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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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### **Urban Revitalization Explored at the Hoboken Historical Museum, Sunday, June 10 & 24, at 4 p.m.**

**Hoboken, NJ** – June 6, 2007 – Don't miss out on the last month of the Hoboken Historical Museum's multifaceted exhibit, "From Another Time: Hoboken in the 1970s." The exhibit and companion book feature more than 150 black and white images by three gifted photographers that capture the spirit of the people living in Hoboken during the pivotal decade between its industrial heyday and reemergence as a real estate hotbed for urban professionals.

A lecture series hosted by the Museum has featured some of the colorful figures who helped shape and document Hoboken's transformation. The series features two more talks before the exhibit closes on July 1. Both lectures are free. On Sunday, June 10, at 4 p.m., with *New York Times* reporter Anthony DePalma, a born-and-raised Hobokenite, who will discuss his essay from the book, which conveys the impact of urban revitalization on the people who grew up here.

*Excerpt from "From Another Time: Hoboken in the 1970s"*

"Change is inevitable, of course, often unstoppable, sometimes desirable, sometimes barely palatable. Photographs—poignant, searing, resonant—fill us with the memory of what once was...Hoboken has worn many masks in its long, long history. But it has always been a place of comings and goings, of arrivals and departures, of taking up and taking leave...The true test of this city's spirit during this time will be the extent to which it can still find ways to embrace all the different kinds of people who want to be here, and to share the experiences that make a city a community."

On June 24, Michael Coleman and Robert Armstrong, who managed the Model Cities

program that rescued much of Hoboken's historic housing stock from the wrecking ball, will speak, also at 4 p.m. The Model Cities program was funded by the federal government through legislation directed by President Lyndon B. Johnson to help solve urban problems, including creating affordable housing. In 1967 the city was designated a Model City – the smallest municipality in the country to participate – and received a planning grant in 1968, which was to be used to create a framework for directing larger block grants to specific areas of the city. Michael Coleman was selected to lead Hoboken's Model Cities program, and along with Robert Armstrong, they helped the city create a unique housing rehabilitation program that converted more than a thousand housing units for low-income residents using existing housing stock.

Other speakers have included Dr. Martin Bierbaum, professor and executive director of the Municipal Land Use Center at the College of New Jersey, whose 1980 doctoral dissertation on Hoboken's revitalization gave structure to the exhibit; developer Joseph Barry, whose company Applied Housing Associates helped salvage many historic buildings for thousands of units of low- and middle-income housing; community activist Helen Manogue, whose Environment Committee helped beautify the city and blocked a proposed oil tank farm on the abandoned waterfront; and members of the thriving arts community, Virginia Ralston Parrott and Beth and Hugh Kilmer.

#### **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, where it maintains a series of rotating exhibits. The Museum is open six days a week, 2 – 9 pm on Tues. – Thurs., 1 – 5 pm on Fridays, and noon – 5 pm on weekends. It offers special exhibits, tours, events and lectures, as well as educational programs for adults and children on a weekly basis. An updated schedule of events and an online catalog of many items in its collections are available at [www.hobokenmuseum.org](http://www.hobokenmuseum.org). The Museum is a not-for-profit tax-exempt 501(c) entity.

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*Note to editors: Digital photos from the exhibit are available; please call 201-683-6935.*