Since a very young age, I have been exposed to a lot of history living in Princeton, New Jersey. My family's history is very important to me. Some of my earliest memories are hearing stories about my ancestors who came to America from England in 1637. I grew up observing a Civil War jacket that is proudly displayed above our mantle in the living room. It was worn by a relative who was a member of the New Hampshire Cavalry in 1865.

It led to my love of all types of history. Taking multiple history courses in high school has been one of my favorite parts of my experience. One course I really liked was US History, learning about America's history and being able to experience it through the Historical Society has been an invincible way to pursue my passion.

I have been an intern at the Historical Society of Princeton for the last two summers and it has been such a wonderful experience. Being a part of showcasing Princeton's local history is something that I really enjoy. Through my internship at HSP, I have helped with their historic garden allowing me to learn about many different cultures that are a part of Princeton's diverse cultural history. I participated in the fall garden tour allowing me to be able to speak with others about the history of our town and its special place in America's history from even before the country's independence. I truly appreciate these conversations as I always learn a lot from others perspectives and insight. I also attended a talk this spring on Princeton residents' experiences during the revolutionary war which was intriguing and I really enjoyed understanding more what someone such as myself would've experienced in the town I've grown up in. The staff members and volunteers at HSP are incredibly knowledgeable and passionate about preserving and telling the story of Princeton's important role in our nation's vast history. I'm looking forward to continuing to deepen my understanding of Princeton's rich history.

I believe knowing the history of the world allows you to have a very unique perspective on many topics that I find very interesting, but knowing local history that has greatly influenced the town I live in is equally important. Understanding how our community has evolved over time is extremely interesting and there are so many different aspects of Princeton's history to learn about from the history of the battle of Princeton to the incredible minds who've spent many years in this town.

The Historical Society has been a terrific experience and allowed me to follow my passion for history and deepen my understanding of not only Princeton's local history but local history as a whole. I am very grateful for the experience and hope to continue to pursue history throughout my life.