

# SUSQUEHANNA HERITAGE PARK

## MASTER PLAN



*Legacies & Lessons from the Susquehanna*



## SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS

PLAY. EXPLORE. EXPERIENCE.

# Acknowledgements

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2014



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## na • tive (nâ tîv) adjective

1. Being one's own because of the place or circumstances of one's birth: our native land.
  2. Of, belonging to, or characteristic of the original inhabitants of a particular place
  3. Originating, growing, or produced in a certain place or region; indigenous.
  4. Natural; unaffected: native beauty.
-

Historical information for the plan came from many sources and while effort was made to ensure accuracy, all historical information contained in the plan should be thoroughly researched and confirmed before being incorporated into interpretative materials to be used in the Susquehanna Heritage Park.

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# Chapter 1

## INTRODUCTION

The Susquehanna Heritage Park began as a concept created by York County and its partners to combine the resources of five properties into a gateway for visitors to the natural, cultural and recreational resources provided throughout the Susquehanna Riverlands. This park will introduce visitors to the cultural and natural heritage of the river while providing high-quality outdoor recreation opportunities.



In 2009, and as amended in 2010, the County of York, through the York County Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks), the Farm

and Natural Lands Trust of York County (FNLT), the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area (SGHA), the Archeological Conservancy, the Mason-Dixon Trail System (MDTS), the Conejohela Chapter of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (CCSPA), the Lancaster-York Native Heritage Advisory Council (NHAC), Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation (SHWPC), and Hellam Township (Hellam) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding which established the Susquehanna Heritage Park as follows:

- The County of York owns real estate in Lower Windsor Township known as the Native Lands County Park, which contains the site of the last Susquehannock Indian village, also known as the Lower or Byrd Leibhart Site, (approximately 92 acres) as well as Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area (approximately 79 acres) (Highpoint)
- Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation owns real estate in Lower Windsor Township known as Kline's Run Park (park - approximately 48 acres);
- Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area owns real estate in Lower Windsor Township known as the John and Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Historic Pleasant Garden and is concerned with preserving and celebrating the river's cultural and natural heritage. (Zimmerman Tract) (approximately 2 acres);
- The Archeological Conservancy owns real estate in Lower Windsor Township containing the site of a c. 1665 Susquehannock Indian Village, also known as the Upper or Oscar Leibhart Site, (Upper Leibhart) (approximately 13 acres), withdrawn in 2012;
- The Lancaster Conservancy is the owner of real estate known as Wilton Meadows (approximately 40 acres);
- The Farm and Natural Lands Trust owns a conservation easement on Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area and Wilton Meadows, governing the use of the land through preservation;
- The Mason Dixon Trail System builds and maintains trails connecting the properties;

- The Archeological Conservancy is concerned with preserving and respecting the sensitivity of Native American sites on the properties and educating the public to the significance of the area’s Native American legacy;
- The Lancaster-York Native Heritage Advisory Council is concerned with preserving and respecting the sensitivity of Native American sites on the properties and educating the public to the significance of the area’s Native American legacy;
- The Conejohela Chapter of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology has an interest in protecting and interpreting Native American archaeological and historic sites located on the properties;
- And, Hellam Township as a local municipal partner.

The Memorandum of Understanding formalizes that the above mentioned properties owned by the County of York, SHWPC, AC, SGHA and Hellam shall be collectively referred to as the Susquehanna Heritage Park; and, establishes their mission to use the Susquehanna Heritage Park Properties to create a signature park, heritage site and conservation center that showcases the historic, cultural and environmental resources of the Lower Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay and welcomes residents and visitors to enjoy our region’s remarkable heritage and spectacular scenic vistas.

Further it establishes the following guiding principles in the use and management of the Susquehanna Heritage Park properties:

- 1) provide public access;
- 2) protect the environment;
- 3) and, protect the archeological and historical integrity of the properties.

In 2012, the Archeological Conservancy withdrew its participation from the partnership.

### *Mission*

The mission of the Susquehanna Heritage Park is to create a signature park, heritage site and conservation center that showcases the historic, cultural and environmental resources of the Lower Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay and welcomes residents and visitors to enjoy our region’s remarkable heritage and spectacular scenic vistas.

## THE PLANNING PROCESS

Planning is an orderly and systematic approach that results in developing a framework and plan of action to achieve the vision and goals for the Susquehanna Heritage Park. Through the planning process we answer three simple, yet profound, questions:

- Where are We Now?
- Where Do We Want to Be?
- How Do We Get There?

This plan documents each step in the process as it: provides background, analysis, and rationale for the decisions made during the process; formalizes recommendations to guide the future of the Susquehanna Heritage Park; and, includes a workbook for implementation that identifies implementation strategies, priorities, and responsible partners who will implement the recommendations contained within this plan.

This master plan provides York County and its partners with a framework for making decisions regarding the preservation of open space and archeological resources, the development of low impact passive recreation opportunities to meet the current and future needs of those who live, visit, and vacation in York County.

The process of master planning is a multi-layered approach, involving stakeholders, the community, and its decision-makers, which yields a long-term strategy for the Susquehanna Heritage Park. It is important to note the master site plan developed through this study is a flexible tool for planning. Specific details of the master plan, its design, and the final locations of facilities may be adjusted as the design process continues through the final design and implementation of improvements.

A thoughtful master plan identifies ways to maximize opportunities with the most efficient use of funding and other resources. Areas should be designed and developed to provide a high quality while minimizing costs. Further, careful planning can reduce operating and maintenance costs.

Last, this master plan not only focuses on preserving and interpreting the significant archeological and open space resources that the Susquehanna Heritage Park offers. This master plan also emphasizes that it should become a showcase for implementing and educating visitors on all aspects of sustainability.

## REGIONAL CONTEXT

The Susquehanna Heritage Park is centrally located in the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape project area. The Susquehanna Riverlands conservation landscape, located in York and Lancaster Counties, strives to conserve and protect the greenway corridor of river lands along the Susquehanna River. This corridor of lands and water will be the foundation upon which to build an economic development, community sustainability and conservation stewardship strategy for the two counties.

The Susquehanna Riverlands area is rural and scenic. Much of the land along the river is owned by utility companies. Protecting the river means protecting these lands – approximately 13,000 acres including many islands in the river. The area known as the Conejohela Flats provides important feeding and resting areas for migratory birds and habitat for wildlife species including bald eagle, black tern, osprey, and many



shorebirds. The conservation of this land also supports Chesapeake Bay restoration initiatives, as the Susquehanna River contributes nearly half of the freshwater flow to the Chesapeake Bay.

The goals of the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape is to:

- improve public access to the river
- preserve environmentally sensitive areas
- preserve the forested river landscape
- improve water quality
- provide additional land and water based recreational opportunities
- revitalize the Rivertown communities of Marietta, Columbia and Wrightsville

## COUNTY CONTEXT

### Pennsylvania State Parks in York County

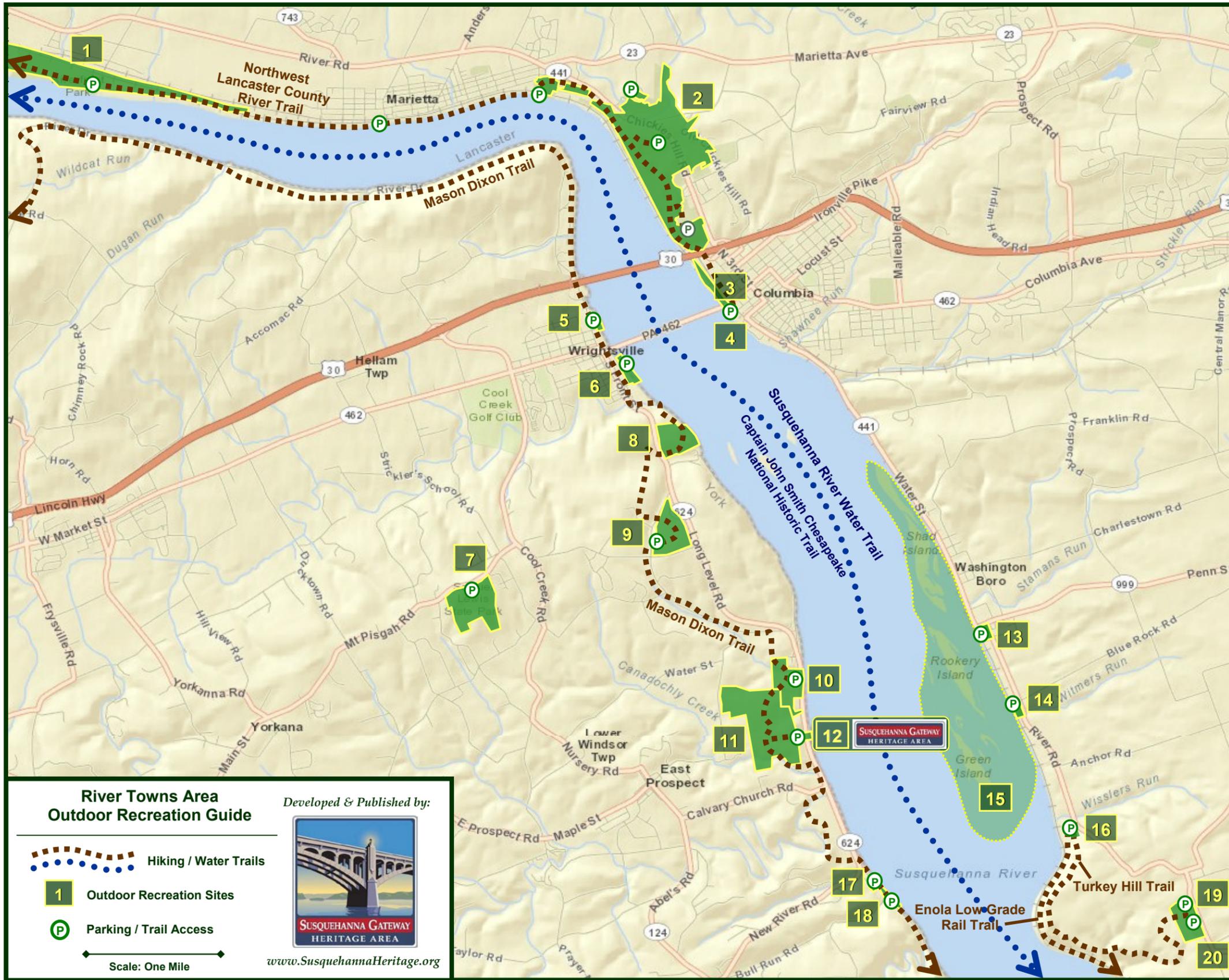
York County is home to approximately 5,752 acres of State parks, including Codorus State Park, Samuel S. Lewis State Park and Gifford Pinchot State Park. The 3,329-acre Codorus State Park includes Lake Marburg, which provides active recreation for anglers, boaters and swimmers. It is also an excellent site for bird watching during the spring and fall. Hunting, trapping and dog training are also permitted in Codorus State Park. Samuel S. Lewis State Park consists of 71 acres of mowed grass fields, pine plantations and mature woods. It is popular for kite flying and for the views of the Susquehanna River from Mount Pisgah. Gifford Pinchot State Park, a 2,338 acre park, consists of reverting farm fields, wooded hillsides and Pinchot Lake. The lake is a popular spot for warm water fishing, sailing and swimming.

### Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Lands in York County

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission oversees 31 boat access areas in York County. The majority of the boat launches are owned by other entities, including utilities and County or local government. The Fish and Boat Commission owns four (4) boat launches which are located in Goldsboro and Wrightsville Boroughs and Lower Chanceford and West Manheim Townships. Additionally, the Commission has tracts of land in Goldsboro Borough and Chanceford, Lower Windsor and Peach Bottom Townships that total approximately 274 acres (York County Greenway and Open Space Plan, 2006).

### The Susquehanna Greenway

The Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape is located in the larger Susquehanna Greenway initiative. The Susquehanna Greenway spans over 500 miles and includes Bradford, Center, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Luzerne, Lycoming, Northumberland, Perry, Union, Wyoming and York Counties. The Susquehanna Greenway also meets PA DCNR's mega-greenway criteria. Mega-Greenways are similar in definition to the major greenway corridors in that they can be land-based, water-based or some combination and are recognized in an official planning document. Mega-greenways, too, extend through multiple counties and are recognized in official planning documents. Mega-greenways differ in that they extend 100 miles or more and have emerged as DCNR's top priorities in moving forward to implementation.



1. East Donegal Riverfront Park  
*(East Donegal Township)*
  2. Chickies Rock County Park  
*(County of Lancaster)*
  3. Columbia River Park  
*(Columbia Borough)*
  4. Chiques Rock Outfitters  
*(located at Columbia River Park)*
  5. Commons Park  
*(Wrightsville Borough)*
  6. Wrightsville Riverfront Park  
*(Safe Harbor Water Power Corp. / Wrightsville Borough / PA Fish & Boat Commission)*
  7. Samuel S. Lewis State Park  
*(PA Bureau of State Parks)*
- 
- Susquehanna Heritage Park**
8. Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve  
*(Lancaster County Conservancy)*
  9. Highpoint Scenic Vista & Recreation Area  
*(County of York)*
  10. Klies Run Park  
*(Safe Harbor Water Power Corp.)*
  11. Native Lands County Park  
*(County of York)*
  12. Zimmerman Center for Heritage  
*(Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area)*
- 
13. Washington Boro Park  
*(Safe Harbor Water Power Corp. / Manor Township)*
  14. Blue Rock Heritage Center  
*(Washington Boro Society for Susquehanna River Heritage)*
  15. Conejohela Flats Birding Area  
*(Safe Harbor Water Power Corp.)*
  16. Turkey Hill Trail / Enola Low Grade Rail Trail  
*(Lancaster County Conservancy / Manor Township)*
  17. Lock 2 Recreation Area  
*(Safe Harbor Water Power Corp.)*
  18. Shank's Mare Outfitters  
*(located at Lock 2 Recreation Area)*
  19. Rieber House Welcome Center  
*(Lancaster County Solid Waste Mgt. Authority)*
  20. Creswell Park  
*(Manor Township)*

**River Towns Area  
Outdoor Recreation Guide**

 Hiking / Water Trails

 Outdoor Recreation Sites

 Parking / Trail Access

Scale: One Mile

Developed & Published by:



[www.SusquehannaHeritage.org](http://www.SusquehannaHeritage.org)



## Pennsylvania Game Commission Lands in York County

The Pennsylvania Game Commission owns State game lands #83, #181, #242, #243 and #327 in York County. The State game lands are primarily used by sportsmen for hunting, trapping, fishing and hiking. York County has nearly 4,300 acres of game lands.

## Mason-Dixon Trail

The Mason-Dixon Trail covers 193 miles traveling from the Appalachian Trail south of Harrisburg (Pennsylvania), stretching into Maryland. The trail meanders to Delaware and terminates in Chadds Ford (Pennsylvania), where it connects to the Brandywine Trail. The York County section of the Mason-Dixon Trail covers about 98 miles from US Route 15 in Franklin Township to the Maryland State line, south of Peach Bottom Township. The trail goes through Gifford Pinchot State Park.

## York County Parks

The York County Department of Parks and Recreation was established in 1968 to preserve open space and provide low impact recreational areas for York County residents. The department acts as steward for eleven county parks consisting of over 4,300 acres, including:

- John C. Rudy County Park - 150 acres; picnic areas (pavilions and tables), playground, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, scenic overlook, volleyball, horseshoes, sports fields, historic structures, sledding, cross country skiing; location of administrative headquarters, ranger unit and maintenance unit for the County Parks Department; three mile cross-country running course, BMX bicycle race track, observatory operated by the York County Astronomical Society; northernmost terminus of the Heritage Rail Trail County Park; access to Codorus Creek available; located near Emigsville.
- Rocky Ridge County Park - 750 acres; picnic areas (pavilions and tables), playground, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, scenic overlooks, volleyball, horseshoes, sports fields, cross-country skiing; hunting with special parks permit (archery, park also closed four days for antlerless deer hunting); park serves as site for annual Christmas Magic Festival of Lights; located northwest of Hallam Borough in Springettsbury and Hellam Townships.
- William H. Kain County Park - 1,637 acres and two lakes 1) Lake Redman and 2) Lake Williams, picnic area (pavilions and tables), playground, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, scenic overlook, volleyball, horseshoes, boat launch, fishing area, ice fishing, ice skating, sledding, cross-country skiing, hunting with special parks permit (archery hunting, park also closed four days for antlerless deer hunting); park features annual concerts and boat launch concession; located near Jacobus Borough in Springfield and York Townships. This land is leased from The York Water Company, as detailed in the utility land holdings section later in this chapter.
- Apollo County Park - 340 acres; area of mature woodland; hiking, horseback riding, scenic overlook, fishing area, ice fishing, hunting with special parks permit (available following State regulations); the Mason-Dixon Trail crosses the park and a stream cuts through the rhododendron-covered ravine; small parking lot available off Lockport Road; limited trail system; located east of the village of New Bridgeville in Chanceford Township. Access to the park is limited.
- P. Joseph Raab County Park - 73 acres; site of former York Iron Company Mine; small parking lot is available off Hoff Road; a limited trail system and overlook; located in North Codorus Township, west of Seven Valleys Borough.

- Spring Valley County Park - 868 acres; old agricultural fields and uneven-aged forest; picnic areas (pavilions and tables), hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, scenic overlook, fishing areas, historic structures, ice fishing, sledding, cross-country skiing, hunting with special parks permit (small game, archery season, antlered/antlerless deer shotgun slug); features Animal Activity Area (site of equestrian shows and clinics and dog training events); stocked trout stream and “Fish for Fun” pond; home to annual gold-panning seminar; located in North Hopewell and Springfield Townships.
- Richard M. Nixon County Park - 187 acres; meadow woodlands, aquatic habitats and an environmental education center; hiking, scenic overlook, cross-country skiing; special naturalist-led programs are available for school, scout, civic and business groups; located in Springfield Township.
- Wallace-Cross Mill Historic Site - historic water-powered mill which operated continuously from 1826 through the 1980’s; Friends of the Wallace-Cross Mill provide programmatic administration of this site; located in East Hopewell Township.
- Heritage Rail Trail County Park - covers 176 acres, 21-mile linear park; ten (10)-foot wide path of compacted stone; picnic tables, hiking, horseback riding, biking, scenic overlook, historic structures and cross-country skiing; trail amenities include the Howard Tunnel and the Hanover Junction and New Freedom train stations (set up as comfort stations and museums commemorating the history of the rail corridor); Friends of the Heritage Rail Trail Corridor provide programmatic administration of this site; trail stretches from York City south to the Maryland line, connecting to the Northern Central Railroad (NCR) Trail in Maryland.
- Highpoint Scenic Vista & Recreation Area: 79 acres, .5 mile gravel trail to scenic overlook of the Susquehanna River, Mason Dixon Trail.
- Native Lands County Park: 187 acres, Mason Dixon Trail.

