

IN BERGEN'S ATTIC

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings fellow members, and I hope you are well. Spring has brought sunshine and fresh air to us all, and many volunteers are busy sprucing up HNBL for the recognition of the BCHS 120th year since being organized! The vision of our society founders, their commitment to promoting and preserving US History, Bergen County and surrounding areas in particular, as an independent, all volunteer, nonprofit (501c) organization has passed on from generation to generation. Our core of volunteers range in age from 18 to 90+ years, and enjoy being an active part of history. You've taken the first step by becoming a member. Now won't you try to find some time to share your talents and personal expertise, and to learn and share the stories about New Bridge through our school of interpretation and add to

the success of our programs. There are over a dozen areas of interest for volunteering of which one suits your personal needs? We need your help to continue to make it work!

Have you noticed the larger red area on our museum fund raiser thermometer at the corner of New Bridge Rd. and Main St.? Yes, our fund raising continues, and we sincerely thank all of our donors! We are still waiting on the DEP permits and we're anxious to move on to construction! Visit our website, BergenCountyHistory.org for information on making donations or email for information to JohnEiel@yahoo.com fund raising chairman or to me at eventsBCHS2020@gmail.com and we will follow up with you. Help us construct a first class Bergen County Museum at Historic New Bridge Landing!

- Carol Restivo, BCHS President



Pinkster: CELEBRATED BY AFRICAN, NATIVE & DUTCH AMERICANS

MURIEL D. ROBERTS



17th Century New Netherland settlers brought the celebration of Pinkster to what is now North New Jersey and New



York. Pinkster for the Dutch settlers was a Christian celebration of Pentecost, 50 days after Easter, derived from the Dutch form Pinkstern. These areas had significant populations of enslaved Africans and Free People of Color. For enslaved people, the year offered few holidays or breaks from tedious and grueling work. Pinkster became the most important and anticipated break of the year. And was celebrated over several days.

Enslaver families granted time off to the captive men and women. The Pinkster holiday allowed the enslaved an opportunity to reunite with loved ones and family members who often lived some distance

away. Many traveled from rural areas to New York City which had a significantly large population of both free and enslaved Africans.

The Dutch observed Pinkster by attending church services. Important church functions like baptisms and confirmations were held during this festive time. Neighbors and family visited one another, children dyed eggs and ate gingerbread.

European style Country Dances were always part of the festivities.

By the mid 18th century large gatherings could be found during Pinkster time. Enslaved men and women could be found selling herbs, berries, sassafras bark, beverages and oysters at the markets in Manhattan and Brooklyn.

Africans and Europeans enjoyed drinking, game playing, dancing and music as part of these gatherings. Vendors adorned market stalls with greenery and flowers. Azaleas are the known Pinkster Flower.

By the early 1800's, the Dutch had shifted their focus to newer American holidays such as Election Day and Independence Day. Pinkster was then viewed primarily as an African-American holiday, with African Drumming, dancing, story telling, caricature mocking of their white captors, while voicing their anguish through speeches, and call and response singing culminating with a Grand Parade and election of the Pinkster King!

An account of Pinkster can be found in the New-York Weekly Journal newspaper

on March 1737 describing a Pinkster gathering in fields just outside New York City. It mentions the use of African-style musical instruments.

Market festivities during Pinkster are described in Thomas DeVoe's *THE MARKET BOOK: A History of Public Markets of New York City*, published in 1862, but drew on memories of earlier first-hand experiences.

An 18th century Pinkster celebration is described by James Fenimore Cooper in his novel *SATANSTOE*, published in 1845.

