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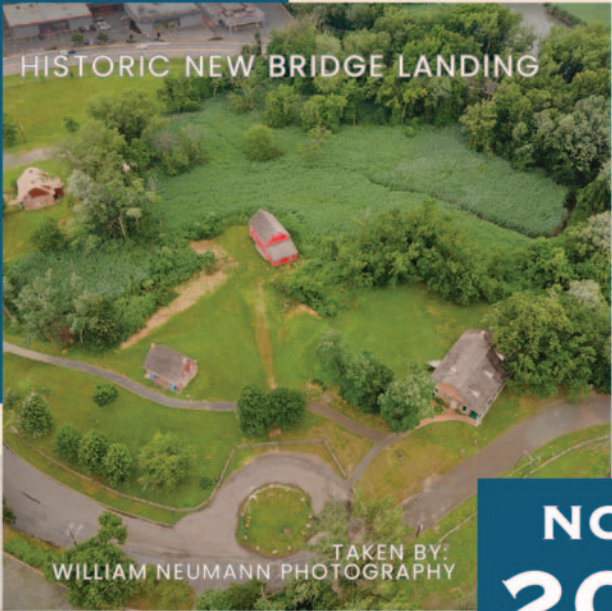


BERGEN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Roof Raiser

BUILDING BRIDGES, HONORING THE PAST, ELEVATING OUR FUTURE

A COMMEMORATIVE JOURNAL FOR THE AWARDS GALA



HISTORIC NEW BRIDGE LANDING

TAKEN BY:
WILLIAM NEUMANN PHOTOGRAPHY



THE STEUBEN HOUSE

EDITION 2

NOV. 7
2024



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PLANNED MUSEUM PROJECT
RENDERING BY: ARCARI + IOVINO ARCHITECTS

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Bergen County

250th

of American Revolution

Remembering the People & Places that Shaped a Country

bergencountyhistory.org



As we prepare for a new chapter at Historic New Bridge Landing, your ongoing support is allowing us to fulfill our mission of building a museum facility to celebrate NJ and US history.



Proudly Supports The
Bergen County Historical Society

Raise the Roof Gala



Congratulations to our friend,

Jim Kirkos,
President & CEO,
Meadowlands Chamber

*And all of this evening's
nominees!*

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE HONOREES

Roger Gross
President & Founder, NIA National Realty

Jim Kirkos
President & CEO, Meadowlands Chamber

Dr. Lisa Tank
President, Chief Medical Officer, HUMC

Jeffrey Vasser
Executive Director, NJ Division of Travel & Tourism

Tahesha Way
New Jersey Lt. Governor

Thomas Eastwick
President - Eastwick College &
the Ho-Ho-Kus School

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Thank You For Supporting Our 2nd 'Raise The Roof' Gala: A Message From BCHS President Hashimoto

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It is with immense gratitude and excitement that I welcome you to the Bergen County Historical Society's 2nd Annual 'Raise the Roof' Gala.

Your presence and support tonight signify a shared commitment to preserving and celebrating the rich and diverse history of Bergen County. On behalf of our entire organization, I extend heartfelt thanks to each of you for joining us on this remarkable journey.

Founded in 1902, the Bergen County Historical Society has remained steadfast in its mission to preserve and promote our region's history, from its earliest Indigenous peoples, through European settlement, to the present day. We take great pride in showcasing Bergen County's unique heritage, particularly through the preservation of Jersey Dutch sandstone houses—an enduring symbol of early European settlement in the area. Our programming at Historic New Bridge Landing – with its historic structures, reenactments and engaging events – offers visitors an authentic glimpse into our past.

For example, a recent highlight was our successful BaronFest, where we celebrated the legacy of Revolutionary War hero Major General Baron Von Steuben – a Founding Father who called Historic New Bridge Landing home. Through engaging tours, historical demonstrations and partnerships with local businesses, this event brought history to life for hundreds of attendees. Looking ahead, we are excited to continue our dynamic event schedule with our upcoming "Retreat to New Bridge" on November 24 – marking the 248th anniversary of a pivotal moment in American history that happened right here in Bergen County!

Beyond our public programs, BCHS is dedicated to preserving the stories, artifacts and documents that recall our county's past. Since 1902, we have amassed a collection of over 4,000 artifacts that continue to grow. However, we find ourselves limited by our current facilities. This challenge is why tonight's gala is such a critical milestone.

We are thrilled to announce that BCHS will soon move on to the next phase in breaking ground on a much-needed

visitor center and museum building. This 3,750-square-foot facility will offer dedicated exhibit space, climate-controlled storage for our collections, meeting rooms and ADA-accessible amenities. It will finally provide us with the opportunity to properly showcase Bergen County's history in a space befitting its importance.

As we look toward this exciting new chapter, I am deeply grateful to all of our gala sponsors, ad journal participants and donors who are making this vision a reality. Tonight, we also honor several distinguished individuals for their contributions to our community:

- Tom Eastwick, President & Founder, Eastwick College | The HoHoKus School
- Roger Gross, President & Founder, NIA National Realty
- Jim Kirkos, President & CEO, Meadowlands Chamber | Meadowlands Live!
- Dr. Lisa Tank, M.D., F.A.C.P, Acting President & Chief Hospital Executive, Hackensack University Medical Center
- Jeffrey Vasser, Executive Director, NJ Division of Travel & Tourism (accepting in absentia)

I would also like to thank our emcee, Rosie Gunther McCooe, for guiding us through this evening.

Finally, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to our devoted members and volunteers. Your dedication of time and talent is the backbone of this organization. None of our success is possible without your tireless efforts.

As BCHS Past President James Smith so eloquently stated, "We will be the generation that builds this museum and provides a proper facility to display Bergen County's history."

Together, we are making this dream a reality. Thank you for your generosity, support and belief in our mission. I look forward to all that we will achieve together in the coming years.

