

Help Support Our Mission - To Build a "New" NJ History Museum in Bergen County, NJ

Announcing the New Jersey History Museum Capital Campaign. A thrilling campaign to ensure the future of New Jersey History we are erecting 3,750 square foot museum building at Historic New Bridge Landing that will serve as a beacon to democracy in Bergen County!

Your Donation Matters!



Our goal is simple - to build a world-class permanent museum that will herald and display the collective history of New Jersey. Site plans have been completed and approved by the DEP. Construction is slated to begin Spring 2024 but we need your help to fund our initiative.

The new museum will be located at Historic New Bridge Landing Park, the 13-acre historical landmark vista located in River Edge, NJ - the heart of Bergen County. The sacred parcel of land has been preserved as a slice of Dutch countryside at the narrows of the Hackensack River. Famed for its role during the American Revolution and George Washington's headquarters in 1780, this hallowed ground has survived development by the preservation efforts of the Bergen County Historical Society. The new museum will offer safe storage and environmentally controlled exhibit space, a theater and orientation gathering space and will serve as a cultural heritage site for visitors.

A barn-shaped building that will fit in with the historic buildings.

The new space will allow for expanded educational programming and dynamic new exhibits!

Establishing this permanent museum will create an unforgettable platform, leaving an indelible mark on thousands of visitors. It will weave a vibrant tapestry of knowledge seekers eager to explore our past. Your donation will be instrumental in realizing our vision, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of New Jersey's rich History.

Dynamic New Exhibits

K-12 Educational Learning

Every gift makes a difference. As a 501 (c)3 non-profit the new museum construction and all facets exhibits and new educational programming will rely on donations for funding.

Philanthopist - \$1,000 Supports the new museum's theater section where educational events will be held for years to come. Your name will be highlighted in our newsletter and on-site at the new museum. You'll receive free museum and site admission and invites to our special events.

Society Collections - \$5,000 & Up Supports the new museum's distinguished collections that expand several centuries. Our collection of over 4,000 original objects, works of art, textiles and manuscripts will need to be displayed within the walls of the new museum. The BCHS collections comprise the greatest survival of significant Bergen Dutch artifacts and documents in the public domain. Your name, company name or foundation name will be highlighted next to the core exhibit as underwriting the space and programming. Includes free museum and site admission and invites to our special events.

Friend of the Museum - \$10,000 & Up Supports and funds the construction costs of the new museum. Your generous donation will be recognized on-site with inclusion on the main entrance Donor Walkway Wall and in our Main Exhibit Hall and on our website. Your name/company or foundation name will be visible within our newsletter and press materials. You'll receive free museum and site admission and invites to our special events. This level offers the ability to secure the museum for a special private event (excludes catering), free of charge.



Give In Memory Donations - Remembrance • Anniversary • Birthday • Any Special Occasion Your donation will be recognized with a thank-you card for your contribution that can be sent to you the donor or the family of the person being honored.

Long Term Donation Plans - By selecting this plan you can ensure our exhibits, events and education for year to come. Information available up request.

Follow us on Facebook - [bergencountyhistory](https://www.facebook.com/bergencountyhistory) and Instagram #bergencountyhistory

Donor Advised Funds (DAF) Make a donation to the BCHS form for the new museum capital campaign with your Donor Advised Fund or Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Every gift will have an impact and fund the building and creation of the new museum.

MAKE A DONATION:

<https://www.bergencountyhistory.org/donate>

For more information on donating or to set up a site visit, please contact:
Martha Morley at: (201) 493-7996 or email: bergenhistorymuseum@gmail.com

Giving by US mail:
Check donations made out to the BCHS can be forwarded to:
BCHS, PO Box 55, River Edge, NJ 07661-0055



Who we are:

The Bergen County Historical Society is a 501(c) non-profit, volunteer organization. 100% of tax-deductible donations go to fulfilling our mission.

