



Jersey's Bendix Diner Story Blows Your Mind - It's Being SAVED!



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Posted on April 8, 2025

Views: 20,704



I love John....and this is why...

UPDATE:

December 24, 2025 The 78-year-old Bendix Diner in Bergen County is going to be saved, the new owner said/ It's just going to be moved in order to be restored. Peter Meskouris, who bought the iconic diner last month with his brother and son, said that the restaurant, which was closed by the town of Hasbrouck Heights in January



2025 due to faulty equipment, will need work, but he plans to restore it to its original condition. He also gave a timeline. Peter Meskouris, who co-owns the Jackson Hole Diner in Queens, said he and his brother restore diners as a hobby. He closed on the sale last month, with brother Alex and son James as partners. "We decided it's major major work, but we're going to keep that diner there."

He said he will restore everything in the diner, including the neon and stainless steel fixtures. "That diner is unique," he said. "We're going to save it."



News 12 [Video Update](#)

"Site Unseen" Movie Trailer (Full documentary is now available at the end of the story).

Story UPDATE: April 8, 2025

The rumors are true. The Bendix Diner is for sale. Nj.com reported the price to be \$2.5 million. "*Bendix Diner's owner is open to all offers/calls for inquiries*," said Nick Rogers of commercial real estate firm [IPRG](#), "*Yes, if someone wanted to buy the building, they could pick it up off the property and leave the land.*"



Bendix Diner

464 NJ-17



A Classic American Landmark With Investment Appeal

The Bendix Diner, a historic roadside eatery in Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey, has been a beloved landmark since it first opened its doors in 1947. This family-owned establishment carries a rich legacy, with its name paying homage to the Bendix Corporation, a major aviation parts manufacturer that once operated near Teterboro Airport.

Over the decades, the diner's classic stainless-steel exterior and vintage interior have made it a cultural icon, attracting filmmakers and celebrities alike. It has been prominently featured in films and television shows, including "Jersey Girl", "Boys on the Side", and "The Many Saints of Newark", solidifying its status as an authentic 1950s-era setting.

Though the diner was closed due to health and fire code violations, it continues to serve as a sought-after filming location for those looking to capture a nostalgic American diner experience.

Situated along the busy Route 17 corridor, with easy access to Route 46 and Interstate 80, the property offers high visibility and redevelopment potential, making it a prime investment opportunity for those looking to restore a piece of history or reimagine the space for modern commercial use.

[Bendix Brochure](#) - download the brochure or contact Nick Rogers, the listing agent.



Property Summary

464 NJ-17



Property Description

The subject property, known as the Bendix Diner, is located at 464 NJ-17, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604. It consists of an approximately 0.36-acre triangular plot of land, featuring a historically significant roadside diner. Positioned between the northbound and southbound lanes of Route 17, the property benefits from high vehicular traffic and exceptional visibility, with approximately 100,000 vehicles passing through Hasbrouck Heights daily.

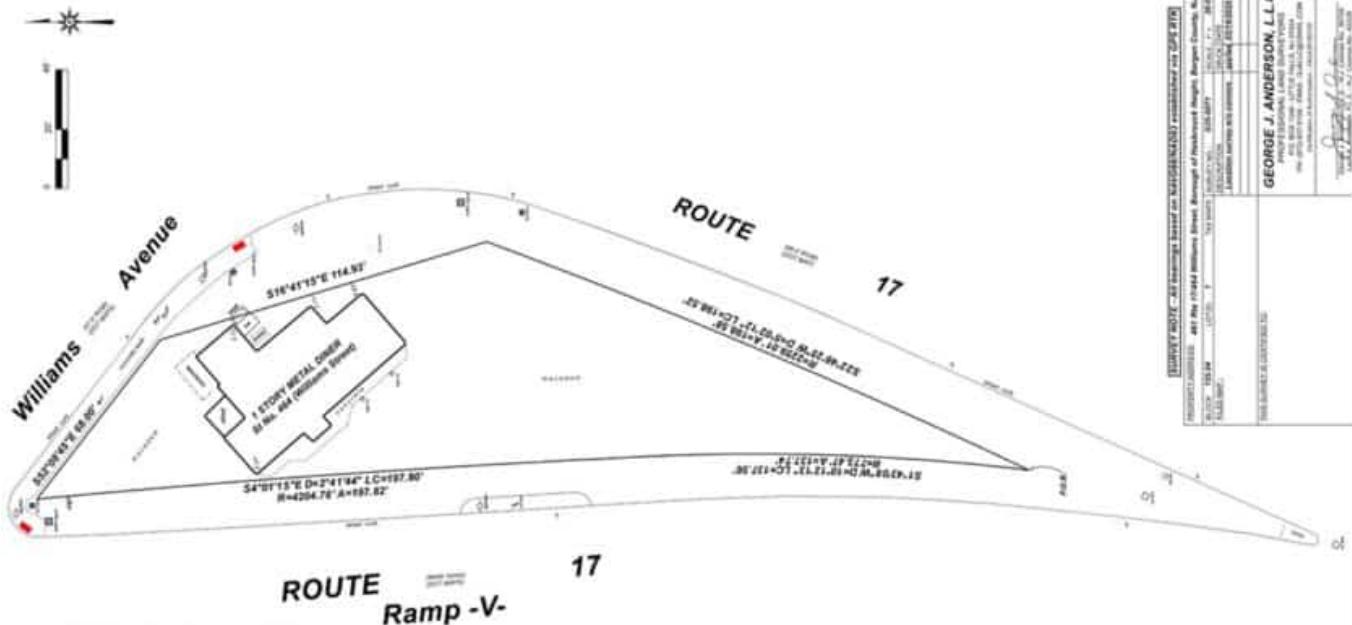
Originally manufactured by the Master Diner Company of Pequannock, NJ, the diner boasts a classic mid-century stainless steel exterior with vintage neon signage, enhancing its nostalgic and cultural appeal. Additionally, a portion of the lot is currently utilized for truck and vehicle parking.