With sincere appreciation,



Beverly Hashimoto
President
Bergen County Historical Society

Meadowlands Chamber



Congratulations to **Jim Kirkos**
CEO & President
of the Meadowlands Chamber,
MC Board Member
Tom Eastwick, Eastwick College
and all of the other honorees;
Dr. Lisa Tank, Hackensack Meridian Health
Roger Gross, NIA National Realty
Jeffrey Vasser, NJ Division of Travel &
Tourism
Tahesha Way, New Jersey Lt. Governor

From the Board and Staff of
the Meadowlands Chamber

<https://meadowlands.org>

About The Bergen County Historical Society

The Bergen County Historical Society is a non-profit, all-volunteer, 501 (c)(3) organization committed to promoting the preservation, study and appreciation of Bergen County's rich local and state history. Founded in 1902, the Society has built a remarkable collection of over 4,000 historical artifacts.

In 1939, BCHS was invited to establish its headquarters at the Steuben House, a state historic site. We help maintain stewardship and oversee all programming at Historic New Bridge Landing, a site of profound historic importance before, during and following the American Revolutionary War.

We provide an active and lead role in the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission. The Park Commission meets monthly to coordinate the different stakeholders and site projects.

Our dynamic calendar includes engaging educational events, Revolutionary War reenactments, walking tours, museum exhibits and monthly lectures. We strive to bring history to life for the public. A favorite stop is the outkitchen with period recipes prepared over a fire or in the bake oven.

We take great pride in placing BCHS Blue Markers throughout Bergen County, which highlight important historical sites. Additionally, our extensive library and rare document collection preserves the legacy of our region for future generations.

The Society owns and maintains over eight acres of land at Historic New Bridge Landing in River Edge, where we tell the story of our nation's history through the site's strategic location and unique architecture and material culture.

Nestled in the heart of Bergen County – just 5.6 miles from the George Washington Bridge and Manhattan – Historic New Bridge Landing is a powerful reminder of our region's pivotal role in shaping the country.

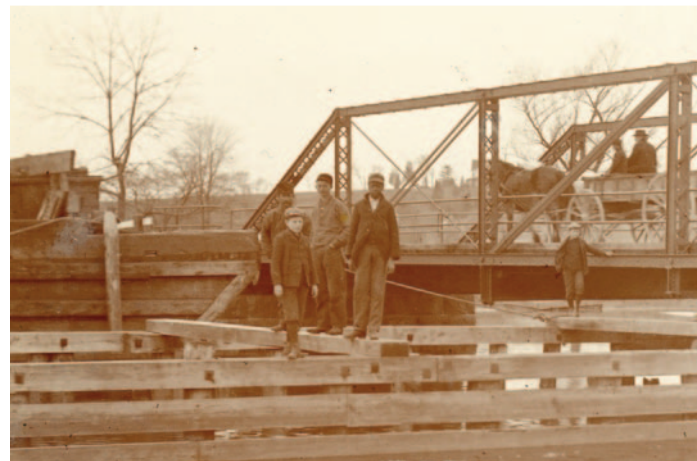
About The New Museum Project

BCHS is excited to announce the development of a new museum at Historic New Bridge Landing. Designed in the style of a traditional barn, this 3,528-square-foot facility will complement the three 18th-century Jersey Dutch sandstone houses on-site. With permits from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection now secured, we are one step closer to making this long-envisioned project a reality.


The new museum will offer exhibit space, meeting rooms, collection storage, a kitchen and two ADA-compliant restrooms. This project is being funded through the generous

support of our community – your donations and memberships are making it possible.

This museum will provide the necessary space to showcase our growing collection and host events that celebrate Bergen County's rich history. We are grateful to all those helping to bring this vision to life.



The Aims of This Society

-  To make research into historical facts and collect data relating thereto;
- To suitably mark by Monument or Tablet sites of historic interest to preserve them from oblivion;
- To collect and preserve genealogical records and family traditions;
- To cultivate a spirit of Patriotism, which is love of Country and aid to respect and uphold its laws;
- To foster National, State, Local and Family Pride, and the Intellectual Cultivation and Development of its members.



Officers & Board of Trustees of The Bergen County Historical Society

The Bergen County Historical Society is governed by the following officers, trustees, and past presidents. Each board member volunteers their time in different ways to lead the Society and follow in the footsteps of those that have gone before them since 1902.

Officers

- President • Beverly Hashimoto
- First Vice-President • Scott Barone
- Second Vice-President • Lucy Kramer
- Secretary • Michele Steidle
- Treasurer • Andrea Jenner

Trustees

- Kate Reilly, Michael Ginch, Ariel Woll, Dan Raftery, Denise Piccino, Samantha Perkins, Eric Model, Rich Ciero, Muriel Roberts, PattyAnn Sayre, Jon Long, Patricia Daurizio.

Past Presidents

- Carol Restivo 6/2020-6/2023
- Jim Smith 6/2017-6/2020
- James E. Purcell 10/2016-6/2017
- Kevin Wright 6/2016-10/2016
- Jim Smith 6/2013-6/2016
- Mike Trepicchio 6/2010-6/2013
- Deborah Powell 6/2007-6/2010
- Kevin Wright 6/2004-6/2007
- Todd Braisted 2003-04
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DO THEY HAVE A HARD TIME SPEAKING?

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Congratulations to the 2024 NJ History Makers!

