

The creation of the Linwood Historical Society in 1981 was an outgrowth of the strong community spirit generated by a week-long celebration of Linwood's centennial. The mission of the Society is to discover and collect materials which help establish or illustrate the history of Linwood. The Society provides for the preservation of the materials and their accessibility to the public. It also disseminates historical information to encourage interest in and appreciation for the past. Some of these activities are, publishing a quarterly newsletter, maintaining a website on Linwood's history, holding public meetings on local history, working with school district teachers and administration to provide instructional programs and marking historic sites and buildings. In 2002 the Society cooperated with City Historian Carolyn Patterson in the publication of *Images of America: Linwood*, a book on the history of the town.

The Society maintains two museums. The historic Leedsville School Museum at 16 Poplar Avenue, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989. This historic one-room school house was built in 1873 and has been in continuous public use since then. It contains the major portion of the collection and serves as the Society's headquarters.

The School Museum also has an annex in the 1544 Building dedicated to the many corner stores and gas stations of the early 20th century. Displays here include many photos and items found in those popular neighborhood stores. There is also a corner dedicated to the Linwood Police Department which used the building as its first headquarters from 1944 to 1965.

The Linwood Maritime Museum, located in the Linwood Library, tells the story of Linwood's maritime past and the people who played an important part in that history. The displays there include an outstanding collection of sailing ship models by Tom Adams as well as tools and documents donated to the museum by the descendants of the baymen and ships captains of Linwood.

The Society is managed by a Board of Directors which meets monthly