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS RECREATION AREAS

Public schools are included in the existing open space and recreational areas inventory primarily because local youth sports teams and athletic groups have become increasingly dependent on public school facilities to hold practices and games. In some municipalities, schools provide the only recreational opportunities. York County’s 16 school districts provide nearly 2,125 acres of land combined. School facilities generally include athletic fields, tracks, courts and playgrounds, but rarely contain wooded, natural or undeveloped areas. Many school recreational areas, however, prohibit the walking or exercising of pets.

## MUNICIPAL PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS

In addition to providing residents with public facilities and services necessary to protect health and welfare, municipal governments also provide for the social and cultural well-being of residents. Most York County municipalities strive to maintain parks and open spaces at levels sufficient to meet the demands of municipal residents. Currently, throughout the County, there are 186 municipal parks and recreational areas totaling 2,824 acres.

## QUASI-PUBLIC RECREATION AREAS

### Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation

The construction of the Safe Harbor Dam in 1931 created Lake Clarke. In addition to the lake, the Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation maintains 2,300 acres of land and water in the region for recreational purposes. The Corporation provides picnic areas, boat ramps and playgrounds along the shores of the ten mile lake. These areas include:

- Lock 2 Boat Access Area
- Kline's Run Park
- Wrightsville Boat Access Area
- Cabin Branch Creek Park

Several recreational and water safety organizations are located within the Safe Harbor project area. The organizations include Lakeview Boat Club, Susquehanna Yacht Club, Lake Clarke Marina, Susquehanna Boat Works, Lake Clarke Rescue Club, Inc. and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. These recreational facilities and those discussed above are located in Lower Windsor and Chanceford Townships, and in Wrightsville Borough. The Mason-Dixon Trail traverses the Safe Harbor lands.

### Cultural and Historical Sites

Cultural and historical sites can be protected, preserved, interpreted and connected by greenways and open spaces. Cultural and historical sites provide yet another dimension to link the people with the landscape; they provide a sense of place as well as a sense of origin.

The cultural resources of the lower Susquehanna Valley, which cover more than 12,000 years, are particularly rich compared to many other regions of Pennsylvania. Archaeological sites from the Paleoindian, Late Archaic, Late Woodland and Contact periods have made key contributions to our understanding of past cultural behavior. Sites from the historic period have yielded significant data relating to industrialization and transportation. The Late Woodland and Contact periods represented by the Shenks Ferry and Susquehannocks cultures are especially significant in that they represent a detailed and continuous record of the interaction of two cultures.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) maintains a database of more than 6,000 historic resources in York County. The PHMC also manages a database of archeological sites. However, only basic data, e.g., number and types of sites, is available. Specific site location is kept confidential to protect the artifacts.

#### SUSQUEHANNOCKS

The Susquehannocks were native people who came to the lower Susquehanna Valley around 1550 and remained there until about 1763. Their history, based on archeological evidence, is documented in Barry Kent's book, "*Susquehanna's Indians*", published by the Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission. Although much is known about the Susquehannocks, archeologists believe there is much more to learn from the archeology sites contained in the region. The coming of European settlers had profound effects on their culture and eventually their homeland became the homeland of European immigrants.

Long Level, in Lower Windsor Township, York County, is noted for several significant archeological sites located on the Byrd (Lower) Leibhart site, and less than a mile to the north, the Oscar (Upper) Leibhart site. Both sites are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Although originally listed for their local

significance, an expansion of archeological findings indicate they likely qualify as sites of national significance. At least one of these two sites was occupied during the 1660's, probably during the gradual abandonment of the Strickler site across the river in Washington Boro. It is believed that approximately 800 people eventually came to live in the village. The same site may represent the place where Susquehannock power was brought to an end by wars with the Iroquois and the political turmoil of 1673-1674. The other Leibhart site may represent a brief re-occupation of the area by scattered Susquehannocks who coalesced there in 1676 (Kent 1984).

In 1996 Conejohela, Chapter 28 of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology began a research project in Long Level for the purpose of mapping and documenting these sites. Although the Township was moderately occupied during the Late Woodland/Historic Period, the lesser known Paleo-Indian through Woodland occupations are also impressive for the Lower Susquehanna Valley. Although Long Level is most known for its Late Prehistoric and Historic villages, there are more than 25 other archaeological sites in this small area. As of 2001, one Paleo site, 10 Archaic sites, 5 Transitional sites and 10 Woodland Period sites have been recorded within this small area. More than 340 archaeological sites have been recorded in the whole of York County according to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

Also of interest is that Thomas Cresap, the first European settler on the Indian lands on the York County side of the Susquehanna, settled at Long Level (Conejohela) in 1731.

#### **JOHN AND KATHRYN ZIMMERMAN CENTER FOR HERITAGE AT HISTORIC PLEASANT GARDEN**

Restored and renovated by John and Kathryn Zimmerman in the late-1990's, this Colonial-era home dates back to the mid-1700's. In the spring of 2007, the Zimmerman's donated the property to the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area. It is also commonly known as the Dritt Mansion after the family that owned the home from the late 1700's to the mid-1800's. The property remained a working farm until the late 1930's. During the home's renovation, archaeological work unearthed over 20,000 artifacts that helped fill in some of the blanks of this wonderful building's history. In 1977 the Dritt Mansion was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

### SAFE HARBOR PETROGLYPHS

The Safe Harbor petroglyphs are found in the lower Susquehanna River, just below the Safe Harbor Dam. At one time, upwards of 1,000 petroglyphs could be found among several sites on the river between Columbia, Pennsylvania, and Port Deposit, Maryland. Most are now gone or have been submerged by modern dams. The Safe Harbor is the largest remaining site, containing more than 300 petroglyphs.

It is not known who created the petroglyphs. The petroglyphs depict images of nature, humans, animals and their tracks, etc. The meaning of the petroglyphs are also not known. The carvings may have conveyed information such as tribal boundaries or hunting grounds, or about significant events and sacred places.

According to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), the Safe Harbor petroglyphs are believed to be one of the largest existing concentrations of Native American rock art in the northeastern United States. Although there is limited access available from the York County shoreline, the Safe Harbor petroglyphs are an important part of the cultural resources of the lower Susquehanna.



Big and Little Indian Rock Petroglyphs, # 78002421, were listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. Big Indian Rock is 60 feet by 40 feet, and has carvings on all sides. The Little Indian Rock measures 38 feet by 32 feet and has carvings on the north side. They were first studied in 1863 by the Linnaean Society of Lancaster County. (Report submitted to the American Philosophical Society, April 1, 1865). and continue to be studied to this day.

## York County Demographics

York County continues to be a significant growth area in Pennsylvania. 2010 US Census data indicates an increase in population of 13.9% from 2000 to 2010, which ranks York County 6th when compared to Pennsylvania's sixty-seven counties.

U.S. Census 2000 to 2010 Comparison						
	<i>Counts</i>		<i>%</i>		<i>Change</i>	
York County	2010 Census		2000 Census		2000-2010 Change	
<b>Total Population</b>	434,972	100.00%	381,751	100.00%	53,221	13.94%

Population by Race						
American Indian and Alaska native alone	942	0.22%	679	0.18%	263	38.73%
Asian alone	5,407	1.24%	3,273	0.86%	2,134	65.20%
Black or African American alone	24,344	5.60%	14,095	3.69%	10,249	72.71%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific native alone	123	0.03%	116	0.03%	7	6.03%
Some other race alone	10,326	2.37%	5,297	1.39%	5,029	94.94%
Two or more races	8,695	2.00%	4,188	1.10%	4,507	107.62%
White alone	385,135	88.54%	354,103	92.76%	31,032	8.76%

Population by Hispanic or Latino Origin (of any race)						
Persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin	24,397	5.61%	11,296	2.96%	13,101	115.98%
Persons Not of Hispanic or Latino Origin	410,575	94.39%	370,455	97.04%	40,120	10.83%

Population by Gender						
Male	214,563	49.33%	187,667	49.16%	26,896	14.33%
Female	220,409	50.67%	194,084	50.84%	26,325	13.56%

Population by Age						
Persons 0 to 4 years	26,592	6.11%	23,220	6.08%	3,372	14.52%
Persons 5 to 17 years	75,422	17.34%	70,763	18.54%	4,659	6.58%
Persons 18 to 64 years	271,901	62.51%	236,276	61.89%	35,625	15.08%
Persons 65 years and over	61,057	14.04%	51,492	13.49%	9,565	18.58%

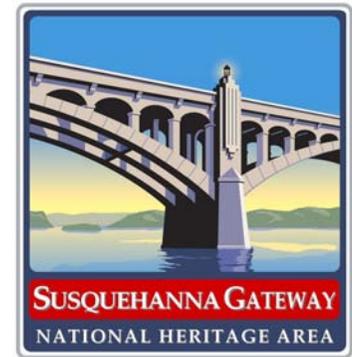
York County Growth Trends, 2008 provides the following background on York County, supplemented with 2010 US Census data:

- York County is approximately 911 square miles or 583,040 acres.
- York County contains 72 municipalities and 16 school districts.
- York County is a County of the Third Class as prescribed by the Pennsylvania State Legislature.

- According to the 2010 US Census the population of York County increased almost 14% between 2000 and 2010. The population of York County in 2010 was reported as 434,972. The population for 2000 was 381,751.
- In 2010, the population density of the County is 481 persons per square mile.
- Twelve municipalities in York County have populations over 10,000 persons.
- From 2000-2010, the fastest growing borough was Hallam Borough with a population increase of 74.5%
- The fastest growing township, 2000-2010, was West Manheim Township. The Township experienced a 59.2% increase over that period.
- Per the US Census, three percent (3%) of the total population of York County is Hispanic or Latino.
- York City is the most populous municipality in the County.

## STUDY AREA & COMMUNITY CONTEXT

The study area is located in east-central York County, in Lower Windsor and Hellam Townships, immediately southeast of Wrightsville Borough. The study area consists of a corridor extending approximately three and one-half miles south of Wrightsville Borough, from Wrightsville Riverfront Park to the John and Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Historic Pleasant Garden, home of the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area.



As noted in the Introduction, the five properties being studied, and their respective owners, include:

Parcel	Owner	Acres
1 Native Lands County Park	County of York	187
2 Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area	County of York	79
3 Klines Run Park	Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation	48
4 Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve	Lancaster County Conservancy	40
5 John and Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Historic Pleasant Garden	Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area	2

# Susquehanna Heritage Park Location Map



## RECENT PLANNING EFFORTS

At the beginning of the planning process Pashek Associates asked members of the steering committee to identify existing planning efforts and resources that they should familiarize themselves with. The result included identification of the following:

### Documents Provided by Committee

1. Riverfront Park Feasibility Study & Master Site Plan, Wrightsville Borough, York County, Pennsylvania, December 2011
2. Mason Dixon Trail System – GIS Data
3. Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve
  - a. Summary of the Farm and Natural Lands Trust easement on the property
  - b. Aerial map
  - c. Survey map
4. Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area
  - a. Highpoint Heritage Trail Brochure
  - b. Native Lands County Park Heritage Trail Waystop Brochure
  - c. Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Historic Pleasant Garden Brochure
  - d. Klines Run Park - Waterside Interpretive Pavilion Perspective Rev. 3-30-10
  - e. Klines Run Park - Waterside Interpretive Pavilion Plan Rev. 3-30-10
  - f. Klines Run Park - Site Plan Rev. 3-30-10
  - g. Transportation Impact Assessment for the Proposed Susquehanna Heritage Park Facilities April 2010
  - h. Susquehanna Gateway River Heritage Center Poster 8-09
  - i. Zimmerman Center for Heritage Enhancement Plan
  - j. Zimmerman Center Cad files
5. Klines Run Park – Safe Harbor
  - a. Annual attendance figures for 2009, 2010, and 2011
  - b. Klines Run Property Boundary Survey
  - c. Klines Run Park Facility Plan
  - d. Klines Run property Cad Boundary Survey
6. York County
  - a. Preserved Forever - York County Native American Lands
  - b. Kohr Settlement Agreement
  - c. 10,000 Years of Native American Heritage: A Report for the York Heritage Region Committee York Heritage Region Committee January 15, 2001 (with 2012 addendum)
  - d. Lakeside East Farmhouse Preservation Report
  - e. Native Lands Brochure (Nevin 2009)
  - f. Native Stories of the Land (NHAC 2008)
  - g. Native Lands - Known Archeological Sites, email from Paul Nevin
  - h. Resolution Establishing Native Lands County Park
  - i. Native Lands - lakeside\_east\_GIS\_map
  - j. Letter from PHMC indicating the Byrd Leibhart Site has been placed on the National

#### Register of Historic Places

- k. Susquehanna Heritage Park Archeological Research Guidelines, Draft 4-27-12
  - l. York County Rail Trail Authority Ordinance
  - m. York County Rail Trail Authority By-laws
  - n. Archeological Research Guidelines – 04-27-12
7. Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County
    - a. Highpoint Park Conservation Easement and Map
    - b. Wilton Meadows Conservation Easement and Map
  8. York County Department of Parks and Recreation
    - a. York County Department of Parks and Recreation Overview
    - b. York County Department of Parks and Recreation Organizational Structure
    - c. York County Department of Parks and Recreation 2010 Annual Report
    - d. York County Department of Parks and Recreation 2011 Annual Report
    - e. ADA Mobility Device Policy – Draft
  9. Paul Nevin
    - a. Interpretive Concept for the Susquehanna Heritage Park – 05-03-12
    - b. Native Stories of the Land – 04-29-12
    - c. NHAC involvement with the Susquehanna Heritage Park – 04-28-12
    - d. Possible Uses for Native Lands Parkspace – 04-29-12
  10. Adventure Cycling Association - Atlantic Coast Bicycle Route
  11. York County Convention and Visitors Bureau
    - a. 2007 -to 2012 York County Visitors Guides
    - b. Mason Dixon Wine Trail Brochure
    - c. York County, PA Factory Tour Capital of the World - Tours & Events
    - d. 2009 Randall Travel Marketing Research with visitor intercept surveys
    - e. 2010-11 Annual Report for the CVB
    - f. PA DCED's Economic Impact Report for 2010

### Documents Obtained by Pashek Associates

Further, Pashek Associates conducted an internet search of pertinent documents and obtained the following:

1. Zimmerman Center for Heritage Enhancement Project Summary
2. Treasured Towns and Landscapes, the Tourism Perspective, PowerPoint, Susquehanna River Valley
3. Trail Towns Checklist, the Great Allegheny Passage
4. Susquehanna River Water Trail and Susquehanna Interpretive Master Plan, PowerPoint
5. Susquehanna Greenways Initiatives, Parts 1,2, & 3, PowerPoint
6. River Towns Summary Plan, 2008
7. River Towns - Heritage Development Strategy, 2008
8. Visual Connections - Susquehanna Greenway - Sign Design Guidelines, 2010
  - a. Interpretive Plan Site Accession Form
  - b. Mapping Procedures - River Town Orientation Panel Maps
  - c. River Town Orientation Development Form

- d. How to Design Interpretive Panels
9. Susquehanna Gateway National Heritage Area – Feasibility Study Report, 2008
  10. Susquehanna Greenway Partnership - Scenic Assessment Methodology, 2002
  11. Rainwater, River, Ria, & Rail – Lower Susquehanna Conservation Landscape, 2010
  12. Brochure - John and Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Historic Pleasant Garden, 2009
  13. Allegheny County River Towns – Reconnecting with the River
  14. Allegheny County River Towns - Community Diagnostics
  15. Northwest Lancaster County River Trail - Trail Access Guide
  16. Native Lands County Park Susquehanna Heritage Park Heritage Trail Waystop Guide, 2010
  17. Lower Susquehanna Conservation Landscape Workplan 2011
  18. Lower Susquehanna Conservation Landscape - DCNR\_001781 – DCNR Fact Sheet
  19. Revitalizing River Towns - Using Heritage Tourism, PowerPoint
  20. Greenway and Trail Workshop - Easement and Liability Issues of Trail Owners and Adjacent landowners, PowerPoint
  21. Funding Green Infrastructure in Pennsylvania Funding the Future of Stormwater Management, American Rivers
  22. Announcement - First Friday Event - Williamsport Genetti
  23. Schuylkill River Heritage Towns and Tours “Resources and Guides”, web links
  24. Lancaster-York Heritage Region Management Action Plan, 2001
  25. Lower Susquehanna Heritage Area Feasibility Study, 1999
  26. York County Natural Lands Inventory, 2004
  27. York County Community Facilities, 2006
  28. York County Economic Development Plan, 2009
  29. York County Environmental Resources Inventory, 2004
  30. York County Growth Management Plan, 2011
  31. York County Growth Trends, 2008
  32. York County Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2008
  33. York County Integrated Water Resources Plan, 2011
  34. York County - Long Range Transportation Plan, 2009
  35. York County – Open Space and Greenways Plan, 2009
  36. York County - Planning and Implementation Tools: Creating Sustainable and Successful Communities, 2008
  37. Lakeside East Park opens, 6-10-09 Press Release
  38. Preserving Archeological Resources: Historic Preservation and Public Education in York County, Erin R. Krepps Thesis, May 2011
  39. Lower Windsor Township Comprehensive Plan – 2002
  40. Lower Windsor Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance
  41. Lower Windsor Township Zoning Ordinance
  42. Lower Windsor Township On-Lot Subsurface Sewage Facilities Disposal
  43. Lower Windsor Township Stormwater Management Ordinance
  44. Lower Windsor Township Floodplain Management Ordinance

## Review of Existing Planning Efforts

A review of existing planning efforts and resources provides background and an understanding of the regional, county, and local municipal context, the hierarchy of York County Parks and how the Susquehanna Heritage Park fits into that hierarchy, and pertinent information about the history, archeology, and other regionally significant aspects of the area and the properties. The following is a summary of key resources.

### CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH CHESAPEAKE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

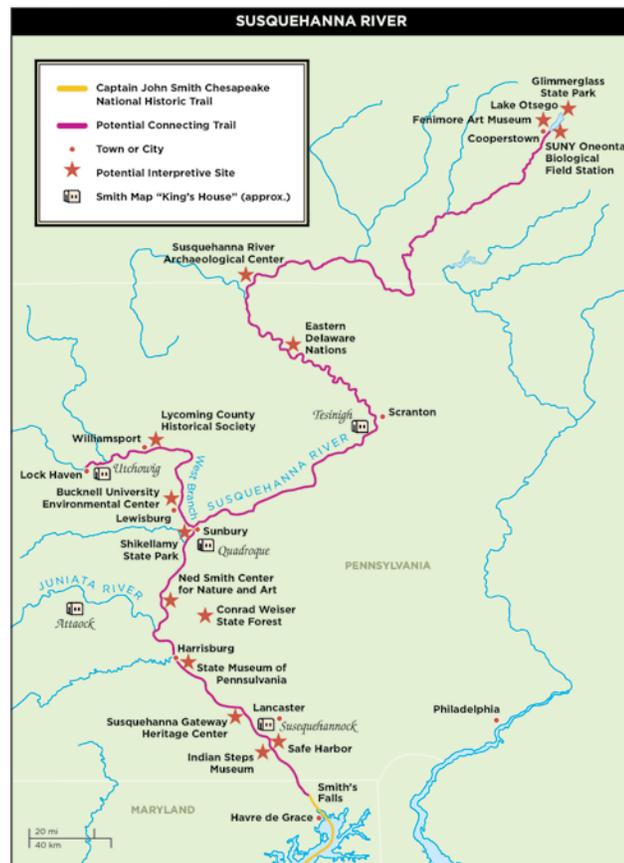
During the spring of 2012, US Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar designated the Susquehanna River, one of four connecting river trails in five states to receive such designation, as an historic component of the existing Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, which was established in 2006.

The Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail allows visitors to re-live John Smith's exploration of the Chesapeake Bay from 1607-1609, during which Smith and his crew mapped nearly 3,000 miles of the Bay and rivers and documented American Indian communities.

The Susquehanna River Connecting Trail connects to the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail near Port Deposit, MD and extends for over 463 miles to the headwaters of the Chesapeake's largest tributary at Cooperstown, NY and an additional 71 miles from Sunbury to Lock Haven along the West Branch of the Susquehanna.

This new trail is closely connected and associated with Smith's exploration of the Bay and its tributaries; provides tremendous recreational and tourism opportunities as well as additional points of public access to the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. Smith mapped the river, spelled "Sasquesahanough" on his 1612 map, and the locations of Indian towns along the river, and even today many sections of the river remain evocative of landscape and natural history connected with Captain Smith's and the Native American experience in the 17th century Chesapeake.

The Connecting Trail is nationally significant because of its association with our nation's early exploration and settlement; American Indian heritage; commerce and trade; and outstanding natural and recreational resources. It is the largest water trail system on a Chesapeake watershed tributary and one of the largest in the country. Lastly, it has a wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational features.



## THE SUSQUEHANNA GREENWAY

The Susquehanna Greenway is an evolving corridor of interconnected trails, parks, river access points, and conserved areas, linking people to the natural and cultural treasures of the Susquehanna River and its West Branch. Nearly 500 miles in length, it is one of our state's greatest resources -- balancing the needs of generations today and tomorrow, conserving the environment for all living things, and creating healthy, sustainable communities. It is nearly 500 miles in length, making it our state's largest greenway.



### *Vision*

The Susquehanna Greenway is a place and a journey connecting people and communities to the Susquehanna River and its enduring story. The Greenway unveils the spirit of the river – renewing awareness of its distinctive scenery and its natural and cultural heritage. It is a destination shaped by diverse people and the pursuit of their dreams. The Susquehanna Greenway balances the needs of generations today and tomorrow; conserves the environment for all living things; and creates healthy and successful communities, wide-ranging recreation, and economic prosperity. The Greenway celebrates the Susquehanna River as a place of timeless value, shared memories and experiences – a place to use and enjoy and to treasure always.

**Mission:** The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership is a leading champion for the Susquehanna River Watershed, Pennsylvania's most important natural asset and the largest tributary to the Chesapeake Bay. SGP advocate for public and private efforts to connect people with our natural and cultural resources, and promote a sustainable and healthy environment.

SGP is focused on five strategic program initiatives to attain these benefits and make our vision a reality: Conserving and Enhancing Natural Resources; Improving Connectivity; Improving River Access; Revitalizing River Towns; Signage, Branding and Promotion.

1. **Conserving and Enhancing Natural Resources:** The Susquehanna River is Pennsylvania's longest river. It is a major resource for our region, providing drinking water for six million people and nearly half of the fresh water entering the Chesapeake Bay. Conserving critical wetlands, forestlands, farmlands and riparian areas along the river will enhance our water resources and the quality of life for all living things. SGP provides technical assistance while working corroboratively with conservation organizations, state and federal agencies, municipalities and local partners to:
  - Increase awareness of conservation and water quality issues
  - Preserve and enhance riparian corridors along the river and its tributaries
  - Advocate for priority conservation projects including the conservation of wetlands, forestlands, and farmlands
2. **Revitalizing River Towns:** Many of our river towns were built during the industrial era, but are now suffering from the loss of industry and jobs, urban abandonment, suburban sprawl and shrinking tax bases. By investing in river town parks, trails and greening our downtowns SGP creates more desirable communities and get more feet back on the streets. These healthier, greener communities attract business investment, encourage urban living, and improve the economic potential of tourism.

SGP provides technical assistance while Strategic Initiatives working corroboratively with downtown revitalization programs, tourism agencies, municipalities, state and federal agencies and local partners to:

- Create trails and walkways from downtowns to the river.
  - Provide opportunities for safe walking and biking that foster healthy activities for people of all generations
  - Create and enhance riverfront parks, trails and access points
  - Promote River Towns as part of the Susquehanna Greenway
  - Reclaim and find new uses for abandoned buildings and brownfields
3. **Improving Connectivity:** By connecting communities and linking residents and visitors to the resources of the Susquehanna River with trails and greenways, SGP fosters a positive association with the river, helping to build a greater sense of community, and providing healthy living opportunities. SGP provides technical assistance and works corroboratively with our partners to:
- Link riverfront parks to downtown businesses and residential areas, and provide public access to the river, water trail and land trail systems, which also provide opportunities for alternative transportation
  - Link to other regional trail systems
  - Link wildlife habitat corridors especially along riparian corridors including the river and its tributaries.
4. **Improving River Access:** River access sites are the transition points to and from land- and water-based assets and are the key to unlocking the Greenway's potential. SGP provides technical assistance while working collaboratively with municipalities, state and federal agencies and local partners to:
- Add and improve river access to enhance user enjoyment and increase recreation opportunities including fishing, boating, canoeing and kayaking
  - Provide public access to the river from river towns
  - Develop signage and other interpretive systems for water and land assets that recognize the Susquehanna Greenway as a special place – a distinctive destination of diverse, interconnected landscapes and communities, all of which tie to the Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay
5. **Signage, Branding and Promotion:** The Susquehanna Greenway is in fact a greenway composed of many smaller greenways, parks, trails and conservation areas that are both existing and planned. When these existing greenway elements are connected and expanded with new greenway elements, and promoted together under one branded identity, it is truly a case where the impact of the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. To bring these separate greenway elements into a cohesive and identifiable whole that can be promoted on a regional scale for maximum economic impact, the SGP will work with state agencies, municipalities, local project groups and tourism agencies to:
- Develop Susquehanna Greenway branding and identity standards.
  - Create a comprehensive signage system to help residents and visitors identify, enjoy and navigate through the Greenway's assets.
  - Preserve, enhance, and interpret scenic, historic, geologic, natural and cultural heritage assets and connect users to their enduring stories through targeted promotion.
  - Promote the Susquehanna Greenway as tourism designation

## SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS CONSERVATION LANDSCAPE

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has identified the Susquehanna Riverlands region as one of seven Conservation Landscapes. The Conservation Landscape is a place-based strategy for natural resources stewardship and advocacy in key landscapes across our state where there are strong natural assets and local readiness and support for land conservation, locally driven planning, and community economic revitalization efforts.

The Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape encompasses the Susquehanna River and riverside lands in York and Lancaster counties. Framed by miles of forested rocky cliffs and rolling hills of the high Piedmont, the river and the towns adorning its shores are the ribbon that binds this majestic region.

Native Americans have occupied the Lower Susquehanna for over 12,000 years. Stockaded settlements were noted as early as 1550, well before John Smith's epic journey into the upper reaches of the Chesapeake Bay.

Today, Columbia, Wrightsville, Marietta and other riverside communities are capitalizing on their industrial past in innovative ways and embracing their adjoining natural resources to forge a viable future. The river towns offer a wealth of opportunity for sustainable heritage tourism and economic development. From park development, trails and river access to infrastructure improvements and green economic development projects, DCNR and its partners are investing and making an impact.

The Susquehanna River's improving health, growing importance as a recreational resource, and status as one of the region's key assets are increasingly being recognized. The river is emerging as a major recreational attraction. Significant riverside lands are being protected, including acquisition of lands from regional power companies.

Greenways and trails - on land and water - have been established or are under development. The river provides more than half the freshwater to the Chesapeake Bay. A recent Presidential Executive Order on the Chesapeake is advocating for a new approach to addressing the degradation of this great estuary. Land conservation is undoubtedly one of the best ways to improve the water quality of the river, and ultimately the bay, while nurturing the quality of life and integrity of habitats ashore.

The Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape seeks to enhance the rich landscape of the Susquehanna River corridor through increased land protection, natural and cultural resource stewardship, increased public connection to these resources, and promoting sustainable economic development strategies keyed to heritage and eco-tourism.

The goals of the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape include:

- **Stewardship:** Conserve and protect the natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources that define the special character and qualities of the Susquehanna River corridor in Lancaster and York counties.
- **Connections:** Strengthen positive relationships between people and the natural and cultural heritage of the Susquehanna River corridor. Foster appreciation of the river corridor and awareness of the need to preserve its special resources. Support local economic activity through physical connections.
- **Sustainable Economic Development:** Promote local business and employment based on conservation, sustainable use, and enjoyment of the river corridor's resources. Sustain farming, forestry, and other components of the rural economy. Encourage place-based economic activity in the towns by positioning them as gateways to the river corridor.

- Promote visitation in selected niche markets (heritage, eco-tourism, and agri-tourism) consistent with maintaining the carrying capacity of the natural and built infrastructure.

The primary organizing partners for the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape are:

- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Lancaster County Conservancy
- Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area
- Lancaster County Planning Commission
- York County Planning Commission

As projects and planning progress, other partners; organizations, businesses, local governments, agencies, and others, may become involved. The Susquehanna Heritage Park is consistent with the Conservation Landscape goals and objectives.

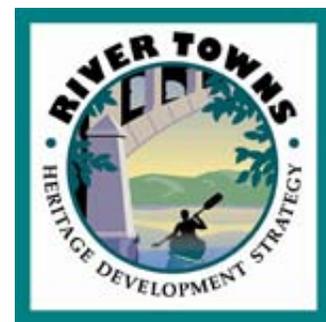
### **YORK COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

The York County Comprehensive Plan consists of thirteen documents, including:

- York County Natural Lands Inventory, 2004
- York County Community Facilities, 2006
- York County Economic Development Plan, 2009
- York County Environmental Resources Inventory, 2004
- York County Growth Management Plan, 2011
- York County Growth Trends, 2008
- York County Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2008
- York County Integrated Water Resources Plan, 2011
- York County - Long Range Transportation Plan, 2009
- York County – Open Space and Greenways Plan, 2009
- York County - Planning and Implementation Tools: Creating Sustainable and Successful Communities, 2008

### **RIVER TOWNS**

In 2008, RiverTowns: Heritage Development Strategy was prepared for the Lancaster-York Heritage Region. This planning effort resulted in strategies on how the communities surrounding the Lower Susquehanna can benefit from the opportunities facing them today. In each town, there are projects underway or in the planning stages that, if linked to the region’s broader prospects for change, could create significant community improvement and a fresh way of seeing the River Towns.



The Strategy offers a framework to take the first steps toward this new future.

Goal 1: Position the River Towns as thriving gateways to the natural beauty and recreation amenities of the Susquehanna.

- Actively support implementation of the Susquehanna Greenway, the Susquehanna Heritage Park, and related efforts to assure conservation of river bluffs and heritage resources.
- Work with the Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce, the PA Dutch and York County

Convention and Visitors Bureaus, and other tourism promotion groups to develop communication materials that convey the full recreational experiences available along the river.

- Improve the landings of Veterans Memorial Bridge in Wrightsville and Columbia.
- Organize regular community clean-up days to remove litter and trim weeds on publicly owned land.

Goal 2: Strengthen connections between the towns and the river, both physically and in terms of community identity.

- Connect Columbia's Rotary Park with River Park.
- Improve Wrightsville's South Front Street Park.
- Build pedestrian piers and river overlooks on the historic bridge supports.
- Improve street connections between Marietta's downtown and the river.

Goal 3: Bring the centers of these historic towns back to life.

- Establish a regional Main/Elm Street Program as a state demonstration pilot: Columbia, Wrightsville, and Marietta.
- Stimulate adaptive reuse of downtown buildings for overnight accommodations and residential units.
- Improve Gay Street in Marietta.

Goal 4: Retain distinctions between the River Towns and their surrounding agricultural and natural landscape.

- Host forums that engage leaders and elected officials of the Counties and adjacent jurisdictions around the shared benefits of smart growth and agricultural preservation, leading towards inter-municipal planning.
- Use available planning tools, such as zoning and historic overlay, to preserve historic character.

Goal 5: Heighten understanding of the history and heritage of the River Towns.

- Support efforts to create the Susquehanna Heritage Park near Long Level and develop programs at the Blue Rock Heritage Center in Washington Boro.
- Undertake joint heritage activities among Columbia, Wrightsville, and Marietta.
- Design and fabricate interpretive installations at Washington Boro, Vesta Iron Furnace, and other key locations, complementing those of the Lancaster-York Heritage Region and Rivertownes PA USA.

### *Columbia Borough*

Columbia's historic character comes from the red brick and stone 19th century commercial buildings and residential neighborhoods that constitute a large historic district, increasingly known for its antique shops, historic market house and "main street" charm. Relocating Rt. 441 will take heavy truck traffic out of the town center, an improvement likely to stimulate more revitalization along Locust Street. Another major community project in Columbia is the expansion of River Park.

### *Wrightsville Borough*

Wrightsville's long history dates to John Wright's ferry in 1728, which was followed by a succession of bridges, including the 1930 Veteran's Bridge that crosses to Columbia on the opposite bank. The town's location on the Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal led to the growth of foundries, including Donsco, whose corporate headquarters is still on North Front Street at the river's edge. Much of Wrightsville has been designated a historic district on the National Register of Historic Places.

### *Marietta Borough*

Marietta's unusual street pattern results from the merger of two earlier towns in 1812. Its economy came from the river first and then the railroad and iron furnaces, restoration of the Musselman/Vesta Iron Furnace Office Building is in process. Nearly half of the town is included in a historic district listed in the National Register of Historic Places; Marietta's strong 19th century character and the work of the energetic Marietta Restoration Associates contribute to its reputation as one of the best-preserved historic towns in Pennsylvania.

### *Washington Boro*

Washington Boro's street grid seems to contrast with the historic community's small size until one learns how hydroelectric dams raised the river's level in the early 20th century. Engaged residents have recently renovated a stone mill building as the Blue Rock Heritage Center. In nearby fields are the archeological remains of what was once a Native American village of more than 3,000 people.

### *Long Level*

Long Level, named for the long stretch of canal without locks in this reach, has been a popular summer recreation area for boating and fishing for generations. The Susquehanna Heritage Park, now under development, will enhance and showcase these assets.

### *Accomac*

Once the site of a ferry, is a quiet riverside community in the midst of superb natural features that include a notable gorge and waterfall.

The properties being studied herein are located in Long Level. River Town recommendations for Long Level include:

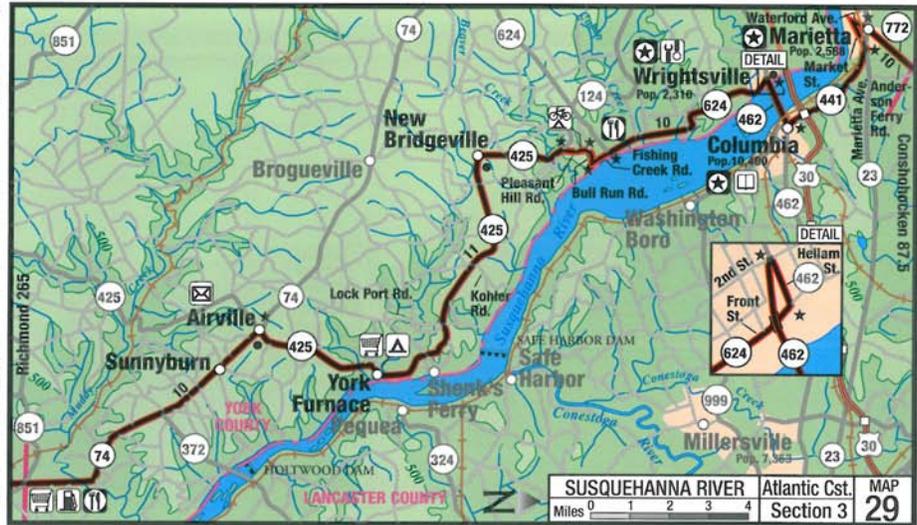
- Add interpretive signage about the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal at the river's edge in Long Level. The shore in Long Level affords a good opportunity to present the importance of the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal in the evolution of the River Towns region. Shank's Mare Outfitters is a popular business and a location in front of its facility would reach the region's growing number of recreational users. Rivertownes and the owners of Shank's Mare would lead completion of this recommendation.
- Explore new public uses for the grassy area on the riverbank at Long Level. Long Level Road currently ends in a turnaround with an inviting view and riverside location. Adding passive recreation facilities like picnic tables, a pavilion and a couple of parking spaces could lead to fuller utilization of the area. This site is appropriate for interpretive installation addressing the PA-MD Border Wars (also known as Cresap's War) and the Blue Rock Ferry that existed in colonial times between Long Level and Washington Boro. A possible lead for implementation of this recommendation is the Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation and the Lancaster-York Heritage Region.
- Develop the Susquehanna Heritage Park and Susquehanna Discovery Center. This scenic park, visitor education center and heritage resource is in the planning stages now, led by the Lancaster - York Heritage Region. The park and Discovery Center have the potential to serve as gateway visitor facilities for the Susquehanna River Gorge.

## ATLANTIC COAST BIKE ROUTE

The Adventure Cycling Association has defined the Atlantic Coast Bike Route for adventure cyclists. It is an on-road multi-use bicycle covering 2,525 miles of biking from Bar Harbor, ME to Key West, FL. The route uses a combination of existing bike trails and on-road biking. Its significance to this study is that this on-road bicycle route connects all of the properties being studied. Further, the route connects the properties to river towns of Wrightsville, Columbia, and Marietta.

**SB:** 0(0 km)Continue on Anderson Ferry Rd./SR 772. ★ 1.5(2)Marietta. Continue straight on Waterford Ave. In 0.4 mi., turn acute left on Market St. ★ 3(5)Bear right on SR 441. ★ 5.5(9)Columbia. Turn right on SR 462. Cross river. ★ 7(11)Wrightsville. At bridge end, turn acute right on Hellam St. See Detail. ★ 12.5(20)Continue straight on Long Level Rd. which becomes Fishing Creek Rd. ★ 13(21)Turn right on Bull Run Rd. ★ 13.5(22)Turn left on Pleasant Hill Rd. ★ 14.5(23)At stop sign, turn left on unsigned SR 425. 17(27)New Bridgeville. Turn left following SR 425. 24.5(39)York Furnace. ★ 28.5(46)Airville. Turn left on SR 74. 30(48)Sunnyburn. 36.5(59)Matchline.

