

**Phase IA Documentary Study and Archaeological Sensitivity
Assessment for the Zabriskie-Steuben House, Historic New Bridge
Landing Park, River Edge, Bergen County, New Jersey**



Prepared for:

The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Prepared by:

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Edited by:

Alyssa Loorya, Ph.D., R.P.A., and Christopher Ricciardi, Ph.D., R.P.A.

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Chrysalis Archaeological Consultants, Inc (Chrysalis) was retained by The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJ DEP) Ringwood State Park and the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission (The Commission) to undertake a Phase IA Documentary Study and Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment for the Zabriskie-Steuben House (also known as the Steuben House). This National Register of Historic Places-listed property is located in Historic New Bridge Landing Park in River Edge, Bergen County, New Jersey. The property is owned and operated under a public - private partnership that divides responsibilities amongst the NJ DEP, the The Commission and the Bergen County Historical Society (BCHS).

NJ DEP, The Commission and BCHS recognize the historic significance of the property as well as the likelihood of necessary infrastructural work to upgrade utilities on the property and in the surrounding area, as well as the need to address drainage issues and to mitigate flooding and erosion along the adjacent Hackensack River. The Commission also plans to implement future upgrades in the park area to support visitor education, ecotourism, and overall visitor experience as outlined in their 2010 Historic New Bridge Landing Park Master Plan (Appendix A).

This study assesses the Zabriskie-Steuben House property, previous archaeological findings, and contextual surroundings within Historic New Bridge Landing Park for potentially significant cultural resources that could be impacted by possible future construction or development within the area. The Historic New Bridge Core forms the project area, although the general sensitivity of the surrounding park limits is considered. This study also provides recommendations for further study or mitigation where the potential for disturbance of buried or extant cultural resources exists.

In general, this study finds the property surrounding the Zabriskie-Steuben House from the Hackensack River to Main Street is archaeologically sensitive for prehistoric and historic resources. While prehistoric sensitivity is moderate due to intensive historic land development, there is documented regional contact-era activity and Late Woodland material recovered from the site. The area is sensitive for historic materials dating as early as the late seventeenth century. The area north of the Zabriskie-Steuben House likely contains remnants of at least three eighteenth or nineteenth century outbuildings. The yards west and south of the house are sensitive for eighteenth and nineteenth century yard scatter. Remnants of wood and stone quays or docks likely remain at the Hackensack River east of the house. Elements of a dam and grist mill may remain south of the house at the Coles Brook. In general, the area south of the wetlands and phragmites in the park is sensitive for outbuildings and scatter related to eighteenth and nineteenth century agriculture or commercial traffic, as well as material related to British and American encampments in the park area during the Revolutionary War. Testing strategies are suggested for assessing the presence or absence of extant cultural resources in these areas.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Chrysalis Archaeological Consultants, Inc (Chrysalis) was retained by The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJ DEP) Ringwood State Park and the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission (The Commission) to undertake a Phase IA Documentary Study and Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment for the Zabriskie-Steuben House (also known as the Steuben House) (Map 01). This National Register of Historic Places-listed property is located in Historic New Bridge Landing Park in River Edge, Bergen County, New Jersey (Map 02). The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission has requested a thorough history and archaeological sensitivity assessment of the property to inform possible future work at the site. The property is owned and operated under a public - private partnership that divides responsibilities amongst the NJ DEP, The Commission and the Bergen County Historical Society (BCHS).

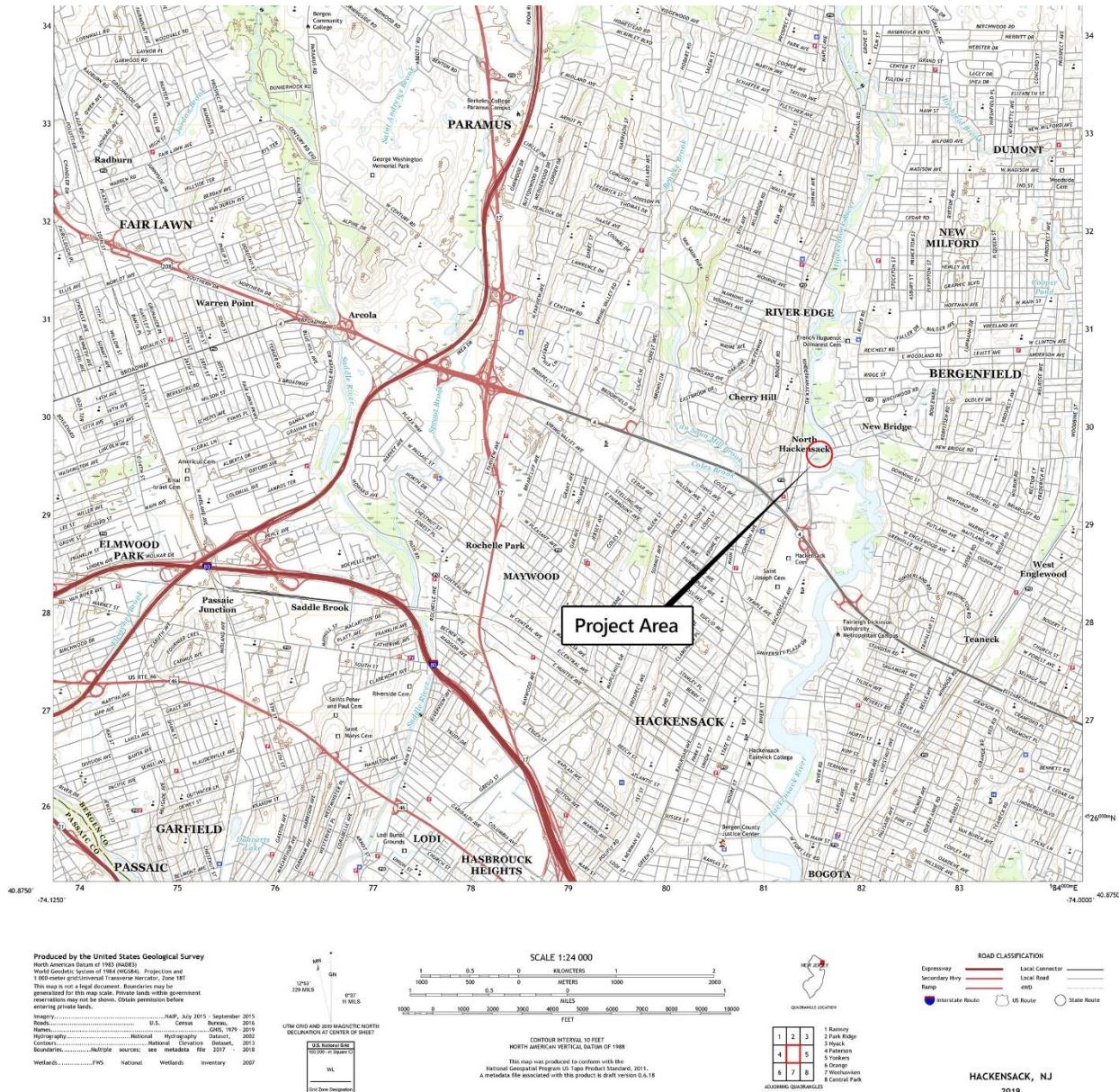
The purpose of a traditional Phase IA study is to assess and document the history of the project area to determine the cultural resources sensitivity of a property and/or the potential impacts of proposed development on a project area. A traditional Phase IA study's primary goal is to assess the prehistoric and historic potential of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) regarding buried and/or extant cultural resources. An APE is defined as any area in which activities related to project undertakings have the potential to disturb potentially significant cultural resources.

At present, there is no specific proposed project for the Zabriskie-Steuben House or surrounding Historic New Bridge Landing Park. NJ DEP, The Commission and BCHS recognize the historic significance of the property as well as the likelihood of necessary infrastructural work to upgrade utilities on the property and in the surrounding area, as well as the need to address drainage issues and to mitigate flooding and erosion along the adjacent Hackensack River. The Commission also plans to implement future upgrades in the park area to support visitor education, ecotourism, and overall visitor experience as outlined in their 2010 Historic New Bridge Landing Park Master Plan (Appendix A). The interested parties recognize the archaeological potential of the property in consideration of future work.

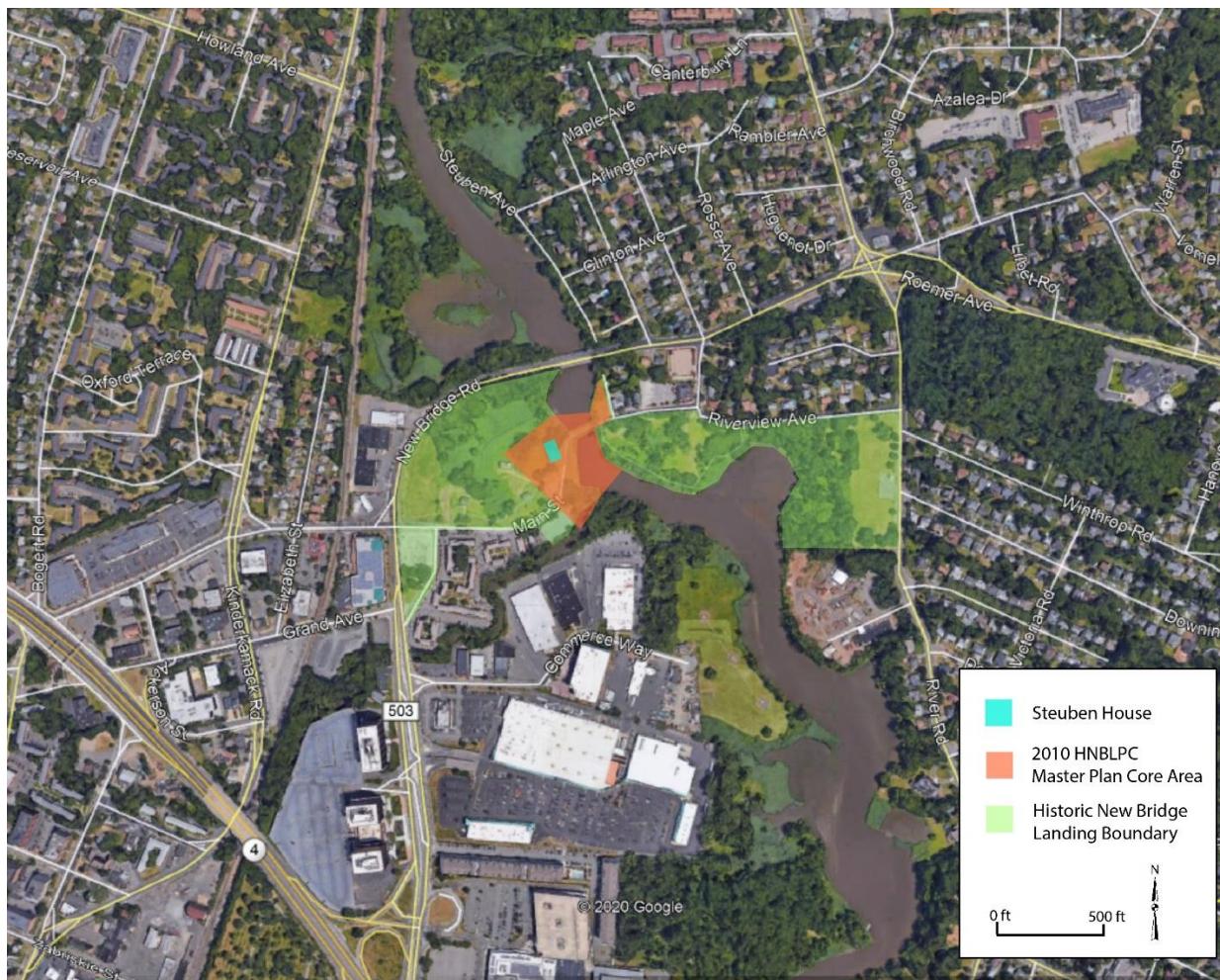
This study assesses the Zabriskie-Steuben House property and its contextual surroundings within Historic New Bridge Landing Park for potentially significant cultural resources that could be impacted by possible future construction or development within the area. The Historic New Bridge Core forms the project area (Map 02), although the general sensitivity of the surrounding park limits is considered. This study also provides recommendations for further study or mitigation where the potential for disturbance to potential buried or extant cultural resources exist.

In general, this study finds the property surrounding the Zabriskie-Steuben House from the Hackensack River to Main Street is archaeologically sensitive for prehistoric and historic resources. While prehistoric sensitivity is moderate due to intensive historic land development, there is documented regional contact-era activity, and Late Woodland ceramics have been recovered from the site. The area is sensitive for historic materials dating as early as the late seventeenth century. The area north of the Zabriskie-Steuben House likely contains remnants of at least three eighteenth or nineteenth century outbuildings. The yards west and south of the house are sensitive for eighteenth and nineteenth century yard scatter. Remnants of wood and stone quays

or docks likely remain at the Hackensack River east of the house. Elements of a dam and grist mill may remain south of the house at the Coles Brook. In general, the area south of the wetlands and phragmites in the park is sensitive for outbuildings and scatter related to eighteenth and nineteenth century agriculture or commercial traffic, as well as material related to British and American encampments in the park area during the Revolutionary War.



Map 01: USGS Topographic Map, Hackensack, New Jersey 7.5" Quadrangle (USGS 2019).



Map 02: Aerial view with Zabriskie-Steuben House, Historic New Bridge Landing, and Historic Core Unit noted (Google Earth 2020).

II. PROJECT AREA CONTEXT

Historic New Bridge Landing Park is a unit of intact and relocated historic architectural resources and archaeologically sensitive land situated at an important ecological, commercial, and historical crossroads in Bergen County, New Jersey, less than ten miles west of Manhattan. The Commission's 2003 Interpretive Plan divides the park land into four units: 1.) the Historic New Bridge Core, encompassing the historic structures and grounds approaching and crossing the 1889 swing bridge over the Hackensack River; 2.) the Brett Park Upland, encompassing the sandy terrace east of the Hackensack River bounded by Riverview Avenue and River Road; 3.) the Society Lands Unit, encompassing Bergen County Historical Society property running from Main Street, River Edge east to the Zabriskie-Steuben House land and north to Hackensack Avenue/New Bridge Road (including a driveway and parking lot along with the relocated Campell-Christie House, the relocated Westervelt-Thomas barn, and land leased to the Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation for the relocated Demarest House); and 4.) the Hackensack Avenue Gateway, encompassing properties on the east side of Hackensack Avenue near Main Street (Map 03). This report focuses on the Historic New Bridge Core and includes the Society Lands Unit immediately

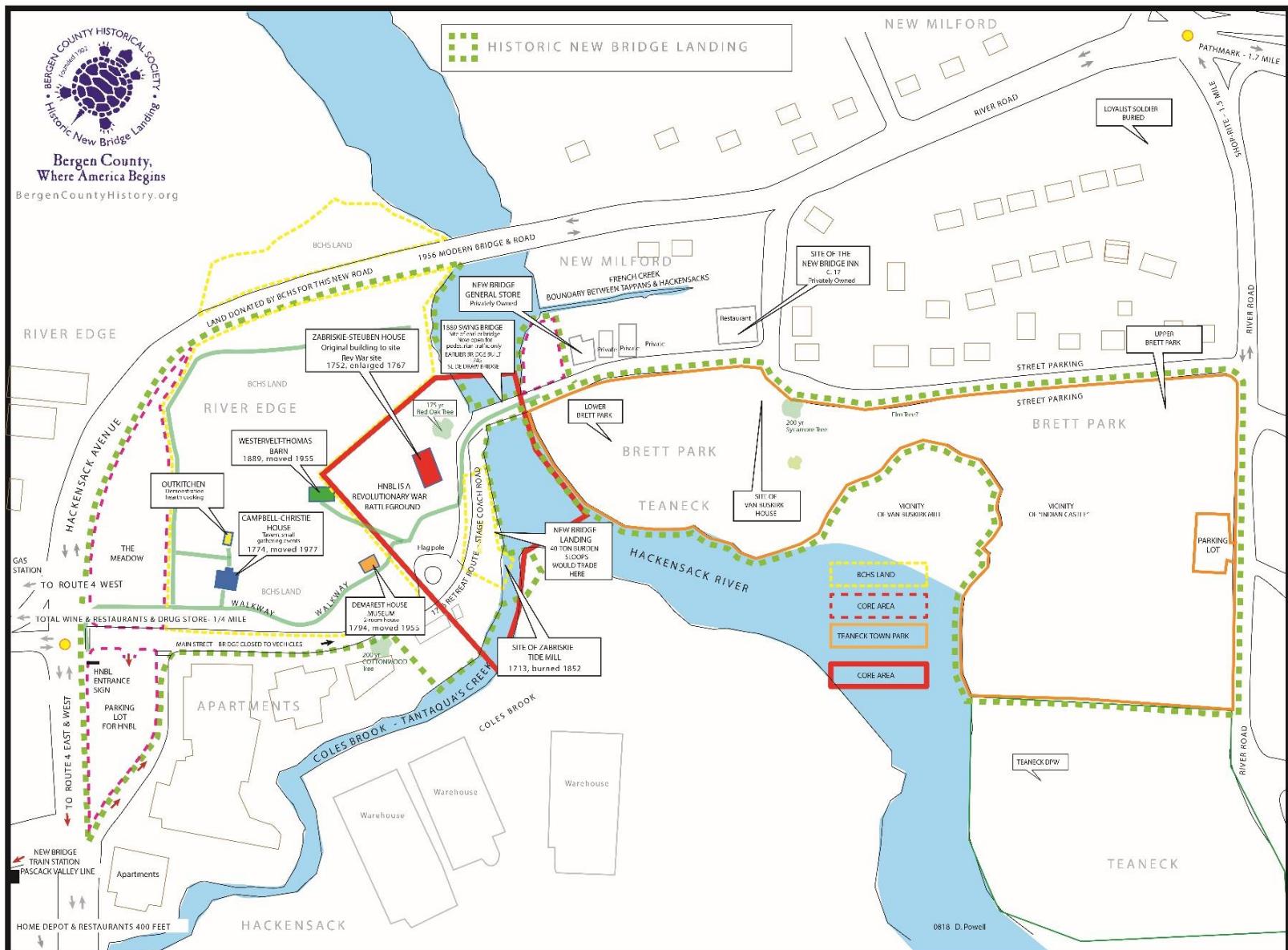
to the west as a cohesive segment in terms of archaeological sensitivity, with consideration of the wider Park's more general archaeological potential (HNBLIC 2003).

