

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## EMERGENCY CLOSURE NOTIFICATION

### Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs museums closed; special programs postponed

(DOVER, Del.—March 26, 2020)—In accordance with Gov. John Carney's [declaration of a State of Emergency](#), the [five museums](#) administered by [the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs](#) were closed beginning on March 24, 2020 and their programs postponed until further notice. The State of Emergency was declared in order to safeguard public health and help control the spread of the coronavirus.



New Castle Court House Museum, one of the five museums administered by the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

Following are links to information about the division's five museums. Staff members are available to answer questions via Facebook, telephone and e-mail during the State of Emergency.

[John Dickinson Plantation](#), Dover

[Johnson Victrola Museum](#), Dover

[New Castle Court House Museum](#)

[The Old State House](#), Dover

[Zwaanendael Museum](#), Lewes

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Gov. Carney's State of Emergency also applies to the [Buena Vista conference center](#) and [other state-owned historical sites](#) managed in partnership with community organizations.

Administered by the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the five museums of the State of Delaware—the John Dickinson Plantation, the Johnson Victrola Museum, the New Castle Court House Museum, The Old State House and the Zwaanendael Museum—tell the story of the First State's contributions to the history and culture of the United States. Through tours, exhibits, school programs and hands-on activities, the museums shine a spotlight on



Delaware's unique history and the diverse people who came to live there. The museums are accredited by the [American Alliance of Museums](#). The New Castle Court House Museum and the John Dickinson Plantation are partner sites of the [First State National Historical Park](#). The

Old State House is located on the Dover Green, another partner site of the park.

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.