

*Pretty*  
**BIG**  
**THINGS**

Stories of New Jersey History

Though small in size, New Jersey is big on history. From its role as the “crossroads” of the American Revolution to its status as a leading destination for immigrants from abroad, New Jersey has a rich and vibrant history. Some of this history has been forgotten; some of it is well-known. Our first president made his famous crossing of the Delaware only ten miles upriver from here. Another future president served as governor of New Jersey before making the White House his home. In northern New Jersey, Dutch immigrant artisans brought traditional furniture forms to the region, laying the foundation for generations of immigrant influence on the state. In and around Trenton, ceramics reigned supreme, giving birth to world-renowned names in the industry. And in southern New Jersey, a former slave living among the Quakers achieved an early distinction in the annals of African-American history. What better way to explore these and other big stories of New Jersey history than through some of the “biggest” artifacts in the New Jersey State Museum’s Cultural History collection? Choose a path through this exhibition and let the pretty big things take you on an eclectic journey into New Jersey’s past.

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