The property also offers convenient access to Route 46, which experiences similar traffic volumes of approximately 100,000 vehicles per day. Furthermore, its proximity to Teterboro Airport enhances visibility, traffic flow, and overall growth potential.

Offering Summary

CALL TO INQUIRE	
Street Address:	464 NJ-17
City, State, Zip:	Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604
County:	Bergen
Market:	Route 46 Corridor
Block / Lot:	125.04 / 1 & 1.01
Lot Size:	0.36 Acres
Building Size:	2,300 SF
Year Built:	1947
Zoning:	B-2
Annual Taxes:	\$34,472

[Bendix Brochure for Sale](#) Download Brochure





UPDATE: Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025

Some have heard that owner John Diakakis has decided to close the Bendix Diner - SO SAD.

Today by Maxwell Gerwatowski, Organizer

Good Morning Everyone!

I've just spoken with John Diakakis once more, and he's come to the decision that, with everything the borough is putting him through in regards to bringing our favourite diner up to code again, he is going to shutter the Bendix for good. Please share any memories you've had of John and the Bendix here so that we can all look back with fondness.

John is blown away with the support we've managed to bring him, and is incredibly grateful for everything you all have done.

All donations will be refunded within the next 7-10 business days, so no one will be without.

Thank you all again for trying to save an icon of New Jersey,

Maxwell "Photo Max" Gerwatowski
Wood-Ridge High School Class of 2016

Just remember what John goes thru everyday and he still carries on. In my mind, he's the ultimate Jersey Ambassador. Thanks John for your hospitality and allowing us to visit you and your family (Tony, Dimitri and Michael) at the Bendix Diner.



Well-known Bendix Diner forced to close due to safety code violation

The diner has been due for an upgrade to the kitchen's fire safety system since 2019, but a fix has not been made due to the complexity of the issue.

1/16/2025 - Word has it that the town may think John has to close the Bendix Diner. [See why....](#)





The Hasbrouck Heights Bendix Diner, which opened in 1947 in the center of Route 17, was built by the Master Diner Company, a small company in Pequannock, New Jersey, that built stainless steel diners.

For those who follow the Mr. Local History Project, there is one trustee who's obsessed with New Jersey diners. Part of it is those 12-page menus, part of it's how quickly the food comes to the table after ordering, and part of it is the nostalgia for anyone who's grown up in New Jersey because diners are part of our collective Jersey history. But this story about the Bendix diner takes a diner story to a whole new level.

Why I didn't know this story is beyond me. I've literally gone to probably a hundred diners. Sure, I have my favorites for various reasons, but after I saw a Jersey diner documentary called "Bendix Site Unseen," I started asking my diner pals. My brother-in-law grew up in Clifton and at the Bendix Diner (and Rutt's Hut). So I asked if he had seen the documentary I mentioned, and he said no. This is why we had to prepare this story and tell it to anyone who'd listen about the history of not the place, as it is an icon, but the man. The owner is a flat out "New Jersey treasure so don't walk.....run to meet this family and support his dedication to being what has to be "New Jersey's ultimate ambassador.... John Diakakis.



Whenever I visit a diner for the first time, I always order the cheeseburger platter. Bendix did it justice.

Area resident and Ramapo College graduate Anthony Scalia says he spent his whole life driving past the iconic Bendix Diner. So, I thought I would get an overview of a diner like I've seen many times before. A few years ago, the Mr. Local History Project created a "Jersey Food" map and dedicated the Broad Street Diner in Keyport with our designation as "New Jersey's Collective Diner." The Hasbrouck Heights staple, named after the Bendix



Corporation once in the area, turns 75 this year. So we just like Jersey diners and thought this documentary would be fun.

The Bendix Diner has also appeared in other films, including Jersey Girl (1992), Boys on the Side (1995), and The Many Saints of Newark (2021), and in commercials starring Ray Charles and Michael J. Fox. "For a while there, the Bendix Diner may have been the most famous diner on American TV.

Meet The Diner Owner, John Diakakis (DEE-A-COCK-is)

John Diakakis, pronounced DEE-A-COCK-is, is a diner legend. He's owned the Bendix Diner for over twenty years. While John's grind continues, we think the 24/7 diner has passed, but those diner staples are still available from that typical 10-page diner menu. You've got the bar and stools, you've got booths, you have the stainless steel and neon sign. John has all that. But when you get greeted by John as you walk in the door, you immediately feel welcome. His son then takes you to an open booth to get you situated, then John comes by; the unknowingly person that's not only the diner owner, but he's a stand up comedian as well. You'll learn that if you listen to a few of his Jersey quips!



John keeps chatting, and Jose (I think) keeps laughing.

Update: April 9, 2025

***Bendix: Site Unseen* – Documentary Finally Released Online**

Filmmaker Anthony Scalia says he spent his whole life driving past the venerable Bendix Diner—an old-fashioned, stainless steel fixture on the median between Route 17 North and South in Hasbrouck Heights—and never pulled over. And then he did; he just had to tell the story in film. He spent the next three years creating this story on film.



The Full Documentary - Less Than 30 Minutes

Interview with Anthony Scalia on NJN

Watch an interview with Anthony Scalia and Steve Adabado Jr. on PBS as they discuss John, his diner, his family, and the documentary process.

I still can't believe this story. I am changed for life, knowing that if John can do what he does, I can do anything I think I can't.



Mr. Local History with John Diakakis



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Don't mess with fellow MLH trustee Jill at a diner. #veryserious



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Photo by Anthony Scalia

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