With appreciation,

The Adler Aphasia Center
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Paul Koury, Steven Morey Greenberg
CEO: Naomi Gewirtz



Keynote Speaker:

DR. CHRIS RASMUSSEN
Professor of History,
Deputy Chair of Social
Sciences & History
Fairleigh Dickinson
University

Honoring 2024 New Jersey History Makers:



TOM EASTWICK
President & Founder
Eastwick College
The HoHoKus School



ROGER GROSS
President & Founder
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M.D., F.A.C.P**
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Chief Hospital Executive
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Executive Director
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Tourism

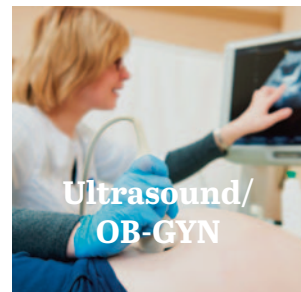


**ROSIE GUNTHER
MCCOOE**
Our Emcee and Friend
of BCHS

**NEW JERSEY LT. GOVERNOR
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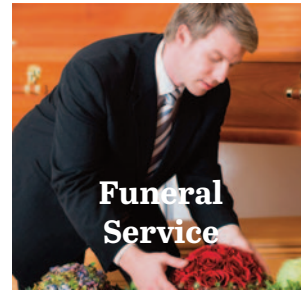
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Eastwick College congratulates our founder, Thomas M. Eastwick



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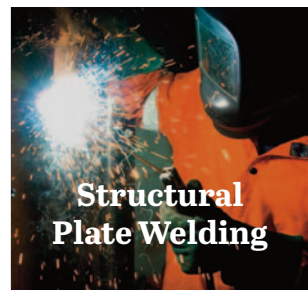
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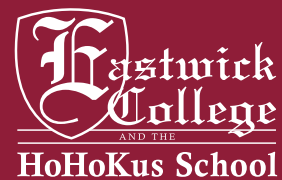
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We salute Bergen County Historical Society for preserving our region's rich history and promoting its legacy for generations to come.

We also extend our heartfelt congratulations to our very own **Roger Gross, President and Founder of NIA National Realty** - as well as to his fellow honorees for being named NJ History Makers:

Tom Eastwick
President & Founder, Eastwick College | The HoHoKus School

Jim Kirkos
President & CEO, Meadowlands Chamber | Meadowlands Live!

Dr. Lisa Tank, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Acting President & Chief Hospital Executive, Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack Meridian Health

Jeffrey Vasser
Executive Director, NJ Division of Travel & Tourism

New Jersey Lt. Governor Tahesha Way

Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!

66 Route 17 North Suite 900 Paramus, NJ 07652
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The Steubenhause located at New Bridge Landing on the Hackensack River in River Edge, New Jersey,

Major General Baron von Steuben Restores the War Damaged Steuben House

In recognition of his “many and signal services to the United States of America,” state legislators responded on December 23, 1783, by presenting him with the use and emoluments of the confiscated estate of Jan Zabriskie at New Bridge, provided that the Baron would “hold, occupy and enjoy the said estate in person, and not by tenant.”

Accordingly, General Philemon Dickinson of the New Jersey Militia, informed the Baron of this legislative gift and related his knowledge of the estate based upon recent inquiries: “There are on the premises an exceeding good House, an excellent barn, together with many useful outbuildings, all of which I am told, want some repairs... there is...a Grist-mill; a good Orchard, some meadow Ground, & plenty of Wood. The distance from N York by land 15 miles, but you may keep a boat & go from your own door to N York by water— Oysters, Fish & wild fowl in abundance—Possession will be given to you in the Spring, when you will take a view of the premises.”

Steuben’s extensive repairs to the premises are openly stated in his advertisement of sale, published in the New Jersey Journal on December 3, 1788, which reads, “Long-noted as the best stand for trade in the state of New Jersey. Large well-built stone house, thoroughly rebuilt lately, a gristmill with two run of stone; excellent new kiln for drying grain for export built lately; other outbuildings, and 40 acres of land, one-half of which is excellent meadow. Situated on the bank of the river by which produce can be conveyed to New York in a few hours, and sloops of 40 tons burden may load and discharge alongside of the mill.”

Noted by author Paul Lockhart, Baron de Steuben, a Prussian immigrant, was recruited by Silas Deane and Benjamin Franklin in Franklin’s Paris salon. He famously trained troops at Valley Forge beginning in February 1778.

Washington was determined to have a traditional force to meet the

British on the battlefield in addition to a “War of Outposts.” Steuben was considered crucial to the development of the army that fought in the American Revolution, literally farmers and tradesmen. So much so at the end of the war Washington asked Steuben to write a drill manual, which was named “Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States.” We have two copies in the BCHS collections, 1794 and 1803 editions. Cadets that tour the Steuben House report the book is still studied at West Point.

Steuben was certainly familiar with New Bridge as he was at the September 1780 Steenrapie Encampment where there was a Council of War in the Steuben House and 14,000 troops were camped along ridge above Kinderkamack Road from Main Street River Edge to Emerson for two weeks.



made their escape.”

Credit: From OVERKILL: Revolutionary War Reminiscences of River Vale by Kevin Wright

The Bridge That Saved a Nation, Bergen County, New Bridge and the Hackensack Valley by Kevin Wright and Deborah Powell.

He wrote critically of Colonel Baylor and his sleepy night guard that allowed a surprise attack in the middle of the night in the barns in River Vale. Meanwhile, 5,000 British troops were strung out east from New Bridge, camped across Bergen County. British officer John André wrote about the attack in his 1778 journal. We can see on the map he drew that they crossed at New Bridge for the attack where they bayoneted 15 Americans to death.