The Zabriskie-Steuben House, a pre-Revolutionary War Dutch sandstone house on the west bank of the Hackensack River, is the only historic house in its original location among the structures on the Historic New Bridge Core and Society Lands Units (Image 01). Likely constructed in 1752, the Zabriskie-Steuben House was the residential seat for a grist mill operation immediately to the southeast, where the Coles Brook meets the Hackensack River. The Zabriskie-Steuben House remains the only extant home along the route of George Washington's 1776 retreat from New York City and Fort Lee, and it served as Washington's headquarters during the 1780 Steenrapie encampment. The Zabriskie-Steuben House fronts land owned by the State of New Jersey which extends to the Hackensack River. Historic New Bridge Park also includes the Bergen County-owned 1889 New Bridge and the streetscapes approaching the historic 1889 bridge, and riparian marshlands and the lower part of Clarence Brett Park in Teaneck, New Jersey.

West of the Zabriskie-Steuben House lie four non-original structures moved to or erected on the stretch of grassy Bergen County Historical Society land adjacent to the house. The Westervelt-Thomas Barn, constructed ca. 1889 at Ridgewood Road in Washington Township, NJ, was relocated to Historic New Bridge Landing in 1954 and raised upon a new cement-block foundation in 1984. The barn houses carriages, farming implements, and architectural artifacts for display. The Demarest House, a sandstone miller's cottage believed to have been constructed 1794, was deconstructed from its original site in New Milford, NJ and rebuilt in its current location in 1956. The Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation showcases an artifact collection within the house, which acts as the Demarest House Museum. The Campell-Christie House, a stone house constructed ca. 1774 in New Milford, NJ, was relocated in 1977 and is staffed by the Bergen County Historical Society. After its relocation, the Campell-Christie House was expanded with a rear wing housing a small kitchen, a public bathroom, and ramp access to the historic house. In 1990, the John R. Demarest Out-Kitchen beehive style oven was constructed on site behind the Campbell-Christie House for interpretive reenactments (Map 03) (HNBLIC 2003).



Image 01: Zabriskie-Steuben House in Historic New Bridge Landing Park, facing northwest, June 2020.



Map 03: Historic New Bridge Landing and its component structures (BCHS 2019).

The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission, formed in 1995 and staffed by representatives of the NJ DEP, the Bergen County Historical Society, the Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation, Bergen County, River Edge Borough, New Milford Borough, and Teaneck Township has the specific power to contract for the construction, reconstruction, restoration, or maintenance of all lands, buildings, landscaping, bridges, docks, and facilities under its jurisdiction including the maintenance, restoration, and reconstruction of the Zabriskie-Steuben House, the Demarest House, the Campbell-Christie House, the Westervelt-Thomas Barn and the construction and operation of a visitor center, library, mill site, curator's residence, parking area, and other appropriate structures. The Commission is also tasked with managing the natural and cultural aspects of Historic New Bridge Park as a united front, as well as refurbishment of park resources and park promotion. A 2003 Interpretive Plan and 2010 Master Plan help guide the Commission's goals and implementation strategy to unite the area's natural and historical resources and create and maintain new programming and visitor experiences (HNBLC 2003, HNBLC 2010).

III. RESEARCH DESIGN/METHODOLOGY

As there is no specific proposed construction at this time, this Phase 1A focuses on contextualizing previous archaeological testing with the history of the Zabriskie-Steuben House and its surroundings to develop an archaeological sensitivity model for the project area. Based on this model, recommendations for further study or mitigation possibilities are presented. This information can be utilized by The Commission as they design and implement preservation and development plans at the Zabriskie-Steuben House and greater Historic New Bridge Landing Park.

PROJECT METHODS

Standard methodologies were employed to gather information for this study including a review of existing cultural resource reports within the repositories of the New Jersey State Museum and New Jersey Historic Preservation Office. These resources include early archaeological site surveys conducted by the State Geologic Survey. Additional information referenced includes a review of historical maps, photographic and other documentary information from various online and library/museum repositories, including the Library of Congress and National Archives, as well as information provided by the Bergen County Historical Society. An informal pedestrian survey of the house and property was also conducted to assess present site conditions.

As several previous studies of the general project area document a detailed regional history (see Hunter 2001, HNBLC 2003, Wright 2004), a summary of the pre-contact and historic histories is presented in this report. This study emphasizes the components of the history that tell the story of the Zabriskie-Steuben House and contribute to the property's significance.

IV. SYNTHESIS OF PREVIOUS WORK

A survey of files at the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office (NJ HPO) and the New Jersey State Museum (NJSM) identified nine known cultural resources sites within a two-mile radius of the Zabriskie-Steuben House (Table 01). This same review found eight previous cultural resources reports localized within a two-mile radius of the Zabriskie-Steuben House. Among these are reports of work at the Zabriskie-Steuben House itself (Table 02).

Table 01: Cultural resource sites within two-mile radius of the Zabriskie-Steuben House on file at the NJSM.

SITE NUMBER/ NAME	DRAINAGE AREA	SOURCE	OCCUPATION PERIOD
28Be56/Spring Valley	Herring Brook	NJSM: Skinner & Schrabisch 1913:84	Unknown Prehistoric Site
28Be57/Spring Valley	Herring Brook	NJSM: Skinner & Schrabisch 1913:84	Unknown Prehistoric Site
28Be58/Spring Valley	Herring Brook	NJSM: Skinner & Schrabisch 1913:84	Unknown Prehistoric Site
28Be59/Spring Valley	Van Saun Brook	NJSM: Skinner & Schrabisch 1913:84	Unknown Prehistoric Site
28Be60/Spring Valley	Hackensack River	NJSM: Skinner & Schrabisch 1913:84	Unknown Prehistoric Site
28Be83/Teaneck Hackensack River	Hackensack River	NJSM: Skinner & Schrabisch 1913:84	Unknown Prehistoric Site
28Be84/Teaneck Hackensack River near Bogota border	Hackensack River	NJSM: Skinner & Schrabisch 1913:84	Unknown Prehistoric Site
18Be193/Ackerman-Zabriskie-Steuben House	Coles Brook confluence with Hackensack River	Kardas, 1976; NJSM: Fittipaldi 1983; Hunter 2001	Historic/Contact Period Site c. 1650-late 1800s
French Huguenot Cemetery and Huguenot Church Site Historic District (ID# 5686)	Hackensack River	NJ HPO 2020	Historic cemetery c. 1680-1800s

Table 02: Cultural resource reports conducted within two-mile radius of the Zabriskie-Steuben House on file with the NJ HPO.

YEAR	TITLE	AUTHOR	CONCLUSIONS
1967	Von Steuben Property River Edge, New Jersey Report on the Preliminary Archaeological Survey Seeking the Original Shoreline and Early Docks	Roland Robbins	Historic material recovered. More archaeological excavation suggested.
1980-1981	Bergen County Historic Sites Survey Borough of River Edge	Bergen County Department of Parks Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs Bergen County, New Jersey	
1983	Subsurface Cultural Resource Survey of Proposed Electric and Telephone Lines at Von Steuben	Janet Fittipaldi - NJ Department of Environmental Protection	Historic material recovered in all post holes opened

YEAR	TITLE	AUTHOR	CONCLUSIONS
	House River Edge, Bergen County		
2001	Archaeological Investigations in Connection with Exterior Repairs at the Zabriskie/Steuben House Historic New Bridge Landing River Edge Borough, Bergen County New Jersey	Vincent Marseca, William Liebeknecht Richard Hunter – State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Parks and Forestry	Historic material recovered, and some Prehistoric material in disturbed contexts recovered.
2004	Cultural Resources Investigation NJ Transit Pascack Valley Line, North Hackensack Rail Station Borough of River Edge, Bergen County New Jersey	Richard Grubb and Associates, Inc.	Lots of disturbance found in the area. Low density of architectural and domestic historic artifacts present.
2005	Phase IA Archaeological Investigation Bergen County Walkway from Steuben House, River Edge to Johnson Park, Hackensack City Bergen County, New Jersey	James Cox	Moderate to low potential for archaeological materials present. Phase IB archaeological survey recommended.
2000, 2013- 2014	Bergen County Historic Sites Survey Borough of River Edge	Bergen County Department of Parks Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs Bergen County, New Jersey	Steuben House listed on National and New Jersey Register of Historic Places as of November 2013.

An interpretive summary of known previous archaeological findings in the project area is presented below.

BERGEN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1959

Newspaper clippings and notes provided by the BCHS indicate the organization sponsored a volunteer excavation north of the Zabriskie-Steuben House during one or two weekends in June 1959. This avocational excavation was based off a survey “made some time ago by a State engineer” that was thought to have identified the location of a razed outbuilding with a buried brick floor (Bergen Record 1959a). The 2003 HNBLC Interpretive Plan indicates this work commenced based on “old brickwork” found during November 1954 test pit excavation in advance of septic tank replacement approximately 30’ northwest of the Zabriskie-Steuben House (HNBLC 2003).

Seventy-five BCHS members apparently uncovered a solid brick floor reported as either 15' by 15' or 12' by 12', approximately 50' north of the house. They collected several hundred artifacts from the surrounding area including "china, earthenware, hand-made nails and small tools" as well as a Dutch earthenware (possibly redware) pie plate, a bottle of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp Root Remedy, a 17" strap hinge, charred bricks and meat hooks (New York Times 1959, Bergen Record 1959b). No published account of this excavation could be identified. It was speculated that the brick formed the floor of a smokehouse or kitchen, but the uncovered structure does not appear to have been mapped or remained visible.

ROBBINS 1967

The 1967 Robbins report investigated the shoreline east and southeast of the Zabriskie-Steuben House. Five excavation trenches east of the house found four areas of timber cribbing beginning at 1.8' below the 1967 November high tide elevation, continuing at least another 4' deep. A potential stone covered surface was identified about even with the high tide line within the timber cribbing, speculated to be an Ab horizon. Robbins identified a potential eighteenth century Ab horizon immediately east of the modern roadway, approximately 4' below the modern road surface.

One trench of unknown size and location north of the house encountered two 9" squared wooden pipes running east-west at 2.5' to 3.5' below ground surface, surrounded by backfill containing eighteenth and nineteenth century artifacts. These pipes sloped down to the east and terminated at a collection of underground boulders. Robbins suggested this might be drainage for a building north of a service road near the house (Robbins 1967).

KARDAS 1975-1976

Pre-construction testing began in 1975 west of the Zabriskie-Steuben House and between the Demarest House and the Westervelt-Thomas Barn in an area slated for disturbance from sewer and utility installations. Testing was expanded in 1976 when last-minute construction plan changes altered the utility excavation route. Kardas and team excavated at least ten test units, two trenches, and eleven auger holes. Kardas found much of this area had been previously impacted by utility and landscaping work, and the area had been further impacted by the scatter of construction debris from the dismantling of the wooden western house wing addition. Over 600 artifacts were recovered from ten test units dug to 2' to 3' bgs, although it is not clear what proportion of these materials were recovered from disturbed contexts versus potential *in situ* scatter throughout the yard. Kardas proposed general artifact production dates suggest roughly 10' radial rings of temporally related refuse scatter in the yard west of the Zabriskie-Steuben House: ca.1700-1800 materials from 0'-10' west of the house's brick walkway, ca.1800-1850s materials from 10'-20' west, and post-1850s material beyond 20' west. The most common materials recovered were American redware ceramics, although Chinese and European ceramic sherds were also identified, along with coins minted 1718 and 1845. The area roughly 10' around the Zabriskie-Steuben House brick path was considered most sensitive for Revolutionary-era materials, based on the artifact distribution encountered.

Landscaping to artificially level the yard may have impacted historical debris scatter, especially beyond 10' from the house. Kardas also suggested the water table has risen since the house's construction, as water seepage began as shallow as 1' bgs within artifact-bearing soils during 1975 excavation (Kardas 1976).

MILNER 1977

As part of a larger architectural assessment of the Zabriskie-Steuben House, John Milner and Associates excavated nine test units surrounding the house foundations. Three test units were located alongside the west foundation wall, two along the south foundation wall, and two along the north foundation wall. An additional unit was excavated alongside the east porch near a flagstone walk, and a final test unit was placed 40' west of the northwest house corner.

Units around the house revealed builders trenches around the foundation, with construction for a brick walkway at the west side of the house obscuring a former extension present on the southwest side of the building. Excavation at the northeast building corner revealed the base of the house's stone footing rests 2' bgs. Foundation excavation suggested the house's original construction grade was no deeper than 1.5' below 1977 ground surface.

Excavation of a 3' by 3' unit 40' west of the house encountered a shallow water table (less than 2' bgs) and a single dark sandy loam stratum with mortar and rubble inclusions consistent with fill found around the house, suggesting construction debris scatter across the area northwest of the house, rising water table, and/or intermittent filling of uneven ground across the site.

FITTIPALDI 1983

Excavation related to new telecom utilities was conducted in the form of two rows of three shovel test pits south of the Zabriskie-Steuben House and one row of four shovel test pits north of the house. Shovel test pits south of the house found architectural rubble, likely associated with the use and/or deconstruction of the "trading post" south wing of the house present in the mid and late nineteenth century. Four shovel test pits north of the house encountered architectural rubble, perhaps related to razed outbuildings or scattered building rubble from renovation of the house or grounds (Hunter 2001).

HUNTER 2001

Prior to reconstruction of the Zabriskie-Steuben House's front (eastern) porch and the re-laying of a southeastern portion of the exterior brick walkway, Hunter Research undertook testing around the planned work and the locations of eighteenth-century house entrances. Eight shovels test pits at the planned location of new porch posts uncovered a Late Woodland (ca.1000-1600 AD) prehistoric ceramic sherd along with eighteenth and nineteenth century sherds, as well as stone footings from earlier iterations of the porch. Four shovel test pits in the southern yard identified an Ab horizon at 1.5' bgs with scattered faunal food remains and an area of demolished brick and coal ash fills near the proposed location of the so-called "trading post" nineteenth century south extension. The southern yard subsoil was generally encountered 2' bgs.

Three test units extending up to 7.5' long excavated at the building's east side revealed evidence of a mid-1760s builders trench and Ab yard scatter. Also encountered was a 6' long, .5' deep cut into the subsoil filled with redeposited rubble corresponding to construction and ground leveling activity around the house, possibly construction of the mid-1760s northern house addition. A second construction debris context with coal, brick and mortar rubble, and eighteenth-century artifacts also appeared in the units. This context (Context 4) was interpreted as possibly related to David A. Zabriskie's ownership, deposited in the 1840s and coinciding with construction to the house and leveling or modifying of earlier, eighteenth century elements of the surrounding

grounds. Extensions of this context south of the house might possibly have instead been related to construction of the “trading post” in the first half of the 1800s.

Sandstone boulders and brownstones found above Context 4 were evidence for an early eastern porch foundation. Evidence of stone piers, replaced in the 1850s with brick piers, were also found south and north of the main house door. The post-1840s porch appeared to have been replaced in the late 1800s with a second porch, based on a layer of fine sand and silty loam with eighteenth and nineteenth century artifact inclusions found above the earlier foundations. Subfloor buildup atop this levelling fill included a 1907 cent, suggesting the second porch was used until at least the early 1900s before a third porch with sandstone footings was installed. The third phase porch was replaced by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1940 by pouring concrete over an added coal ash leveling layer; this WPA porch was to be replaced by the 2001 project.

As part of this project, a 75' long, 2.5' wide, 2.5' deep trench was excavated by the contractor alongside the eastern house wall, intermittently monitored and spot-screened by Division of Parks and Forestry staff and the archaeologists. This trench exposed the intact stone house foundations, which showed evidence of two construction phases and extended to 2' bgs.

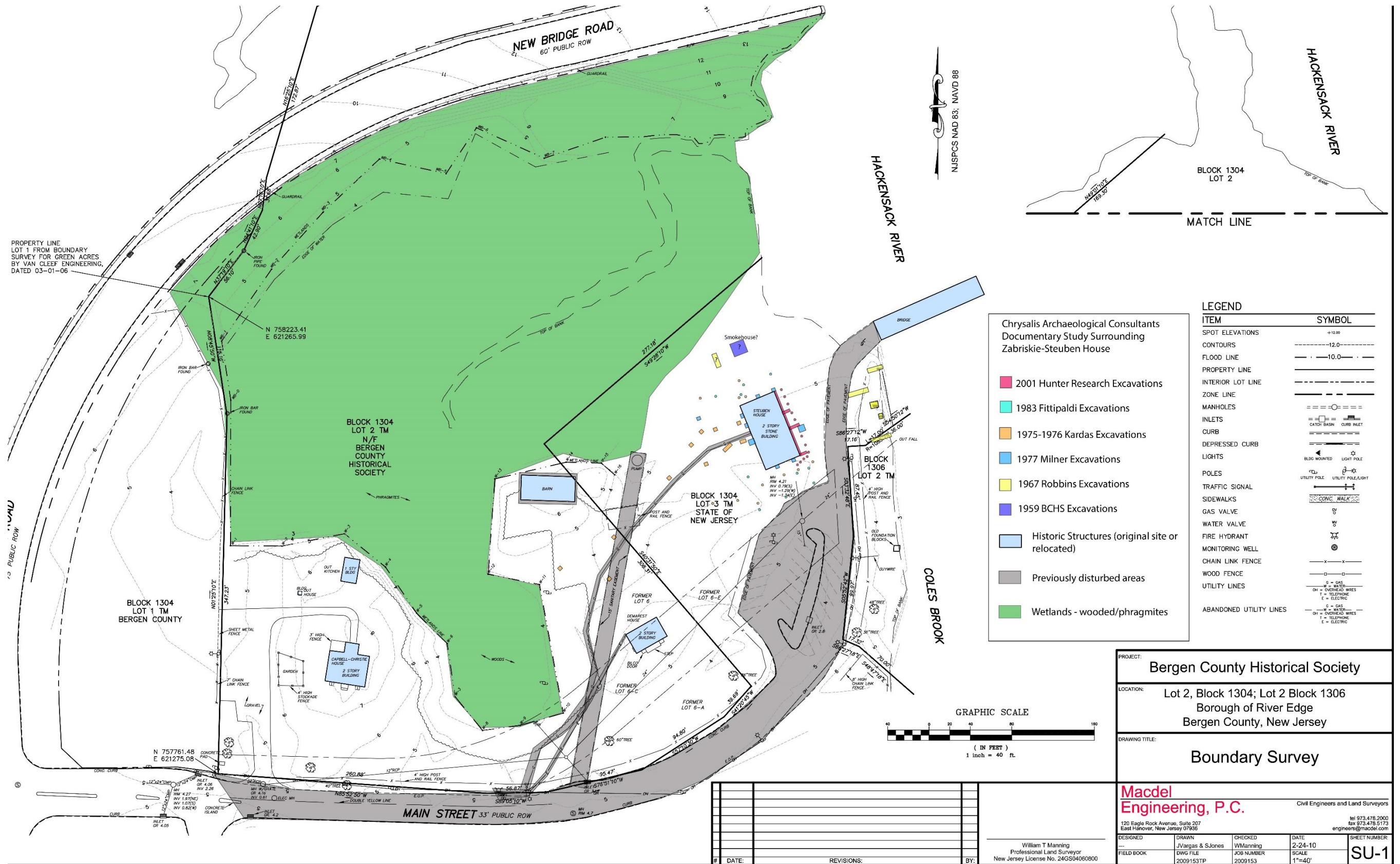
SUMMARY

These reports and their findings indicate there is archaeologically significant material around the Zabriskie-Steuben House and the general Historic New Bridge Landing area (Map 04). Portions of the areas west and southwest of the Zabriskie-Steuben House, between the Demarest House and the Westervelt-Thomas Barn, were disturbed in the mid-twentieth century by sewer and utilities installations. Kardas's 1975 and 1976 testing indicated the land closest to the Zabriskie-Steuben House, generally within 30' to 40', was the most archaeologically sensitive area for yard scatter west of the house. The western yard has a shallow water table, and the ground surface may have been leveled or infilled historically.

