

Mapping New Jersey's Most Iconic Diners & A Diner Collectible

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Views: 17,017

The map below is interactive and filtered to showcase New Jersey's Diner community! Then, we'll discuss how the keepsake came to be.

Bookmark this map on your phone. Also, note we have burgers, pizza, bakeries, hot dogs, and YES, DINERS!



Being a Jersey guy who can't forget the classic New Jersey diner. I'm not talking about IHOP or Denny's, but a REAL New Jersey diner. This story is a calling to our internet friends to identify the ultimate New Jersey Classic Diner for a New Jersey Historic Village wooden keepsake diner. After all, we are the Diner Capital of the Universe.



The Village always needed a great Jersey diner, and now you can have one.
[NJ Historic Village Collection](#)

After two months and 600 votes, we have our keepsake. Congratulations to the Broad Street Diner in Keyport, New Jersey for representing the village with the first Jersey Diner wooden keepsake collectible. Get yours today. Order yours now or get one to gift to a Jersey diner fan - [VERY LIMITED collectible exclusively online.](#)



Get or give a wooden NJ keepsake with the history of diners in NJ. Limited quantities. [Click Here](#)



c.1912 –Jersey Diner

a New Jersey Institution

New Jersey's diner history began July 3, 1912, the Jerry O'Mahony Diner opened near Jersey City, New Jersey while his diner manufacturing business in Elizabeth made over 2000 mobile eateries from 1917 to 1952 that fed hungry Americans from coast to coast.

The silver railcar style and neon signs of the classic American diner still brighten New Jersey's highways and Main Streets. Everyone has a favorite diner and a favorite diner story. Whether it's a Happy Waitress Special, Cheeseburger Platter, or a three egg omelet with regular coffee, Jerseyans know they are in the state's ultimate happy place. And the "daily special" gives something for everyone for any moment, high school students, retirees, construction workers and crossing guards might be found at a counter chatting with the waitresses and line cooks. Or you take a booth and engage the table jukebox, Jerseyans yearn for lost favorites like the Excellent, Lido or Rosie's Diner and still gather at the beloved Bendix, Tick Tock, OB, Summit, Park West and yes the **Broad Street Diner in Keyport, voted New Jersey's Most Iconic Diner.**

#20 in the New Jersey Historic Village Collection

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Nominate the next keepsake.
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Order your Historic Village Jersey Diner keepsake collectible now – [Click Here](#)

The Diner that Represents New Jersey

The Broad Street Diner

This authentic circa 1953 O'Mahony diner is just a few blocks from Raritan Bay. Known previously as Stanley's