“By tally of American surgeon David Griffith (as reported to Lord Stirling on October 20, 1778), the Third Regiment of Dragoons comprised 104 privates, “out of which Eleven were killed outright, 17 were left behind wounded, 4 of whom are since dead, 33 are Prisoners in N York, 8 of them wounded, the rest



Congratulations to

New Jersey History Maker

Thomas Eastwick
President and Founder
Eastwick College and Ho-Ho-Kus School of Trade and Technical Sciences
and
Bergen New Bridge Medical Center Foundation Trustee

Honoree

Jim Kirkos
President and CEO
Meadowlands Chamber of Commerce and Meadowlands Live!

and

Roger Gross
Founder and President
NIA National Realty

Dr. Lisa Tank
Acting President & Chief Hospital Executive
Hackensack University Medical Center

Jeffery Vasser
Executive Director
New Jersey Division of Travel & Tourism

Tahesha Way
New Jersey Lieutenant Governor

Bergen New Bridge Medical Center

NewBridgeHealth.org

Building a Gateway to History: Our New Museum Project

Written by Deborah Powell. Edited by Kate Reilly.

BCHS is excited to continue the transformative initiative that drives this event: the construction of a new 3,750-square-foot permanent museum at Historic New Bridge Landing. Slated to move on to the next phase and begin construction in 2025, this ambitious project aims to enhance the visitor experience while preserving and celebrating the rich tapestry of history that Historic New Bridge Landing represents.



Thank you to our generous donors, such as NAI James E. Hanson, shown here with Debroah Powell.

Historic New Bridge Landing is not just a picturesque landmark. It is a site of profound historical significance, known for its pivotal role in the American Revolution and the narratives of Jersey Dutch colonial history. It also serves as a testament to the histories of Indigenous Peoples, enslaved individuals, free

Black citizens and indentured servants who also contributed to the region's past.

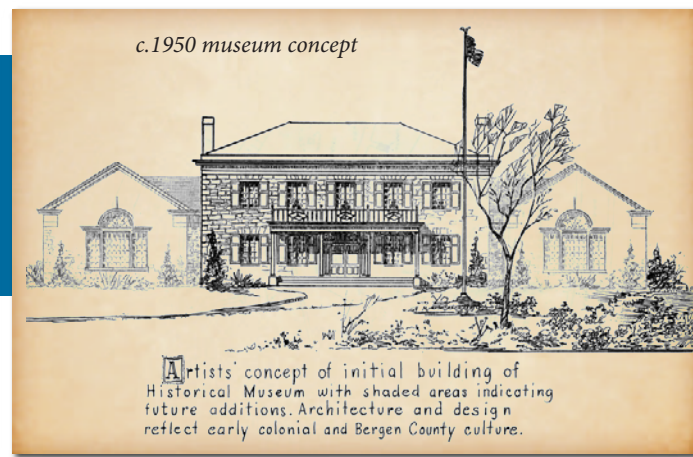
The new museum will serve as the gateway to our remarkable 13-acre site, providing a comprehensive introduction to our region's vibrant, multilayered history. However, to bring this vision to life, we need your support.

A Thoughtful Design to Complement Our Heritage

The new building will be designed to blend seamlessly with the five historic buildings on-site, including the iconic Steuben House, which served as George Washington's headquarters in 1780.

This facility will offer expansive display space, environmentally controlled artifact storage, interactive exhibits and multi-purpose areas for educational programs and community gatherings. Importantly, the center will include ADA-compliant amenities, ensuring access for all visitors.

With ADA bathrooms and education space, the building will facilitate a range of events, from theater programs and historical reenactments to lectures and workshops. It will also feature a gathering deck that enhances outdoor engagement and accessibility, making it an inviting space for guests from near and far.



Preserving Our Heritage for Future Generations

BCHS, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1902, is dedicated to preserving and studying Bergen County's irreplaceable heritage. This new museum building is intended to be more than just a structure. It will help us honor our commitment to uncovering and sharing untold stories that reflect our region's rich heritage.

This planned facility is intended to serve a hub for education and exploration, ensuring that the histories of all communities associated with Historic New Bridge Landing are honored and shared.

The vision for the new museum dates back to our acquisition of adjacent property in 1944, aimed at protecting the historic Steuben House from encroaching development.

Now, as we move forward, we invite you to be part of this vital endeavor that will not only enhance heritage tourism in New Jersey and contribute to the local economy.

Join Us in Making History

As stakeholders and stewards of history, we believe that this new building will foster a deeper understanding of our past while inspiring future generations.

By supporting the Raise the Roof Gala and the new building capital campaign, you can play an integral role in bringing this vision to life. Your contributions will help us fulfill the cultural needs identified in the HNBL Master Plan and ensure that our collections, including significant artifacts like the 15-foot white-oak dugout canoe, are preserved and displayed under optimal conditions.

Together, we can create a lasting legacy that honors the diverse stories woven into the fabric of Bergen County's history. Join us in building a gateway to the past at Historic New Bridge Landing – and help us raise the roof on a new era of cultural engagement and education.

Let's Make History – Together!

Your support is crucial to the success of this initiative.

We invite you to donate and help us realize our vision for a modern museum building that will serve as a beacon of heritage for our community and beyond. Together, we can ensure that the remarkable stories of Historic New Bridge Landing continue to inspire and educate for generations to come.



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Proud to support the Bergen County Historical Society

Valley is proud to support the **Bergen County Historical Society Raise the Roof Awards Gala.**

Congratulations to honorees Tom Eastwick, Roger Gross, Jim Kirkos, Dr. Lisa Tank, Jeffrey Vasser and New Jersey Lt. Governor Tahesha Way, Esq.

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Thank You to The Supporters of the 'Raise The Roof' Awards Gala & New Museum Fundraiser

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The Healing Powers of Historic New Bridge Landing

By Deborah Powell, Commissioner on the HNBLSPC, BCHS Past President, Museum Collections and New Building Chair

Have you ever noticed how you feel better after visiting a park or garden or just to get away from your desk to get lunch?

We've observed at the museum site how people keep coming back to see what we're up to, but may not have actually articulated how they have associated us with a feeling...healed or wellness.

The Public Trust for Public Land notes on their website, in addition to the benefit of exercise, "Time spent in nature is proven to reduce stress, relieve symptoms of anxiety and depression, and boost cognition, attention, and sleep quality. Green spaces also give communities vital places to gather together, strengthening social ties and lessening isolation."