The 1971 Milner investigations and Hunter's 2001 testing have exposed the entire east side and parts of the south, west, and north existing Zabriskie-Steuben House foundations. Findings generally support a 1752 original construction date and 1760s north expansion timeline for the Zabriskie-Steuben House. Hunter's 2001 testing also indicated at least four phases of porches existed across the eastern side of the house. Construction in the mid-nineteenth century, perhaps associated with David A. Zabrinski's ownership, generated architectural rubble and fill at least along the east side of the house, perhaps extending north and south. Evidence of similar architectural rubble and fill at the southern end of the house may be related to construction for the “trading post” expansion in the first half of the 1800s or its demolition just after 1891. Relatively shallow stone foundations and a natural sloping topography toward the river underscore the flood threat at the house site.

A series of wooden docks and/or embankments once lined the west side of the Hackensack River east of the Zabriskie-Steuben House, according to Robbins. His 1967 trenching uncovered horizontal round timber cribbing, vertical pier timber elements, and potential Ab deposits along the river embankment. The eighteenth century Ab horizon he identified lying considerably lower (4' bgs) than the modern roadway suggests construction or maintenance of the road approaching the swing bridge, or some other series of historic landscaping work, included a considerable addition of soil to the area east of the Zabriskie-Steuben House.

The areas north and south of the Zabriskie-Steuben House, especially along the Coles Brook and west around the relocated buildings, remain relatively unexplored archaeologically. Testing south of the house has suggested evidence of the south wing expansion but has not fully assessed the stratigraphy or likelihood of yard deposits or features related to the southern “trading post”. Explorations north of the house are not well documented. The location of Robbins’ 1967 exploratory trench with wooden piping is unclear, as is the location of 1959 avocational testing that possibly identified a razed brick outbuilding.



Map 04: Previous archaeological testing and disturbance surrounding the Zabriskie-Steuben House, built upon a 2010 property survey (BCHS 2010).

V. HISTORIC BACKGROUND

The Zabriskie-Steuben House lands have a three-hundred-year history of changing ownership and political landscapes since before the creation of the United States, including associations with the Revolutionary War. The area also likely was utilized by Lenape bands at and before the contact period, and possibly was inhabited as early as the Archaic Period several thousand years ago. The history and integrity of the house and the surrounding lands are contributing factors toward the historic significance of New Bridge Landing Park.

The Zabriskie-Steuben House history has been well documented, most notably by Kevin Wright, former house curator and Interpretive Specialist with the New Jersey State Park Service, Division of Parks and Forestry (Wright NDa, Wright 2004, HNBLC 2003, HNBLC 2004). Other architectural and cultural resources investigations have explored various aspects of the house and the larger site's histories. These resources are referenced and excerpted here to contextualize archaeological questions and detail changes to the area over time.

TOPOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

The Zabriskie-Steuben House and the surrounding Historic Core Unit of Historic New Bridge Landing lays along the west bank of the Hackensack River's main channel. The area soil is categorized as Udorthents, wet substratum-Urban land complex (map unit UdwuB) according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey, a mix of moderately well drained loamy soil with anthropogenic developed and disturbed soil (NRCS 2020). The Project Area is in the Piedmont physiographic province in Bergen County, New Jersey. Piedmont terrain is made up of mostly sedimentary rocks including siltstone, shale, sandstone, and argillite, interspersed with basalt intrusions. The original bedrock of the area has been modified by glacial action, mainly through glacial drift and the creation of glacial lakes. The Hackensack River Valley, the drainage system in Bergen County, consists of mainly poorly drained marshland that has formed in peat because of a glacial lake which filled much of the terrain between the Watchung Mountains and the Palisades Ridge (Hunter 2001).

Presently, the Zabriskie-Steuben House rests within an open, grassy field rising west of the Hackensack River, north of Main Street, River Edge. The grassy area extends west to Hackensack Avenue/New Bridge Avenue and becomes a partially wooded wetland with cattails and phragmites northwest of the Zabriskie-Steuben House and Demarest House. The grassy area is improved with an asphalt paved pedestrian-only roadway extending Main Street to the 1889 swing bridge over the Hackensack River; overhead and underground utilities flanking this roadway; an asphalt paved walking path south of the Demarest House, Campbell-Christie House, and Zabriskie-Steuben House; a paved parking lot near Zabriskie-Steuben House; wooden perimeter fencing; and a gravel parking area west of the Campbell-Christie House (Map 05).



Map 05: 2020 aerial view around Zabriskie-Steuben House (Google Earth 2020).

PREHISTORIC PERIOD

Northeastern North America is believed to have been populated beginning roughly 13,000 BP, with indigenous peoples inhabiting the New Jersey region continuously through contact with and settlement of Europeans beginning in the late 1500s. Indigenous habitation is generally divided into four periods of native occupation: Paleo-indian, Archaic, Woodland, and the Contact. Each of these periods is identified by specific technologies and subsistence strategies identified through the archaeological record (Kraft 1986).

During the Paleo-indian Period (13,000 – 10,000 BP), small mobile groups appeared to favor elevated camps and water-front sites that were most likely submerged after the thawing of the Wisconsin Glacier. Temporary camps at elevated locations were well drained and provided vantage sites for monitoring game movement (Ritchie and Funk 1971). Rivers, lakes, salt marshes and other coastal environments were utilized for the abundant fish, shellfish, fowl, plant life and other aquatic resources. Lithic assemblages associated with Paleo-Indian are of the Eastern Clovis Tradition, characterized by flaked tools and fluted lanceolate projectile points. Lithic processing sites are often found alongside streams and rivers where food was procured (Marshall 1982; Fagan 2005). Few Paleo-indian sites have been definitively identified in New Jersey, and they tend to appear as lithic scatters with few associated artifacts. As Glacial Lake Hackensack was receding across the current Hackensack River Valley during this period, it is unlikely Paleo-indian sites remain around the narrower modern riverbanks surrounding the Project Area (Marshall 1982).

The Archaic Period occurred from about 8,000 - 1,000 BP. During this time sea levels rose, and the general environment began to resemble the present landscape. Archaic sites in the mid-Atlantic region generally show continual adaptation to the changing environment through hunting, gathering, and fishing. Although dwellings were still considered at most semi-permanent, temporal shifting within a regional occupation territory replaced more widespread transit (Weed 2009). While the population remained relatively low, semi-permanent groups focused on areas of high seasonal resource extraction potential. Population concentrations were centered in river valleys that had a wealth of diverse animal and plant resources (Fagan 2005). Eventually this acclimation to specific environments led to the diversity of regional specializations and cultural adaptations (Kraft and Mounier 1982; Kraft 1986). River valleys like the Hackensack would have likely been appealing for marine resources, and their bluffs and marginal areas would provide seasonal resource collection sites.

The Woodland period is divided into Early, Middle and Late and spanned from about 1,000 BP to European contact, about 400 BP/1600 AD. The Woodland Period saw the advent of agriculture and pottery, with Woodland sites characterized by the production of clay pottery and later by horticulture and agriculture (Kraft 1986; Custer 1989). Many of the adaptive strategies developed during the Archaic period in the northeastern woodlands continued into the Woodland period. Early and Middle Woodland groups that inhabited the area would have followed the same general settlement and subsistence patterns as the archaic groups before them but made intricately decorated ceramic vessels. Large rivers remained central to indigenous territories, utilized not only for their rich resources but also for transportation and communication between scattered peoples. As localized agricultural techniques developed, small population groups began settling into long-term habitation sites along with the continuation of smaller, more temporary resource gathering camps.

Throughout the Woodland period, Algonquian-speakers occupied a large area of the eastern United States. The boundaries of the Eastern Algonquian languages spanned along the Atlantic coast from the modern Carolinas north to Canada and inland to around modern Tennessee. Based on European early contact records, the prominent group that lived in the project area were Lenape, part of the Algonquin-speakers residing near the Delaware River. Local bands were referred to by early Dutch settlers as Tappans, Sanhican, and Hackensacks (Van Der Donk 1656). As the Lenape moved west, in part due to competition for land and resources with Europeans, they became known as the ‘Delaware.’ Marshall Becker characterizes the Lenape as nomadic, stating that “the earliest accounts of the Lenape come from personal journals of the mid-seventeenth century, from notes of travels made by a handful of people – a Swedish cleric, Dutch merchants and a Swedish captain.” In these accounts the Lenape were described as primarily hunter-gatherers who supplemented these practices with farming activities. These accounts describe the Lenape as living in bands of around 25 members around streams and rivers. In the summers they lived in semi-permanent camps by the mouth of the water system, farming, hunting, and fishing. In the winter, smaller groups would splinter off and move to hunting camps (Becker 1982)

The Hackensack River and its tributaries likely made appealing encampment sites for Archaic and Woodland period indigenous peoples, especially where raised bluffs formed local vantage points while also providing access to nearby flood plains and liminal forests where seasonal flora and faunal resources were plentiful. Three prehistoric sites (28Be60, 28Be83, 28Be84) were identified on the Hackensack's east bank within two miles of the project area in 1913 by Alanson Skinner and Max Schrabisch, two local archaeologists who conducted a large survey of known New Jersey prehistoric sites. Unfortunately, the nature of these sites is not recorded, so little data exists that might help determine their usage periods or habitation type. Skinner and Schrabisch identified four additional sites less than two miles northwest of the Zabriskie-Steuben House (28Be56, 28Be57, 28Be58, 28Be59) on the banks of the Van Saun Brook and Herring Brook. While we lack information about how and when indigenous peoples were using these sites, they are indicators that local groups of prehistoric peoples utilized the Hackensack and surrounding rivers for resource procurement. Identification of three sites on the east side of the Hackensack River may suggest the east bank was a more attractive location for prehistoric peoples than the west bank or that preservation conditions are better on the east bank.

CONTACT PERIOD

European contact had dramatic and drastic effects upon the local native groups. Initial contact between European settlers, primarily Dutch and Swedish, and indigenous peoples in New Jersey was sporadic around the early seventeenth century. While Dutch settlers were drawn to the land between the Atlantic and Delaware River by Dutch West India Company patroonship land grants in the seventeenth century, early European settlers who traded with and lived alongside native peoples in northern New Jersey represented a mix of ancestries. Several Dutch families made land deals with local Hackensack and Tappan bands of Lenape peoples around the 1670s, and the New Bridge area attracted Dutch, Swedish, Polish, and French settlers in the following decades (HNBLIC 2003). While the area was initially part of the New Netherlands colony, the British government took control of the region by the late seventeenth century; the region's close proximity to burgeoning New Amsterdam/New York City likely contributed to a creolization of local indigenous and multi-ethnic European peoples.

The Native American population of New Jersey rapidly declined after 1690 as different bands lost resources or moved out of the area. The so-called Minsi band of the Lenape moved west by 1690, and in the following years other groups migrated north to Canada or were forced west into Pennsylvania and Ohio. By the 1760s, it was thought only a few hundred native inhabitants were spread across New Jersey (Brinton 1885).

Some of the earliest referenced interactions between settlers and indigenous people in the project area include Laurence Andriessen and Company's 1676 purchase of "a tract of land called by the name of New Hackensack, bounded on Olde Hackensack and from thence running to a small kill or vale [later known as French Creek] adjoining to the Great Indian field called the Indian Castle to the northward" from the Hackensack sachem Tantaqua (Wright NDa). Tantaqua was known as a leader of a local Hackensack Lenape band that likely lived in the lands surrounding the project area. These lands included the "Great Indian" field referenced above which lay near the French Creek, a small brook on the east side of the Hackensack River just north of the extant 1889 swing bridge. The Coles Brook immediately south of the Zabriskie-Steuben House is also known as Tantaqua's Creek. Tantaqua is known for relating an aspect of the Lenape origin story to a missionary in 1679, and he notably recorded his signature on a 1677 patent sale with a mark that

appears to form a turtle (HNBLIC 2003). It appears his sale of regional lands in the late 1600s marked the end of formal indigenous occupation around the Project Area.

HISTORIC PERIOD

The Bergen Dutch were an agricultural community who settled and farmed the Saddle, Passaic, and Hackensack River Valleys beginning in the 1640s. Although Bergen was founded in the mid seventeenth century, in 1669 only one-third of its appointed lands had been formally settled, underscoring the generally sparse, agrarian nature of local land use (Harvey 1900). The Dutch settlers who controlled the major land tracts in the area were predominantly related to landholding families of New Amsterdam/New York City. Dutch ancestry accounted for between one-third and one-half of the population of Bergen and Hudson Counties around the time of the American Revolution; the remaining population were represented by 14 other ancestries, the most common being English, French and German (Harvey 1900, HNBLIC 2003). While Dutch influence was evident in “chatting distance” houses, cereal grain farming, and focus on the Hackensack and other local rivers as economic and social hubs, the Bergen Dutch creolized the various European and indigenous lifeways of local inhabitants through changing arts, architecture, and commerce. Among the various early regional settlers to contribute to this emerging local culture, one prominent Bergen family of Prussian descent was the Zabriskies.

Table 03 provides a listing of Zabriskie-Steuben House property owners and key events affecting the house and the surrounding properties as a reference piece for the historic discussion below.

Table 03: Zabriskie-Steuben House land ownership and key events.

DATE	PROPERTY OWNER	NOTES
1682	Cornelius Mattyse	Secures large (420 acre) expanse at Hackensack River and Coles Brook.
1695	David Ackerman	Purchases Mattyse land.
c.1713	Johannes Ackerman	Son of David Ackerman, controls land east of Steenrapie/Kinderkamack Road. Builds Ackerman House at Kinderkamack Road, west of current Zabriskie-Steuben House location. Builds grist mill and dam at Coles Brook mouth.
1745	Jan and Annatje Zabriskie	Purchase land after 1744 New Bridge and road construction
1752		Likely initial Zabriskie-Steuben House construction date.
c.1765		House expands north, growing from 5 to 12 rooms; gambrel roof added.
1774	John (Jan) Zabriskie Jr.	Jan Zabriskie wills house to his son, John/Jan Jr.
Nov. 20-21, 1776		George Washington leads American forces' retreat from defense of Fort Lee across New Bridge
Nov. 25, 1776		British 4 th Brigade camps at New Bridge

Sept. 4-20, 1780		George Washington headquarters at Zabriskie-Steuben House while his army camps nearby
1781	State of New Jersey	State confiscates Zabriskie-Steuben House from Loyalist John Zabriskie Jr., who had fled to New York.
1783		State grants Steuben life rights, not ownership, of 40 acres and house.
1784	Baron von Steuben	Steuben purchases 60 acres with house to secure ownership. Steuben rents the land to John Zabriskie Jr. c. 1785-1788
1788	John J. Zabriskie	House and lot sold to John J. Zabriskie, John Jr.'s son.
1796	Derrick Banta and Thomas Howard	Control lands following John J. Zabriskie's death in 1793.
1798	Luke Van Buskirk	Van Buskirk listed as shopkeeper and gristmill owner.
1815	Andrew Zobriskie ¹	Cousin of John Zabriskie purchases five tracts of Van Buskirk lands.
1838	David A. and John A. Zobriskie	Brothers purchase lands after father, Andrew Zobriskie, dies in 1837.
1852		Grist mill damaged or destroyed by fire
1889		Iron truss swing bridge replaces oak draw bridge.
1891	D. Anderson Zobriskie	Purchases lands after father, David A. Zobriskie, dies in 1887.
1907	Magdelena Zobriskie	Inherits after father, D. Anderson Zobriskie, dies in 1907.
1909	Charles Bell	Bell, later Hackensack Mayor, intends to found a manufacturing plant on site.
1910		Bell has Hackensack River dredged, possibly adds extant bulkhead.
1911	American Ink Company	Builds a small Ink Factory at Hackensack Avenue and Main Street; leased Zabriskie-Steuben House.
1916	Veronica Real Estate Company	Former Veronica Ink Company.
1919	Hannah L. Willson/Anita Irwin	Willson purchases the land and bequeaths it to her daughter, Anita, upon her 1919 death.
1928	State of New Jersey	State takes possession of historic house and surrounding 1 acre.
1939		Renovated house opens as public museum.

¹ Andrew Zobriskie's family name is generally spelled with an "o" in historic records, unlike their cousin John Zabriskie and his family. The name's spelling is inconsistent and varies considerably on historic maps and documents over time.