For enslaved people, gathering in rural areas or urban markets, Pinkster allowed a sense of temporary independence; and a chance to preserve, reshape and express African traditions despite the restrictions of enslavement. ❁

THIS SECTION OF WALLPAPER DESIGNED BY ZUBER ET CIE WAS FIRST CREATED AROUND 1830 USING HUNDREDS OF WOODBLOCKS, AND DEPICTS VARIOUS SCENES FROM AMERICA. IT IS LOCATED IN NIGHTINGALE-BROWN HOUSE HALL. THIS SCENE IS FROM NEW JERSEY, LOOKING ACROSS THE HUDSON RIVER WITH MANHATTEN ISLAND BEYOND. AT FAR RIGHT, WEEHAWKEN COVE, NJ CAN BE SEEN BETWEEN THE TWO JUTS OF LAND. CASTLE POINT, HOBOKEN IS THE LAND BEYOND WEEHAWKEN COVE. AT RIGHT IS AN ENLARGED DETAIL.



Bergen County Timeline

KEVIN WRIGHT



1609 Henry Hudson enters New York harbor.
1640 David De Vries establishes a farm and brewery on Hudson River at Edgewater, which he names Vriessendaal.
1641 Agent Johannes Winkelman supervises construction of trading post for the Achter Col colony in Bogota.
1643 On February 26th, Dutch soldiers brutally massacred about 80 Hackensack and Tappan Indians at Pavonia. Natives retaliate, burning four Dutch farmhouses and killing 10 colonists.
1658 The Corporation of Bergen establishes fortified village atop Palisades in Bergen Square section of Jersey City.
1661 William Jansen opens first ferry across Hudson River to Jersey City.
1664 Grant of NJ to Berkeley and Carteret.
1668 William Sandford acquires land between Hackensack and Passaic Rivers for Nathaniel Kingsland, establishing New Barbados.
1669 John Berry purchases the northern part of New Barbados Neck.
1669 Governor Carteret confirms grant of and between the Hackensack River and Overpeck Creek, north to Cedar Lane, to Sara Kierstide, given to her as a gift by Oratam, Sachem of the Hackingsacks.
1675 County Courts established.
1677 David Demarest establishes Huguenot colony in upper Hackensack Valley. 1682, Phillip Carteret conveys 380 acres to Cornelius Matheus van Stockholm, a Swedish land clearer, who becomes first settler at New Bridge (River Edge).
1683 General Assembly creates counties of Bergen, Essex, Middlesex and Monmouth.
1696 Anthony Robertse, a free African, purchases several hundred acres of land in

Hackensack, including spot where the Courthouse now stands.

1696 First church in Hackensack erected.
1700 East Jersey Proprietors grant land to Manhattan wine merchant, Michael Hawden, including Franklin Lake. Native owners sell Romopock Tract to Blandina Bayard, including Ramapough, Yapough, Yandakagh, and Campgaw.
1704 Lutheran church built in Teaneck
1709 Native owners sell the Ramapo Tract to John Auboyneau, Elias Boudinot, Peter Fauconnier and Lucas Kiersted, extending from a spring at the head of a river called Perampseapus (Paramus), running 16 miles down the Saddle River to the Hohokus Brook, thence northwest to a great rock called Painmaikapuka (Glen Rock), extending to the top of the mountains on the west side of the Ramapo River, and continuing along the mountaintops to a place about 2 miles above an Indian field called Mahwah.
1710 New county boundaries defined and Hackensack becomes county seat.
1710 Arent Schuyler purchases large tract between the Hackensack and Passaic Rivers from North Arlington south to Kearny and builds mansion.
1715 Freeholders build first courthouse and jail in Hackensack.
1716 Bergen County Freeholders raise £10 for bounties on wolves, panthers and foxes.
1719 Copper discovered in North Arlington.
1720 Old Bridge erected between New Milford and River Edge.
1730 Freeholders purchase land near Dutch church in Hackensack for new courthouse, 48 x 30 feet.
1724 John Romine acquires land on west shore of Franklin Lake.
1735 Cornelius Wynkoop opens commercial bakery at New Bridge in what is now Brett Park, Teaneck. An African slave named Jack is burned to death for resisting a blow from Peter Kipp while going to work in a field.
1741 As conspirators in a supposed slave insurrection, two enslaved Africans are burned

to death at Yellow Point on the east side of the Hackensack River after being convicted of burning seven barns.