**NB:** 0(0 km)Continue on SR 74. 6.5(11)Sunnyburn. ★ 8(13)Airville. Turn right on SR 425. 12(19)York Furnace. 19.5(31)New Bridgeville. Turn right. ★ 22(35)Turn right on Pleasant Hill Rd. ★ 23(37)Turn right on Bull Run Rd. 23.5(38)At "T", turn left on Fishing Creek Rd. ★ 24(39)Ride straight onto SR 624. ★ 29.5(47)Wrightsville. Turn left on Hellam St. See Detail. ★ 31(50)Columbia. Turn left on SR 441. ★ 33.5(54)Marietta. At light, bear left on unsigned Marietta Ave. which becomes Market St. ★ 34.5(56)Turn right on N. New Haven St., then right on Waterford Ave. In 0.4 mi., continue straight on unsigned Anderson Ferry Rd./SR 772. 36.5(59)Matchline.



## RIVERFRONT PARK

In 2011 a feasibility study and master plan was completed for the Riverfront Park in Wrightsville.

Riverfront Park is owned by Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation. The park property is approximately 16.7 acres in size.

Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation holds two leases on the Riverfront Park property. Wrightsville Borough leases approximately 11.5 acres of the park site for public recreation. The PA Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC) has a separate lease on Riverfront Park for the river access ramp and associated parking area. The PFBC lease is for the use of the designated portion of the tract for public fishing, boating, and fishery management. The PFBC lease area is approximately 5.5 acres.

The Riverfront Park Master Plan redesigns the park to provide additional day use facilities; protects and buffers the park's significant resource, the Susquehanna River; and celebrates the history of the park and community. The importance of the park as a destination along the Susquehanna River Water Trail has been recognized with improvements that target the needs of boaters traveling on the water trail.





# Chapter 2

## WHERE ARE WE NOW?

When planning for the future development of new recreation areas and for improvements to existing ones, it is important to understand the park as a whole. The information presented in Chapter 1: Introduction, provides the context for the park, while in this chapter we review the opportunities and constraints of the sites, the community's desires for the properties, and based on this analysis we proceed to the next step in the planning process, Chapter 3: Where Do We Want to Be?.





# Site Analysis

## NATIVE LANDS COUNTY PARK, KLINES RUN PARK AND JOHN AND KATHRYN ZIMMERMAN CENTER FOR HERITAGE AT PLEASANT GARDEN

For purposes of inventory and analysis Native Lands County Park, Klines Run Park and the John and Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Pleasant Garden are discussed together, given the sites are immediately adjacent to one another.

### Ownership, Location and Acreage

Each of the three properties are owned by different entities. All are located along Long Level Road (State Route 624) in Lower Windsor Township.

#### **NATIVE LANDS COUNTY PARK**

Native Lands Park officially consists of 96.267 acres, while there are adjacent parcels of land also owned by York County. This first is located immediately west of the park and consists of 67.74 acres. This parcel contains an agricultural easement that expires in June of 2014. The second parcel is located immediately west of the 67.74 acre parcel. This parcel consists of 25.272 acres and contains a wastewater reclamation easement which expires in October of 2018. The third parcel is located to the southwest of the 25.272 acre parcel and contains a wastewater treatment easement which also expires in October of 2018. The third parcel is 1.287 acres in size. Each of the easements are held by the former property owner.

The parcels containing the wastewater easements are reserved by the former property owner who owns surrounding properties and anticipated the need to reserve these properties for wastewater treatment purposes should their adjacent properties be developed. That said, at the time of this writing we understand that the easement holder has notified the East Prospect Borough Authority of their intent to utilize the Authority's sewage treatment facilities in lieu of an on-lot treatment system.

Upon expiration of these easements it is anticipated that each of the three parcels will be added to the existing Native Lands County Park, bring the total park acreage to 190.56 acres.

#### **KLINES RUN PARK**

Klines Run Park is a developed recreation area consisting of approximately 48 acres. It is owned by the Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation (SHWPC). As owner/operator of a non-federal hydroelectric power project SHWPC is required, in accordance with the Federal Power Act, as amended by the Electric Consumers Protection Act, to provide public recreation facilities. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issues licenses for non-federal hydroelectric power projects. And, as such, during the process ensures the recreation component requirements of the Federal Power Act are being met. This includes:

- (1) acquiring lands to assure optimum development of the recreational resources afforded by the project;
- (2) developing suitable public recreational facilities with adequate public access, considering the needs of physically handicapped persons in the design of facilities and access;
- (3) coordinating efforts with other agencies in the development of recreation areas and facilities;

- (4) providing for planning, operation, and maintenance of these facilities; and
- (5) informing the public of opportunities for recreation at licensed projects.

As such, SHWPC, provides and maintains the following recreation opportunities:

Safe Harbor Recreation Area Facilities	
1. Tailrace	Plant Tours and Fishing
2. Historic Safe Harbor Village	Walking Guide to the Historic Village
3. Safe Harbor Park	Picnicking Groups by Reservation
4. Arboretum	Trees native to Southeast PA
5. Conestoga Creek Park	Picnicking and Fishing
6. Klines Run Park	Picnicking, Hiking and Fishing
7. Lock 2 Boat Ramp	Boating and Picnicking
8. West Shore Overlook	Scenic View and Picnicking
9. Safe Harbor Village	Company owned houses and corporate offices
10. Wrightsville Access Area	Boating and Fishing
11. Bird Propagation Area	PA Game Commission

In addition to Klines Run Park, Lock 2 Boat Ramp is of significance to the Susquehanna Heritage Park given its proximity to the Susquehanna Heritage Park Study Area. Lock Two is located approximately one and one-half miles south of Klines Run Park. Visitors to Lock 2 also utilize Klines Run Park.

**JOHN AND KATHRYN ZIMMERMAN CENTER FOR HERITAGE AT PLEASANT GARDEN**

The John and Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Pleasant Garden (Zimmerman Center) is owned and operated by the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area (SGHA). The Zimmerman Center is located on a two acre parcel located on Long Level Road in Lower Windsor Township.

The SGHA is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization connecting people to the Susquehanna River and its history as it flows through Lancaster and York Counties in Central Pennsylvania.

**Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area Mission**  
 The Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area enhances our region’s quality of life and economic vitality by promoting the preservation, conservation and interpretation of the Susquehanna River’s cultural and natural heritage.

The SGHA advances their mission by building public awareness and understanding of the Susquehanna’s value to the region, state and nation and preserving and enhancing the river’s assets for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike.

Their work is based at The John & Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage, an historic home on the riverfront south of Wrightsville. They are part of HeritagePA, Pennsylvania’s statewide network of designated Heritage Areas, and are working towards recognition by Congress as a National Heritage Area.

# Susquehanna Heritage Park

## Native Lands County Park & Klines Run Park

### Site Analysis

#### Legend

##### Site Analysis

- Steep Slopes
  - 15 to 25%
  - > 25%
- Floodplain
  - 100 year flood
  - .2% Annual Chance
- Other
  - Wooded
  - Hydric Soils
  - Unsuitable Soils for Sewage Systems
  - Watershed Boundary
- Trail Slope Analysis
  - Slope < 10%
  - Slope 10 to 15%
  - Slope > 15%

#### Native Lands County Park

Site Information	
Owner	York County
Acreage	96,267 Acres
Municipality	Lower Windsor Township
Zoned	Agricultural District
	Restricted Development Overlay
	Slopes >15%
	Wetlands
	Floodplains
	Historic Overlay

#### Zimmerman Center for Heritage

Site Information	
Owner	Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Corporation
Acreage	±2 Acres
Municipality	Lower Windsor Township
Zoned	Waterfront Recreation District
	Restricted Development Overlay
	Slopes >15%
	Wetlands
	Floodplains

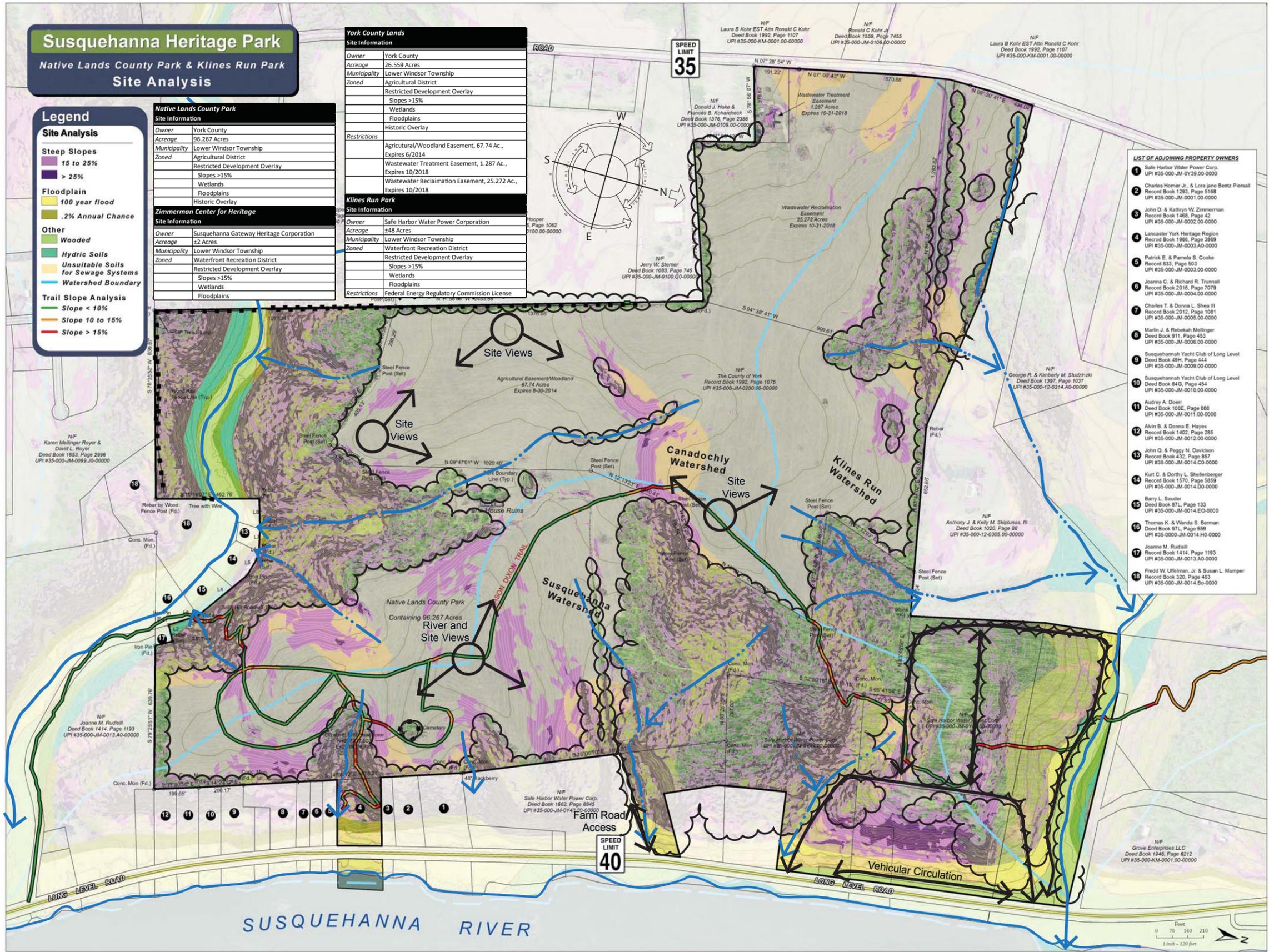
#### York County Lands

Site Information	
Owner	York County
Acreage	26,559 Acres
Municipality	Lower Windsor Township
Zoned	Agricultural District
	Restricted Development Overlay
	Slopes >15%
	Wetlands
	Floodplains
	Historic Overlay

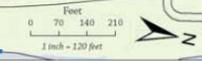
  

#### Klines Run Park

Site Information	
Owner	Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation
Acreage	±48 Acres
Municipality	Lower Windsor Township
Zoned	Waterfront Recreation District
	Restricted Development Overlay
	Slopes >15%
	Wetlands
	Floodplains
Restrictions	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission License



- #### LIST OF ADJOINING PROPERTY OWNERS
- 1 Safe Harbor Water Power Corp.  
UPI #35-000-JM-0139-00-0000
  - 2 Charles Homer Jr. & Lora Jane Bentz Piersall  
Record Book 1293, Page 5168  
UPI #35-000-JM-0001-00-0000
  - 3 John D. & Kathryn W. Zimmerman  
Record Book 1468, Page 42  
UPI #35-000-JM-0002-00-0000
  - 4 Lancaster York Heritage Region  
Record Book 1986, Page 3669  
UPI #35-000-JM-0003-AD-0000
  - 5 Patrick E. & Pamela S. Cooke  
Record 833, Page 503  
UPI #35-000-JM-0003-00-0000
  - 6 Joanna C. & Richard R. Trunnell  
Record Book 2016, Page 7079  
UPI #35-000-JM-0004-00-0000
  - 7 Charles T. & Donna L. Shea III  
Record Book 2012, Page 1081  
UPI #35-000-JM-0005-00-0000
  - 8 Marlin J. & Rebekah Mattinger  
Deed Book 911, Page 453  
UPI #35-000-JM-0006-00-0000
  - 9 Susquehanna Yacht Club of Long Level  
Deed Book 49H, Page 444  
UPI #35-000-JM-0009-00-0000
  - 10 Susquehanna Yacht Club of Long Level  
Deed Book 84G, Page 454  
UPI #35-000-JM-0010-00-0000
  - 11 Audrey A. Doerr  
Deed Book 108E, Page 886  
UPI #35-000-JM-0011-00-0000
  - 12 Alvin B. & Donna E. Hayes  
Record Book 1402, Page 285  
UPI #35-000-JM-0012-00-0000
  - 13 John G. & Peggy N. Davidson  
Record Book 432, Page 857  
UPI #35-000-JM-0014-CO-0000
  - 14 Kurt C. & Dorothy L. Shellenberger  
Record Book 1570, Page 5859  
UPI #35-000-JM-0014-DO-0000
  - 15 Barry L. Sauder  
Deed Book 871, Page 133  
UPI #35-000-JM-0014-EO-0000
  - 16 Thomas K. & Wanda S. Berman  
Deed Book 97L, Page 559  
UPI #35-000-JM-0014-HO-0000
  - 17 Joanne M. Radisill  
Record Book 1414, Page 1193  
UPI #35-000-JM-0013-AD-0000
  - 18 Fred W. Ulfelman, Jr. & Susan L. Mumper  
Record Book 320, Page 463  
UPI #35-000-JM-0014-BW-0000





The Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area, originally known as the Lancaster-York Heritage Region, was designated as an official Pennsylvania Heritage Area by Governor Tom Ridge in August 2001. State designation resulted from an extensive, locally-driven community involvement process in the late 1990's, with grant support from the Pennsylvania Heritage Areas Program.

The Lancaster and York County Boards of Commissioners, together with the region's county Planning Commissions, Convention and Visitors Bureaus and the York County Chamber of Commerce, sponsored the original 1999 Lower Susquehanna Heritage Area Feasibility Study. The Feasibility Study determined that Lancaster and York Counties possessed the cultural, natural, and recreational resources needed to successfully interpret one or more aspects of Pennsylvania heritage and provided evidence of organizational capacity to implement regional heritage development initiatives.

After completion and submittal of the Feasibility Study to the state, and at the request of the York and Lancaster County Boards of Commissioners, the two County Planning Commissions led a joint effort to prepare the Lancaster-York Heritage Region Management Action Plan. Involved citizens worked together with a team of professional planners, designers, historians and economists, led by Mary Means & Associates, to develop the plan. A Steering Committee of community leaders served as a sounding board throughout the plan's preparation. The planning process took place over a sixteen-month period from 1999 to 2001. The final Management Action Plan was released in June 2001 and the area was officially designated as a Pennsylvania Heritage Area by Governor Tom Ridge in August 2001. The Lancaster-York Heritage Region was incorporated as a Pennsylvania 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization in 2002 with a 19-member, two-county Board of Directors. Staff was hired and programs and projects were launched in 2003.

In early 2007, after five years of successfully advancing the Management Action Plan, the staff and Board of Directors conducted a strategic planning retreat to assess the organization's focus and priorities. Those discussions established a new core focus on preserving and enhancing the cultural and natural resources of the Susquehanna River corridor through Lancaster and York Counties. This focus on the river also led to a new name for the region in 2008 - the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area - with the Susquehanna Heritage Corporation serving as the not-for-profit management entity. Today the organization has a ten-year track record of successful heritage development activities across York and Lancaster Counties and along the Susquehanna River.

## Topographic Features

The topographic features of Native Lands County Park, Klines Run Park and the Zimmerman Center as described as follows.

Native Lands County Park rises above the Susquehanna River valley with the bulk of the property situated between 12 and 182 feet above the river. The park contains a triple watershed divide, the highpoint between the Susquehanna River, Canadochly Creek and Klines Run, located at an elevation of 408'. Klines Run is located along the northern boundary of Klines Run Park and flows out



of the park at an elevation of 226', while Canadochly Creek is located along Native Lands Park's southern border and flows off of the property at an elevation of 234' along the parks southern border. The existing farm lane access onto Long Level Road leaves the park property at an elevation of 238'

In addition to the picturesque views of the site and the Susquehanna River valley from the watershed divide, several other view sheds are located throughout the property at elevations of 378', 362', and 340'.

The site analysis identifies the locations of steep slopes (15 to 25%) and very steep slopes (>25%). These slopes are primarily associated with the stream valleys and the steep river valley facing the Susquehanna River. Otherwise the Native Lands County Park property is generally characterized as having a moderately rolling topography.

## Zoning /Deed Restrictions/Easements

Native Lands County Park, Klines Run Park and the Zimmerman Center all fall within the Lower Windsor Township Agricultural Zoning District. Further, due to presence of sensitive environmental features portions of the properties are within the Restricted Development Overlay District. Last, portions of each property that front Long Level Road (State Route 624) are also located within the Waterfront Overlay District.

Further, as a result of the property acquisition, the following terms were agreed upon.

### WASTEWATER TREATMENT EASEMENTS

#### *Wastewater Treatment Plant*

The Lakeside East and West subdivisions contemplated a wastewater treatment facility located on Lakeside East to serve the required needs of both subdivisions and potentially the required needs of the owners remaining subdivisions. Therefore the county has agreed to allow the owners to reserve areas for wastewater treatment and disposal on Lakeside East.