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has bullet points that are true for HNBL:

Save Older Places to Advance Social Justice:

"This goal looks to present a more accurate, inclusive and multilayered narrative of the past, embracing complexity and advocating for increased community participation in the work to save historic places."

BCHS took the initiative – when others declined – purchase over eight acres to protect the one acre state historic site, the Zabriskie Steuben House from the expanding auto parts junkyard in 1944. The junkyard was finally eradicated in 2005 (and remediated by 2010) when historian Kevin Wright and then Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Chairman Bob Griffin went to Senator Torricelli for a federal grant.

PSEG honored Wright's foresighted letter on file requesting the 1.43 acre substation property be made available to BCHS to add to the park if they were ever going to deaccession the property.

Even though we were fundraising for the new museum we were able to appropriate funds from our savings quickly to act on making this happen. This is in the core area of the site where the earliest colonial building, the 1710 tide mill, was located. Thank you PSEG!



The junkyard was finally eradicated in 2005 (and remediated by 2010) when historian Kevin Wright and then Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Chairman Bob Griffin went to Senator Torricelli for a federal grant.



Save Old Places to Support Local Economic Development:

"Often the historic buildings we protect are part of a group of buildings that run through the center of small towns. Main Streets are the backbone of small towns and urban neighborhoods and serve not only as a space for community engagement, but also the places where local history and economies thrive. Data from the National Trust has shown the importance of older and smaller buildings, but the goals of the National Impact Agenda center these structures as the beating heart of American towns."

HNBL is actually on Main Street, location of a stage coach route and famously the Retreat Route that Washington, Greene, Thomas Paine and 2500 troops marched to safety. The old streetscape became a victim to the 1890 Cherry Hill Tornado that destroyed several buildings and killed three people. Other buildings vanished over time to the point the oldest, other than the Zabriskie Steuben House, are a few Cape Cod style homes.

The original 1690 David Ackerman home was located across from McDonalds. Ackerman built the first tide mill at New Bridge using a "green" water power technology that captured the tide twice a day to grind the local farmers grain into flour. The historic site does provide community engagement particularly at our events, for example the local mayors have thrown the first pitch at our Vintage Baseball Games and local fellows have reformed the "New Bridge Nine" to play against the Flemington Noshonocks in every year in July.

Save Old Places to Preserve History for Future Generations:

"Finally, it is imperative that we protect historic buildings in order to save history for future generations. Learning about the past is always possible through reading, but as those of us who love historic places can attest, there is nothing more valuable than learning through place. Experiencing a space where history happened is crucial for fostering the shared connection that builds a stronger community."



Family Picture Time
The museum site is a popular location for group photos.

We've preserved a green historic oasis in the heart of Bergen County. The new museum building will help us better serve our community and beyond.

We've preserved a green historic oasis in the heart of Bergen County. The new museum building will help us better serve our community and beyond.

Photo Credit_ William Neumann Photography



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101

Congratulations to all the honorees!

Forstgate was born in Bergen
County over 50 years ago and we
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CONGRATULATIONS

Hackensack University Medical Center
is proud to support
**Bergen County Historical Society's
Raise the Roof Gala.**



Congratulations to all of tonight's
honorees, including our own
LISA TANK, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Acting President and Chief Hospital Executive
Hackensack University Medical Center
Hackensack Meridian *Health*.



**Hackensack Meridian
Hackensack University
Medical Center**

HackensackMeridianHealth.org/HUMC

Mourning Art: Capturing A Nation's Grief and Artistic Expression

By Deborah Powell, Commissioner on the HNBLSPC, BCHS Past President, Museum Collections and New Building Chair

In the early 19th century, a powerful artistic movement emerged out of the newly formed Republic's patriotic grief in 1799 with the death of George Washington. His death coincided with the country's growing prosperity, a period of religious revivalism and the circulation of ideas and images recently available to all through evolution of cheaper print media. Allegorical drawings by artists such as Samuel Folwell, John James Barralet, John Coles, Jr. and Enoch G. Gridley were copied into art forms such as drawings, needlework, paintings and "girls work."

The Washington Memorial in the collection of the Bergen County Historical Society was very skillfully created from silk floss embroidery depicting eight figures with very finely painted faces, all in its original eglomise framing (30.5" x 30.5", c. 1805-1815).

The BCHS Washington Memorial design appears to be directly based on an engraving by Enoch G. Gridley, entitled, "Sacred to the Memory of the Truly Illustrious George Washington," c. 1800, though the needlework was executed in a more artistic manner.

In the left lower foreground, Columbia (an early version of Lady Liberty, representing America), is weeping and comforts the eagle which was already adopted as a national symbol. The eagle has an American Shield. A soldier with an inverted musket mourns at Washington's tomb.

A large angel blows a trumpet, center top of image. Some interpretations note she is letting the world know of his death, others that she is calling him to heaven. She holds a wreath, circle of time, over his head. In Gridley's version, the wreath has the text, "Pater Patriae," meaning "Father of our Country." A flag draped from the trumpet lists Washington's victories at Trenton, Princeton, Monmouth and Yorktown.

In the BCHS memorial, the artist added "Stony Point" to



the list. The painted portrait of Washington in the center does not depict him in military uniform but as a citizen, farmer or President, whereas in Gridley's version, he is a general.

The Greek goddess Athena, wearing a helmet, is positioned to Washington's right. She represents wisdom, courage, civilization and warfare among other attributes.

I found a woodblock print from 1784 that seems to have been overlooked in previous studies on the origins of Washington Mourning Art. It has most of the important elements of the Gridley memorial, including a cenotaph with Washington's portrait and trumpeting angel. It precedes Washington's death by 16 years and "mourns" not his death but Great Britain's loss of America. The book plate notes it as "The

Victorious General Washington, survey'd in pleasing attitudes, by Wisdom and Valour, while Britannia deplores her loss of America."

