

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs to replace roof of Academy building in New Castle

(DOVER, Del.—April 16, 2018)—The Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs is planning capital improvements at the Academy building, a state-owned historic property that the agency administers in downtown New Castle, Del. Improvements, which will begin in the spring of 2018, include replacement of the building's existing wood-shingle roof with a new wood-shingle roof; replacement of existing roof hatches and flashing; and installation of an elastomeric coating on a metal section of the roof.



New Castle Academy

Located at 31 E. Third St., the New Castle Academy was built in 1799 according to a design by Peter Crowding, a Philadelphia master builder. It served as a public school until 1930 when the New Castle High School was built. The property is currently leased to [Immanuel Episcopal Church](#) which utilizes it for many church-related and community activities. The building is one of [four historic properties](#) (The Green, New Castle Court House Museum, Arsenal and Academy) that the division administers in Delaware's original capital city which also serves as the headquarters of the [First State National Historical Park](#).



Aerial view of the New Castle Green. In

the foreground is the New Castle Court House Museum, followed counterclockwise by the Arsenal, Immanuel Episcopal Church and the Academy. Photo by Bruce Burk

The division will work with the construction contractor and Immanuel Church to limit inconvenience to the public, and the Academy building will remain open during the project. Residents and visitors will see the usual presence of equipment, materials and workers on site as well as the usual noises that go with roofing work during daytime hours. No weekend work is anticipated.

The [Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs](#) is an agency of the State of Delaware. The division enhances Delaware's quality of life by preserving the state's unique historical heritage, fostering community stability and economic vitality and providing educational programs and assistance to the general public on Delaware history and heritage. The division's diverse array of services includes operation of five museums which are accredited by the [American Alliance of Museums](#), administration of the State Historic Preservation Office, conservation of the state's archaeological and historic-objects collections, operation of a conference center and management of historic properties across the state. Primary funding for division programs and services is provided by annual appropriations from the Delaware General Assembly and grants from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, a federal agency. However, the contents and opinions expressed in the division's programs and services do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Department of the Interior.

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