GuideStar

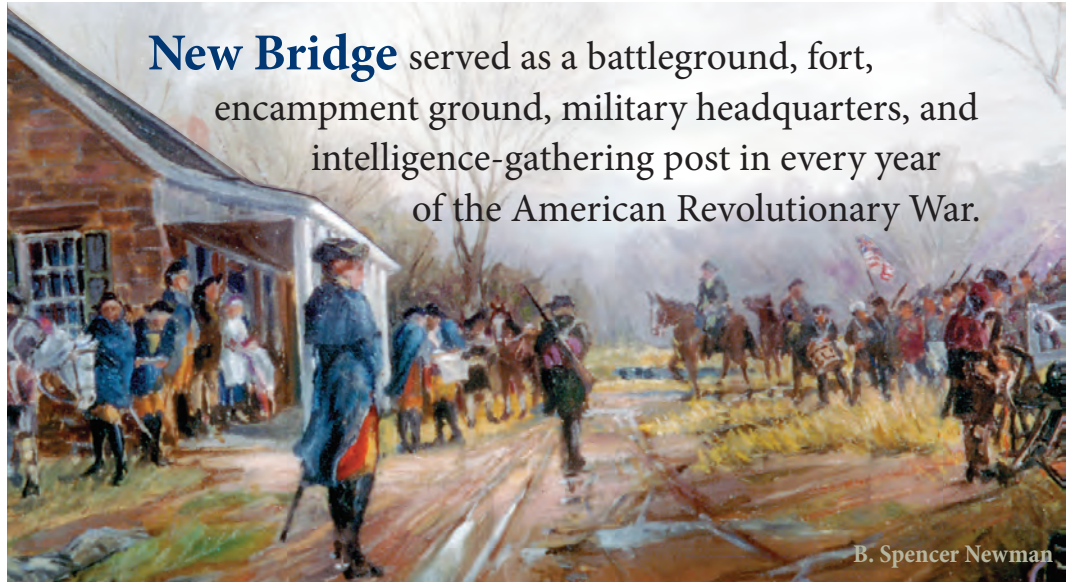
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New Bridge: Battleground in the American Revolution

While a constant arena for conflict, the following significant Revolutionary War events are associated with New Bridge:

- Thomas Paine describes events of Nov 20, 1776 in *The American Crisis* (5th paragraph) when Washington meets General Greene at the Liberty Pole in Englewood to lead the 2,500-3,000 troops across the bridge who were almost entrapped by the 5,000 British troops who had scaled the Jersey Palisades in pursuit.
- The next day, British troops under Major General Vaughan attacked the American rear guard on November 21, 1776, and seized the New Bridge, which American engineers were dismantling.
- British and Loyalist troops under command of Captain Patrick Ferguson attacked about 40 Bergen militiamen at New Bridge on May 18, 1779.
- Major Henry Lee led American troops from New Bridge, August 18, 1779, to attack the British earthworks at Paulus Hook (Jersey City).



New Bridge served as a battleground, fort, encampment ground, military headquarters, and intelligence-gathering post in every year of the American Revolutionary War.

- A force of Bergen Militia and Continental troops attacked 600 British troops and German auxiliaries at New Bridge on their retreat from Hackensack & Paramus on March 23, 1780, during the 2 hours it took for the British to repair and cross the New Bridge.

- A body of 312 British, Loyalist and German infantry attacked and overwhelmed an American outpost at New Bridge commanded by Lieutenant Bryson on April 15, 1780.
- Eight British soldiers were killed and several wounded by friendly fire when British troops attempted to attack a body of Bergen Militia in the Zabriskie-Steuben House at New Bridge on May 30, 1780.
- Brigadier General Anthony Wayne led American troops from New Bridge on a raid against the Bull's Ferry Blockhouse on July 20, 1780.
- General Washington made his headquarters in the Zabriskie-Steuben House during the Steenrapie Encampment (along Kinderkamack Rd) of the Continental Army, encompassing 14,000 men, on September 4-20, 1780.

Famous Faces of New Bridge during the American Revolution:



Who was Steuben?

Major General Baron von Steuben is best remembered for organizing and training the Continental troops at Valley Forge. The State of New Jersey gifts the confiscated Zabriskie (Steuben) House to him in 1783. Steuben restores the war damaged house.

Historic New Bridge Landing

11 Engagements Took Place Here



Who was Paine?

Thomas Paine "Our first object was to secure the bridge over the Hackensack, which laid up the river between the enemy and us..." *The American Crisis*, 1776

November 20, 1776