1944		BCHS purchases lands west of Zabriskie-Steuben House to create buffer area.
1954		BCHS and Blauvelt Demarest Foundation move Demarest House onto BCHS lands on site.
1955		BCHS donates lands north of Zabriskie-Steuben House to State to reroute planned four-lane road and bridge over 1889 swing bridge.
1976		BCHS moves Campbell-Christie house onto BCHS lands on site.

SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURIES - ACKERMAN AND ZABRISKIE FAMILIES

Albrecht Zaborowskij (Zabriskie) settled in Bergen around 1662 and in 1676 married Matilda Van Der Linde. Zabriskie apparently served as interpreter or witness for several land transactions with local indigenous groups, including several around Tantaqua's Creek/Coles Brook. Zabriskie himself became a prominent landholder among the Bergen area settlers. In 1745, Albert Zabriskie's son, Jan, took control of the land on which the Zabriskie-Steuben House would eventually be built (Harvey 1900, Wright NDa).

The earliest record of ownership for the Zabriskie-Steuben House lands is from 1682, when Cornelius Mattyse, a Swedish land-clearer and explorer, acquired 420 acres of land at the juncture of the Hackensack River and Coles Brook (Harvey 1900) (Map 06). In 1695 the land was purchased by David Ackerman. Ackerman's son, Johannes, built a home that was likely located just west of the project area, near modern Main Street and Elizabeth Court. He also erected a tidal gristmill at the Coles Brook opening to the Hackensack River, immediately south of the modern location of the Demarest and Zabriskie-Steuben Houses, using a dam at the brook's opening to the Hackensack to intermittently power the stone mill (Wright 2004). Development at the west shore of the Hackensack River to allow boats to dock, trade, and ship supplies may have coincided with construction of the grist mill.



Map 06: 1685 map of West and East New Jersey and New York, general project area circled in red (from Lea 1685).

Johannes Ackerman had died by 1744, the same year survey work began for a road and an oak draw bridge to cross the Hackensack River “on the Land of the Widow of Johannis Ackerman Deceased Beginning at the Road of Stien Rabi & on the said Land along the house of the deceased as the Road goes to the Mills of the deceased, about an East Course, and then Northerly along the Creek about Ten yards above an old Stump where the Bridge is to be Built” (HNBLC 2010). The modern Main Street follows the same route as this western approach to the bridge. This land, beginning around the original Ackerman house near modern Elizabeth Court and east to the river, was purchased by Jan and Annatje Zabriskie in 1745 after the construction of the New Bridge,

giving the family influence over the new road servicing the river crossing. The name “New Bridge” was given to the bridge to distinguish it from an older crossing upstream. New Bridge became important to Upper Hackensack Valley commerce. It was the nearest river crossing to Newark Bay, where merchants could proceed to New York City, until 1790 (HNBLC 2003, Wright NDa).

MID-EIGHTEENTH CENTURY - CONSTRUCTION OF THE ZABRISKIE-STEUBEN HOUSE

Jan Zabriskie constructed what is now known as the Zabriskie-Steuben House on the land approaching the New Bridge. Some conflicting information has been recorded as to the house’s construction date. A 1935 Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) recorded the building’s erection date as 1729, although the criteria for that designation is not recorded (HABS 1935). A 1977 architectural assessment by John Milner and Associates suggested the house was constructed 1739, based on the date of Jan Zabriskie’s marriage to Annatje (Milner 1977). More recent studies suggest the original portion of the house was built in the mid-1700s and expanded north several decades later (Hunter 2001, HNBLC 2003). A diamond shaped date stone is mortared into the house’s south wall and inscribed “An. 1752” and “IZ” and “AZ” (likely for I(J)an Zabriskie and Annatje Zabriskie) with an image of a waterwheel, apparently in reference to the grist mill immediately to the south. The stone also features a “M(Y?) 20” at the base of the waterwheel and “D.A.Z. 1892” in a slightly different script at its lower edge. The “D.A.Z. 1892” likely references D. Anderson Zobriskie, who took ownership of the property in 1891 (see below). If this stone were added after the house’s original construction, perhaps by D. Anderson Zobriskie or whomever the M(Y) 20 references, it likely relied on some now obscure or lost information to suggest original construction in 1752.

Hunter’s 2001 study takes the date stone’s 1752 inscription as indicative of original construction date. This date was generally corroborated by the material goods recovered, architectural evidence of the south wall being part of the original structure, and stratigraphy associated with porch and builders trench expansions indicating this south wall was included in the first foundation (Hunter 2001). Curiously, while this inscribed date stone is evident in the 1935 HABS report’s building photographs, the 1935 and 1977 architectural surveys make no reference to its significance (Image 02).



Image 02: Sandstone date stone marked “An. 1752” “IZ” and “AZ” with mill wheel design (Bergen County Historical Society 2006).

The oldest portion of the house was thus likely built in 1752 using elements of the Dutch Colonial style. Key vernacular characteristics include the use of locally available materials, i.e. sandstone and the neat dressing of only the stone walls facing the roadway. The original house footprint contained five rooms accessed from a central hall, with the main entrance facing the road approaching the bridge (Wright 2004).

Jan Zabriskie, also known as John, was the son of Jan Zaborowskij/Zabriskie and grandson of Albrecht Zaborowskij, born in August 1716. His wife, Annatje Ackerman, would serve as executor of his estate along with her son, John, son-in-law Edmund Seaman, and Joost Zabriskie, when he died in 1774. His will gave the use of the land to his wife and the house, mill, and farmland to his son, John Zabriskie Jr (HNBLIC 2003) (Map 07).



Map 07: Detail of 1781 map of New Jersey likely showing Zabriskie-Steuben House at west side of bridge, with grist mill marked by a star to the south. General project area circled in red (from Hills 1781).

LATE-EIGHTEENTH CENTURY – CONFISCATION AND ZABRISKIE RETURN

John Zabriskie Jr. and his wife, Jannetje Goelett, were loyalists, as were his twin sister and her husband. Born in 1741, John Jr. was a prominent Bergen County citizen serving in civic roles, including magistrate, prior to the Revolution. He, along with his uncle Peter Zabriskie and three others, was selected to represent New Jersey at the Continental Congress in Philadelphia. In 1776, when the Bergen County militia was organized, John Jr. was commissioned as a lieutenant colonel and placed as second in command. Though initially working toward the patriotic cause, John Zabriskie Jr.'s loyalties changed. On June 16, 1776, before the official pronouncement of the

Declaration of Independence, John resigned his commission and switched his allegiance to Crown and King. He was formally charged with disaffection from the American Army a year later by his uncle, Joost Zabriskie (Marchant 2009). He fled behind British lines to New York in 1780. Having fled, all his lands were confiscated by New Jersey in 1781.

On December 23, 1783, the State of New Jersey gave the use of the land, house, barn, and mill to Major-General Friedrich Wilhelm (Baron) von Steuben, an Inspector General and Major General of the Continental Army and associate of George Washington. Steuben was not granted title to the property, but life-rights, in gratitude for his aid to American forces during the Revolution. Though he would eventually be given full title to the house when the New Jersey legislature (at the Baron's request) passed a supplement to the act that originally gave Steuben the estate in 1784, he did not reside there full time (HNBLIC 2003).

Based on references in its later sale record, Steuben and his agents made some repairs or improvements to the house and mill site during their ownership. In 1786 he leased much of the property to John Zabriskie Jr., apparently unimpeded by their political differences. Even with this added rental income, Steuben was bankrupt by 1787, and he was forced to sell the property. On December 4, 1788 Steuben sold the house and property to John J. Zabriskie, John Zabriskie Jr.'s son. This John Zabriskie had a short life. He married Catherine Hoogland and settled in New Bridge. The 1790 census lists John Zabriskie junior as a merchant and householder owning 30 acres, one slave, and two gristmills. He died intestate 1793 at just 25 years old likely after an accident at the grist mill.

After John J. Zabriskie's death, the Zabriskie-Steuben House and associated property changed hands several times. When John J. Zabriskie's widow remarried to Abraham Collins, he took ownership of the house and subsequently sold it to Thomas Howard in 1795. In 1796, Derrick Banta and John Banta purchased the estate. In February 1798, John Banta conveyed five tracks of land, which included the Zabriskie-Steuben House, to Derrick Banta. In April of that same year, the land was sold to Luke Van Buskirk (HNBLIC 2003).

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND NEW BRIDGE LANDING

New Bridge and the Zabriskie-Steuben House were strategically located at a boundary of Patriot and Loyalist military activity in northern New Jersey during the American Revolution. In August of 1776, British troops massed in Gravesend Bay, off the shores of present-day Brooklyn. Following confrontation and defeat of the Battle of Long Island, the American forces, led by George Washington, retreated through Manhattan and the Bronx and ultimately made their way to New Jersey. On November 20, 1776, when approximately 5,000 British troops crossed the Hudson River in advance of an attack on Fort Lee, New Jersey, General Washington and his troops made a hasty retreat from British General Cornwallis across the Hackensack River at New Bridge.

The British forces, according to Washington's notes, were attempting to land near New Bridge and cut the Americans' access to the bridge. Washington gained the bridge before the British and succeeded in removing his troops across the Hackensack River by hastily abandoning their cannon and many supplies. The American rear guard used the stone houses near the New Bridge, including the Zabriskie-Steuben House, as forts and vantages before leaving the area to the British. The British 4th Brigade camped at New Bridge around November 25, 1776 (HNBLIC 2003).

By the late eighteenth century, the east side of the New Bridge featured a stone tavern known as the Black Horse. Cornelius Hoogland owned and operated the site (Hoogland's daughter, Catherine, was married to John J. Zabriskie in 1792). Although no construction date is known, the tavern may have been erected around the time the 1745 New Bridge was constructed or when the Paulus Hook Ferry service to New York City began further south in 1764, to take advantage of the increased regional traffic (Wright NDb). The tavern is marked on a 1778 British sketch of the area, which does not clearly indicate its location but does suggest at least two structures lay east of the bridge, possibly including the home of the Van Buskirks, who settled south of the French Creek in 1739 (Hills 1778) (Map 08). The Black Horse was apparently one of the buildings affected by the 1776 British pursuit of the retreating rebels or their subsequent encampment, as Cornelius Hoogland submitted a claim for "twelve gills of rum" lost to the enemy (Wright NDb).



Map 08: Detail of 1778 Hills sketch, depicting “Black Horse” possibly along with second structure in red at east side of bridge. Zabriskie-Steuben House and grist mill are marked with larger red marks on west side of the river (from Hills 1778).

The New Bridge area did not remain under British control but served as a throughway for British and American forces as they maneuvered around New York City and strategic sites like Paulus Hook. During troop movements across the area, British maps indicate their forces encamped around New Bridge, northwest of the project area on a raised area west of Kinderkamack Road, in June 1778 (Andre 1778) (Map 09). By 1780, John Zabriskie Jr. and other loyalists had fled to New York.



Map 09: Detail of journal depicting June 1788 British encampment around New Bridge. Likely Zabriskie-Steuben House depicted northwest of bridge, the grist mill marked by a star to the south, and possibly the Black Horse tavern northeast of the bridge. No scale in original (from Andre 1778).

In September of 1780, George Washington made the Zabriskie-Steuben House his headquarters for a two-week period as his forces encamped around British-controlled New York City. The American troops with Washington camped along Kinderkamack Road, less than .5 miles west of the property, possibly in the same area as earlier British forces. While stationed at the house, Washington was assisted by a military secretary, four aides-de-camp, and bodyguards. Included in Washington's retinue at New Bridge was Alexander Hamilton, acting as a senior aide and sometimes composing letters on Washington's behalf. Washington received and wrote letters to several notable figures while headquartered at the Zabriskie-Steuben House, including Samuel Huntington, Comte de Rochambeau, Benjamin Tallmadge, Thomas Jefferson, and Benedict Arnold. Hamilton composed his own correspondence from New Bridge, including to Elizabeth Schuyler, who would later become his wife (National Archives 2020).

NINETEENTH CENTURY – ZOBRISKIE FAMILY OWNERSHIP

Following Luke Van Buskirk's 1798 purchase of the Zabriskie-Steuben house and land, the property was recovered by Zabriskie cousins in the early nineteenth century. In 1815, the land was sold to Andrew Zabriskie, a cousin of John Zabriskie. After Andrew Zabriskie's death in 1837, the property was sold to Richard W. Stevenson, although several tracts, including the house, were immediately sold back to Andrew's children. His son, David A. Zabriskie, and family lived in the house until 1909. "Captain Dave" A. Zabriskie, who took control by 1839 and operated a New York-bound schooner on the Hackensack, had by 1872 added a "veranda" to the house front (Wright 2000). Either Andrew or David A. Zabriskie also built south and west wings added to the house in the first half of the nineteenth century. The south wing was notable for use as a store or trade post, which David A. Zabriskie might have helped supply or utilized in tandem with his commercial schooner (HNBLC 2003).

The east side of the New Bridge was also developing in the early nineteenth century. In 1823, Isaac Vreeland constructed a two-story frame house east of the stone Black Horse tavern, just north of the road at the east side of the bridge. The stone tavern is said to have been deconstructed around this time. The new frame house became the New Bridge Hotel, a local social hub. The Ackerman family ran the hotel from 1854 to 1865, and the Heine family purchased it and operated it from 1865 to 1895. The building was likely augmented and altered, as by 1895 it boasted accommodations for 20. The original hotel continued to operate under multiple different commercial and individual ownerships until a fire in 1964 (Wright NDb).

A new wooden general store was constructed near the former location of the stone Black Horse tavern by 1839. The site featured outhouses, a dock, and a coal and lumber yard by 1862. Although modified over time, the main general store building stands as a private home today at 79 Old Bridge Road (HNBLC 2003).

During David A. Zabriskie's ownership of the Zabriskie-Steuben House, the 1744 oak draw bridge was replaced with an iron truss bridge in 1889. The 1889 bridge, still standing and operating to foot traffic, uses stone abutments and the same roadway as the older wooden structure. While its swing section is no longer mobile, it remains the state's oldest highway swing bridge and is listed on the New Jersey State Register of Historic Places (HNBLC 2010). The swing section design would allow larger commercial water vessels to continue navigating the Hackensack River.

Changes to or expansion of the timber crib dock just east of the Zabriskie-Steuben House may have occurred in the first half of the nineteenth century. Robbins' 1967 excavation at the shoreline east of the Zabriskie-Steuben House uncovered timber cribbing supporting filled areas of the riverbank, with a possible flat stonework surface. Eighteenth and nineteenth century ceramic sherds were recovered from this area, suggesting nineteenth century use of this surface, although the artifact assemblage dating this usage is small (Robbins 1967).

David A. Zabriskie's son, D. Anderson Zabriskie, took control of the land in 1891 after his father's 1887 death. D. Anderson Zabriskie is likely the person referenced by the south wall date stone's "D.A.Z. 1892" inscription on its lower border. If the date stone is original to the house construction, perhaps the new inscription was added to coincide with D. Anderson Zabriskie's

removal of the south “trading post” wing, which would again reveal the south stone wall in which this stone is inset.

TWENTIETH CENTURY – RIVER DREDGING AND PUBLIC TRANSITION

After inheriting the property, D. Anderson Zobriskie’s daughter, Magdalena Zobriskie, sold the part of the estate containing the Zabriskie-Steuben House to Charles Bell in 1901. Charles Bell had the Coles Brook and Hackensack River approaching New Bridge dredged in 1910 to try to facilitate larger vessels docking at the landing to service a planned cardboard manufacturing plant. He may have had the bulkhead forming the current river boundary added to the east Hackensack River embankment around this time (HNBLC 2010).

Census records show that in 1915 the Zabriskie-Steuben House was occupied by John Schwarzman and his family. In 1916 the estate was sold to the Veronica Realty Corporation of New York. In 1919 it was sold to William Randolph Hearst’s mother-in-law, Hanna L. Wilson. Anita Irwin, Hanna L. Wilson’s daughter, would be the final private, or individual, owner of the property (HNBLC 2003). The State of New Jersey took possession of the Zabriskie-Steuben House and one acre of the grounds in 1928.

The house was renovated and opened as a museum to the public in 1939, and the State of New Jersey invited the BCHS to make its headquarters there in a ceremony held on the site in the same year. In 1944, the society purchased 8 acres of land west of the house to buffer the state-owned historic property from encroaching development. When the house was in peril due to the planned construction of a four lane bridge in 1955, which would run dangerously close to the house, the BCHS persuaded the County to divert the road and bridge onto donated BCHS lands immediately to the north, thus preserving the house and grounds. The Bergen County Historical Society still occupies the house.

Development continued on the east side of the Hackensack River, across from the Zabriskie-Steuben House, in the early twentieth century. The Arrow Canoe Club was built as a barn structure upon the east bank of the river just north of the bridge in 1913. In the 1930s, Benson’s Campground, including nine cottages and two barns, covered much of Brett Park, with at least three cottages built immediately upon the shoreline (HNBLC 2003). The campground structures were demolished in 1970, and the Arrow Canoe Club barn was demolished in 2010 (HNBLC 2010).