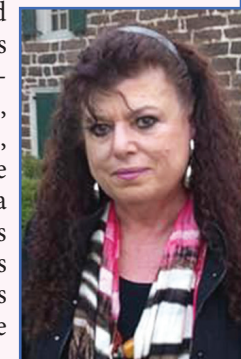
1744 New Bridge erected at narrows of the Hackensack River.
1752 Jan Zabriskie completes five-room stone house overlooking New Bridge, now the oldest part of the Steuben House in River Edge.
1749-53 Colonel John Schuyler hires English engineer Josiah Hornblower to install the first steam engine in America for pumping water from his copper mines.
1764 Michael Cornelisse establishes Paulus Hook Ferry, making New Bridge and Hackensack vital transportation hubs.
1765 Legislature authorizes construction of plank road between Newark and Jersey City, crossing Hackensack and Passaic Rivers on ferries.
1766 Stephanus Voorhees opens a Latin School at New Bridge on Cottage Place, Teaneck.
1768 Andrew Van Buskirk operates first stage wagon between New Bridge tavern and Paulus Hook ferry.
1769 Washington Academy opens in Hackensack.
1771 Franklin Township was named in honor of William Franklin, who was the last Royal Governor of New Jersey and son of famed Benjamin.

1772 John Schuyler completes 6.5 mile cedar log road across Hackensack Meadows at his own expense and the legislature authorizes a lottery to fund gravel covering for the roadbed.
1774 Committee of Correspondence formed.
1776 "His Majesty's Justices and Freeholders" hold last meeting in Hackensack.
1776 On June 29th, British fleet of 130 vessels appears off Manhattan, signaling start of battle in the Hudson Valley. On November 20th, 5,000 British and German troops scale Palisades at Lower Closter Landing, forcing the American garrison of 3,000 at Fort Lee to flee across the Hackensack River at New Bridge led by Washington on the retreat across New Jersey. On December 14th, about 600 American troops briefly occupy Hackensack.
1777 George Washington stays at the Hendrick Van Allen House in Oakland on July 14-15th. On September 23rd, British troops land at Fort Lee and march to New Bridge, Hackensack, and Fairlawn.
1778 On September 22nd, 6,000 British and Hessian soldiers land at Paulus Hook and advance to New Bridge, building earthworks on Brower's Hill in River Edge. On September 27th, British force attacks Lt. Col. Baylor's regiment of Light Horse, quartered in houses and barns in the Overkill Neighborhood (River Vale).

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In Memoriam - Linda Bonura-Masullo passed away on March 18, 2022.

A BCHS Board of Trustee member, Linda ran the Gift shop in the CCH at HNBL. Linda loved history, especially the Victorian era. She earned two master's degrees; French and Education, taught French, and was head of the Language department at Lodi H.S. She was principal at Wilson School in Lodi prior to retiring. Researching her Italian heritage, she made presentations with songs, costumes, food, and lectures. At the BCHS Annual Dinners, Linda assembled the Raffle Basket and dressed in costume based on the theme of the dinner with props, music and a wonderful sense of humor. At 12th Night, BCHS members pot luck event in January, Linda came with three King Cakes and recited the Day of the Epiphany history reminding us why we celebrate with friends. Her unlimited energy will be sorely missed by all those whose lives she touched.



1779 Loyalist Refugees raid Closter on May 9th, mortally wounding 90-year old Dow Tallman. On May 18th, British troops cross the Hudson River for unsuccessful attack on an American outpost at Paramus Church, resulting in skirmish at New Bridge. On August 19th, Major Henry Lee leads American troops from New Bridge, surprising and capturing the blockhouse at Paulus Hook. On November 2nd, General Wayne collects 100 wagons from Paramus and leads 1,500 troops from New Bridge to gather grain, forage and livestock between Englewood and Closter.