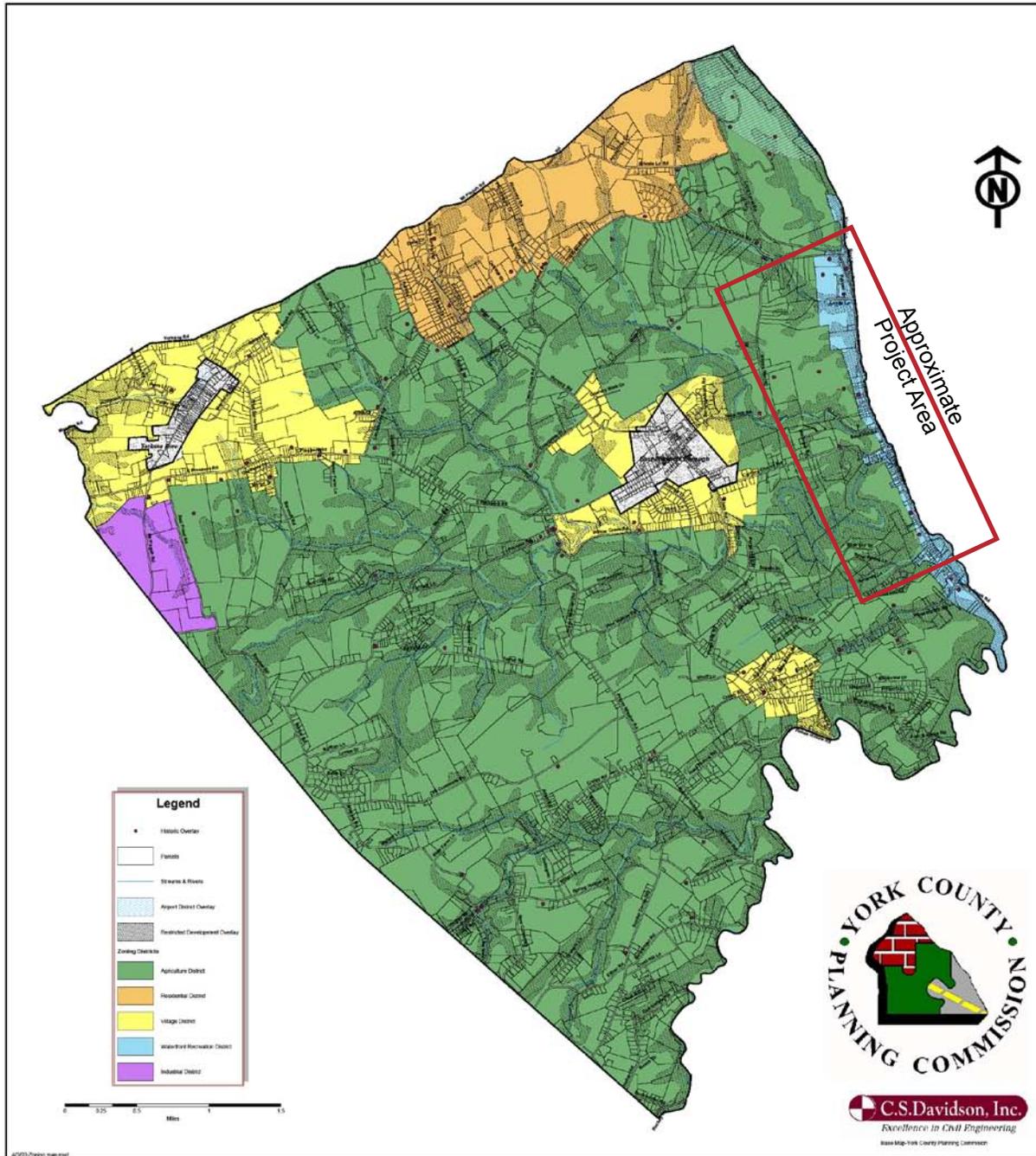
Therefore, in conveying Lakeside East to the county, the owner assigned an easement on Lakeside East for the construction and operation of a wastewater treatment plant to serve the owners remaining subdivisions, including, inter alia, Lakeside West. The Treatment Plant, and the method of in ground disposal of the treated wastewater will be designed in accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the owner shall be permitted to construct and operate the plant and disposal facilities required.

The Treatment Plant shall be completely enclosed in either the existing barn located in the wastewater treatment easement area or in a new building, designed to look externally like a farm structure, located in the wastewater treatment easement area. In addition, any storage facilities needed for the operation and/ or permitting of the treatment plant shall be fully enclosed and shall be located in the wastewater treatment easement area. However, if any governmental or regulatory body having jurisdiction requires the treatment plant to be located in the portion of the western side of Lakeside East allocated for that purpose on the Lakeside East subdivision the County and the owners shall mutually establish a revised wastewater treatment easement Area at the required location, together with an access easement for physical access and transmission of sewage to, and treated effluent from, the treatment plant.

# LOWER WINDSOR TOWNSHIP

## York County, Pennsylvania

ZONING MAP (09/15/11)



The treatment plant and all other improvements to be constructed in the wastewater treatment easement area shall be constructed by, or on behalf of, and shall be owned by a franchised public utility company, duly created municipal authority or the township during the period during which they own said facilities), and the treatment plant and related facilities shall be operated by an operator licensed by PaDEP.

#### *Treated Wastewater Reclamation Easement*

In conveying Lakeside East to the County, the owners also reserve an easement on Lakeside East for the construction and operation of in ground disposal facilities, treated wastewater reclamation facilities, for the treated effluent from the Treatment Plant to serve the owners remaining subdivisions. The facilities shall be located underground except for any above ground access or control facilities. The facilities and all other improvements to be constructed in the treated wastewater reclamation easement area shall be constructed by, or on behalf of, and shall be owned by the treatment facilities owner, and shall be operated by an operator licensed by the PaDEP. The surface areas of the treated wastewater reclamation easement area may be used by the County for any uses approved by the PaDEP including agricultural uses (that do not involve plowing).

#### *Wastewater Treatment Facilities for the Owners Subdivisions*

The County acknowledges that the owners remaining subdivisions may be designed in stages over time and may change in content during the approval process. The treatment facilities shall be constructed to permit gradual expansion as the owners remaining subdivisions come on line. However, the easements shall each expire on October 31, 2018, if the owner has failed to obtain PaDEP permits for the construction of the initial phase of the treatment plant and the treated wastewater reclamation facilities.

#### **WASTEWATER TREATMENT EASEMENT FEE**

The owner shall cause the treatment facilities owner, as a condition to accepting ownership of the treatment plant, to agree to make a payment to the County on or before the 31st day of January each year during the existence of the wastewater treatment easement as an annual easement payment in the amount \$10.00 for each 1,000 gallons of average daily flow, less any flows from the County.

#### *County Use of Treatment Facilities*

The owner shall if requested in writing by the County on or before February 28, 2009, design the treatment plant and treated wastewater reclamation facilities for up to 5,000 gpd of flow from the County in connection with the County's use of Lakeside East and any adjacent lands used or owned by the County. The notice from the County shall state the projected flows and shall identify the projected nature of the source and content of said flows. The owner shall include the county capacity in the planning module and sewer permit submissions and shall cause facilities to be constructed to allow the treatment and disposal of the county capacity without any capital cost to the county. The county shall be responsible to design, permit and construct all conveyance facilities needed to convey the county capacity to the treatment plant, all at the county's sole cost and expense. The county conveyance facilities shall be located and constructed so as to not interfere with or adversely affect the treatment plant or the treated wastewater reclamation facilities. The county facilities shall include a meter to measure and record the amount of flow conveyed by the county to the treatment plant. Upon completion of construction of the treatment plant and treated wastewater Reclamation facilities to include the county capacity, and the connection of the county conveyance facilities, the county shall commence to pay user fees for the treatment provided at the regular rates established for users of the treatment facilities.

#### *Wastewater Facilities and Park Trail System*

During the design of the wastewater facilities, the county and the owner shall collaborate to insure that the county will be able to locate its trail system and access facilities for its proposed park within the area of the wastewater easements in a manner that both provides a functioning trail and access system and does not impair the location or functioning of the wastewater facilities.



# NATIVE LANDS COUNTY PARK & Adjacent Parks, Trails & Heritage Sites

York County Department of Parks & Recreation  
[www.yorkcountyparks.org](http://www.yorkcountyparks.org)



Funding for development of this trail guide was provided in part by:



Special thanks to Paul Nevin, Jan Klinedinst, Dana Shirey and Bob Leibhart for their generous contributions of historical information and images for this guide.

## **AGRICULTURAL LEASE**

The County does not necessarily intend to use Lakeside East for park or public purposes immediately after its acquisition from the owner and would like to provide for the continued low impact agricultural use of all or a portion of Lakeside East until it is intended for actual public use. To achieve this intent, the county shall offer to lease all or any portion of the area of Lakeside East to the owner for agricultural use. The owner shall be entitled to lease, on a year to year basis, as much of Lakeside East as the owner may, from time to time, desire to lease, subject to the right of the county to exclude areas it intends to use.

If, after the commencement of the lease, the county desires to convert any portion of the agricultural lease area to public or park use, the county may remove land from the lease area from time to time by giving 6 months written notice to the owner, accompanied by a desk top legal description of the land being removed.

The lands leased hereunder shall be subject to the terms of the form agricultural lease which lease shall include, inter alia, the following terms: (a) the leased land shall only be used for crops (no livestock); (b) the lease rate for the first 4 years shall be \$1 per year; (c) thereafter the annual rate in the fifth year shall be \$45.00 per used acre, and shall increase by \$1.35 per used acre each year thereafter; (d) the owner shall give the County 6 months notice of their intent to stop leasing all or any part of the land at the end of the then current lease term; (e) the owner shall bear the risk of loss of any non-seasonal crops, trees, plants, etc. that the owner cultivates on land removed from the agricultural lease area; (f) the County shall construct any necessary barriers, such as fencing, in order to protect the owner's crops from tampering by park visitors; (g) the owner shall indemnify and hold harmless the county from any claims related to injuries or damage caused to Lakeside East or any person or entity by the agricultural activities on Lakeside East; and (h) the county shall indemnify and hold harmless the owner from any damage to crops caused by county agents or park visitors. Notwithstanding, the county does not waive immunities afforded it by statute.

## **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

### *Plaque*

The County shall install a plaque honoring Laura B. Kohr in a mutually agreed-upon location within the park. The plaque shall have language proposed by the Kohr family, which language shall be subject to approval by the county commissioners, which approval shall not be unreasonably delayed, conditioned or denied. The Kohr family shall pay the cost of creating and erecting the plaque. In addition, the county shall consider naming one or more of the facilities or areas in the proposed park in honor of Laura B. Kohr. Before so naming any such area or facility, the county shall notify the Representative of the Kohr Family, identifying the area or facility, and shall only so name the area or facility in honor of Laura B. Kohr, upon receipt of written consent to the naming proposal from the representative of the Kohr Family.

### *Non-Compete*

While the intent of the parties is that the county not be restricted from conducting normal park operations, the parties hereby agree that the county shall not compete with the owner's operations at Lauxmont Farms by conducting business operations at Lakeside East in competition with the owner. The following is a list of business activities that are prohibited at Lakeside East for so long as the

activity is conducted as a business at Lauxmont Farms.

1. The County shall not develop Lakeside East with any sort of residential development. Any such future residential development of Lakeside East, by the County, shall constitute a breach of this Agreement.
2. The County shall not engage in an enterprise with a primary purpose as a venue for wedding receptions.
3. The County shall not engage in an enterprise with a primary purpose or focus of making, marketing, distributing or selling ice cream or frozen desserts. The County may offer ice cream for sale in a gift store or like establishment.

#### *No Proprietary Interest*

No proprietary interest in the name “Lauxmont” is being transferred to the county as a part of this settlement or the conveyance of Lakeside East. The county shall not use the name “Lauxmont” in any fashion or for any reason associated with its use of Lakeside East.

#### *Hunting and Trapping*

No hunting or trapping shall occur in the Lease Area without written permission of both parties.

## Surrounding Land Uses

Adjacent properties along the western side Long Level Road (state Route 624) are single family residential in nature, while properties on the eastern side of Long Level Road are a mix of commercial and residential uses. Commercial uses are primarily private boat marinas and other boating related businesses. In addition, some of the adjacent land is owned by Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation.

Properties immediately south of the Zimmerman Center are residential in nature. Properties north of Klines Run Park are a mix of commercial and residential uses. Commercial uses are primarily private boat marinas and other boating related businesses.

Native Lands County Park is immediately adjacent to the western edge of the Zimmerman Center and Klines Run Park. Immediately west of Native Lands Park properties are either single family residential or agricultural in nature.

## Site Access

Native Lands County Park, Klines Run Park and the Zimmerman Center can all be accessed from Long Level Road (State Route 624) which passes along the eastern side of the properties. The posted speed limit in the vicinity of the properties is 40 MPH. Formal vehicular accesses exist into Klines Run Park and the Zimmerman Center. Access to Native Lands Park is through an easement, that is currently of a private farm lane character.

Access to Klines Run is provided via an access road into the park. From the access road there are several opportunities to travel to various portions of the property via separate access roads. The intersection of these access roads, located immediately upon entering each of the two access points from Long Level Road, could be consolidated and better organized to eliminate confusion and provide for more controlled and functional flow of traffic.

Native Lands also has frontage on Klines Run Road, located along a portion of the park's western border. Currently there is no public access to Native Lands Park from Klines Run Road. There is a private driveway and utility easement which leads to the single family residential property located north of the park, along Klines Run Road. Further, the barn located on the 1.287 acre property containing the Water Treatment Easement is served from a private drive from Klines Run Road.

## Existing Trails

Upon acquiring and establishing Native Lands County Park the County, working in conjunction with the Mason Dixon Trail System, the Susquehanna Heritage Gateway Area, and Safe Harbor Power and Water Corporation, have established a network of primitive trails within their respective properties. As noted earlier, the Mason Dixon Trail connects all of the properties being studied, and to Wrightsville Borough to the north, and to Lock 2 to the south. The Mason Dixon Trail is a primitive and rugged hiking trail. Given the terrain and topography that the trail negotiates the trail can be challenging and is not appropriate for persons with temporary or permanent mobility disabilities.

On the site analysis we evaluated the running slope of the trails, as a running slope over 10% is generally considered unsustainable. Trail running slopes are color-coded in accordance with their running slopes: less than 10%, between 10% and 15%, and greater than 15%. Trails on the Native Lands property generally fall within the recommended guideline, while the Mason Dixon Trail in Klines Run Park, and the Native Lands Heritage Trail from the Zimmerman Center to Native Lands County Park contain running slopes which will not be sustainable over time. The master planning process will look for opportunities to re-route these section of trails to be more sustainable.

## Cultural Resources Review

During the planning process staff of the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission provided information regarding known archeological sites located within the park. Several known sites are present on the properties. Given the sensitive nature of the resources the location and findings are confidential. The information on the sites will be used to guide the master planning process. Depending on the type and extent of earth disturbing activities associates with future improvements on the properties, it is likely that archeological investigation will be required.

## Environmental Issues

A review of the PA DEP EMap indicates there are no documented environmental issues associated with the properties.

## Soil Types

A review of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Survey and the Lower Windsor Township Comprehensive Plan identified soils that are hydric or unsuitable for on-lot sewage discharge. Hydric soils are those that are 'sponge-like', that hold and retain water rather than allowing water to drain through the soil. Hydric soils are one of three wetland indicators, the others being presence of standing water and water loving (hydrophytic) plants. To be considered a wetland, all three components must be present. Regardless of whether or not a wetland is present, hydric soils should be avoided as they filter stormwater runoff and they are more costly to develop.

## Vegetation, Forest, Landscape & Habitat Blocks

The landscape of the properties is indicative of the areas past farming history. Areas of level to moderate topography, well draining soils, and productive soils were historically farmed in the lower Susquehanna valley. A large percentage of the Native Lands County Property is in this category, and today the County continues to manage hay fields for agricultural feed production. The County leases the fields to a farmer who seasonally harvests the hay from the fields.

The remaining areas not suitable for hay production due to their soils characteristics or steep topography are forested, and contain everything from immature timber to mature pole timber, with the later being primarily associated with Klines Run Park. In Klines Run Park the understory is manicured lawn, while the understory on Native Lands County Park, and the undeveloped portion of the Zimmerman Center property is successional in nature, with some invasive species present, especially in areas of the properties that were formally farmed. Invasive species include multiflora rose, autumn olive, honeysuckle, common privet, tree-of-heaven, and poison ivy.

## Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory

A Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory environmental review, ID No. 20120525356460 was completed for the project area to determine if species of special concern (rare, threatened, or endangered) may be located within or in the vicinity of the property. This review indicated a species of special concern under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission may be located on or in the vicinity of the property. The PFBC has legal jurisdiction governing the catching, taking, killing, importation, introduction, transportation, removal, possession, selling, offering for sale or purchasing of threatened and endangered species including fish, reptiles, amphibians, aquatic invertebrates (like crayfish and mayflies) and freshwater mussels.

Should any improvements be proposed to the properties additional further review with the PFBC is necessary to determine whether the improvements would have any impact of the species of special concern. Likely the species are associated with the Susquehanna River itself, and therefore, there may be no impact.

A review of the York County Natural Heritage Inventory indicates there are no known rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species located within the study area.

Conejohela Flats Important Bird Area (IBA) is located immediately east on the entire study area, from Wrightsville to the north, south to the Safe Harbor Dam. This IBA is one of the most significant inland stopover sites in the eastern United States for tens of thousands of shorebirds. It is located within the Susquehanna River Flyway (part of the Atlantic Flyway) a heavily used migration corridor for other bird species including thousands of migrating raptors, waterfowl, waterbirds, and passerines (including neotropical migrants). Over 260 species have been observed within this IBA.



## Hydrology, Wetlands, Floodplains, and Riparian Buffers

As noted earlier, three watersheds are associated with the Native Lands County Park, Klines Run Park, and the Zimmerman Center properties. They include Canadochly Creek, Klines Run, and the Susquehanna River.

Pennsylvania Code, Chapter 93, establishes and defines the water quality standards for waters of the commonwealth. Each of these watersheds are classified as:

- WWF Warm Water Fishes—Maintenance and propagation of fish species and additional flora and fauna which are indigenous to a warm water habitat.
- MF Migratory Fishes—Passage, maintenance and propagation of anadromous and catadromous fishes and other fishes which move to or from flowing waters to complete their life cycle in other waters

Further, each has obtained the corresponding PA DEP 104 water quality attainment standards.

### Point Source Discharges

A review of the properties indicates there are limited point source discharges of stormwater run off. That said, the point source discharges from the inlets in the lower parking lot of Klines Run Park daylight directly into the Susquehanna River. The master plan should explore options for improving the water quality of this parking lot stormwater run off before it reaches the Susquehanna River.



## Existing Facilities

There is a diversity of facilities located within each of the properties. The following is a brief summary by property.