VI. ARCHITECTURAL SUMMARY

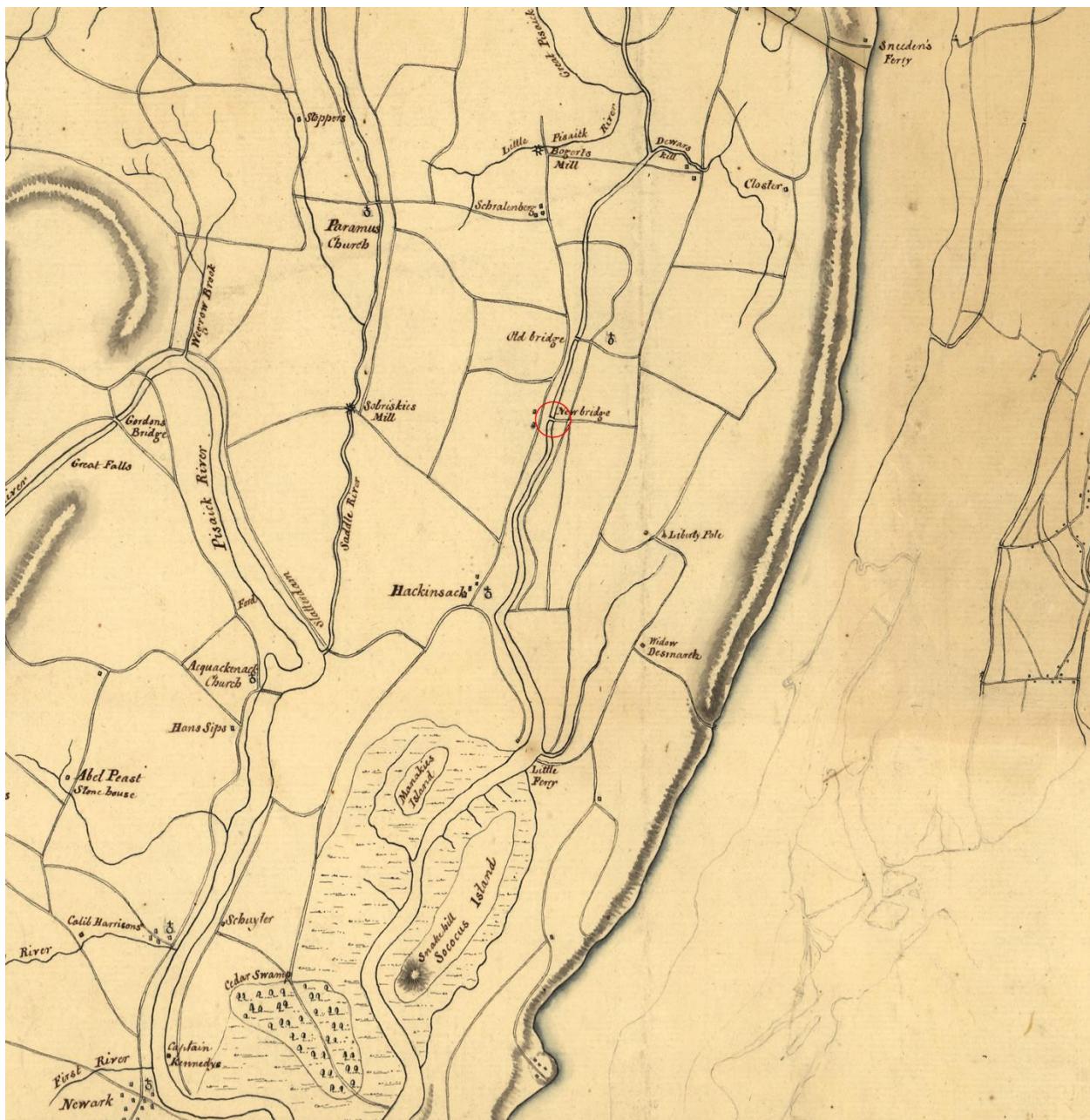
While this report focuses on establishing the archaeological background and sensitivity of the lands surrounding the Zabriskie-Steuben House, a summary of architectural development is provided here to contextual changes in land use. For a full report on the Zabriskie-Steuben House’s architectural features, see the Von Steuben House Master Plan prepared for the State of New Jersey Department of the Treasury Division of Building and Construction and the Department of Environmental Protection by the National Heritage Corporation in 1974, John Milner’s 1977 architectural assessment, the project manual to the 1999 Exterior Repairs at the Zabriskie-Steuben House. These reports are housed in the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office in Trenton,

NJ. This architectural summary does not include the Demarest House, Westervelt-Thomas Barn, or Campbell-Christie House, as these structures are not original to the project area.

ACKERMAN HOUSE

In the late seventeenth century, the project area would have been a relatively undeveloped stretch of riverbank where the Coles Brook emptied into the Hackensack River. This area might have been utilized by Tantaqua's group or other Lenape bands who established semi-permanent or long-term encampments near the Hackensack banks to utilize river resources and the navigable waterway. Swedish land-clearer Cornelius Mattyse acquired 420 acres of land surrounding this area at the intersection of the Hackensack River and Coles Brook, who in turn sold part of it to David Ackerman in 1695. Ackerman's son, Johannes, built a home around this time west of the project area, probably near modern Main Street and Elizabeth Court, ca.1713.

Little information remains about the Ackerman House. Although a 1780 historic map of British Revolutionary War operations indicates two structures stood west of a road roughly equivalent to Hackensack Avenue/Kinderkamack Road, it is unclear if the Ackerman house stood into the late eighteenth century to be represented in area maps (Map 10). Although earlier studies have considered the possibility the Ackerman House lay below the site of the Zabriskie-Steuben House, no evidence of an earlier structure has been identified. It seems likely, given historic map details and descriptions of the Ackerman land ownings, that any remnants of the house would lay west of the project area and Historic New Bridge Landing Park. Elements of the early house would have likely been impacted by modern development along Main Street.



Map 10: From a 1780 map of American Operations during the Revolutionary War, suggesting structures lay west of the project area (from LOC 1780). No scale in original.

GRIST MILL

Johannes Ackerman likely constructed the grist mill and dam at the Coles Brook mouth around the time the Ackerman House was built, roughly the turn of the eighteenth century. The mill operated based on tidewater power from Coles Brook outflow. In 1784, the Loyalist refugee John J. Zabriskie described the grist mill as containing two pair of mill stones in his complaint to have his lands returned. The dam powering the mill may have been replaced sometime shortly before 1791, as a "New Dam" is described in the area in a land sale to John J. Zobriskie. A local account in the first decade of the twentieth century suggests a fire damaged or destroyed the mill in 1852 (HNBL 2003).

As the mill operated on hydraulic pressure, its dam at the Coles Brook mouth would have created a millpond reservoir south of the Zabriskie-Steuben House. Evidence of pilings that possibly once supported the dam are evident in photographs from the first decade of the twentieth century (see HNBLC 2003:150), but these were likely destroyed along with most remnant architectural footings when Charles Bell had the brook dredged in 1910. This operation is said to have dredged up one millstone and left another in place, using the dredge spoils to fill the old mill site (HNBLC 2010). It is possible extant components of the mill such as timber pilings or other structural elements could lay south of Main Street within Historic New Bridge Landing grounds, or outside the park grounds at the power station just south of Main Street or across the brook at its south bank. It is unlikely many *in situ* elements would remain in the waterway after the 1910 dredging.

NEW BRIDGE

In 1744-45, the oak draw bridge or New Bridge, along with an approaching road, was surveyed and constructed across the Hackensack River, north of the grist mill. There are no records or known depictions of similar local bridges. It is likely the wooden New Bridge was repaired and maintained periodically over its lifespan.

The wooden New Bridge was replaced in kind with an iron truss swing bridge in 1889. The 1889 bridge uses stone abutments and remains the state's oldest highway swing bridge (HNBLC 2010). This bridge continued to serve local traffic until a 1956 bridge to the north was added to better accommodate automotive traffic. The 1889 bridge and its masonry embankments were repaired in 2001-2002, with a focus on retaining late nineteenth century details in its fencing and approaches (HNBLC 2003).

ZABRISKIE-STEUBEN HOUSE

Jan Zabriskie and his wife, Annetje, likely constructed the original Zabriskie-Steuben House in 1752, based on the date stone evident in the south wall. The original sandstone home measured 45' 8" by 35' 8" and had five rooms, a central hall, and a gabled roof. The outer walls are neatly dressed on the sides visible from the roadway, in keeping with common Dutch Colonial style. The east entrance, facing the road approaching the bridge, opened to a center hall with steps down to reach the slightly lower-elevation three rear rooms covered by a shed roof. Two rooms probably made up the original second floor.

The home was expanded in size around 1765, based on architectural surveys and 2001 Hunter Research excavations revealing a mid-1760s builders trench around the north part of the eastern extant foundations (Hunter 2001). The lower rear area was raised up to level the back rooms, and the house grew 20' north to twelve rooms with seven fireplaces and a new gambrel roof stretching across the structure (HNBLC 2010, Wright 2010).

On the south side of the house a one story, three-bay wing structure referred to as a "trading post" was built sometime between 1813 and 1837 by Andrew Zobriskie (Hunter 2001). While this addition is evident in early photographs of the house, it was removed shortly after D. Anderson Zobriskie's 1891 ownership began (Image 03). A wooden kitchen wing was added to the south portion of the west side of the house around the same time as the trading post; this was removed in 1939 (Image 04).



Image 03: Earliest known Zabriskie-Steuben House photograph, likely taken 1891. "Trading post" south addition is evident at left (HNBLIC 2003).

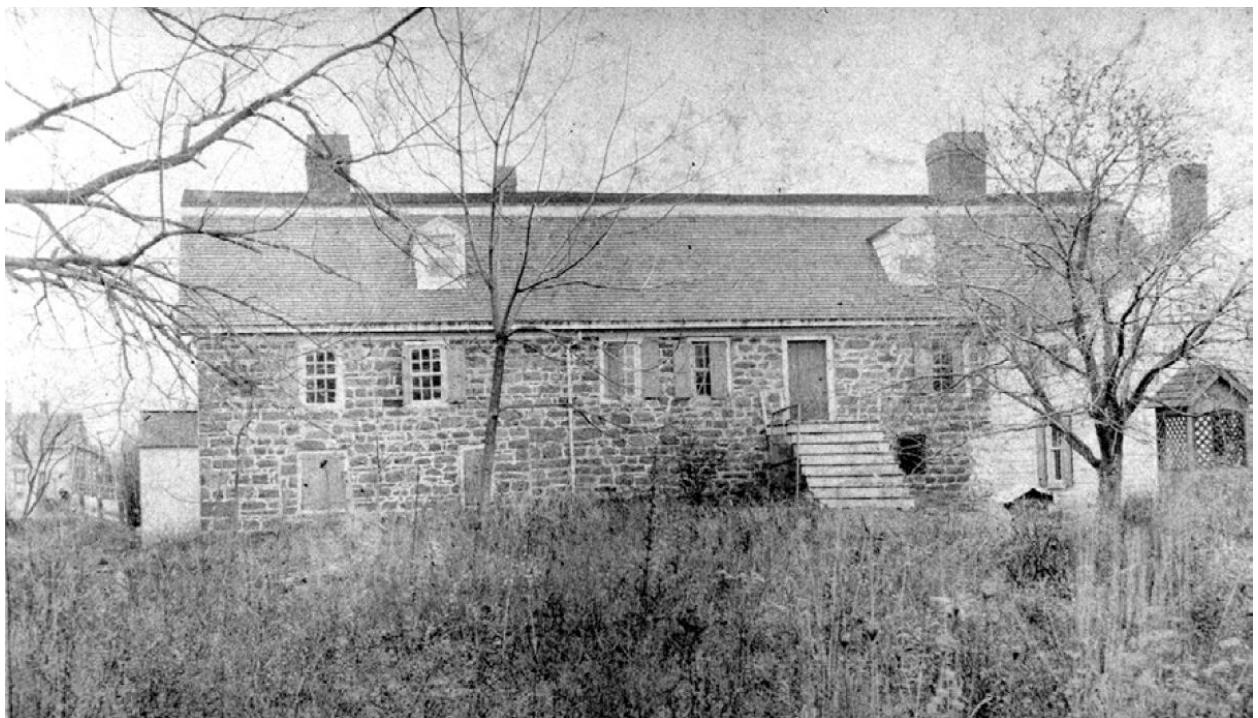


Image 04: The west side of the Zabriskie-Steuben House, with the western kitchen wing – removed 1939 - still present at right (HNBLIC 2003).

The house has featured at least four historic iterations of a porch at its east entry side, with known porch structures beginning sometime before the 1850s upon rough stone foundations with replacements in the late 1800s, early 1900s, and in 1940 by the WPA (Hunter 2001). After D. Anderson Zabriskie removed the south “trading post” wing sometime soon after 1891, he extended the porch around the south side of the house after the south “trading post” wing was removed. The current porch extending only from the east face was installed in the early 2000s.

Numerous outbuildings have been described surrounding the Zabriskie-Steuben House, but none have been definitively identified archaeologically. In the New Jersey legislative gift of the Zabriskie-Steuben property’s use to Baron von Steuben in 1783, the land was described as containing several outbuildings and a barn, although some repairs were needed. When John J. Zabriskie petitioned for compensation for his confiscated lands in 1784, he described the house as having “Outhouses consisting of a bake House, Smoke House, Coach House, and two large Barns, and a Garden” (HNBLC 2003). When Steuben listed the property for sale in 1788, the property also included a new grain kiln, likely in support of the grist mill operations (Hunter 2001). Several early twentieth century photographs indicate at least three outbuildings were once located north/northeast of the house (Image 05). One is likely a wooden outhouse, of unknown construction date (Image 06).



Image 05: Ca. 1920 photograph of the Zabriskie-Steuben house, facing north, showing possible kitchen, outhouse, or barn outbuildings located north/northeast of the house (HNBLC 2003).



Image 06: Ca. 1920 photograph of a Zabriskie-Steuben House outhouse, possibly the same as visible in Image X above (HNBL 2003).

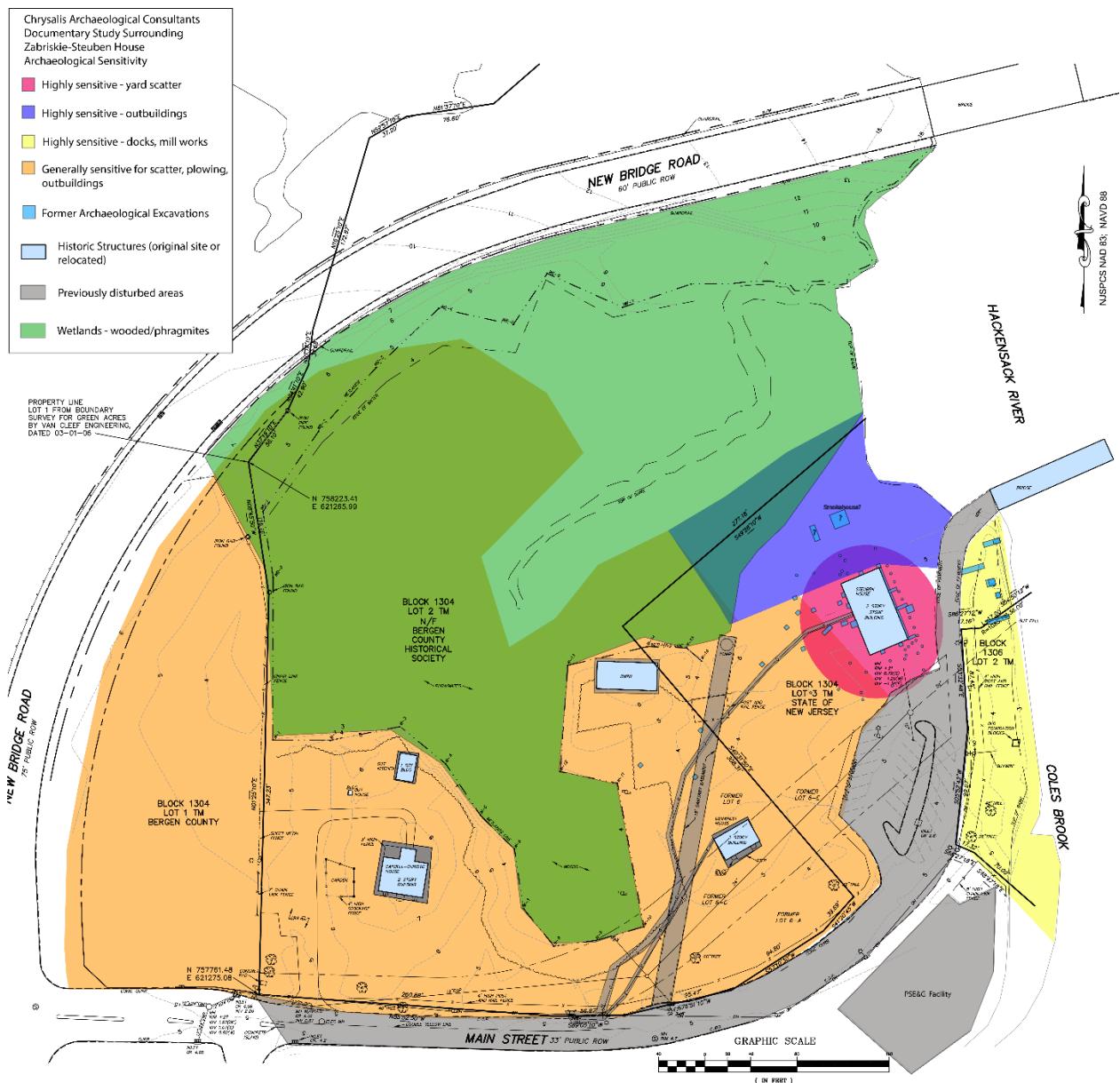
VII. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Documentary research and previous archaeological investigations indicate the land surrounding the Zabriskie-Steuben House from the Hackensack River to New Bridge Road is archaeologically sensitive. In general, the entire property is moderately sensitive for prehistoric materials and highly sensitive for historic materials.

While few prehistoric artifacts have been identified at the site during archaeological testing, documentary evidence suggests Lenape bands inhabited the area around the Coles Brook as late as the seventeenth century. A Late Woodland ceramic identified in 2001 testing suggests regional indigenous presence ca. 1000 to 400 BP, although alluvial action from Hackensack tides and flooding could have redeposited this material along the banks (Hunter 2001). The banks surrounding the Hackensack River would have been appealing encampment or habitation sites for Archaic, Woodland, and Contact period indigenous peoples. Given that seven prehistoric usage sites have been identified within two miles of the project area, any future impacts to previously undisturbed park areas should be evaluated with special consideration to the possible presence of shell middens, artifact scatters (lithic tools, debitage, ceramics, faunal elements), subsurface post features, or other common indicators of prehistoric habitation.

The site is also highly sensitive for historic materials dating to the seventeenth through early twentieth centuries. Colonial development at the project area riverbank began as early as the late seventeenth century, with continuous habitation to support farming, milling, and trading operations. The area may contain features, intentional deposits, or scattered materials relating to residents' use of the property or materials deposited by travelers passing through this important route to New York City. Notably, the property also was part of Revolutionary War activity from 1776 through at least 1780, serving as both British and American encampment sites, hosting at least one skirmish during Washington's retreat from New York, and acting as Washington's temporary 1780 headquarters. Yard scatter or deposit features could date from this important period, potentially linked to key actors in the American Revolution. Nineteenth century records suggest the Zabriskie-Steuben House and its docks saw commercial use as a trading post or store after the Revolution. Any impacts to previously undisturbed park areas should consider the land sensitive for architectural features, intentional deposits, scattered materials, or land-use indicators such as field plowing or land leveling related to these operations that took place on site. Previous limited testing has indicated a Ab horizon lies within the first foot of soil west of the house, while accumulated soil around the roadway has buried a possible Ab horizon as deep as 4' below surface east of the house.