The late historian Betty Ring writes about Susanna Haswell Rowson (1762-1824) in her 2-vol. set "Girlhood Embroidery." English born, Rowson led an extraordinary life, first as novelist, actress and playwright in the Philadelphia area. She had a 1791 best seller "Charlotte Temple." Later she had a successful academy for girls and young women in the Boston area. The young woman who created our needlework shows just how accomplished she was, unfortunately the work is unsigned. There are at least two other almost exact compositions attributed to the school.

Ring attributes painting insets at the academy to a local artist, John Johnston (1753-1818.) The National Gallery of Art describes Johnston as a coach and heraldic painter who is severely wounded in the American Revolution in the Battle of Long Island 1776, and imprisoned by the British for a year. Afterwards turned his attention to portraiture. He is listed in Boston city directories until 1808.

In an infant Republic, without ancient heroes or national myths, the apotheosis of Washington had great appeal. Author Anita Schorsch wrote, "Washington's death formed a bridge between divine sovereignty and humanity and between all that is sacred in death from one generation to another generation, thus creating an archetypal union which might be called mythic, allegorical, apocalyptic or final."

The Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia borrowed the artwork in 2020 for an exhibit.



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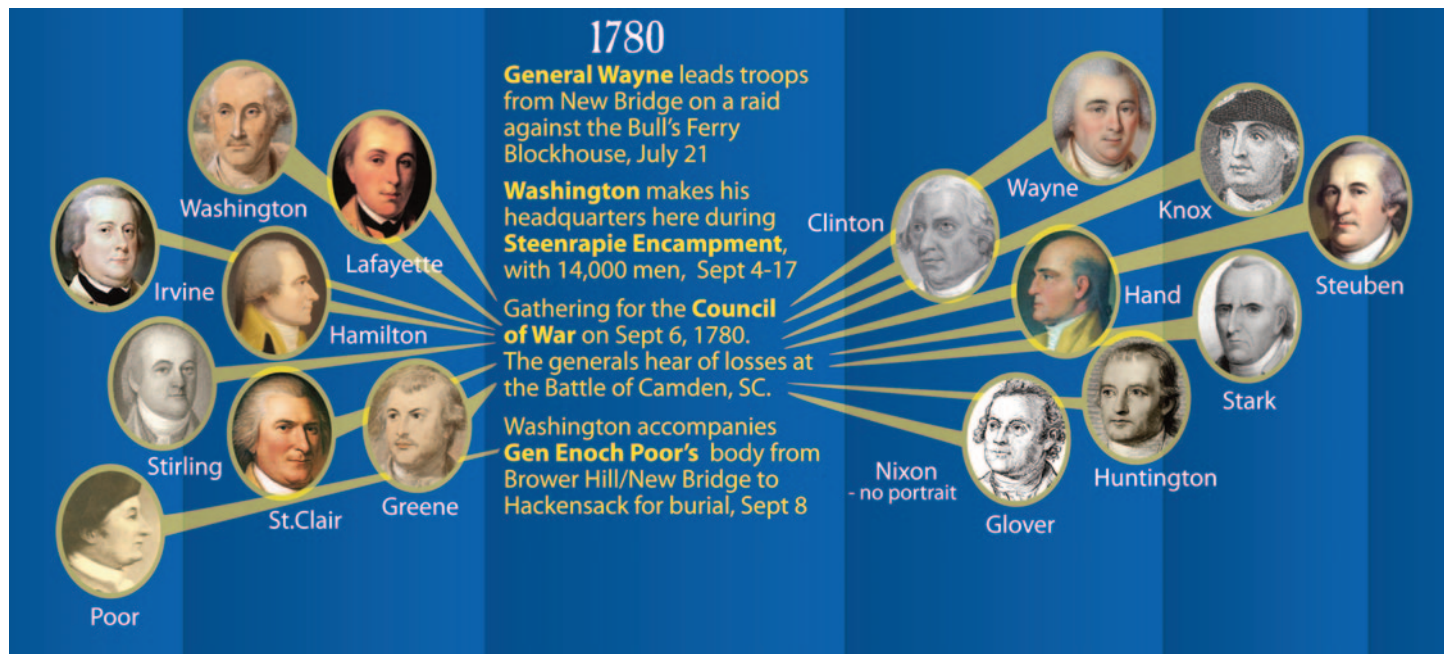
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Historic New Bridge Landing: Famous Faces and Landmark Events

Historic New Bridge Landing (HNBL) stands as a cornerstone of American Revolutionary history, a site where battles were fought, strategies were devised and historic figures crossed paths. This significant landmark, which BCHS is proud to call home, is not only a bridge but a testament to the sacrifices made during a pivotal moment in American history.

Abraham O. Zabriskie's stirring words, delivered at Bull's Ferry in 1847, remind us of Bergen County's crucial role in the American Revolution:

"We stand on Revolutionary ground, hallowed by martial mementos of the past ... New Jersey was battle ground in the war of the Revolution; and our good county of Bergen, though not distinguished by those brilliant though brief successes that gave lustre to the names of Trenton, Princeton and Monmouth, was the constant arena of war. Tradition has well preserved the story of many a fray, and the sufferings and stout resistance of the Bergen yeomanry..."

—Abraham O. Zabriskie, July 22, 1847

HNBL, a strategic site within Bergen County, served as much more than a simple river crossing. From Washington's "Retreat to Victory" to General Wayne's daring raids, HNBL served as a battleground, fort, encampment ground, and intelligence-gathering post in the Revolutionary War, as well as the military headquarters for some of the most prominent military figures of the time.