### **NATIVE LANDS COUNTY PARK**

Native Lands County Park is primarily undeveloped, with the exception of the Mason Dixon and Native Lands Heritage Trails described earlier. The remaining components of this park are elements associated with the property's past. They include the Dritt Family Cemetery, a farmstead home, and the previously discussed archeological sites.

Dritt Family Cemetery is the family cemetery plot of the Dritt Family, pioneers of the region. As indicated earlier, the Jacob Dritt Mansion, now the John & Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Pleasant Garden, home to the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area. The mansion is believed to have been built in the 1730s or 1740s. It became known as the "Dritt Mansion" when Capt. Jacob Dritt resided there from 1773 to 1817. Jacob Dritt, who fought with militia from York in the American Revolution, drowned in the Susquehanna River in December 1817. His body was found on a plantation in Maryland and is believed to have been buried there. Jacob's wife, Elizabeth, two children, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, are buried in the cemetery. Six other known burials of Dritt family members spanning four generations are buried there. The last was Emmanuel Dritt who died in 1879.



The farmstead was evaluated in 2009 by an architectural historian for Historic York, Inc. That evaluation offered the following.

The 2-1/2 story vernacular dwelling probably was constructed around the mid-19th century. Historic York, Inc. was contacted about the possibilities for this building's future. Options considered included: demolition, properly boarding it up for safety and security, and/or it could be mothballed for future restoration. Historic York's findings concluded that based on their current knowledge the building is not an especially important resource, and that its extremely deteriorated condition does not make it feasible to consider restoration. This

evaluation was further confirmed through the master planning process, when the structure was reviewed by a registered architect. Given there is no roof protecting the structure, it is in a state of rapid decline. Possible recommendations include removing the structure to the root cellar, and preserving the root cellar for interpretation. Further, there are two other structures associated with the farmstead. One is a garage, which has no architectural value and should be removed, and the second is a stone barn foundation which could be adaptively re-used if so desired.





The final building located on the Native Lands County Park property is that of a barn, located on the 1.287 acre wastewater treatment easement property. The barn has no architectural significance, and in its current condition is experiencing rapid decline. Upon expiration of the easement in 2018 the barn should be evaluated to determine if it can be salvaged and adaptively re-used or if it should be demolished.

Due to its poor condition the barn was demolished in December 2014.

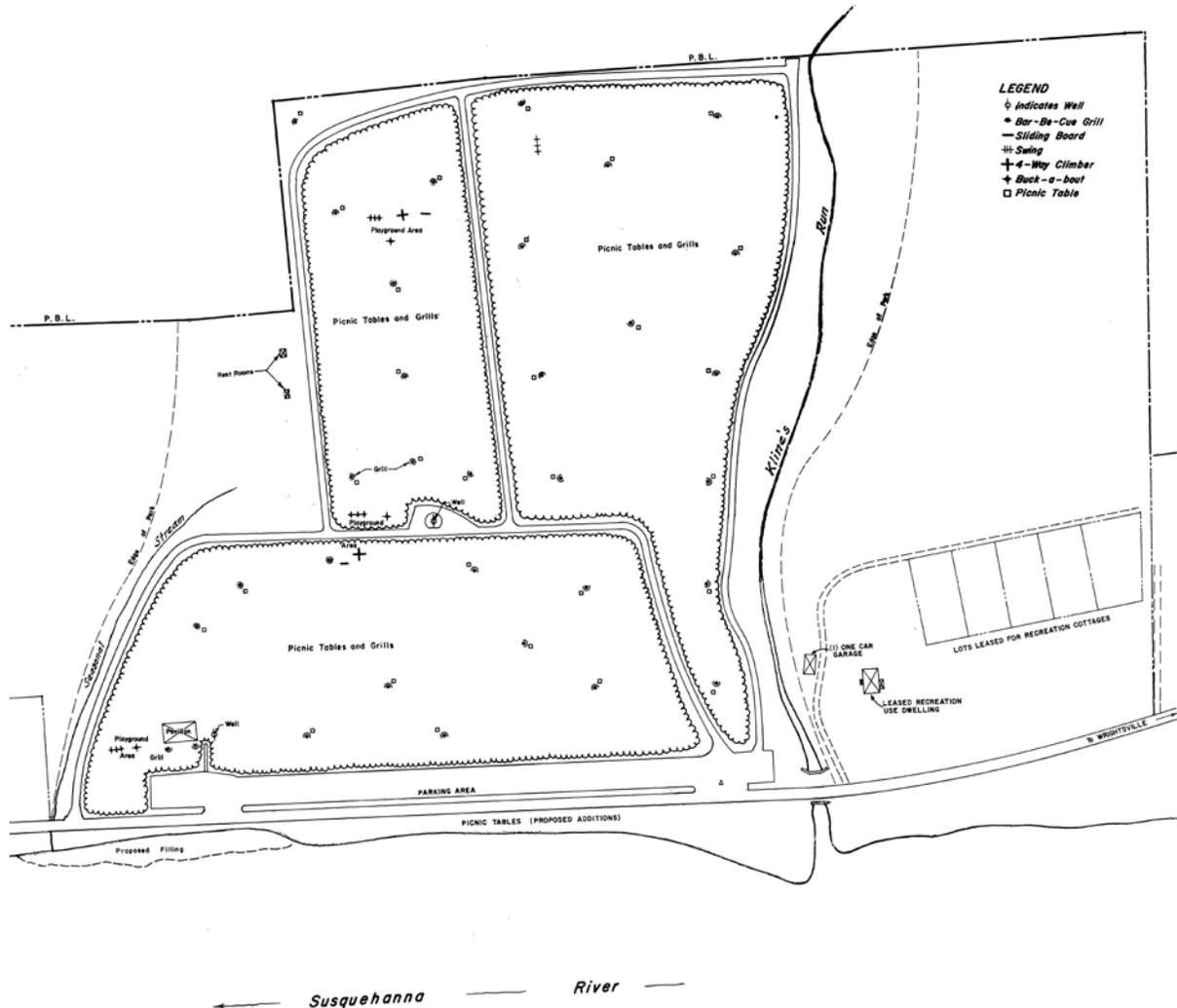




## KLINES RUN PARK

Facilities at Klines Run Park include a picnic shelter with the capacity to accommodate approximately 100 people, a playground adjacent to the picnic shelter, and several picnic groves that include picnic tables, and playground apparatus which typically includes a swing set, sliding board, and dome climbing structure.

The map below from Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation, dated, 1991, indicates the locations of the various Klines Run Park facilities. Many pieces of play apparatus at the picnic groves have been removed.





The shelter is located over twenty steps up from the lower parking area. That said, there is a vehicular road that rises up around the left side of the shelter should someone require accessible access to the shelter. The shelter's defining character and architectural style could be improved with future renovation of the shelter.



The playground adjacent to the shelter is located on cross slope which is not accessible and not ideally suited for a play area. Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation maintains portable restrooms on the property, including an accessible unit, which is accessible from an adjacent accessible parking space.

The majority of the picnic groves do not have an accessible parking area and/or accessible route to nearby picnic tables and play areas.





## JOHN & KATHRYN ZIMMERMAN HERITAGE CENTER AT PLEASANT GARDEN

The Zimmerman Center, renovated in the late 1990's. It appears the NPS Guidelines for the Rehabilitation of Historic Structures was followed in the rehabilitation of the building. As of this writing the following improvements are being constructed: water trail landing with floating dock for power/non-power watercraft, canoe/kayak launch, boat access deck/bulkhead, boardwalk and interpretive pavilion; shorefront wetland/native plant garden; pedestrian road crossing; pedestrian pathways; access drive/parking enhancements; interpretive signage; and landscaping, site amenities and stormwater facilities. The new site improvements are scheduled be completed in the Spring of 2014.

The project also includes building renovations to make interior areas accessible, accommodate a range of visitor exhibits and programs and complement the exterior enhancements. Proposed building improvements include: new and renovated entrances, interior circulation, stairways and restroom facilities to make the building accessible; new and renovated exhibits, program and administrative spaces to support the building's expanded role as a visitor welcome and interpretive center, including re-programming of existing spaces; and new interpretive exhibits focused on the river as a corridor of culture and commerce and the building's historic role in trade and transportation along the waterway.

The total exterior project is approximately \$1.5 million. Construction funding is available through a \$1 million federal Transportation Enhancement award. Other construction, design, permitting and project costs total almost \$300,000, has been secured from national and state partners, including: National Park Service/ Chesapeake Bay Gateways & Watertrails Network; PA Fish & Boat Commission; and PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.



As noted earlier, the trail connecting the Zimmerman Center with Native Lands County Park exceeds the desired running slope, maximum 10%, for a sustainable trail. Further, it is not accessible to those with mobility disabilities. That said, given the terrain, character of the trail, and character of the surrounding landscape it is not desirable or feasible to increase the accessibility to the trail. However, there may be opportunities to re-route the trail to reduce its running grade and increase its sustainability.



# HIGHPOINT SCENIC VISTA & RECREATION AREA

## Ownership, Location and Acreage

Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area is owned by York County. It is 74.2 acres in size, and located on property bounded by Long Level Road (State Route 624), Hilts Road, and Knights View Road.

## Topographic Features

Named for its prominent topographic location, Highpoint provides an extraordinary 360 degree view of the surrounding York County landscape. Further, from this vantage point many historical, cultural, and environmental resources can be seen to the north and south, along the lower Susquehanna River valley. The elevations at Highpoint range from 720 at the scenic vista, to a low of 414 at the intersection of Long Level Road (State Route 624) and Hilts Road. The entrance and parking area sit at an elevation of 620 feet, leaving a vertical change of approximately 100 feet in elevation between the parking area and the scenic vista.

The site analysis identifies the locations of steep slopes (15 to 25%) and very steep slopes (>25%). These slopes are primarily located along Long Level Road and Hilts Road. That said the remaining portions of the property are moderately sloped.



## Zoning /Deed Restrictions/Easements

The property is zoned residential, refer to the Lower Windsor Township Zoning Map located on page 45. It is also located in the Restricted Development Overlay District.

### EASEMENTS

The Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County holds a conservation easement on the property. The conservation easement seeks to promote the stewardship of the natural resources and open spaces within the Conservation Area to insure the public enjoyment of the open space and preservation of the scenic view shed.

This Conservation Easement provides protection of the Conservation Area so as to achieve the goals and resource protection objectives for the property set forth below:

### RESOURCE PROTECTION OBJECTIVES

#### *Forest and Woodland Resources*

The easement seeks to promote biological diversity and to perpetuate and foster growth of a healthy woodland. Features protected include native species; continuous canopy with multi-tiered understory of trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and grasses; natural habitat, breeding sites and corridors form the migration of birds and wildlife. Species other than native species often negatively affect the survival of Native Species and disrupt the functioning ecosystems. Trees store carbon, offsetting harmful by products of burning fossil fuels and trap air pollution particulates, cleaning air.

#### *Wildlife Resources*

The easement seeks to protect large intact areas of wildlife habitat and connect patches of wildlife habitat. Large habitat patches typically support greater biodiversity and can maintain more ecosystem processes than small patches. Large intact habitats allow larger, healthier populations of species to persist; thus, increasing chances of survival over time. Fragmentation of large habitat often decreases the connectivity of systems, negatively affecting the movement of species necessary for fulfilling nutritional or reproductive requirements.

#### *Scenic Resources*

The easement seeks to preserve the relationship of the scenic resources within the property to the natural and scenic resources in its surrounds such as the Susquehanna River and to protect scenic vistas visible from Long Level Road, Hilt Road, and Knights View Road and other public access points in the vicinity of the property. The property provides a spectacular scenic overlook to the Susquehanna River.

### GOALS

The easement seeks to promote stewardship of the natural resources and open space within the Conservation Area to ensure the public enjoyment of the open space and preservation of the scenic view shed.

### IMPROVEMENTS

#### *Permitted Within Conservation Area*

The following Improvements are permitted within the Conservation Area:

1. Existing Improvements: Any Existing Improvement may be maintained, repaired and replaced in its

existing location. Existing Improvements may be expanded or relocated if the expanded or relocated Improvement complies with requirements applicable to Additional Improvements of the same type.

2. Existing Agreements: Improvements that Owners are required to allow under Existing Agreements are permitted.
3. Additional Improvements: The following Additional Improvements are permitted:
  - Utility Improvements to service the Property must be underground or, subject to Review, may be above ground where not reasonably feasible to be installed underground or where used as a means of providing solar alternative sources of energy. The following Utility Improvements are not permitted: (A) exterior storage tanks for petroleum or other hazardous or toxic substances and (B) Utility Improvements servicing Improvements not within the Property.
  - Site Improvements reasonably required for activities and uses permitted within the Conservation Area.
  - Improvements reasonably required for recreational and educational activities and uses permitted within the Conservation Area. Examples of such improvements are as follows: habitat enhancement devices, educational kiosks, hiking trails covered (if at all) by wood chips, gravel or other highly porous surface, picnicking spots, sitting areas, viewing areas, playground apparatus, restroom facilities, and pavilions.
  - Subject to Review, ecological research, monitoring, restoration, and management improvements necessary to ecologically manage forest, grassland, meadows, etc. such as the installation and maintenance of various types of monitoring equipment including but not limited to water level monitoring devices, soil moisture probes, vegetative and invasive species monitoring plots and devices, herpetological traps and recording devices, deer monitoring plots, enclosures, etc.
4. Limitations on Additional Improvements: Additional Improvements permitted within the Conservation Area are further limited as follows:
  - The Height of Improvements must not exceed 25 feet.
  - Impervious Coverage must not exceed a limit of 2,500 square feet per roofed Improvement. Impervious Coverage must not exceed a limit of 63,000 square feet in the aggregate for all improvements within the Conservation Area. The limitation on aggregate impervious coverage excludes impervious coverage associated with access drives.
  - Subject to Review and Approval no more than one additional Access Drive limited to twenty (20) feet in width and 0.75 miles in length.
  - In addition to Regulatory Signs, signs are limited to a maximum of 100 square feet per sign and 750 square feet in the aggregate for all signs within the property.
  - Wind turbines and cell towers are prohibited.

#### **PERMITTED WITHIN CONSERVATION AREA**

The following activities and uses are permitted within the Conservation Area:

1. Existing Agreements: Activities, uses and Construction that Owners are required to allow under Existing Agreements.
2. Disturbance of Resources
  - Cutting trees, Construction or other disturbance of resources, including removal of invasive

species, to the extent reasonably prudent to remove, mitigate or warn against an unreasonable risk of harm to Persons, property or health of Native Species on or about the Property. Owners must take such steps as are reasonable under the circumstances to consult with Holder prior to taking actions that, but for this provision, would not be permitted or would be permitted only after Review.

- Uses and activities that maintain continuous vegetative cover (other than invasive species) such as conservation farming, meadows, turf, or lawn.
- Planting a diversity of native species of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plant materials in accordance with best management practices.
- Removal of vegetation and other Construction activities the extent reasonably necessary to accommodate Construction of and maintain access to Improvements including recreational landscaping within the Conservation Area with restoration as soon as reasonably feasible by replanting with a diversity of native species of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plant materials in accordance with best management practices.
- Vehicular use (including motorized vehicular use) in connection with an activity permitted within the conservation area or otherwise in the case of emergency.
- Subject to review, removal of vegetation to accommodate replanting with a diversity of native species of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plant materials.
- Sustainable forestry uses in accordance with a resource management plan approved after review.
- Woodland areas within the conservation area may not be used for or converted to agricultural use.
- Other resource management activities consistent with maintenance or attainment of conservation objectives and conducted in accordance with the resource management plan approved for that activity after review.

### 3. Release and Disposal

- Application of substances (other than manure) to promote health and growth of vegetation in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations and applicable law. Within wet areas only substances approved for aquatic use are permitted.
- Piling of brush and other vegetation to the extent reasonably necessary to accommodate an activity permitted within the Conservation Area under this Conservation Easement.

### 4. Recreational and Educational Uses

- Recreational, educational, and Open Space uses that do not require Improvements other than those permitted within the conservation area and do not materially and adversely affect scenic views or maintenance or attainment of conservation objectives such as the following: (i) walking, horseback riding on trails, cross-country skiing on trails, bird watching, nature study, picnicking and (ii) educational or scientific activities consistent with and in furtherance of the conservation objectives.

## LIMITATIONS ON USE AND ACTIVITIES

- Public access is limited to the hours between dawn and dusk.
- Public access may be closed from time to time for public safety reasons and species conservation issues in accordance with a schedule subject to review so as to reasonably accommodate forestry, ecological research and conservation or other activities without unduly restricting public access.
- Subject to review, other reasonable limitations upon the time, place and manner of use may be imposed so as to regulate, but not deny, access.

- Motorized vehicles are prohibited except on the access drives and parking areas or in the case of emergency or in connection with Construction and maintenance of permitted Improvements.
- Smoking or lighting of fires is prohibited unless approved and permitted by the owners and the holder.
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages and narcotic substances, and loud noise is prohibited.
- Trapping and hunting is prohibited unless deemed necessary by the owners and the holder.
- No nature collection of any sort is permitted.
- Wind turbines and cell towers are prohibited.
- Trails may only be used for walking, horseback riding on trails, cross-country skiing on trails, bird watching, nature study.
- Subject to review, the Owners may establish additional limitations on activities and uses that are consistent with other parks owned by York County.

### **RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF HOLDER AND BENEFICIARIES**

The following provisions are incorporated into any provision of this conservation easement that is subject to review:

#### *Notice to Holder*

At least 45 days before Owners begin or allow any construction, activity or use that is subject to review, owners must notify holder of the change including with the notice such information as is reasonably sufficient to comply with review requirements and otherwise describe the change and its potential impact on natural resources within the property.

#### *Notice to Owners*

Within 45 days after receipt of owners' notice, holder must notify owners of holder's determination to (i) accept owners' proposal in whole or in part; (ii) reject owners' proposal in whole or in part; (iii) accept owners' proposal conditioned upon compliance with conditions imposed by holder; or (iv) reject owners' notice for insufficiency of information on which to base a determination. If Holder gives conditional acceptance under clause (iii), commencement of the proposed improvement, activity, use or construction constitutes acceptance by owners of all conditions set forth in holder's notice.

### **Site Access**

Although located adjacent to Long Level Road (State Route 624), posted 45 MPH, the vehicular entrance to the site is located from Hiltz Road, posted 35 MPH, near its intersection with Knights View Road, posted 40 MPH.

### **Cultural Resources Review**

During the planning process staff of the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission indicated there are no known archeological sites associated with this property.