Historical records and previous archaeological investigations suggest areas of the property likely contain archaeological resources specific to the use of the land as homestead, commercial dock, and milling operation, as detailed below and in Maps 11 and 12.



Map 11: Archaeological sensitivity map for the Steuben-Zabriskie House area, west of the Hackensack River.

NORTH OF ZABRISKIE-STEUBEN HOUSE - OUTBUILDINGS

The area north of the Zabriskie-Steuben House to wetlands to the north is highly sensitive for eighteenth and nineteenth century outbuildings associated with the household. At various points, the estate is reported to have contained outbuildings used as a kitchen or bakehouse, a smoke house, one or two concurrent barns, outhouse(s), a coach house, and a grain kiln. These buildings may have been entirely constructed of wood board or utilized some stone or brick architectural elements. A kitchen or bakehouse would include a stone or brick hearth. The BCHS avocational excavation conducted in 1959 north of the Zabriskie-Steuben House may have identified the brick base of such a kitchen or smokehouse. A thorough walking survey conducted north of the house

should be able to locate this area and/or identify ground disturbance related to other outbuildings, depending on the level of ground cover. It is unlikely outbuildings lay in the wetland portion of the property next to the northern culvert or drainage ditch to the Hackensack River.

The area north of the Zabriskie-Steuben House may be of particular archaeological interest for its potential to contain unlined or stone/brick-lined waste pits. This area housed at least one outhouse as late as the 1920s. It is not known if this area housed outhouses or waste pits that served eighteenth or nineteenth century residents or visitors, but if this type of usage was continuous across the house's historic habitation, these could prove valuable resources for recovering artifacts associated with house residents or patrons. Waste pits tend to accumulate accidentally and intentionally deposited household refuse, provide evidence of diet via food remains, and were often intentionally filled with refuse upon change of home ownership or when they approached the end of their useful lifespan. The low water table near the Zabriskie-Steuben House may have rendered waste pits largely impractical, with residents instead disposing of refuse and waste across the yard or at the river's edge.

SURROUNDING ZABRISKIE-STEUBEN HOUSE – YARD SCATTER

The approximately 50' surrounding the Zabriskie-Steuben House is particularly sensitive for yard scatter related to house residents and commercial or social use of the building. This area may extend further at the south side of the property, representing accumulated material scatter associated with the southern "trading post" wing in place from the first half of the 1800s through ca. 1891. Kardas suggested testing at the west side of the house indicated a greater concentration of eighteenth century material in the first approximately 10' area from the brick walkway, with artifacts from the first half of the 1800s in the next 10', and post-1850s material concentrated further than 20' from the house (Kardas 1976). While evidence suggests historic opportunistic filling of uneven surfaces in the west yard and the accumulation of architectural debris, an intact brown sandy loam A horizon harboring historic artifacts appears to underly the modern grassy O horizon at surface.

Yard scatter is more likely in the rear portion of the house than the eastern entrance, as the construction and replacement of the front porches appears to have impacted any accumulated materials (Hunter 2001). As the west yard has been subject to fairly extensive testing and has been impacted by modern utility lines, the north and south yards, especially the area around the south "trading post" wing perimeter, may yield new information. Yard scatters are useful in that they relate to long-term property usage, but they typically yield highly fragmented artifacts and faunal materials deposited across larger time spans than refuse pits or intentional waste fill features.

BCHS LANDS WEST OF ZABRISKIE-STEUBEN HOUSE – OUTBUILDINGS/FARMLAND

The lands west of the Zabriskie-Steuben House around the Campbell-Christ House, Demarest House, and Westervelt-Thomas Barn have not been archaeologically tested, and their specific use is not clearly documented historically. These lands might have been farmed fields, housed the garden associated with the main house, or housed outbuildings like the barns, kitchen, coach house, outhouses, or kiln that were part of the house and the mill operations. They were almost certainly included in the larger historic land grants associated with the Zabriskie-Steuben House and mill.

The extent of impacts from reassembly of the Campbell-Christie House, Demarest House, and Westervelt-Thomas barns is also not clear. Archaeological testing in the form of shovel test pits

and potentially expanded excavation units could yield information about the presence or absence of outbuildings, plow scarring, or other usage of this area. While the area northwest of the house may have had some similar uses to the western field, the wooded and phragmite-laden wetlands area would be difficult to test archaeologically without disturbing wetlands environmental resources.

HACKENSACK RIVER WEST BANK – DOCKS OR QUAYS

The area east of Main Street’s approach to the 1889 bridge and southeast of the Zabriskie-Steuben House parking lot is particularly sensitive for timber cribbing, wooden framing, and stonework related to docks or quays that once lined the west Hackensack River shoreline. These features may have first been built on site in tandem with the original late seventeenth or early eighteenth century dam and mill at the Coles Brook mouth at the Hackensack River to facilitate trade related to the grist mill via the river. It is possible David A. Zobriskie’s schooner would dock here near the Zabriskie-Steuben House or other vessels utilized a developed dock to trade at the house’s “trading post” south wing in the early to mid-nineteenth century.

Robbins’ 1967 excavation suggests a system of rounded timber cribbing was installed at the river edge. Timber cribbing can be used to create cells that are filled intentionally with sand or stone rubble; here they would have formalized the east shore boundary. This style of timber landfill structure made to stabilize or extend land at water boundaries was common in the region in the eighteenth century and may have had Dutch origins (Chrysalis 2016). Based on Robbins’ findings, a cobble or flat stone surface may have once lay atop the filled cribbing area roughly at the elevation of the river at high tide, terminating west of the cribbing (Robbins 1967). This could be a working surface or extension of the existing historic roadway across the well-trafficked dock and mill area, perhaps leading to wooden wharfs or docks built extending into the river or a quay, alongside which ships could dock parallel to the shore. Additional excavation to expose this possible stone surface and assess its extent would be needed to make an informed statement about its significance. While Charles Bell’s 1910 dredging of the Hackensack River likely would have destroyed evidence of docks extending into the waterway, it is possible timber piles might remain in the area.

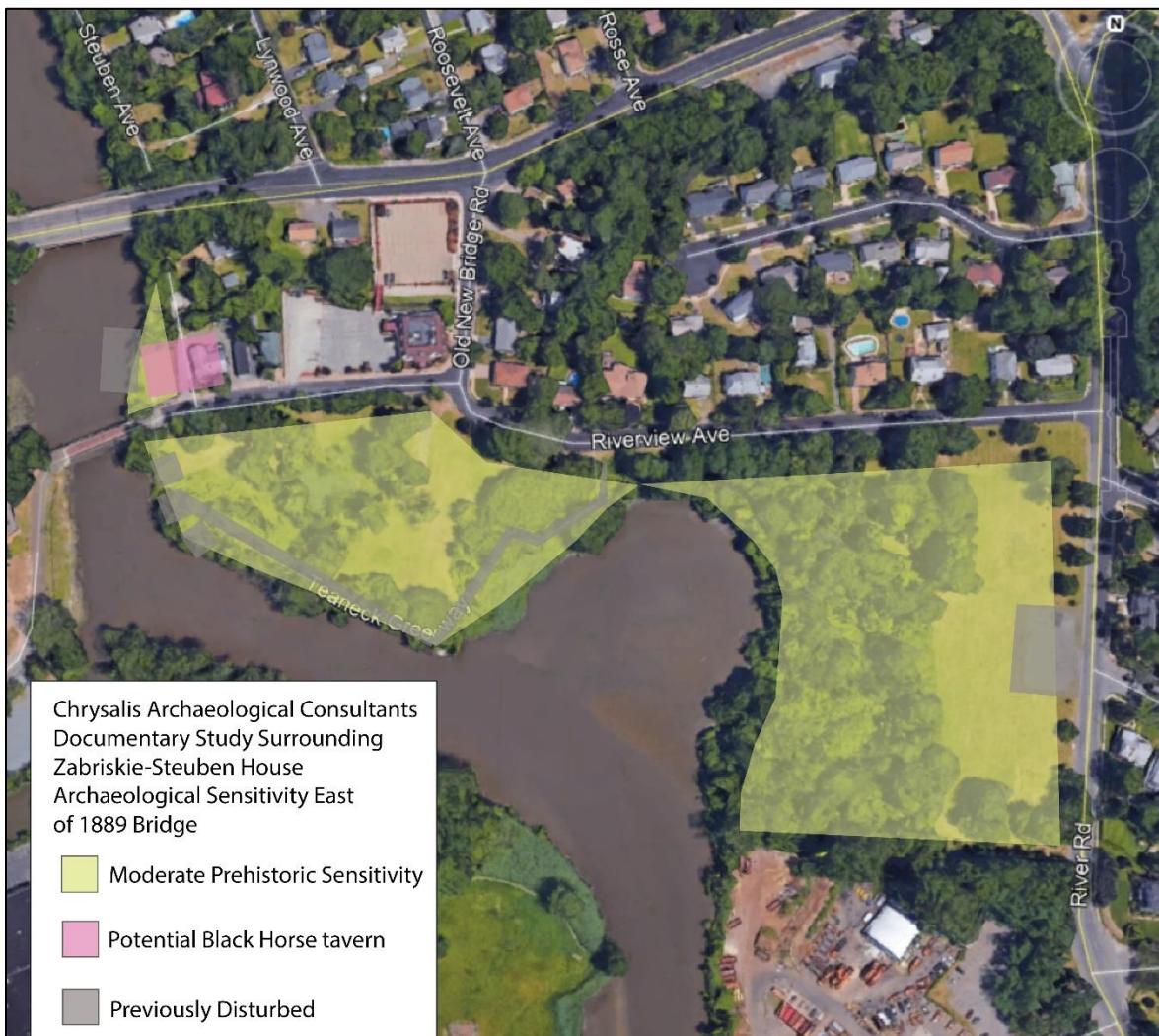
NORTHEAST OF 1889 BRIDGE – BLACK HORSE TAVERN

Documentary evidence suggests the stone-construction Black Horse tavern lay northeast of the New Bridge, north of the approach road, from ca. 1760 to ca. 1823. The tavern was noted by British forces and likely was utilized by American and British troops during Washington’s retreat across the New Bridge and by encamped forces later in the campaign. While it is possible the privately owned general store property at 79 Old Bridge Road encompasses the tavern footprint, lack of archaeological assessment in this area makes this unclear. Shovel test pits and walking survey might clarify if stone foundations remain in the open field just north of the bridge entrance. This area might also represent a potential prehistoric land use site, as it provides an overlook and access point to the river. Development for the Arrow Canoe Club and its associated features may have impacted extant resources in this area in the twentieth century.

BRETT PARK AND EAST RIVER BANK - INDIGENOUS LAND USE

Brett Park’s relatively undeveloped nature and proximity to the Hackensack River make it a good candidate for recovering evidence of potential indigenous use. While the river is prone to flooding,

making it less attractive for permanent settlement, the location would be advantageous to access flora, fauna, and fresh water in the Archaic and Woodland periods. While twentieth century campsites and cabins were once built across the area, potentially impacting any extant resources, low impact testing in the form of walking survey and shovel test pits could be good indicators of the presence or absence of prehistoric resources in the area.



Map 12: General archaeological sensitivity east of Hackensack River.

SUMMARY

The Zabriskie-Steuben House and the surrounding property represent a valuable resource related to potential Archaic and Woodland period indigenous land use, colonial agricultural settlement, and nineteenth century commercial and residential life. Its location at a critical transportation nexus allowed continuous site use since the turn of the eighteenth century and lead to its importance to British and American forces during the Revolutionary War. The relatively undisturbed nature of Historic New Bridge Landing Park grants the area significant potential for intact prehistoric and historic archaeological resources. Future planned park development should be mindful of high sensitivity archaeological areas immediately surrounding the Zabriskie-Steuben

House, northeast of the house, and at the shoreline and thoroughly assess proposed impact footprints for their potential to disturb extant resources. Proactive archaeological assessment of high potential areas might reveal architectural features or artifacts related to site usage that could be useful interpretive tools for education at the park.

Table 04 summarizes areas of particular archaeological sensitivity and possible testing or data recovery methodologies, as described above. Future work planned outside of these areas should still be subject to consideration of impacts to the generally heightened historic and prehistoric sensitivity of Historic New Bridge Landing Park as a whole.

Table 04: Areas of heightened archaeological sensitivity and possible testing methods.

AREA	MAJOR SENSITIVITY CONCERN	POSSIBLE TESTING METHODS
North of Zabriskie-Steuben House	Outbuildings	Walkover survey or shovel test pits to locate outbuildings, test unit excavation for data recovery
Surrounding Zabriskie-Steuben House	Yard scatter	Close interval shovel test pits to assess artifact distribution and density, test unit excavation for data recovery
BCHS Lands West of Zabriskie-Steuben House	Outbuildings and farmland	Shovel test pits to locate potential outbuildings and determine depth and distribution of plow zone soil
Hackensack River West	Docks or quays	Shoreline test unit excavation for data recovery, aquatic sounding or shore probing
Northwest of 1889 Bridge	Black Horse Tavern	Walkover survey or shovel test pits to locate building/outbuildings, test unit excavation for data recovery
Brett Park and East River Bank	Indigenous land use	Walkover survey and shovel test pits to assess presence/absence of indigenous materials, their distribution, and possible usage periods based on artifact analysis

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2019 *Hackensack, New Jersey 7.5"* Topographic Quadrangle. U.S. Department of the Interior. Reston, Va.

United States Department of the Interior – National Parks Service Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS)

1935 The Zabriskie-Steuben House, New Bridge Road, River Edge, New Jersey Historic American Buildings Survey. Oscar J. Arnemann, Surveyor, Bergen County.

Van Der Donk, Andriaen

1656 Map of New Netherland. Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division, The New York Public Library. <http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/e99dfb50-79bb-0133-0c3b-00505686d14e>

Weed, Carol

2009 “Archaic Period Archaeology in the Northeast.” In *Archaeology in America*, Vol. 1, ed. by Francis McManamon, Linda S. Cordell, Kent G. Lightfoot, and George R. Milner, p.18-19. Greenwood Publishing Group. Westport, Connecticut.

Wright, Kevin

NDa Zabriskie Family History, Part I. Bergen County Historical Society.
<https://www.bergencountyhistory.org/research-pdfs>. Accessed 14 May 2020.

NDb New Bridge Inn, Stopping by the Wayside. Bergen County Historical Society.
<https://www.bergencountyhistory.org/research-pdfs>. Accessed 17 May 2020.

2004 History of the Ackerman-Zabriskie Tidal Gristmill at Historic New Bridge Landing. Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission.

2010 Porch and Dormer Replacement at the Zabriskie-Steuben House. Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission.

APPENDIX A: Resume of Key Personnel

Alyssa Loorya, Ph.D., R.P.A. | President, Principal Investigator



Ms. Loorya is founder and president of Chrysalis Archaeological Consultants. For more than twenty years she has worked in cultural resource management and public education devoted to preserving cultural resources and communicating their value to local communities. She has completed over sixty technical and academic reports and has delivered dozens of presentations concerning preservation compliance, New York City historical development, and educational curricula. Her extensive experience lends itself to her roles in developing and executing research and excavation plans, project management, regulatory compliance and report production.

PROJECTS BY STATE

New York:

Brooklyn:

63/65 Columbia Street – Phase IA (2004)
102 Franklin Avenue Project – Phase IA (2006)
147 Hicks Street – Phase IB (1998)
265 Front Street – Phase I (2016)
1019-1029 Fulton Street – Phase IB/Monitoring (2019)
1662 Bergen Street – Phase IA (2019)
Bond Street and Pacific Street – Phase IA (2018)
Brooklyn Navy Yard (Steiner Studio) – Phase IB (2017-2018)
Coney Island Utility Upgrade – Phase IB/Monitoring (2017-2018)
Downtown Brooklyn Reconstruction – Phase IB/Monitoring (2012)
Elias Hubbard House – Phase IB (2001)
Gravesend Cemetery – Phase IB (2001)
Greenpoint Project – Phase IA (2013)
Gowanus Canal Study – Phase IA (2012)
Hendrick I. Lott House – Phase IB/Monitoring (2004, 2013)
Floyd Bennett Field – Phase IB/Monitoring (2014)
Marine Park – Phase IB/Monitoring (1997, 2003)
Myrtle Avenue - Ingersol Senior Housing—Phase I/II (2016-2020)
Pieter Claesen Wyckoff House – Phase IB/Monitoring (2004)
Shell Road – Phase IA (2019)
Sponge Park, Gowanus Canal – Phase IB/Monitoring (2017)

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

National Historic Preservation Act
Section 106 Compliance
Material Collections Analysis
Archaeological Survey and Excavation
Public Outreach

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Anthropology and Archaeology:
2018, CUNY Graduate School

M.A., Anthropology and Archaeology:
1998, Hunter College

CERTIFICATIONS

Register of Professional Archaeologists
10-Hour OSHA Construction Safety
30-Hour OSHA Construction Safety
40-Hour OSHA HAZWOPER
SWAC - Secure Worker Access
Consortium

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1995-2001: Brooklyn College
Archaeological Research Center
2001-Present: Chrysalis Archaeological
Consultants, President and Principal
Investigator
2006-2010: URS Corporation, Principal
Investigator
2007-2010: Gray & Pape, Supervisory
Consultant

CONTACT INFORMATION

aloorya@chrysalisarchaeology.com

New York Headquarters
4110 Quentin Road
Brooklyn, NY 11234-4322
Phone: 718.645.3962

Brooklyn Laboratory
3604 Quentin Road
Brooklyn, NY 11234
www.chrysalisarchaeology.com

Rhode Island Regional Office
One Richmond Square – Suite 121F
Providence, RI 02906-5139
Phone: 401.499.4354

Manhattan:

50 Bowery – Phase I (2014-2015)
156 Rivington Street – Phase IA (2012)
204 Avenue A – Phase I (2019-2020)
235 Lafayette Street – Phase IA (2013)
246 Front Street – Phase I (2012)
311 Broadway – Phase IA (2005)
79 Christopher Street Burial Vault Project – Phase II (2008)
Chambers Street – Phase IB (2005)
City Hall Reconstruction Project – Phase IB and II (2010-2015)
Columbus Park – Phase I (2007)
Consolidated Edison Project – Phase IA (2006)
Dyckman Farmhouse Project – Phase IB/Monitoring (2007)
Ellis Island – Phase IB/Monitoring (2001)
Fortune Society Project – Phase IA (2007)
Fulton Street Reconstruction – Phase I and II (2009-2018)
High Bridge Park – Phase IB/Monitoring (2014-2015)
John Street - Phase IB/Monitoring (2011)
Liberty Island – Phase IB/Monitoring (2001)
Major Deegan Express Bridge – Phase IA (2016)
Peck Slip – Phase I and II (2011-2018)
Randall's Island – Phase IB/Monitoring (2018)
Roger Morris Park – Phase IB/Monitoring (2005)
South, South Street – Phase IB/Monitoring (2017-2018)
Stone Street – Phase IB/Monitoring (1998)
Wall Street Water Main Project – Phase I (2007-2008)
Washington Square Park – Phase IB/Monitoring (2015-2020)
Warren Street/John Street – Phase IB/Monitoring (2017)
West Village Housing – Phase IA (2007)
Worth Street—Phase I/Monitoring (2018 to 2020)

Queens:

C.C. Moore Homestead Park – Phase IB /Monitoring (2019)
John Bowne House – Phase IB/Monitoring (2016)
John Bowne House – Phase II – Phase IB/II/Monitoring (Cistern) (2014)
John Bowne House – Phase IB (Foundation Work) (2019-2020)
Elmhurst Cemetery – Phase IA (1997)
Fort Totten – Phase IB (2019)
Kosciuszko Bridge Replacement – Phase IB (2016-2017)
Little Bay Park – Phase I (2013-2014)
Martin's Field Phase I Project - Phase IB/Monitoring (2006)
Martin's Field Phase II Project - Phase IB/Monitoring (2006)
Newtown Playground – Phase IB/Monitoring (2018-2019)
Queens County Farm Museum – Phase IB/Monitoring (2004)
Rockaway Beach Boulevard – Phase IB/Monitoring (2018)
Riis Park Boathouse – Phase IB/Monitoring (2019-2020)
Rufus King Park – Phase IB/Monitoring (Tree Planting) (2006)
Rufus King Park – Phase IB/Monitoring (Utility Upgrade) (2007)
Saint George's Church – Phase IB/Monitoring (2010)
South Jamaica Urban Renewal Project – Phase I – Phase IB (2007)
South Jamaica Urban Renewal Project – Phase II – Phase IB (2008)
Wayanda Park – Phase IB/Monitoring (2003)

The Bronx:

174th Street (Dutch Broadway) Bridge Replacement – Phase IA (2019-2020)
Bartow-Pell Mansion – Phase IB/Monitoring (Barn) (2008, 2012)
Bartow-Pell Mansion – Phase IB/Monitoring (Barn) (1993)
Bartow-Pell Mansion – Phase IB/Monitoring (Cemetery) (2004)
Bronx River Greenway – Phase IB/Monitoring (2015-2016)
City Island Bridge Replacement – Phase IB/Monitoring (2014-2016)
Fort Independence – Consultation (2012)
Hart Island – Phases I and II (2017 to 2020)
Hunts Point – Phase IA (2019)
Major Deegan Expressway – Phase IA (2016-2017)
Monsignor Del Valle Square – Phase IA (2016)
Pelham Bay Park – Phase IB/Monitoring and II (2015)
Saint Peter's Church – Phase I (2019-2020)
Van Cortlandt Park Dog Run – Phase I (2016)

Staten Island:

210 Board Street - Phase I (2009)
Block 7792, Page Avenue – Phase I (2005)
Alice Austen House – Phase IB (2018)
Conference House Pavilion, - Phase IB (2018-2020)
Farm Colony of NYC – Phase IB (2014)
Fort Wadsworth – Phase IB/Monitoring (Utility Line) (2014)
Fort Wadsworth – Phase IB/Monitoring (Security Perimeter) (2016)
Midland Beach Boulevard – Phase IB/Monitoring (2018)
Ocean Breeze Park – Phase IA (2008)

Nassau County:

545 Arlington Road, Cedarhurst – Phase IB/Monitoring (2014)
Long Beach/Island Park – Phase IA (2019)
Long Island Rail Road Expansion – Phase IA (2018)
OEHL Residential Facility, Cedarhurst – Phase IB (2014)
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy – Phase IB/Monitoring (2010)

Suffolk County:

221 Main Street, Sag Harbor – Phase I (2016)
404 Littleworth Lane, Sea Cliff – Phase IB/Monitoring (2016)
Artesian Way, Nissequogue – Phase II (2016-2017)
Carll's River, Town of Babylon – Phase IA (2017)
Fire Island National Seashore – Phase IB/Monitoring (2014)
Forge River Sewer Line Project – Phase IB/Monitoring (2017-2018)
Hubbard County Park – Phase I (2016)
MacArthur Airport – Phase IA (2018-2020)
Old House, Cutchogue – Phase IB (2018)
The Edwards Homestead; Sayville – Phase IB (2001)

Ulster County:

NYC DEP Water Tunnel – Catskill and Delaware (2013)
Interconnection Replacement – Phase IB/Monitoring (2012)
The Village of Ellenville – Phase IB (2014)

Westchester County:

Charles Point Park, Peekskill – Phase IB (2016)
Consolidated Edison Project – Phase IA (2006)
Memorial Field, Mt. Vernon, NY – Phase I (2010)
Tappan Zee Bridge Replacement – Phase I/Monitoring (2014-2016)
Timothy Knapp House; Rye – Phase IB (1997)

Rockland County:

Village Hall, Village of Grand View on Hudson, NY—Documentation Package/Phase IA (2015-2015)

St. Lawrence County:

Alcoa Powerhouse—Phase IA (2016)

New Jersey:

Atlantic Coastal Mitigation Bank Site, Block 270, Lots 12-13, City of Pleasantville—Phase IA (2014)
Elizabeth River Mitigation Site, Union Township, Union County – Phase IA (2010)
Cranbury Wetland Mitigation Site – Phase I (2009)
Deep Run Preserve, Block 8003, Lot 7 and 11, Old Bridge Township – Phase IA (2014)
Hunterdon County Bridge Replacement – Phase IA (2006)
Jamesburg County Park, Block 18, Lots 5, 6, 6.05, and 7, Helmetta Borough – Phase IA (2014)
Lenape Farms, Atlantic County – Phase I (2015)
Mullica River Mitigation, (Pinelands) Evesham Township, Burlington County – Phase IA (2013)
New Bridge Landing Park – Documentation Plan (2019-2020)
Oldmans Creek Mitigation Site, Pilesgrove Township, Salem County – Phase I (2014, 2015)
Oradell Reservoir Site, Bergen County – Phase I (2012)
Overpeck Creek Park; Englewood – Phase IA (2009)
Pin Oak Forest Conservation Area, Block 1020.01, Lot 1.03, Woodbridge Township – Phase IA (2014)
Pleasant Grove, Jackson Township – Phase I (2012)
Southard Avenue, Howell Township – Phase I (2012)
Spotswood Road; Township of Monroe – Phase I (2012)
Thompson Park Extension, Block 20, Lot 28.06 and 28.08, Monroe Township – Phase I (2015)
Trestle Replacement, Gloucester County – Phase IA (2009)

Vermont:

Richmond, VT – Phase IB (2013)
Weathersfield, VT – Phase IB (2013)

New Hampshire:

Fitzwilliam, NH – Phase IB (2015)

Connecticut:

Audubon Society of Greenwich, CT – Phase IB (2001)
West Haven, CT – Phase IB (2015)

Pennsylvania:

Sharswood-Blumberg, Philadelphia Housing Authority – Phase IA (2018)

EMPLOYMENT – EDUCATION-PRESERVATION-CONSULTATION:

BROOKLYN COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, STAR HIGH SCHOOL

Archaeological-Education Consultant, July 2004 to 2005

Teaching special content classes and grant writing.

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK'S – RESEARCH FOUNDATION/GOTHAM CENTER

Educational Consultant - Archaeology and Historic Preservation - City Hall Academy September 2003 – June 2004 and November 2004 to 2005

DIG MAGAZINE

Archaeological-Education Consultant and Contributor, 2000 to 2005

HENDRICK I. LOTT HOUSE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

Program Development, January 2005 to present

Developed the Interpretive-Educational-Curriculum Plan for the Hendrick I. Lott House.

INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EDUCATION AT MANHATTANVILLE COLLEGE

Curriculum Developer and Archaeological Educator, September 1997 to December 1998

PS 134, New York, NY, Scarsdale Elementary School, Scarsdale, NY, Congregation Emmanuel of Harrison, NY, Temple Israel of New Rochelle, NY

NEW JERSEY INSTITUE OF TECHNOLOGY

Educational Consultant, March 2001 to December 2004, February 2007 and May 2008 to 2009

Developing special content curriculum for NYC Department of Education to meet national and state standards using primary resource historic preservation material. Teacher development and classroom teaching.

PIETER CLAESSEN WYCKOFF HOUSE MUSEUM

Archaeological-Educator – Curriculum Development Consultant, 2003 to 2008

Responsibilities include the creation and implementation of Teacher Workshops throughout the school year.

GREATER RIDGEWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Program Development, January 2016 to present

Developed and implemented an Archaeological Education Curriculum for the Vander-Ende Onder Donk House. Created web and print based media presentations, including several museum displays.

SOUTH STREET SEAPORT MUSEUM

Archaeological Educator, September 1999 to June 2001

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

1999 to 2006 Board of Trustees – The Hendrick I. Lott House Preservation Association

2003 to 2007 Member – Historic House Trust Educators Alliance

2002 to 2007 Advisory Board – Pieter Claesen Wyckoff House Museum

2002 to 2007 Advisory Board - Brooklyn Heritage Inc.

2005 to 2007 Board of Trustees - Salt Marsh Alliance

2010 to 2016 Advisory Board – Historic Districts Council of New York City

2012 to 2013 Vice President – Professional Archaeologists of New York City

2013 to 2014 President – Professional Archaeologists of New York City

2016 to present Advisory Board – Pieter Claesen Wyckoff House Museum

2016 to present Board of Trustees – Historic District Council of New York City

2015 to present Vice President - The Hendrick I. Lott House Preservation Association

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology (CNEHA)
Historic District Council (HDC)
New York Archaeological Council (NYAC)
The Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC)
The Register of Professional Archaeologists (ROPA)
The Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA)

PUBLICATIONS:

Over 100 publications in CRM and popular magazines published. For full listing see:
www.chrysalisarchaeology.com

Conference Papers/Lectures/Teacher Workshops:

Over 100 Conference Papers presented since 1997. For full listing see: www.chrysalisarchaeology.com

REFERENCES (ARCHAEOLOGICAL):

Project: City Hall and Park, New York, NY
Prime: Beyer Blinder Belle Architects
POC: Richard Southwick, (212) 777-7800, RSouthwick@BBBARCH.com
Year Completed: 2013
Approx. Cost: \$725,000
Services: Archaeological – Phase IB, II and III Monitoring and Excavation

Project: Peck Slip Reconstruction Project, New York, NY
Prime: Tectonic Engineering
POC: Peter Roloff, (718) 391-9200, PRoloff@tectonicengineering.com
Year Completed: 2015
Approx. Cost: \$650,000
Services: Archaeological – Phase IA, IB and II Monitoring and Excavation

Project: Fulton Street Reconstruction Project, New York, NY
Prime: HAKS Engineering
POC: Hashem Kotby, (212) 747-1997, hkotby@haks.net
Year Completed: 2015
Approx. Cost: \$625,000
Services: Archaeological – Phase IA, IB and II Monitoring and Excavation

Project: Gowanus Canal Historic District Survey, Brooklyn, NY
Prime: Gregory Dietrich Preservation
POC: Gregory Dietrich, (917) 828-7926, ggdietrich@msn.com
Year Completed: 2011
Approx. Cost: \$20,000
Service: Archaeological – Phase IA – including National Register building survey

REFERENCES (EDUCATIONAL):

Linda Monte, President
Greater Ridgewood Historical Society/Vander-Ende Onder Donk House
1820 Flushing Avenue
Ridgewood, Queens, New York 11385
Phone: (718) 456-1776
Email: lindabmonte@yahoo.com

Mary Delano and Kate Ottavino
Center for Architecture and Building Science Research
New Jersey Institute of Technology
323 Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard
Campbell Hall, Room 335
Newark, New Jersey 07102
Phone: (973) 596-3097
E-mail: mdelano@njit.edu

Lisa Geiger, MA, MS, RPA | Field Director

Ms. Geiger has ten years of experience working in all phases of archaeological excavation and reporting. Her specializations include both prehistoric and historic contexts in the Middle Atlantic, New England, and Midwest regions. Her professional focus centers on historic urban infrastructure and consumer culture. She has extensive knowledge of laboratory analysis and archival preparation techniques for prehistoric and historic artifacts.

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE BY STATE

Illinois

[Rockies Express Pipeline – Phase III \(2008\)](#)

Pittsfield, IL

Excavated Phase III prehistoric upland occupation site, including structural, hearth, storage, and tool production areas. Analysis included tool microanalysis and storage vessel lipid testing to assess local faunal resources utilized for food and hides. Conducted in advance of Rockies Express – East natural gas pipeline installation.

New Hampshire

[Telecommunication Tower Weber Lane Camp Site NH-5050C – Phase IB \(2015\)](#)

Cheshire County, NH

Conducted site ground survey and shovel test pit excavation in historic town and prehistorically sensitive region in advance of cell tower construction in southern New Hampshire.

New Jersey

[Lenape Farms Wetland Restoration Project – Phase IA and IB \(2015\)](#)

Atlantic County, NJ

Conducted site assessment research and shovel test pit excavation in a WWI munitions plant historic district and prehistorically sensitive surrounding area in advance of wetland enhancement activities.

[Deep Run Preserve Wetland Mitigation Project – Phase IA \(2014\)](#)

Middlesex County, NJ

Performed documentary research and site survey for historic and prehistoric remains in advance of state-funded wetlands preservation and landscape remodeling designed to reduce invasive species in New Jersey Pinelands wetland habitats.



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Archaeological Survey and Excavation

Public Outreach and Education

Laboratory Preparation and Data curation

EDUCATION

M.S., Library and Information Science: 2018, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

M.A., Anthropology: 2015, Hunter College (CUNY)

B.A., Archaeology, Classical Studies: 2008, Dickinson College

CERTIFICATIONS

30-Hour OSHA Construction Industry Training (2020)

40-Hour OSHA HAZWOPER Safety Training (2009)

10-Hour OSHA Construction Safety Training (2010)

SWAC - Secure Worker Access Consortium (2014)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2019-2020: Chrysalis Archaeological Consultants

2017-2019: Field Museum of Natural History

2011-2016: Chrysalis Archaeological Consultants

2013: AIA/Carr Plantation Outreach

2008-2011: URS Corporation

New York Headquarters

4110 Quentin Road
Brooklyn, NY 11234-4322
Phone: 718.645.3962

Brooklyn Laboratory

2119 East 34th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11234
www.chrysalisarchaeology.com

[Jamesburg County Park Wetland Mitigation Project – Phase IA \(2014\)](#)

Middlesex County, NJ

Conducted documentary research and site survey for historic and prehistoric remains within a nineteenth-century industrial town that utilized extensive historic land forming. Performed research in advance of state-funded activities to recreate native Pinelands wetland habitats in the Pinelands Spotswood Outlier region.

[Thompson Park Federal Road Fields Wetland Mitigation Project – Phase IA \(2014\)](#)

Middlesex County, NJ

Performed documentary research and site survey in a rural, nineteenth-century industrial area in advance of state-funded wetlands management activities intended to remove invasive species in Pinelands Spotswood Outlier region.

[Pleasant Grove, Jackson Township – Phase IB \(2012\)](#)

Jackson Township, NJ

Participated in Phase I excavation to assess historic and prehistoric cultural character of rural farmlands and wetlands development areas in Ocean County, NJ.

[Allied Textile Printing Site Cultural Research Investigation – Phase II \(2010\)](#)

Paterson, NJ

Investigated the 19th century remains of the Colt Gun Mill, Mallory Mill, Passaic Mill, and Todd Mill within the Allied Textile Printing complex, part of America's first planned industrial community. Conducted trenching and unit excavation to map mill raceways and architectural progression. Performed in conjunction with Hunter Research.

[Rutgers University Campus Expansion – Phase II \(2011\)](#)

Camden Co., NJ

Testing and mitigation of Site 28CA124 on Rutgers Camden Campus to recover 19th century residential structures and materials in area of planned new student housing.

[Multi-Use Pathway at Fort Hancock, Sandy Hook Unit, Gateway National Recreation Area – Phase II \(2010\)](#)

Monmouth County, NJ

Conducted testing in historical and prehistorically sensitive oceanfront areas for the National Park Service in advance of hiking and bike trail improvements around Sandy Hook. Special attention paid to 19th century battery area. Required training in unexploded ordnance identification.

[DuPont Salem River Public Access Boat Ramp – Phase III \(2008\)](#)

Salem County, NJ

Conducted excavations to expose a prehistoric encampment that included hearth features and occupation material from the Late Archaic through Late Woodland Periods. Performed in advance of Salem River public use recreational docks.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA)

Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC)

Society for Historic Archaeology (SHA)

CONTACT INFORMATION

lgeiger@chrysalisarchaeology.com

New York

[The Reconstruction of the Olde Towne of Flushing Burial Ground – Phase IB \(2020\)](#)

Queens, New York

Work plan for archaeological monitoring of playground construction on park formerly used as a nineteenth century municipal burial ground, including designated usage for African American residents in the 1840s.

[Reconstruction of Playground at Peter Minuit Park, Battery City – Phase IB \(2020\)](#)

Manhattan, NY

Testing and monitoring report for reconstruction of the Battery Playscape playground in Lower Manhattan, including positive identification of original Battery Wall segment.

[St. Peter's Church Westchester Square Development Project – Phase IB \(2020\)](#)

Bronx, New York

Shovel pit testing and unit excavation to assess the grounds of the Landmarked St. Peter's Episcopal Church and Cemetery complex. Testing lead to positive identification of location of Second Quaker Meeting house, destroyed by fire in the late nineteenth century.