Where Influential Leaders Crossed Paths

- ✦ **George Washington:** As Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, Washington's strategic maneuvers at New

Bridge were pivotal during the Revolutionary War, particularly during the "Retreat to Victory" and the 1780 Steenrapie Encampment.

- ✦ **Thomas Paine:** The influencer of his time, political philosopher and writer, Paine inspired the American Cause for independence through his pamphlet "The American Crisis", in which Paine wrote about events at New Bridge and Washington read to his troops before crossing the Delaware River.
- ✦ **Baron Friedrich von Steuben:** A Prussian military officer, Steuben played a crucial role in training American troops at Valley Forge. Steuben was gifted the Zabriskie Steuben House & 40 acres at New Bridge as payment for his services.
- ✦ **Marquis de Lafayette:** A French aristocrat and military officer, Lafayette became a key figure in securing French support for the American cause and participated in several campaigns, including strategic discussions held at New Bridge.
- ✦ **Brigadier General Anthony Wayne:** Known for his boldness in battle, Wayne led daring raids from New Bridge against British positions, contributing significantly to American military efforts.
- ✦ **Major General Nathanael Greene:** As one of Washington's most trusted generals, Greene's tactical brilliance in logistics and troop movements played a vital role in the American victories in the northern campaigns.
- ✦ **General Charles Cornwallis:** A leading British commander, Cornwallis's military actions during the war led to confrontations with American forces at New Bridge and beyond, shaping the overall conflict.
- ✦ **General Sir Henry Clinton:** As the British commander-in-chief in America, Clinton directed military strategies

that often brought him into direct conflict with American forces stationed at New Bridge.

- ✦ **William Franklin:** The loyalist son of Benjamin Franklin, William served as a British officer and played a contentious role in the conflict, often in opposition to his father's revolutionary ideals.
- ✦ **Major John André:** A British intelligence officer, André's involvement in espionage and his subsequent capture in 1780 highlighted the dangers of war and the intricate web of loyalty and betrayal. André wrote about New Bridge and Baylors Massacre in his 1778 journal.
- ✦ **Alexander Hamilton:** A key aide to General Washington, Hamilton's contributions to military strategy and his later role as a founding father were significantly influenced by his experiences at places like New Bridge.
- ✦ **Aaron Burr:** Serving as an officer in the Continental Army, Burr's military service at New Bridge set the stage for his complex political career, culminating in his infamous duel with Hamilton.

Steeped in History

While Historic New Bridge Landing was a constant arena of conflict, certain events stand out for their lasting impact on the Revolutionary War. The following are just a few of the most critical incidents:

The Bridge That Saved a Nation (November 20, 1776): As described by Thomas Paine in his pamphlet "The American Crisis," General George Washington led the "Retreat to Victory," avoiding entrapment by 5,000 British troops who had scaled the Palisades and forced the evacuation of Fort Lee. Washington crossed the bridge at New Bridge, saving 2,500–3,000 American troops, a turning point that led to later victories at Trenton and Princeton. Washington reportedly read "The American Crisis" to his men before crossing the Delaware River.

November 21, 1776 – British troops under Major General Vaughan attacked the American rear guard and seized New Bridge as American engineers attempted to dismantle it.

May 18, 1779 – The Battle at New Bridge: British and Loyalist troops, under the command of Captain Patrick Ferguson, attacked about 40 Bergen militiamen at New Bridge.

August 18, 1779 – The Paulus Hook Raid: Major Henry Lee led American forces from New Bridge to launch a surprise attack on British earthworks at Paulus Hook (modern-day Jersey City).

March 23, 1780 – Bergen Militia and Continental troops attacked 600 British and German soldiers at New Bridge as they retreated from Hackensack and Paramus. The British were delayed for two hours as they repaired and crossed the bridge.

April 15, 1780 – Attack on New Bridge: A combined force of 312 British, Loyalist and German infantry overwhelmed an American outpost commanded by Lieutenant Bryson at New Bridge.

May 30, 1780 – Friendly Fire Incident: Eight British soldiers were killed by friendly fire during an attempted attack on Bergen Militia stationed in the Zabriskie-Steuben House.

July 20, 1780 – Bull's Ferry Raid: Brigadier General Anthony Wayne led American troops from New Bridge on a raid against the Bull's Ferry Blockhouse.

September 4-20, 1780 – The Steenrapie Encampment: General Washington established his headquarters at the Zabriskie-Steuben House while 14,000 Continental troops encamped along Kinderkamack Road. A Council of War was held at New Bridge, attended by notable generals including Washington, Lafayette, Greene, Knox, Steuben, Hamilton and others.

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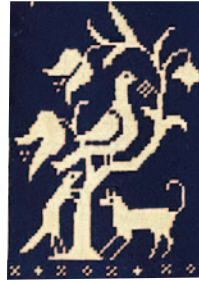
The Bergen County Historical Society's museum collections comprise the greatest survival of significant Bergen County material culture. Objects are on view or in storage at Historic New Bridge Landing. BCHS first began collecting artifacts at our founding in 1902. **The new building is needed to provide safe storage for the artifacts to survive for future generations to enjoy and learn from.**



1830 painting of Cybele in her Chariot by Margaret Van Wagener who lived in Oradell



Maquette of Major General Baron von Steuben



Selection of an 1832 Jacquard Coverlet with Tree of Life motif



1802 Ho-Ho-Kus Tavern Sign with President Jefferson's portrait



Native American Pipe found in Hackensack



1774 Spoon Board - room for 12 spoons



1810 Washington Mourning Art, 30" square, silk thread and oil painting insets



Pig iron fragment from Long Pond Ironworks found at New Bridge Landing



Example of distinctive Hackensack Valley Chair style



1751 Gin Box with Bottles



Early 1700s Needlework



Chair Lafayette sat in during his return visit to US in 1825 when he visited Hackensack