1780 On March 22nd, two detachments of the British army cross the Hudson River to attack the American outpost at Paramus Church, Ho-Ho-Kus and the town of Hackensack, where they burn the courthouse and loot homes. The retreating column battles Continental troops and militia at New Bridge for several hours. County seat moves to Oakland. On April 15th, British cavalry and infantry overwhelm an American patrol at New Bridge under Lt. Bryson and march to Paramus and Hoppertown, where they attack 250 American troops. Militia harrass the British retreat to Fort Lee. On May 30th, British troops kill and wound their own men in a deadly "friendly fire" incident at the Zabriskie-Steuben House in River Edge. On July 20th, General Anthony Wayne leads American troops in an unsuccessful raid from New Bridge against the Bull's Ferry Blockhouse in Guttenberg. On September 4 to 20th, Washington encamps

Continental Army at Steenrapie (River Edge north to Westwood), and makes his headquarters at New Bridge in the Zabriskie-Steuben House.

1781 The French Army marches down Ramapo Valley Road on August 26th en route to Yorktown.

1783 State of NJ presents use and income of the Zabriskie estate at New Bridge to Baron von Steuben.

1787 John Rosencrantz opens cotton mill at Waldwick.

1790 Population of Bergen (including Hudson and Passaic) is 12,601.

1797 First Methodist church organized at Waldwick

1800 Population 15,156.

1802 Bergen Turnpike chartered between Hoboken and Hackensack. Bergen County's first toll booths stand at Sand Hill on Hudson

RATE OF TOLL		
1	HORSE WAGON	5 Cts.
1	" CARRIAGE	3 "
1	" CART	3 "
1	" SLEIGH	3 "
1	" WAGON	10 "
1	" CARRIAGE	10 "
1	" CART	10 "
1	" SLEIGH	10 "
Additional Horse or Mule		1 "
1 Horse or Mule with Rider		1 "
Neal-Cattle		2 "
EXCURSION RATE		
2	HORSE WAGON ECT. 2 GATES	15 Cts.
1	" " " 3 "	25 "
1	" " " 4 "	35 "
1	" " " 4 "	15 "

By Order of Bergen Turnpike Co.



1802 RATE OF TOLL SIGN-BCHS COLLECTIONS AND RIDGEFIELD TOLL GATE.

Street, Hackensack, at the Little Ferry bridge, at the Overpeck Bridge in Ridgefield and at the foot of Dan Kelly's Hill in Fairview.

1810 Population is 16,603.

1811 Henry Van Saun opens a brickyard and pottery in River Edge.

1812 Cornelius Wortendyke opens wool carding mill at Midland Park.

1816 Grocer John T. Banta offers to sell a stone house and adjoining kitchen, together

with a roomy store and a 35-ton schooner, at Old Bridge (River Edge).

1818 Bergen County Medical Society established.

1820 Population is 18,178.

1822 *The Newsmen* is first attempt to publish a Bergen County newspaper, but is short-lived.

1825 Washington Bank established at Hackensack.

1830 Population is 22,414.

1832 Paterson & Hudson River Railroad opens with horse drawn cars. First Presbyterian Church of Hackensack organized.

1832 The old name of Sluckup changes to more euphonic Spring Valley in Paramus.

1834 New Jersey and New York legislatures name commission to study bridge across Hudson River.

1835 First steam locomotive, the MacNeil, runs on tracks of the Paterson & Hudson River Railroad.

1837 Passaic County separates from Bergen.

1840 Hudson County separates, reducing population of Bergen County to 9,450.

1840 Chair maker Richard T. Cooper, of New Milford, buys 15-acre mill lot near South Church in Bergenfield. He sells chair mill to son Tunis R. Cooper in 1849.

1845 Lodi Congregational Church organized.

1846 School superintendents replace municipal school committees.

1849 Bergen County Mutual Fire Insurance Company organized.

1850 Population is 14,708. There are 41 slaves. Census reveals 1,128 farms with 493 employees and 80,494 improved acres. Baptists erect Fairview Church in English Neighborhood.