[Washington Square Park Water Mains Improvements – Phase IB \(2020\)](#)

Manhattan, NY

Conducted monitoring of street bed excavation surrounding three-quarters of Washington Square Park and surrounding roadways for water main upgrades and replacements. Excavation uncovered historic interments and potter's field burials.

[Brightview Senior Living Center– Phase IA \(2020\)](#)

Port Jefferson Station, NY

Documentary study and site assessment in advance of developing rural and suburban land in north central Suffolk County, Long Island.

[Long Beach Water Pollution Control Plant \(WPCP\) Consolidation – Phase IA \(2020\)](#)

Nassau County, New York

Assessment of potential routes for upgrades to sanitation station and new sanitation piping through Long Beach and small south shore coastal island areas.

[Conference House Pavilion Reconstruction – Phase IB \(2020\)](#)

Staten Island, NY

Archaeological monitoring of stripping and concrete work for construction of a new pavilion in Conference House Park and Ward's Point Conservation Area, site of documented Native American occupation as early as Early Archaic period and historic seventeenth century home and Revolutionary War-era manor.

[CC Moore Homestead Park – Phase IB \(2019\)](#)

Queens, NY

Archaeological testing of playground reconstruction over park that previously housed a seventeenth and eighteenth century homestead and former British Revolutionary War headquarters.

[New NY Bridge at the Tappan Zee Bridge – Phase II \(2016\)](#)

Tarrytown, NY

Conducted monitoring of demolition tasks and field testing to assess culturally sensitive areas determined by previous finds and documentary research as part of construction of a new bridge over the Hudson River. Recovered architectural and material evidence of a nineteenth century estate house and associated outbuildings.

[Major Deegan Expressway Upgrade and Maintenance – Phase IA \(2016\)](#)

Bronx, NY

Conducted Phase IA documentary research and site reconnaissance for historic highway repairs and expansions, under special exception from FHWA Section 106 expediency regulations based on the roadway's historic character and unique mid-twentieth century parkway construction.

[Washington Square Park Water Main Replacement – Phase IB \(2015\)](#)**Manhattan, NY**

Oversaw excavations to characterize future construction work around Washington Square Park and its surrounding area in order to replace and upgrade water main, sewer, and additional utility services. The park area served as a potter's field and contagious disease cemetery and contains potentially up to 20,000 eighteenth and early nineteenth century burials in addition to structures related to the first free African landowners in the city from the seventeenth century.

[Pelham Bay Park – Phase II \(2015\)](#)**Bronx, NY**

Designed and conducted Phase II testing to assess the nature and extend of preliminarily identified prehistoric shell middens near Eastchester Bay. Recovered extensive evidence of prehistoric activity including shell deposits, lithic tools and reduction materials, and Woodland-era decorated ceramics. Performed for the National Parks Service in advance of park land management and removal of a twentieth-century seawall damaged by Superstorm Sandy.

[Kosciuszko Bridge Replacement – Phase IB \(2014-2015\)](#)**Brooklyn, NY and Queens, NY**

Monitored demolition of industrial warehouse structures and excavation for temporary bridge footings for evidence of prehistoric activity and early Dutch and English settlement structures and burial areas. Performed for the NY State Department of Transportation in advance of deconstruction and replacement of an early twentieth-century truss bridge at a main borough thoroughfare; replacement activities were part of the first cable-stayed bridge built in New York City since the Brooklyn Bridge.

[Staten Island Farm Colony – Phase IB \(2014\)](#)**Staten Island, NY**

Created and enacted a ground survey testing plan to delineate the boundaries of a potters' field cemetery utilized by residents of a 19th century poor house colony in Richmond County. Performed shovel test excavations to identify early 19th century living areas and to collect materials from a fire-damaged refuse deposit sourced from the poor house institution.

[Village of Ellenville Water System Improvements – Phase IB \(2014\)](#)**Ulster County, NY**

Conducted shovel test pit excavation and walking survey in a historically and prehistorically sensitive town in central New York in advance of improvements to the town water supply and delivery systems.

[Floyd Bennett Field – Phase II \(2014-2015\)](#)**Brooklyn, NY**

Conducted Phase II monitoring for soil contamination remediation across prehistoric and historic-era marshland sites. Identified structures and deposits related to nineteenth century municipal waste management and industrial waste processing plants. Assisted in waste characterization sampling. Generated regional site stratigraphy guide.

[50 Bowery Street – Phase IA, Phase IB \(2013\)](#)**New York City, NY**

Performed documentary study to investigate site use history with a focus on verification of 18th and early 19th century tavern and theatre landscape in Bowery section of lower Manhattan. Conducted excavation to expose 18th and 19th century modified structures including foundations and a cistern.

[Peck Slip Rehabilitation – Phase IA, Phase II \(2011-2014\)](#)**New York City, NY**

Supplemented historic business and property background research for Phase IA reporting. Conducted Phase II monitoring, mapping, and feature-specific excavations during road reconstruction and utility replacements at Peck Slip, an 18th and 19th century shipping area and Historic District in downtown Manhattan. Organized public outreach sessions incorporating collaborative lectures and didactic displays. Generated comprehensive, multi-site report synthesizing recent South Street Seaport regional archaeological excavation results.

[Gowanus Canal Study – Phase IA \(2012\)](#)

Brooklyn, NY

Generated 18th and 19th century industrial and commercial production digital site map for historic character study of Gowanus area in southwest Brooklyn leading to application for Historic District status.

[Fulton Street Reconstruction – Phase II \(2011-2014\)](#)

New York City, NY

Monitored Phase II excavations and investigated historic architecture and water supply features in advance of road reconstruction and utility replacements at Fulton Street in downtown Manhattan's South Street Seaport Historic District. Generated comprehensive, multi-site report synthesizing infrastructural elements uncovered by Seaport area excavation activities.

[Archaeological Investigations at City Hall Park – Phase II, Phase III \(2010-2011\)](#)

New York City, NY

Performed Phase II and III excavations at City Hall pinpointing historic architecture and features. Highlighted discoveries include a pre-revolution British jail, early water management features, and large scale refuse deposits. Performed in conjunction with URS.

[Liberty Island Utility Upgrade Investigation – Phase IB \(2010\)](#)

New York Harbor, NY

Conducted shovel tests around the Statue of Liberty and Fort Wood to identify historic and prehistoric materials in advance of utility installations across National Park Service lands. Identified shell middens related to prehistoric island occupation and exploitation of harbor resources.

[Fort Edward/ GE Hudson River Remediation – Phase III \(2009\)](#)

Washington County, NY

Performed excavation along the Hudson River to identify the boundaries of the 18th century Fort Edward as well as prehistoric and contact-era Native American tools and trade goods. Performed shovel test pits across Hudson River islands to attempt to locate mass graves and quarantine housing related to 18th and 19th century yellow fever outbreaks.

[Martin Van Buren National Historic Site— Phase II \(2009\)](#)

Kinderhook, NY

Excavated test pits and trenches to identify the location and trajectory of the original Old Post Road transit line at the Martin Van Buren post-presidential residence and National Historic Site.

Pennsylvania

[Rapp Run and Pine Run Flood Retarding Structure Investigations – Phase IB \(2010\)](#)

Montgomery County, PA

Performed ground survey and shovel tests in prehistorically sensitive areas of Upper Dublin Township in advance of flood control improvements.

[Archaeological Testing and Mitigation, Delaware Water Gap Recreation Area Site 36PI136 – Phase III \(2010\)](#)

East Stroudsburg, PA

Performed Phase III excavations in prehistorically sensitive Woodland period river bank areas at Smithfield Beach and Bushkill Access in advance of comfort station and water access enhancements.

[Lancaster Intermodal Transport Center – Phase III \(2010\)](#)

Lancaster, PA

Performed excavations to expose site 36LA1494 in historic downtown Lancaster City. Identified 18th century wells, privies, structures, and a kiln related to local pottery works as well as foundations of the flagship Pennsylvania Railroad train station from 1860.

[Cabot Gas & Oil Pipeline – Phase IB \(2008\)](#)

Wyoming County, PA

Excavated shovel test pits along multiple portions of upland pipeline routes to assess prehistorically sensitive Woodland areas.

[I-95/Girard Interchange Project – Phase II, Phase III \(2009-2011\)](#)

Philadelphia, PA

Performed extensive excavation across three miles of 18th and 19th century residential and commercial areas in one of Philadelphia's first communities. Identified wells, privies, architectural features, and property line variations, as well as occupation areas related to contact-era Native Americans. Identified the Dydottville Glassworks riverfront industrial plants and planned worker communities. Conducted artifact analysis of historic and prehistoric materials as well as floatation analysis to identify faunal material, historic diet, and urban agricultural activity. Conducted for PA Dept. of Transportation (PADOT).

[Aramingo Canal/Girard Interchange – Phase II \(2008-2009\)](#)

Philadelphia, PA

Monitored and directed excavations to locate and expose the Aramingo Canal, a 19th century urban canal cut at Gunner's Run creek to extend Philadelphians' access and drain waste material to the Delaware River. Extensive work at and below the local water table documented historic timber bulkhead construction methodology related to landfilling and water access. PA Dept. of Transportation (PADOT).

West Virginia

[Dominion Transmission Pipeline– Phase IA \(2009\)](#)

Marshall County, WV

Conducted documentary research to investigate intact historic properties along proposed natural gas pipeline and processing facility areas. Conducted for Dominion Transmission Inc.

CARIBBEAN

[Carr Plantation Archaeological Project \(2013\)](#)

Montserrat, West Indies

Conducted excavations at a 17th and 18th century sugar plantation to reveal historical structures and property boundaries. Performed ground survey to identify previously undocumented plantation lands threatened by Soufriere Hills volcanic flows. Assisted in educational programming with local secondary schools to instruct students in survey and excavation methodology. Performed in conjunction with Boston University and an Archaeological Institute of America outreach grant.

[Gun Hill Archaeological Investigation and Mitigation – Phase II \(2013\)](#)

Montserrat, West Indies

Conducted ground survey and excavation to reveal and document an 18th century canon battery tower and artillery storage area. Performed for Montserratian Parliament and British Governor oversight. Carried out in advance of municipal construction to build a new harbor and island capital after resettlement due to volcanic eruption.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PAPERS

Council for Northeast Archaeology (CNEHA) Annual Conference, November 2014: "Building New York's Seaport: Pier and Crib Construction in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries."

New York State Archaeology Association, Metropolitan Chapter, October 2014: "A Competent Womanhood: Forming New Identities Through Personal Healthcare and Hygiene."

Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA), January 2014: "Consumer Hygiene, Contraception, and Douching – Sex Work and Working Class Women"

Council for Northeast Archaeology (CNEHA), November 2013: "Brothels and Bones: Consumer Hygiene and Reproductive Healthcare From City Hall"

Professional Archaeologists of New York (PANYC), May 2013: "Seaport Infrastructure and Water Service"

PUBLICATIONS

2020: Washington Square Park, Water Mains Connections and Replacement, New York, New York.

2020: Phase IA Historical Documentary Report and Archaeological Assessment for the Proposed Brightview Senior Living Center, 1147 NY-112, Port Jefferson Station, Suffolk County, New York

2016: Major Deegan Expressway Maintenance and Expansion – The Bronx, Bronx County, New York.

2016: South Street Seaport: Archaeological Investigations at Peck Slip and Fulton Street – Peck Slip and Fulton Street Reconstruction Projects, New York (New York County), New York.

2015: Phase IB Archaeological Field Test of the Proposed Telecommunication Tower (Weber Lane Camp Site) – NH 5050C, 36 Weber Lane, Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire (NH 5050C).

2015: Phase IB Archaeological Monitoring for the Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York – US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE-1) Project (Proj. No. 10-3901.00, Contract No. W912DQ-10-D-3008).

2015: Phase II Archaeological Testing for the Reconstruction of the Waterfront between Pelham Bay Landfill and Watt Avenue in Pelham Bay Park, Bronx, Bronx County, New York (NY SHPO: 13PR01852).

2015: Phase IA Historical Documentary Report and Archaeological Assessment of the Deep Run Preserve Wetland Mitigation Project; Block 8003; Lots 7.11, 8, 9, and 10; Old Bridge Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey

2015: Phase IA Historical Documentary Report and Archaeological Assessment of the Jamesburg County Park Wetland Mitigation Project; Block 18; Lots 5, 6, 6.05, and 7; Helmetta Borough, Middlesex County, New Jersey

2015: Phase IA Historical Documentary Report and Archaeological Assessment of the Pin Oak Forest Conservation Project; Block 1020.01; Lots 1.03, 1.04, 1.05, and 1.06; Woodbridge Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey

2015: Phase IA Historical Documentary Report and Archaeological Assessment of the Thompson Park Federal Road Fields Wetland Mitigation Project; Block 20; Lots 28.06 and 28.08 Monroe Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey

2014: Phase IA/IB Archaeological Assessment, NYC Farm Colony (LPC #LP-01408). Staten Island, Richmond County, New York.

2012: Phase IA Cultural Resource Documentary Assessment of the Peck Slip Reconstruction - Project Extension – Beekman Street between Front Street and South Street, New York (New York County), New York – Contract Number: HWM1159.

Caitlin Welks, M.A., Archaeologist

Ms. Welks has nearly ten years of experience working in all phases of archaeological excavation. Her specializations include both prehistoric and historic contexts in the North East and Bronze and Iron Age Israel and the Near East. She has extensive knowledge of field methodologies for prehistoric and historic sites.

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE BY STATE

New York

Various Projects and Locations Throughout the Five Boroughs Phase I - II (2017- Present)

Phase II excavations on construction sites in Manhattan, Brooklyn the Bronx, Queens, and Staten Island NY, tracing out and excavating foundations, walls, shaft features, wells, and rooms from 19th and 20th century structures demolished before WWII. Tasks also included monitoring construction work, and identifying and excavating archaeological material that have been uncovered from this work. Also responsible for writing notes and descriptions of structures as well as creating feature drawings and plan views of excavated areas. Also responsible for writing field memos, monitoring plans, Phase IAs, and project reports. Descriptions of Specific Projects are as follows:

Washington Square Park Water Main Replacement and Connection Project – Phase IB (2015-Present)

Manhattan, NY

Monitored excavations for the replacement/upgrade of water main, sewer, and additional utility services and conducted excavation of human remains around Washington Square Park, a known potter's field and contagious disease cemetery. Currently working on the Final Report for this project.

Hart Island, New York – Shoreline Stabilization Project – Phase IB (2017-Present)

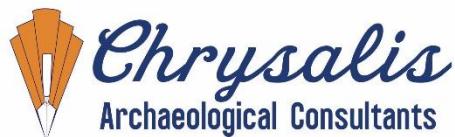
Bronx, NY

Conducted field survey and recovery of human remains from the currently active potter's field located on Hart Island. Also responsible for writing up field memos and cleaning of remains.

CC Moore Homestead Playground - Phase IB (2019)

Queens, NY

Conducted field monitoring on this archaeologically sensitive park in Queens, New York playground during park reconstruction.



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Archaeological Survey and Excavation

EDUCATION

M.A. Jewish Studies, Focus - Ancient Israel and the Near East: 2017, University of Maryland, College Park

B.A., Archaeology: 2009, Hamilton College

CERTIFICATIONS

OSHA 10 Hour

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2017 – Present: Chrysalis Archaeological Consultants

2013-2014: Skelly and Loy, Inc.

2012: AECOM Public Archaeology Laboratory

2011: A.D. Marble & Company

2011: Rhea Engineers & Consultants Inc.

2010: Christine Davis Consultants

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American School of Oriental Research (ASOR)

College Art Association (CAA)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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www.chrysalisarchaeology.com

Brooklyn Laboratory

2119 East 34th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11234

[Ingersoll Senior Residences \(275 Myrtle Avenue\) – Phase IB \(2016-Present\)](#)

Brooklyn, NY

Conducted field excavation on this archaeologically sensitive former residential site across from historic Fort Greene Park in advance of construction of new senior housing. Currently working on processing and cataloging the artifacts found in preparation for the final report.

[Alice Austen Park- Phase IB \(2019\)](#)

Staten Island, NY

Conducted field testing on this archaeologically sensitive park located around the historic Alice Austen House in Staten Island, New York.

[Worth St- Phase IB \(2019\)](#)

Queens, NY

Conducted field monitoring on this possibly archaeologically sensitive area on the outskirts of Five Points in Manhattan, New York.

Pennsylvania

[Various Projects and Locations - Phase I - II \(2013-2014\)](#)

Phase I and II excavations. Included digging shovel test pits, opening and excavating 1m x 1m units, excavating features, creating unit and feature drawings and soil profiles, cataloging pre-contact and post-contact period artifacts, and assisting in site grid set-up and site-specific methodology.

[Port Allegany – Phase I \(2012\)](#)

Phase I excavation. Included digging shovel test pits, opening and excavating 1m x 1m units, drawing profiles, filling out paperwork, and cleaning and analyzing pre-contact artifacts.

[Kittanning and Danville – Phase II \(2011\)](#)

Phase II prehistoric excavation. Included opening and excavating 1m x 1m units, creating unit and feature drawings, soil profiles, analyzing and cataloging prehistoric artifacts, assisting in site grid set-up and site-specific methodology, excavating features, digging shovel test pits, and monitoring backfill endeavors.

[New Geneva – Phase II \(2011\)](#)

Phase II historic mill excavation, supervised by Skelly & Loy. Included setting in and excavating 1m x 1m units, excavating features, recording data, digging shovel test pits, and cleaning and cataloging artifacts.

[Pittsburgh – Phase I –II \(2010\)](#)

Phase I and II excavations included digging shovel test pits, surface collection, excavating features, and cleaning and cataloging pre-contact and post-contact period artifacts.

West Virginia

[Various Projects and Locations - Phase I - II \(2013-2014\)](#)

Phase I and II excavations. Included digging shovel test pits, opening and excavating 1m x 1m units, excavating features, creating unit and feature drawings and soil profiles, cataloging pre-contact and post-contact period artifacts, and assisting in site grid set-up and site-specific methodology.

[Parsons – Phase I \(2011\)](#)

Phase I fieldwork, supervised by Skelly & Loy. Tasks included digging shovel test pits, screening for artifacts, excavating 1m x 1m units, excavating features, filling out field forms, and mapping and site grid set-up.