## Existing Trails

There are several existing trails located within the Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area. As noted earlier the Mason Dixon Trail passes through the property. In addition to the Mason Dixon Trail there are several internal trails, they include:

- Accessible compacted stone path - extends from the parking area to the vista, total distance 0.45 mile. The path is experiencing erosion and washouts from stormwater runoff. The trail is insloped. We recommend the county consider outsloping the trail and constructing dips along the trail at intervals of approximately 300' to collect and divert water from the trail surface.
- East Meadow Trail - begins and returns to the accessible path, total distance 0.40 mile. The trail consists of a mowed path through the existing meadow.
- Lower Meadow Trail - begins and returns to the accessible path, total distance 0.50 miles. The trail consists of mowed path through the existing meadow.



On the site analysis we evaluated the running slope of the trails, as a running slope over 10% is generally considered unsustainable. Trail running slopes are color-coded in accordance with their running slopes: less than 10%, between 10% and 15%, and greater than 15%. The master planning process will look for opportunities to re-route these section of trails to be more sustainable.



## Environmental Issues

A review of the PA DEP EMap indicates there are no documented environmental issues associated with the property.

## Soil Types

A review of the USDA NRCS Soil Survey and the Lower Windsor Township Comprehensive Plan identified soils that are hydric or unsuitable for on-lot sewage discharge. Hydric soils are those that are 'sponge-like', that hold and retain water rather than allowing water to drain through the soil. Hydric soils are one of three wetland indicators, the others being presence of standing water and water loving (hydrophytic) plants. To be considered a wetland, all through components must be present. Regardless of whether or not a wetland is present, hydric soils should be avoided as they filter stormwater runoff and they are more costly to develop.

## Vegetation, Forest, Landscape & Habitat Blocks

The landscape of the properties is indicative of the areas past farming history. Areas of level to moderate topography, well draining soils, and productive soils were historically farmed in the lower Susquehanna valley. A large percentage of the Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area property is in this category, and today the County manages these as grasslands and leases the fields to a farmer who seasonally harvests the grasses.

The remaining areas not suitable for hay production do to their soils characteristics or steep topography are forested. The forest is in the early stages, and invasive species, such as multi-flora rose, autumn olive and common privet are prominent in the forested areas on the hillsides adjacent to Hiltz and Long Level Roads. That said, the forest patch is approximately 5 acres in size, and contains the only wooded and shaded environment on the property. The master plan should explore the possibility of creating a woodland trail through this habitat.



## Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory

A Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory environmental review, ID No. 20120525356459 was completed for the project area to determine if species of special concern (rare, threatened, or endangered) may be located within or in the vicinity of the property. This review indicates there are no known rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species located within the study area.

Conejohela Flats Important Bird Area (IBA) is located immediately east on the entire study area, from Wrightsville to the north, south to the Safe Harbor Dam. This IBA is one of the most significant inland stopover sites in the eastern United States for tens of thousands of shorebirds. It is located within the Susquehanna River Flyway (part of the Atlantic Flyway) a heavily used migration corridor for other bird species including thousands of migrating raptors, waterfowl, waterbirds, and passerines (including neotropical migrants). Over 260 species have been observed within this IBA.



A review of the York County Natural Heritage Inventory indicates there are no known rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species located within the study area.

The Conejohela Flats Important Bird Area (IBA) is located immediately east on the entire study area, from Wrightsville to the north, south to the Safe Harbor Dam. This IBA is one of the most significant inland stopover sites in the eastern United States for tens of thousands of shorebirds. It is located within the Susquehanna River Flyway (part of the Atlantic Flyway) a heavily used migration corridor for other bird species including thousands of migrating raptors, waterfowl, waterbirds, and passerines (including neotropical migrants). Over 260 species have been observed within this IBA. The preservation of this property will assist in providing habitat for migrating birds who desire the types of habitat present on the property.

## Hydrology, Wetlands, Floodplains, and Riparian Buffers

Two watersheds are associated with the Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area. They include the Susquehanna River and Klines Run, with the majority of the property being located in the Susquehanna River watershed.

Pennsylvania Code, Chapter 93, establishes and defines the water quality standards for waters of the commonwealth. Each of these watersheds are classified as:

WWF Warm Water Fishes—Maintenance and propagation of fish species and additional flora and fauna which are indigenous to a warm water habitat.

MF Migratory Fishes—Passage, maintenance and propagation of anadromous and catadromous fishes and other fishes which move to or from flowing waters to complete their life cycle in other waters

Further, each has obtained the corresponding PA DEP 104 water quality attainment standards.

## POINT SOURCE DISCHARGES

There are no point source discharges associated with the improvements to this property.

## Existing Facilities

Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area was opened to the public in 2009. Facilities include:

- Paved parking area, 15 spaces and 2 accessible spaces for a total of 17 parking spaces
- Overflow parking area, lawn area adjacent to paved parking area, accessed controlled by gate
- Trails
- Scenic vista with compass rose, seating, and quote
- Portable restrooms with enclosure
- Orientation and information signage with brochure rack

Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area is well designed. The experience from arriving by vehicle and continuing the journey on foot to the scenic vista is awe inspiring do to the careful and thoughtful design of the trail experience.

And when I had asked the name . . . and heard that was called the Susquehanna,  
The beauty of the name seemed to be part and parcel of the beauty of the land . . .  
That was the name, as no other could be, for that shining river and desirable valley.

*Robert Louis Stevenson - 1879*







# Susquehanna Heritage Park

## Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area

### Site Analysis

**Legend**

**Site Analysis**

- Steep Slopes
  - 15 to 25%
  - > 25%
- Floodplain
  - 100 year flood
  - .2% Annual Chance
- Other
  - Wooded
  - Hydric Soils
  - Unsuitable Soils for Sewage Systems
  - Watershed Boundary
- Trail Slope Analysis
  - Slope < 10%
  - Slope 10 to 15%
  - Slope > 15%

**Site Information**

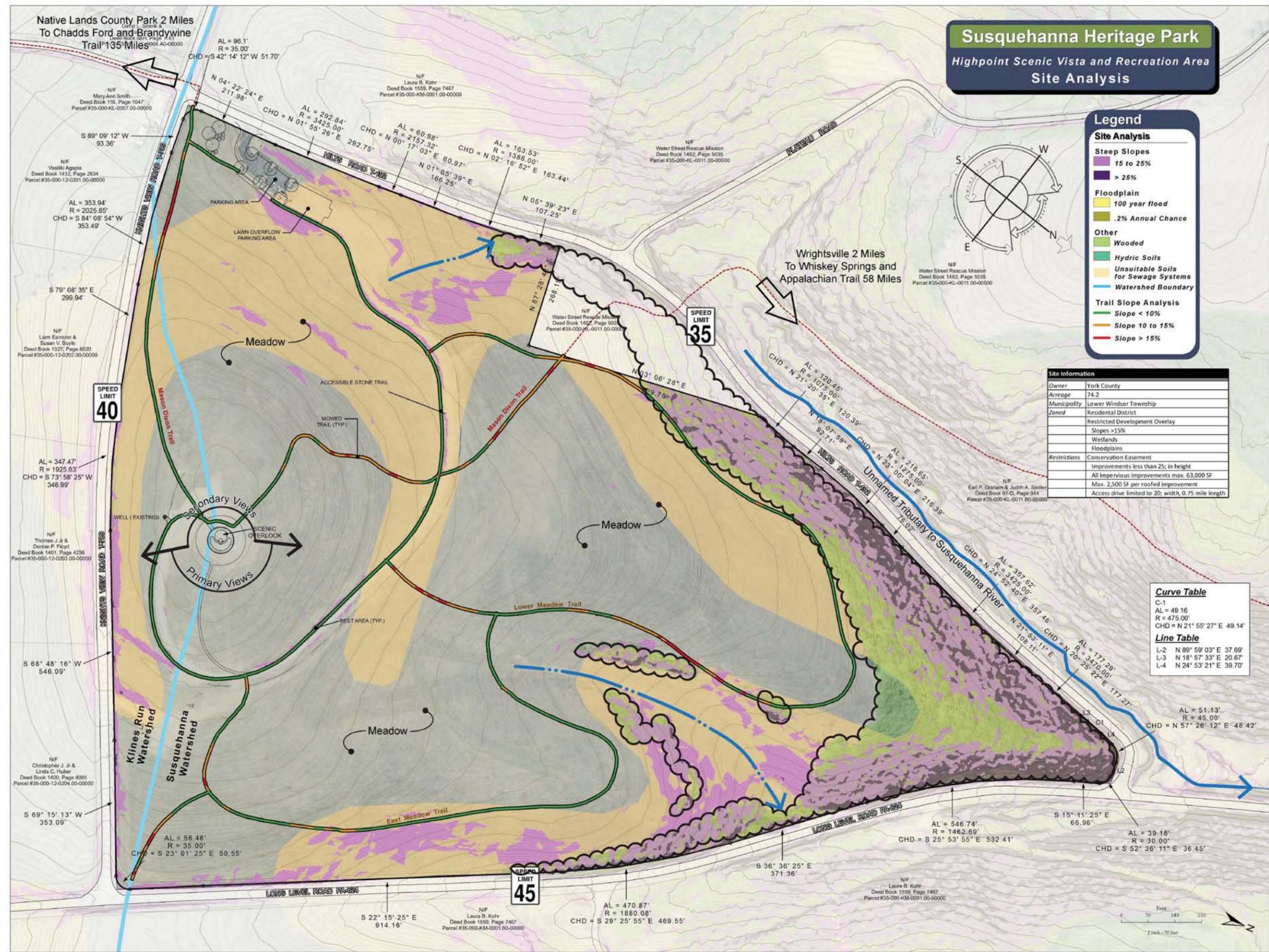
Owner	York County
Acres	74.2
Municipality	Lower Windsor Township
Zoned	Residential District
	Restricted Development Overlay
Restrictions	Slopes > 15%
	Wetlands
	Floodplains
	Conservation Easement
	Improvements less than 25' in height
	All impervious improvements max. 63,000 SF
	Max. 2,500 SF per roofed improvement
	Access drive limited to 20' width, 0.75 mile length

**Curve Table**

C-1	AL = 49.16
	R = 475.00'
CHD = N 21° 55' 27" E	49.14'

**Line Table**

L-2	N 89° 59' 03" E	37.69'
L-3	N 18° 57' 33" E	20.67'
L-4	N 24° 53' 21" E	39.70'



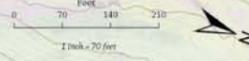
Native Lands County Park 2 Miles  
To Chadds Ford and Brandywine  
Trail 135 Miles

Wrightsville 2 Miles  
To Whiskey Springs and  
Appalachian Trail 58 Miles

SPEED  
LIMIT  
40

SPEED  
LIMIT  
35

SPEED  
LIMIT  
45





## WILTON MEADOWS NATURE PRESERVE

### Ownership, Location and Acreage

Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve is approximately 44 acres in size and is owned by the Lancaster Conservancy. It is the northern most property in this study and is primarily located in Hellam Township with the northern most portion of the property being located within Wrightsville Borough. There is a conservation easement on the property. The site is undeveloped, and the Mason Dixon Trail crosses through the property.

### Topographic Features

Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve is located on a knoll overlooking the Susquehanna River. At the access point on Long Level Road (State Route 624) one enters the property at an elevation of approximately 395 feet. From there, heading east into the meadow, the elevation rises to 458 feet before the steep hillside descends to the Susquehanna River. To the south, the hillside slopes down to Murphy's Hollow, reaching an elevation of approximately 276 feet near the trail access. On the north the topography slopes down to Lockport Lane.

The site analysis identifies the locations of steep slopes (15 to 25%) and very steep slopes (>25%). These slopes are prominent around the knoll, with the existing meadow being the prominent area of less steep slopes. The majority of the property is sloped greater than 15%, and much of that is sloped greater than 25%.

### Zoning /Deed Restrictions/Easements

The property is zoned rural agricultural. It is also located in the Township's Restricted Development Overlay District.

#### EASEMENTS

The Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County holds a conservation easement on the property. The conservation easement seeks to promote the stewardship of the natural resources and open spaces within the conservation area to insure the public enjoyment of the open space and preservation of the scenic view shed.

The conservation easement is similar in all aspects to the conservation easement as described for Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area, with the exception of limitations of additional improvements as they are site specific. For Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve those limitations are defined as follows:

Limitations on Additional Improvements: Additional Improvements permitted within the Conservation Area are further limited as follows:

- The Height of Improvements must not exceed 25 feet.
- Impervious Coverage must not exceed a limit of 2,500 square feet per roofed Improvement. Impervious Coverage must not exceed a limit of 12,500 square feet in the aggregate for all improvements within the Conservation Area. The limitation on aggregate impervious coverage excludes impervious coverage associated with access drives.

- Subject to Review and Approval no more than one additional Access Drive limited to twenty (20) feet in width and 0.75 miles in length.
- In addition to Regulatory Signs, signs are limited to a maximum of 100 square feet per sign and 750 square feet in the aggregate for all signs within the property.
- Wind turbines and cell towers are prohibited.

Otherwise all aspects of the conservation easement are identical to that of Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area.

## Site Access

The site is located on the eastern side of Long Level Road. Currently there is no developed access into the site. The site is accessed on a temporary basis near the vicinity of the Grace Plateau property rear gate (vacated Haugh Road) the located on the western side of Long Level Road.

## Existing Trails

The Mason Dixon Trail passes through the property. It enters the preserve on the northern side from the adjacent County Line Quarry property, crosses the property benched into the steep hillside along the river, wraps around the southern side of the property and exits the property at Long Level Road where it crosses over to the Grace Plateau property. There is also a connector trail that leads to the trail access located on Murphy Hollow Road. The connector trail is blazed with yellow markings.

## Environmental Issues

A review of the PA DEP EMap indicates there are no documented environmental issues associated with the property.

## Soil Types

A review of the USDA NRCS Soil Survey and the Hellam Township Comprehensive Plan identified soils that are hydric or unsuitable for on-lot sewage discharge. Hydric soils are those that are 'sponge-like', that hold and retain water rather than allowing water to drain through the soil. Hydric soils are one of three wetland indicators, the others being presence of standing water and water loving (hydrophytic) plants. To be considered a wetland, all through components must be present. Regardless of whether or not a wetland is present, hydric soils should be avoided as they filter stormwater runoff and they are more costly to develop.

## Vegetation, Forest, Landscape & Habitat Blocks

The landscape of the property is indicative of the areas past farming history. Areas of level to moderate topography, well draining soils, and productive soils were historically farmed in the lower Susquehanna valley. That said, forest succession is underway at the Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve. The central meadow is being overtaken by woody plant material, within several growing seasons the meadow will be gone. Unless there is a desire to maintain the meadow.

The forested portions of the properties are in the early stages, and invasive species, such as multi-flora rose, autumn olive and common privet are prominent on the forested hillsides.

An review of historical aerial photography from [www.pennpilot.psu.edu](http://www.pennpilot.psu.edu) illustrates the changes in the land cover over time.

## Hydrology, Floodplains and Wetlands

The property is located in the Susquehanna River watershed. There are no perennial or intermittent streams located on the property. The Susquehanna River's 100 year floodplain is located along the eastern boundary of the property. The Susquehanna River is classified by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection as a warm water fishery.

A review of the National Wetland Inventory Maps does not identify any jurisdictional wetlands on the property. Further, during the field review conducted for this study no potential wetland areas were observed.

## Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory

A Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory environmental review, ID No. 20120525356436, was completed for the project area to determine if species of special concern (rare, threatened, or endangered) may be located within or in the vicinity of the property. This review indicated a species of special concern under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission may be located on or in the vicinity of the property. The PFBC has legal jurisdiction governing the catching, taking, killing, importation, introduction, transportation, removal, possession, selling, offering for sale or purchasing of threatened and endangered species including fish, reptiles, amphibians, aquatic invertebrates (like crayfish and mayflies) and freshwater mussels.

Should any improvements be proposed to Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve, additional further review with the PFBC is necessary to determine whether the improvements would have any impact of the species of special concern.

## Cultural Resources Review

During the planning process staff of the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission provided information regarding known archeological sites located within the preserve. Several known sites are present on the property. Given the sensitive nature of the resources the location and findings are confidential. The information on the sites will be used to guide the master planning process. Depending on the type and extent of earth disturbing activities associates with future improvements on the properties, it is likely that archeological investigation will be required.

## Existing Building and Structures

There are no existing buildings or structures located on the property.

## Existing Circulation Patterns

There is no vehicular access to the property from Long Level Road (State Route 624). Topography and sight distances severely limit opportunities to provide vehicular access into the property. There may be potential to access the northern portion of the property from Long Level Road. The posted speed limit for this portion of Long Level Road is 45 MPH.

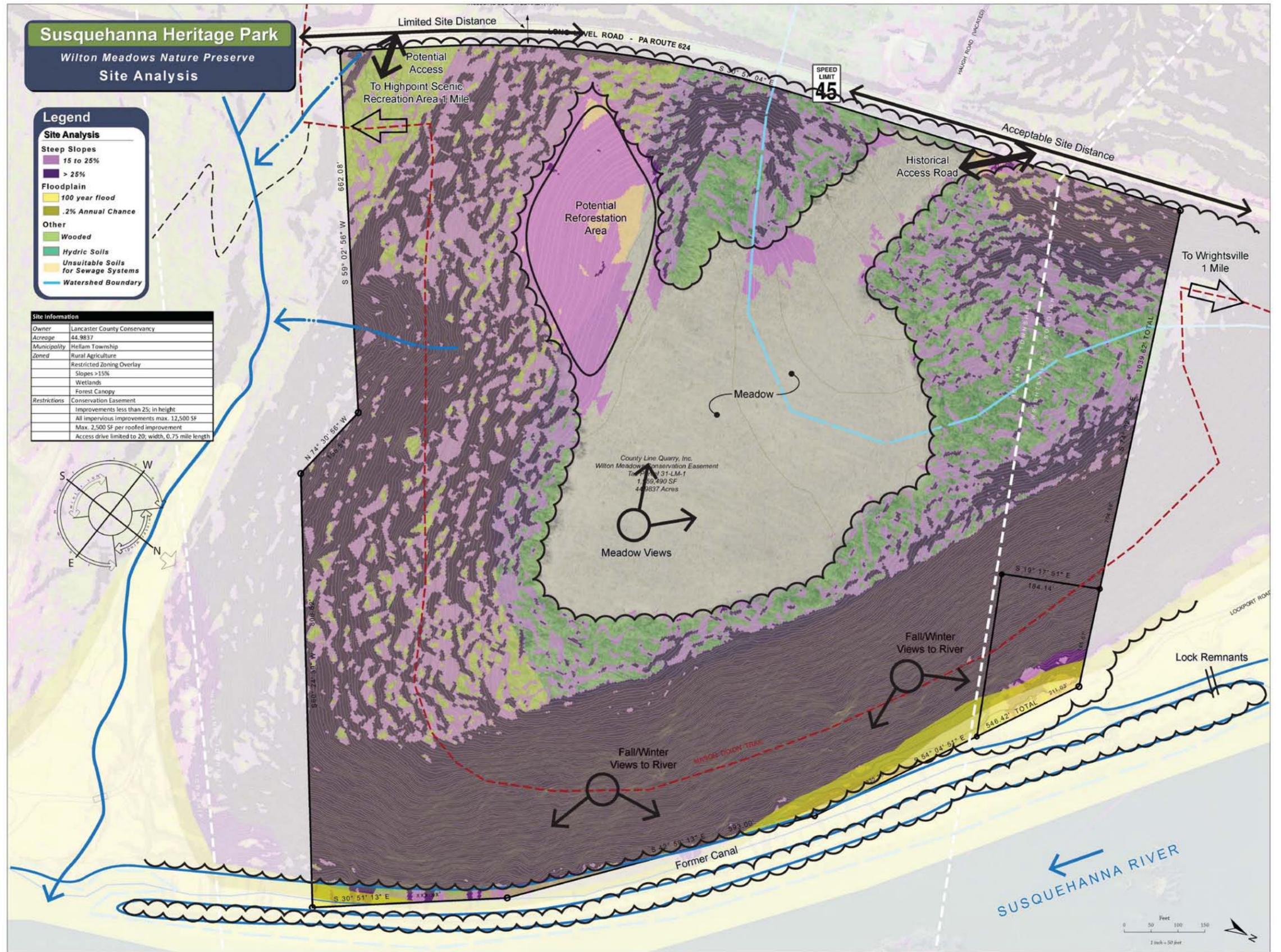
The Mason Dixon Trail provides pedestrian access into and through the property as shown on the Site Analysis.