Stamp Act Box



1784 Portrait of Washington by Thomas Stothard



Cannonball found in Hackensack



15 ft dugout canoe found in Hackensack in 1868



Charleville Musket found at New Bridge

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BERGEN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AT HISTORIC NEW BRIDGE LANDING
BergenCountyHistory.org

Semiquincentennial Celebrations: Heritage Tourism and a New Museum at Historic New Bridge Landing

The Bergen County Historical Society has already begun events that discuss and exhibit histories of the 250th Founding of our nation. These histories not only bring understanding to the complex challenges that our forebears faced but celebrate creating a new representative government that changed the world with the rights to “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

In 2003, the late historian Kevin W. Wright wrote the HNBL Interpretive Plan:

The National Trust for Historic Preservation defines heritage tourism as “traveling to experience the places, artifacts and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present.” Cheryl M. Hargrove, the Trust’s first heritage-tourism director wrote, “The American heritage traveler is older, better educated and more affluent than other tourists.” Baby boomers particularly like to “experience history through travel.” One in three international visitors can also be expected to visit a historic attraction during their stay.

Given its location, ease of access and significant resources appealing to heritage and ecological tourists, Historic New Bridge Landing holds great audience potential.

Limits on staffing, operational funding, infrastructure and publicity have heretofore made Historic New Bridge Landing one of New Jersey’s “hidden gems” or “best kept secrets.” But few historic parks are more historically deserving, more



scenically endowed or better positioned in a heavily populated metropolitan area, to provide a range of meaningful experiences to such a wide and interested audience.

Bergen County needs and deserves a premier historic park of National significance and interest, to claim and to honor its unique cultural identity, and to serve as a catalytic attraction for a whole host of other worthy and diverse tourist destinations.

For these reasons and more, we think this is the time to act now to build a new museum building for present and future generations.

By Deborah Powell, BCHS past president, Museum Collections Chair and Commissioner on the HNBLSPC



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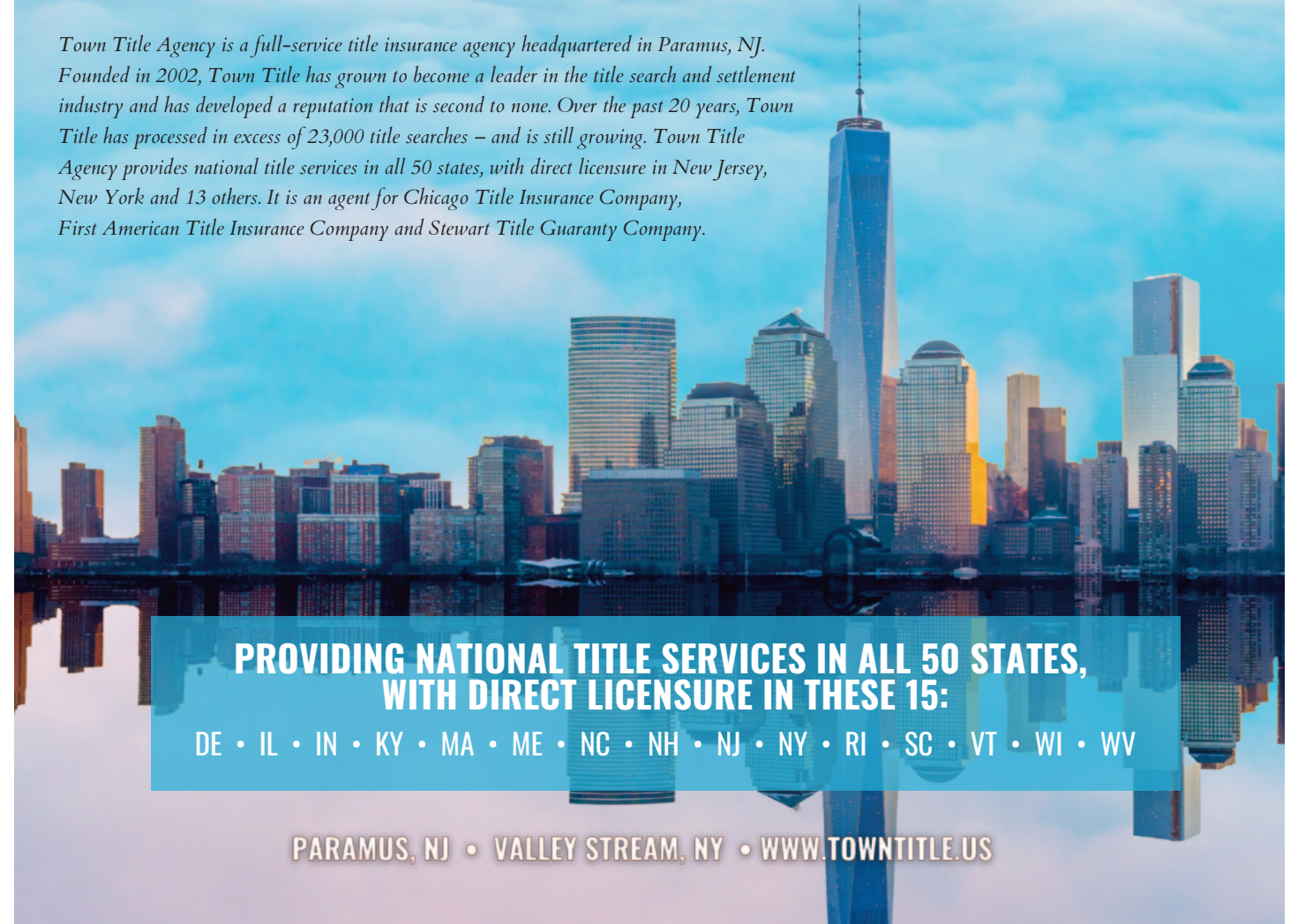
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