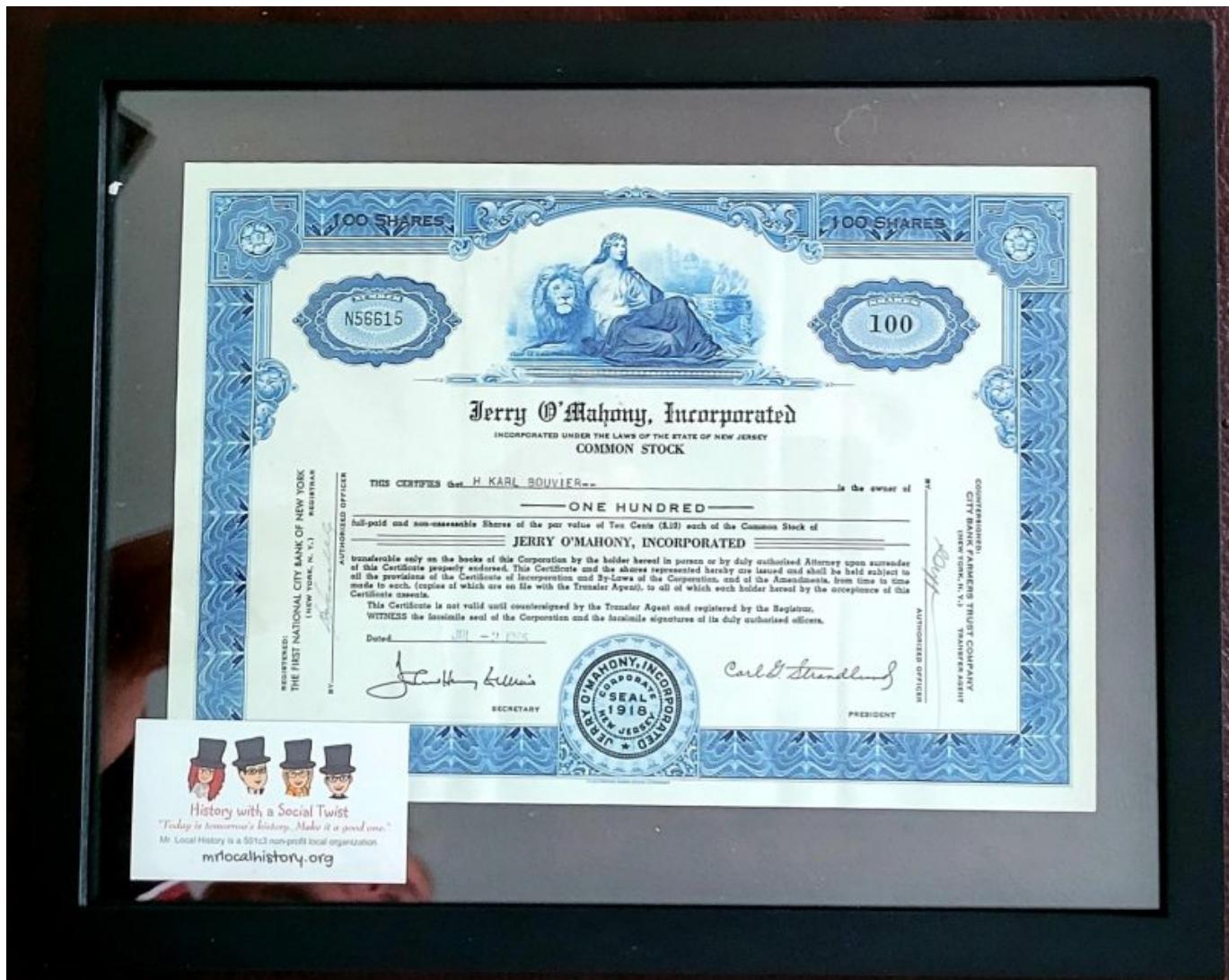
Seaport Diner, you won't have to wonder much about its 1950s origins as you will be reminded at every turn that this place has been around since Elvis and Marilyn. The O'Mahony stainless steel tag is attached to the inside of the vestibule door. Broad Street is one of a handful of classic O'Mahony diners still operating in the Garden State.





The iconic signature Jerry O'Mahony, Inc logo inside the entrance door.





The Jerry O'Mahony Diner is the most classic Jersey Diner.

Nick and Maria Kallas have owned the Jersey Diner since 2015. The two grew up alongside Greek diner families, and their experience is reflected in the daily specials and hearty portions. As they say in the diner business, "Food is only half the meal." The savory atmosphere is the other half—and equally important. If possible, when visiting a Jersey diner, sit at the counter. That's where you'll meet, greet, and mingle with the staff and customers.



Mr. Local History, with owner Maria Kallas and Keyport Mayor Collette Kennedy, received an original Jerry O'Mahony stock certificate and a Jersey Diner keepsake of the Broad Street Diner.

The Broad Street Diner is further proof that, without question, New Jersey is and always will be the diner capital of the universe.

[Jersey Bites](#)

It's funny how you walk in thinking you know what you want, and then you get that six-page menu. Then it becomes a battle of the mind, saying, "Breakfast or something else scenario." You know exactly what I mean.

Then, it starts coffee with anything, including water, and the usual default to the cheeseburger deluxe platter. I just figure that I'm a burger guy and always love it when that stuffed oval plate shows up in less than 5 minutes. I can never explain the sheer speed of it all. It's just one more reason I'm fascinated by the Jersey Diner.



What was your fastest delivery of a Cheeseburger Deluxe Platter at a diner? It's amazing how fast it arrives. It's like a miracle. And the Broad Street Diner platter is OFF THE CHART GOOD!

And who can't help being a foodie? They have this weird twitch where they always want to take a picture of what they're eating. Honestly, it always looks like a piece of art to us.

We Leave you with another Jersey Diner legend - Rosie!

Here's the sad reality of poor ole Rosie and her Jersey Diner. It won't be long before Rosie's is sold for scrap — a lifetime away from the Little Ferry Circle. – [Read the story.](#)

The Mr. Local History Project, a Jersey-based non-profit, will work with several Facebook Groups to capture Jersey Diner names and locations. You can also nominate in the comments section below. From over 100 entries, we picked the Top 12. The winner will then be recommended to the New Jersey Historic Village Collection to be made into a keepsake. YOU CAN VOTE FOR UP TO THREE (3).



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