

Discover

A LANDMARK TREASURE

Kip's Castle is a magnificent 9,000-square-foot mansion that replicates a medieval Norman castle. The estate spans eleven acres of land on the ridge of First Mountain, resting in both Montclair and Verona townships, and provides spectacular views of New York City. The exteriors of both the castle and the 6,000-square-foot, two-story carriage house are constructed of local trap rock trimmed with sandstone. The interior of the castle consists of thirty distinguished rooms of varying shapes which include vaulted ceilings and six ornate fireplaces.



DIRECTIONS:

KIP'S CASTLE PARK

22 Crestmont Road, Verona, NJ 07044

From the Garden State Parkway: Take the Garden State Parkway to Exit 145 for Route 280 West. Proceed using directions "From Route 280."

From the NJ Turnpike: Take the NJ Turnpike to Exit 15W for Route 280 West. Proceed using directions "From Route 280."

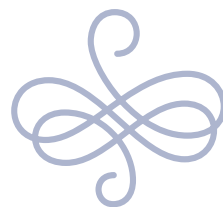
From Route 280: Take Route 280 to Exit 8B. Follow Prospect Avenue/CR-577 NORTH to Cedar Grove. This road turns into Pompton Avenue/Route 23. Turn RIGHT onto Westover Road. Turn LEFT onto Crestmont Road.

County Executive's Message



Essex County's purchase of Kip's Castle was an extraordinary opportunity to preserve a historic landmark, add more open space to our Park System, and create a unique cultural center for the public to enjoy. This estate is a valuable asset to our community, providing a place where arts and history can flourish through exhibitions, programming, and collaborative meetings. I invite you to visit this site often. Tour the eleven acres of land, enjoy the spectacular view at the ridge, and stop by for one of our special events.

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.
Essex County Executive



Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., Essex County Executive
And the Board of County Commissioners

County of Essex
Division of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs
KIP'S CASTLE PARK
22 Crestmont Road, Verona, NJ 07044
www.essexcountynj.org

PUTTING **ESSEX COUNTY** FIRST



KIP'S CASTLE PARK

A FACILITY OF THE HISTORIC
ESSEX COUNTY PARK SYSTEM

ESSEX COUNTY KIP'S CASTLE PARK

Past

Kip's Castle, originally known as "Kypsburg," was constructed over a three-year period from 1902 through 1905 by Frederic Ellsworth Kip and his wife, Charlotte Bishop Williams Kip. Frederic was a wealthy textile inventor and industrialist who also published several books related to United States tariff laws. Charlotte is credited for the design of the "Kypsburg" building and grounds, cultivating a renowned octagonal rose garden in the southwest corner of the property. After Charlotte's passing in 1926, the estate was sold and went through several owners. The building and grounds fell into a state of dilapidation until, finally, the law firm of Schwartz, Tobia & Stanziale purchased the property in 1985. In the past two decades, a considerable amount of work was done to revitalize the Castle to its original grandeur.



Present

Thanks to generous grants from the NJ Green Acres Program and the Essex County Open Space Trust Fund, the County of Essex was able to purchase Kip's Castle in March 2007. The property saved from development is now part of the historic Essex County Park System. Offices for the County Division of Cultural Affairs and Division of Housing and Community Development are located here. The Castle is open for touring during the holiday season and is a main attraction on the Essex County Historic Holiday House Tour. In addition, the building may be rented for private events such as professional development seminars, board retreats, ceremonies and parties. Park grounds are open daily from dawn to dusk.