1852 Episcopalians hold first services in Fort Lee.

1853 Legislature approves the Eire Railway's lease of the Paterson & Hudson Railroad, bringing the Eire mainline directly to tidewater opposite Manhattan.

1854 St. Francis de Sales Church in Lodi becomes first Roman Catholic Church in Bergen County.

1854 The German Democratic Land Association founds Carlstadt, Bergen County's first railroad suburb.

1855 Robert Rennie constructs Lodi Chemical Works.

1856 The Paterson & New York Plank Road opens between Paterson, Hoboken and Jersey City, the longest plank road in NJ.

1857 Nicholas and Claudius O. Collignon establish woodworking mills and chair factory on the Hackensack River at Old Tappan.

1858 Bergen County Agricultural Society organized.

1859 Northern Valley Railroad opens. Cemetery laid out on part of Parsonage Farm in Paramus.

1860 Population is 21,618. Bergen County votes for Breckenridge, the Southern candidate, over Douglas or Lincoln. Census shows farm values doubled in decade, while value of garden produce triples to \$295,540. County farms hold \$340,845 in farm machinery and implements.

1862 General Philip Kearny is killed at Chantilly, Virginia, on September 1st.

1863 NJ Legislatures agrees to incorporation of NY & NJ Bridge Commission to span the Hudson River, preferably at Fort Lee. NY disapproves.

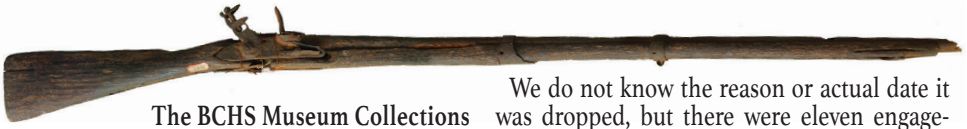
1864 Democratic Presidential candidate General George P. McClellan wins NJ popular vote over Republican Abraham Lincoln.

1867 Alexander Cass appointed first Superintendent of Public Instruction.

1867 Spencer B. Driggs begins "reclaiming" Hackensack Meadowlands with iron-cored

View the complete
BERGEN COUNTY TIMELINE
on the BCHS website:
BergenCountyHistory.org > Publications

THE BERGEN COUNTY TIMELINE IS FROM THE FILES OF THE LATE HISTORIAN KEVIN WRIGHT WITH PERMISSION OF DEBORAH POWELL.



The BCBS Museum Collections Committee met with Gary McGowan of Cultural Preservation & Restoration the last week in March to pack and send out the Charville musket for conservation. The musket, found at New Bridge in 1915, has never been conserved since it was found. First stop; an x ray to determine whether a musket ball or wadding remains in the gun.

Facilitated by Lafayette, the Charville muskets were imported by the thousands from the French during the American Revolution.

We do not know the reason or actual date it was dropped, but there were eleven engagements at New Bridge throughout the war.

Many thanks to Americana Corner for providing this grant to the Bergen County Historical Society to make this happen! We're proud to have been selected as a 2022 Americana Corner Grant Program recipient!

Americana Corner



Our Nation's First Century and Why It Matters
AMERICANACORNER.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION

☆☆ BCBS Members 2022 Annual Dinner ☆☆



Thursday ☆ June 9 ☆ 6 to 10PM
at the historic **Old '76 House** established 1755
110 Main Street, Tappan, NY 10983

☆ Speaker: '76 House tavern keeper Robb Norden on the tavern's history and its artifacts.

☆ Installment of Officers & Awards Presentation

Make Your Reservation online by June 4.

Go to BergenCountyHistory.org > Events > BCBS Annual Dinner OR mail check & mark it for "BCBS Dinner" to:

BCBS, PO Box 55, River Edge, NJ 07661



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