

# Joseph A. Grabas, CTP, NTP

## Historical Land Title Research Expert

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**Mr. Grabas** has a long history in land title education in the State of New Jersey. Joe has been designated as a **Certified Title Professional** by the *New Jersey Land Title Association* and as a **National Title Professional** by the *American Land Title Association*. As one of the Founding Trustees of the New Jersey Land Title Institute, Joe instructed the Title Insurance Pre-licensing Education course for many years at Rutgers University, Drew University and Bloomfield College. He has lectured widely on topics related to Title matters, Historical Land Records and NJ Colonial Slavery & Emancipation, appearing on behalf of the NJLTI, The Title Academy, Half Moon Seminars, National Business Institute, New Jersey Land Title Association, Genealogical Society of New Jersey, Monmouth County Genealogical Society, Ossining Historical Society, Central Jersey Genealogy Club, NJ Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Morris Area Genealogical Society, Genealogy Society of the Westfields, Association for Gravestone Studies, Passaic County Genealogy Club, NJ Department of Banking and Insurance, the NJ State Archives and other similar groups.

In 2008, Mr. Grabas founded the Grabas Institute for Continuing Education to bring alternative historically based continuing education to the title, legal and real estate professions and to establish an organization that would support and sustain research into the impact of land ownership and conveyancing on the social and economic development of the State of New Jersey.

For over 38 years, Joe has performed extensive land title research in five States, all twenty-one counties in New Jersey, the records of the New Jersey State Archives, the East and West Jersey Board of Proprietors and Conrail. He regularly appears in New Jersey Courts as an expert witness in matters regarding real property records, title research, title insurance and conveyancing. During the past two decades, Joe has brought his knowledge and experience to the NJDOBI Title Insurance Licensing Exam Review Committee

Graduating from Monmouth University, Summa Cum Laude with a degree in History, he has concentrated his research on the early history of New Jersey, Proprietary and Colonial land conveyances and Free African American land holdings in the antebellum period.

Joe supports and remains active in the NJ History community and is a Historical Commissioner for the County of Monmouth. He is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, New Jersey Historical Society, Monmouth County Historical Association, Genealogical Society of New Jersey and Monmouth County Genealogy Society. He serves annually as a Judge in the State competition for National History Day, is an Eagle Scout and embraces the importance of education and a duty to nurture intellectual discourse.