The Long Branch Historical Museum Association (LBHMA) was organized in 1953 in order to preserve the St. James Chapel, in Long Branch NJ. It is now known as the Church of the Presidents Museum, in honor of the seven US Presidents associated with the area.

The local Episcopalian Diocese deconsecrated the chapel and plans were set to demolish the building. Edgar Dinkelspiel and Bernard Sandler found a clause in the early church deed which stipulated that the property would be returned to its original owner should it cease to be a house of worship. After finding the descendants, securing their interests in the property, and negotiating with the Trenton Diocese, LBHMA was formed.

Local residents Edgar Dinkelspiel, Haslam Slocum, Elizabeth R. Benjamin, Frank Anastasia, W. Earl Hopper, Barets O. Benjamin, and Christopher H. Snyder, Vicar (with Eugene McVeigh acting as attorney, became the first Trustees of the non-profit organization. Their mission was to preserve the chapel for the benefit its unique history.

In 1955, the Church of the Presidents was re-dedicated as

The Long Branch Historical Museum.

In 1976, the Church of the Presidents was named to the State of New Jersey and National Registries of Historic Places.