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NEW JERSEY

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# New Heights

The Garden State is reaching skyward, literally and figuratively, in its outstanding residential construction—from the Gold Coast to The Jersey Shore

By Laure D.C. Kolnoski



Imagine living in a uniquely conceived community on a historic 1,127-acre former U.S. Army base— one that's within minutes of the Jersey Shore. The first residents of the East Gate townhomes by RPM Development are already there. The homes, built in what was once housing for Fort Monmouth officers, are located inside of the base's entrance, next to its former Parade Grounds.

The 68 homes—duplexes and single-family residences—are being redeveloped and sold in phases. The first group was completed last year. Their neighbors will soon include an artists' community, a bowling alley, a microbrewery, retail stores, restaurants, offices, an athletic club, and more. A gold course and county-run recreation complex already exist on the property, which spans three towns—Eatontown, Oceanport, and Tinton Falls. Oceanport town buildings will occupy a site near East Gate, so policy and emergency services are already in place.

Since the Officers Housing is part of the 100-year-old fort's Historic District, its brick exteriors were retained and improved. Interiors, on the other hand, were completely renovated and outfitted with top



-drawer modern amenities and finishes. The homes have hardwood flooring, modern kitchens with granite or quartz countertops, stainless steel Kohler fixtures, and GE appliances. Master-bathroom suites are equipped with double vanity countertops, Moen Eva faucets, and showers with built-in benches and frameless doors. Some units have sunrooms and bonus dens.

A municipal park and the Marina at Oceanport restaurant and small craft marina (formerly the base's marina) are within walking distance. New Jersey Transit's Little Silver train station is just two miles away, and the nearest Garden State Parkway exit was upgraded specifically to accommodate the fort's next incarnation. Prices for the two- and three-story residences range from the \$500,000s to the \$700,000s.