

The Town of Hammonton

By: Claire Swift



The town of Hammonton is one that

has been a big part of my life pretty much my whole life. It's quite a

unique town and seems very small



even tho it isn't geographically. With a population of about 15,000 it seems as



though everyone knows each other.

Hammonton is

known for its farm lands and it called the "Blueberry Capital of the World", and trust me the blueberries are definitely the best! Each year

the people of Hammonton and the surrounding towns gather at



the Red, White and Blueberry

Festival to celebrate the years



harvest and the town's world



renown title. Another festival

celebrated here is the Our Lady of Mt Carmel festival to celebrate the towns

Italian heritage.



The Our Lady of Mt Carmel festival



is the oldest
continuously run
festival in the

United States dating all the way
back to 1875.

Downtown

Hammonton is
personally my
favorite part of



the town and what I remember from

when I was
little. The street
of Bellevue has



multiple
shops along
it, including

the coffee shop Casianos. When I
would come to Hammonton for my
sisters soccer games my mom

would
always get
me hot



chocolate and since then I still like



to
hangout
there



with my
friends.
casianos
little

shop is symbolic of the vibe of
Hammonton, a small relaxed family

oriented
place.

Inside of
the shop

the sell
pictures



that people have created of

different places around town, one being St Joseph's very own Red Brick Building, the oldest building in

the town.



The

Red Brick Building is part of St. Joseph's High School as well has a piece of Hlstory. This two-story, old school house, brick building was built in 1905 and began being used



as a school shortly after.

The building still has the original windows from 1905, and is still standing



which is rare because the town of Hammonton



chose to

demolish the building that used to

stand next to it. Another historic mark in Hammonton is the town clock that was made in 1929 and



remains the original piece.

However the clock

used to stand at a different location and was damaged when the town moved it to its current standing place. Another interesting building that stands in Hammonton is the

Townbridge Building that is now a mexican restaurant. The outside



design of
this building
is very
unique
because it

is decorated in pressed metal
panells, shell, scroll, egg, dart,
garlands, and floral designs. The
man whose owns the building
personally handpainted the building
himself and touches it up every

couple years. This building dates
back to 1906.

Hammonton is not my home
but certainly feels like it. The small
family environment has definitely
taken over me and my friends and
will remain a main place we
hangout even after we graduate.
Knowing I will not be driving into
this town every morning next year
certainly upsets me because this is
my second family and home.

