday, Apr. 15 at 4 p.m.; and
- Artist Hugh Kilmer will talk about Hoboken's lively arts scene in the days before rents skyrocketed with the city's popularity on Sunday, Apr. 22 at 4 p.m.

The series will continue with Steve Capiello, former Mayor of Hoboken; Michael Coleman, who was director of Hoboken's Model Cities building rehabilitation program; among others. All lectures are free and open to the public; visit the Museum's website, www.hobokenmuseum.org, for upcoming dates and times.

The exhibit, lecture series and book were made possible through a special project grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the New Jersey Department of State. Books are also available for purchase through the Museum's website: \$25 for softcover, \$35 for hardcover.

About the Hoboken Historical Museum

Founded 1986, the Museum's mission is to educate the public about Hoboken's history, diverse culture, architecture and historic landmarks. In 2001, the Museum moved into one of the oldest buildings on the waterfront, in the former Bethlehem Steel shipyard, at 1301 Hudson St., Hoboken. For more information, visit www.hobokenmuseum.org.