## Utilities

There are no public utilities in proximity to/serving the property.

## Existing Recreation Facilities

There are no existing recreation facilities located on the property.





## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation is important to ensure the wants, needs, desires of those that will use the properties will be met. Further, it identifies questions and concerns that should be resolved, so the resulting master plan will be supported by stakeholders, decision makers, and members of the community at large. The public participation process for this plan occurred through several venues including:

- Public Input Sessions
- Key Person Interviews
- Steering Committee Meetings

The results of this input are described throughout this plan.

### Steering Committee Meeting - May 3, 2012

The first of several steering committee meetings was held on May 3, 2012 at the offices of the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area, at the Zimmerman Center. Attendees were asked to share their vision for the future of the properties. The following input was provided.

Passive recreation areas that provide opportunities for recreation, interpretation, education, and research, that protects the cultural resources of the property, and that enhances the environmental aspects of the properties.

1. The story of the river, geologic, climatic, and natural history
2. Man and the land – all aspects of their interaction with the environment through history, from pre-historic times to present day.
3. The story of the native people from the petroglyphs on the river, to the Shanks Ferry people and the Susquehannocks.
4. Susquehannock settlement of the area.
5. History and archeology.
6. Cresap story.
7. Canal.
8. Rock art tradition.
9. Story of the ferries that crossed the river.
10. PA MD dispute.
11. Founding families – Dritt, Bonham, and others.
12. Monocacy Path.
13. Bald eagles.
14. Orchards and agriculture.
15. Europeans who lived among the Susquehannocks
16. Dam, Lake Clarke, boating.
17. Story of invasive plants, why they are bad.
18. Heirloom apple trees.
19. Do not duplicate what is already being done in the region.

Attendees then discuss each property.

### **WILTON MEADOWS NATURE PRESERVE**

Should an access point be developed? It was noted that providing vehicular access to the property would be difficult given the topography separation from Long Level Road, and the limited sight distances where topography is suitable for an access. The Lancaster Conservancy indicated their focus is conserving and managing the environment, and that although the properties are open to public use, they are not interested in encouraging heavy use of the properties due to negative environmental impacts.

### **NATIVE LANDS PARK**

Improvements to the property must maintain the feeling that you are on the property 300 years ago, by preserving the beautiful views and vistas, rural landscape. Preserve, protect, encourage research on the culture resources present on the property. Tell the stories associated with the property and its resources. There is an opportunity to enhance and restore wetland along the farm lane. Interpret historic agricultural use of the property. There may be an opportunity to use the old farm lane as primary access to property from Long Level Road. Limit vehicular access to site in a way that it does not visually intrude into the landscape. Provide location(s) for the appropriate repatriation of archeological remains.

### **KLINES RUN PARK**

Ideally the park would be leased from Safe Harbor so it could be managed by an agency that is interested in providing it as a recreation opportunity. Not that Safe Harbor is doing it poorly, but due to the fact that it's not their primary interest. Suggestions for the property included an interpretation center, and less mowing and more environmental stewardship. Need good, accessible pedestrian access between Klines Run Park and Native Lands Park. Provide rest stops along trails.

### **ZIMMERMAN CENTER FOR HERITAGE**

Attendees are aware of the proposed improvements which will include pedestrian and parking improvements on the west side of Long Level Road, a marked pedestrian crosswalk crossing Long Level Road, and a boardwalk and non-motorized boat access on the east side of Long Level Road. Construction of these improvements is expected to begin during 2013.

### **OTHER SUGGESTIONS**

- There is a need a walking trail is needed along the river, paralleling Long Level Road.
- Provide non-motorized recreation opportunities in and between properties.
- Good restrooms are needed.
- Provide opportunities and infrastructure for special events such as festivals.
- Consider reconstruction of a long house, Conestoga wagon, etc. near the interpretive center.

## Public Input Session June 19, 2012

On June 19, 2012 a public input session was held at the Lower Windsor Township Building to introduce the project to attendees and to gather their input regarding the future of the properties. The meeting was well attended by over 80 people.

### June 19, 2012 Public Input Session Summary

- Respect the peacefulness and tranquility of the neighbors
- Respect the landscape – low impact on resources
- Meet the needs of locals and visitors to the area & to the parks
- Expand passive recreation opportunities
- Interpret the stories of the River, Land, and Man
- Connect the parks to the Rivertowns
- Encourage & promote local economic activity

After providing background on the planning process, and the properties within the study area, attendees were asked to provide their input on the future of the properties. They were asked:

- What improvements would you like to see?
- What stories do we want to tell?
- What obstacles/barriers do we need to overcome?

Attendees offered the following input:

- Concerned with increased traffic on Long Level Road
- Incorporate and interpret history along the river – multiple levels, sustainability, etc.
- Need an attraction at Highpoint, market it as an opportunity for photographers and painters
- Interpretive signs/information - pre and post European settlement through today
- Educational opportunities – involve children with history and nature (folks have a passion for telling their stories – involve them
- Regional connectivity with other attractions
- Preserve the natural environment
- Keep natural, values of predecessors that inspire current visitors
- Share knowledge of native lands
- Archaeology preservation, expand beyond here
- Connect people to the land, connection with heritage
- Natives took care of the land because they wanted to come back – connection to the land
- Connect these properties with Samuel Lewis State Park
- Need trees, picnic tables at Highpoint
- Demonstrate sustainable agricultural practices
- Artifacts excavated from site at PHMC, need to return them and display them as previously agreed upon.
- Susquehanna River is a tremendous resource, leverage economic engines of rivertowns
- Provide area within park to repatriate remains of natives that had been previously collected from the site
- What can we improve to make the properties more user friendly or should we leave it alone?
- Respect for all peoples, not just natives
- Connect with Lancaster County Tourism, this area is here because natives and Europeans came together here
- Concern with lack of information for tourists to access emergency services if needed
- Resident/visitor conflicts – need to distribute visitors to reduce/lessen impact on residents
- Highpoint offers the only 360 degree view along the Susquehanna River

- Would like to see a living/working native settlement developed as attraction/education opportunity
- Involve artists in the process of developing interpretive signs and information
- Sidewalk needed between Zimmerman Center and Klins Run Park. Natural pedestrian desire line/ connection
- Make the properties more accessible (ADA)
- Need a walking trail along the river to take pedestrians off of Long Level Road
- Bring in storytellers – good interpretive programs
- Need to establish designated parking areas
- Olympic torch/ flame/ heritage – got to be the right fit for the area
- Marketing and park connections
- Native plant inventory – invasive populations need to be identified and eradicated (tree of heaven and garlic mustard, garlic mustard displacing native trillium)
- Use native plants, rain gardens, etc.
- Careful of change
- Can access to the park be provided from the backside – other than from Long Level Road
- Management of visitors / policing
- Keep the public informed
- Work with neighbors as stewards – should be a priority
- Avoid duplication of efforts, think regionally
- Connections between park and Susquehanna water trail
- Keep as natural as possible
- Night Sky, view stars as natives had, provide access to park at night
- Low impact on resources, composting restrooms
- Crossroads in history – Indian trails and river transit
- Upper Liebhart site – important for it to be included
- Need ADA improvements at Highpoint, hard to get to top
- Capture oral history of long time residents
- What is the attraction that isn't available anywhere else
- Need location where entire heritage can be told - center
- More opportunities needed for river access
- Noise impacts to residents
- Birdwatching opportunities
- Natural history
- Stories to tell – Part of Chesapeake Bay watershed, impact of river on York and Lancaster Counties
- Education and interpretive center – at township building, involve schools
- Connections to Chickees Rock
- Technology – interaction with history, interpretation using technology
- Adventure Cycling Association – Atlantic Coast Bicycle Route Bar Harbor Main to Key West Florida passes through area, awareness and connection
- Roadway history, Bank Hill Road appears to be one of the first roads in the area, western access
- Digitizing the humanities

This input was generally consistent with the input provided by the study committee during this phase of the planning process.

## Public Input Session October 3, 2012

On October 3, 2012 a public input session was held at the Lower Windsor Township Building. 43 people attended this meeting.

The purpose of this meeting was to review what we have learned to date, what input we received to date, review and discuss proposed conceptual alternative master plans for each property, and to receive input from the community to guide the development of master plans for each property.

Attendees offered the following:

- Need to improve accessibility to observation point at Highpoint.
- Lockwood and Murphy's Hollow Lanes – private access only?
- Art – European influences/native American influences.
- Area for longhouse?
- Look at the 'Ultra American Folklore Park' in Ireland as a good example.
- Native Lands 'area' or 'park' designation?
- Preservation of farmhouse root cellar – can/should we preserve residence?
- Liabilities associated with retaining farmhouse ruins
- Farmhouse may have historical connection to Cresap/Maryland history
- How to you protect the Dritt Family Cemetery from vandalism?
- Zimmerman Center – needs to tell the story of our forefathers – the Dritts, currently little to now mention of them.
- Less is more in native lands park / center should be of native design.
- Disconnectivity of sites is a problem.
- Safety of cyclists along Long Level Road is a concern.
- Sites are managed by different owners.
- Highpoint – need benches that are more comfortable along the trail. – make Highpoint more interesting.
- How do you manage parking and traffic?
- Property maintenance – how much will it cost and where will money come from?
- Employ native people as storytellers and reinactors.
- Early sawmill remains still exist on property along stream.
- More interwoven stories about the river are needed.
- Native grasses/meadows vs. lawn – ease of maintenance.
- Maximize volunteerism – plant native plants.
- Develop agricultural interpretive plots.
- Provide adjacent land owners with updates.
- "Native Lands" should be what it is, state as is, need education programs.
- Access to native lands from Klines Run Road
- Long Level Road traffic – fast and slow are issues, too fast not safe for pedestrians/cyclists, too slow impedes locals traveling road. Consider interchanging location of Long Level Road with Klines Run parking area, to place parking along river, where people want to go, traffic calming – subtle change of road direction into and out of park.
- It is who we are . . . what is our legacy?
- Native American theme for playground.
- Maximize cash input, maximize return on agricultural leases.
- Bog turtle preservation.

- Local artist input and how resources will be utilized.
- Opportunities for ephemeral art.

This input was consistent with the input provided by the study committee during this phase of the planning process.

## Public Input Session

### *January 22, 2014*

A third and final public input sessions was held on January 22, 2014 at the Lower Windsor Township Municipal Building. 38 people were in attendance.

The purpose of this meeting was to review and receive input on the master plans developed for each of the properties, review projected construction budgets and recommendations for phased implementation of improvements, and review the County's next steps in adopting the plan.

Those in attendance were pleased with the resulting master plans for each property. Comments focused on the details associated with the master plans such as:

1. Whether the primary entrance to Native Lands should be from Long Level Road or Klines Run Road: We indicated that either entrance could be the primary and with the other entrance functioning as a secondary entrance. The primary concern is the current level of traffic along Long Level Road. We indicated our preference for the Long Level Road entrance to be the primary entrance as it is more centralized within the site and therefore requires shorter walking distances from the parking area to features within the park.
2. Whether a recommendation could be made to consider replacing portions of the warm season tall meadow at Highpoint Scenic Vista & Recreation Area with native grassland and wildflower meadows. We indicated that would be appropriate provided the County agrees to the additional level of care and maintenance activities that may be associated with the change, or partners with an organization who can provide the additional level of care and maintenance.

# Chapter 3

## WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE?

Based on the input received from stakeholders, decision makers, and the community at large, there is a desire to connect and brand the properties under the umbrella of the Susquehanna Heritage Park. Not only will this allow each property to tell its individual story, but also tell the story of the larger lower Susquehanna Valley region. Further, by connecting and branding the properties as one, there is a greater likelihood that this initiative will have a positive economic impact on the rivertowns and businesses located in and around the properties.



Before establishing the vision, goals, and direction of the Susquehanna Heritage Park, it is important to understand who we are as a region, recently defined through the Conservation Landscape branding process.

### WHO WE ARE

The Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape (Susquehanna Riverlands) encompasses a specific portion of the lower Susquehanna River valley and its adjacent lands, parks and river towns within the York and Lancaster counties.



Framed by miles of forested rocky cliffs and rolling hills of the high Piedmont, this is the area where the powerful Susquehanna River decompresses into a stunningly wide gorge and the 3 towns adorning its shores are the ribbon that binds this majestic region (Wrightsville, Columbia and Marietta).

The Susquehanna Riverlands is filled with rich natural wonders and local attractions, including sweeping vista views, exciting water recreation, entertaining river parks, historic sites and exploring the river towns' restaurants and antique shops. The Susquehanna Riverlands also provides an ideal place for the return of America's great Bald Eagles, is home to many unique floral and fauna and showcases prehistoric geology

formations. The area can be explored and enjoyed by most forms of boating, easy to advanced hiking or a leisurely promenade around town.

The Susquehanna Riverlands seeks to enhance the rich landscape of the Susquehanna River corridor through increased land conservation, protection, natural and cultural resource stewardship, increased public connection to these resources, and promoting sustainable economic development strategies keyed to heritage and eco-tourism. We believe that we have a responsibility to preserve the area's natural beauty while spreading the experience the area offers locally, to the State and beyond.

The primary organizing partners for the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape are: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Lancaster County Conservancy, Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area, Lancaster County Planning Commission and York County Planning Commission. The organizing partners are expanding their collaboration with local organizations, businesses, state agencies and local municipalities, federal agencies, and regional and national non-profits to implement this Conservation Landscape place-based strategy. The Susquehanna Heritage Park will be developed in this context.

**The Susquehanna Riverlands... Play. Explore. Experience.**

## Our Story

*This is a unique place  
where many stories come together.*

*Stories of the land -  
the permanent presence of the river -  
and of those before us, who lived their lives  
then pass on.*

*The basic story is of stewardship -  
how we have related to these riverlands,  
sometimes in good ways,  
and sometimes bad.*

*It is a story of hope,  
an inspiration to take care of  
and cherish the stories of place -*

*to learn the stories of this land.*

# SUSQUEHANNA HERITAGE PARK INTERPRETIVE PLAN

## *Lessons and Legacies from the Susquehanna*

Prepared by Glenn A. Vernon, Architect and Interpretive Planner  
Albertin Vernon Architecture, LLC

*Life is like a river. It's a time-tested -some might say time-worn- metaphor that couldn't find a more appropriate setting to explain its lessons than at the place the locals refer to as Long Level, a placid stretch of the lower Susquehanna River that has drawn civilization to its banks for millennia. There are many lessons to learn there from the legacies people left behind on the river's edge; lessons about life and how to live it successfully, or how to avoid making so many mistakes that the things we do right don't matter enough to make a difference. That's a lesson too.*

*The purpose of this interpretive plan is to provide a framework for sharing the lessons learned from the legacies left by the people who were attracted to this river. It also provides a framework for looking forward, for sharing lessons from the people who are still attracted to this river and the legacies they hope to leave behind.*

## PREFACE

We had several interpretive objectives for this project:

First, that the interpretive theme would organically evolve out of our own gradual awareness and understanding of the meaning and significance of the natural, cultural and historic resources of this region as people who live work and visit here shared their stories with us.

Second, that we would find ways to make the visitor's time spent at the parklands as much as possible an experiential journey, one that engaged them in their surroundings- so the hour or the afternoon or the day or the week they spent there might leave them with a feeling almost akin to a religious experience, the feeling that something happened there that might favorably influence the way they live their life from that day forward.

Third, we wanted the messages revealed by those experiences to be something that would be universally understood, so that whatever messages we revealed about the nature of this place would have meaning and relevance to visitors when they went home, regardless of whether home meant down the street, over the hill, or across the ocean.

Fourth, that we would embrace technology the way the public has embraced technology, taking care to ensure that the investment was not huge, but in fact might be far less than what it might have been had we relied on more conventional means of delivering our messages, like signage that all too often becomes a visual intrusion on the landscape that diminishes the authenticity of the visitors experience.

Fifth, that we might push the visitor's comfort zone just enough to be provocative but not enough to be uncomfortable, so that the experience was something visitors might look forward to sharing with others, who then might also be inspired to visit too.

## PURPOSE AND PRIMARY GOALS OF THIS INTERPRETIVE PLAN

The primary purpose of this interpretive plan is to conceptually link the parklands associated with the Susquehanna Heritage Park and the three river towns of Wrightsville, Marietta and Columbia through a set of messages embodied in a central theme that:

1. is consistent with the missions of the various agencies associated with the parklands;
2. has relevance to the varied interests of the potential users of this park;
3. fosters, nurtures and strengthens an awareness and understanding of the significance of the historic, cultural and natural resources associated with those parklands and the three river towns; and
4. inspires users to become stewards of those resources and to support the agencies whose mission it is to preserve, promote and protect them.

## PRIMARY AUDIENCES AND PURPOSES OF THE PARK

The Susquehanna Heritage Park will serve as a regional park for residents and, for visitors, as a Gateway to the natural, cultural and historic resources of the Lower Susquehanna Region.

## Background to the Development of the Central Theme

*“At some remote time in the past, perhaps more than twelve thousand years ago, a single human being became the first person to see the Susquehanna River. In all likelihood he approached the main stem of the river from the west by following the downstream course of one of its tributaries. He did not call it Susquehanna, nor did he stand in great awe of its size and beauty. His people and their ancestors had seen and crossed many rivers in this new land.”*

Barry Kent, **Susquehanna’s Indians** (2001)

The Susquehanna River has been a focal point of the region’s culture, commerce and sense of identity for many hundreds if not many thousands of years. But it was not always so, as Pennsylvania’s former Chief State Archaeologist surmised in the first few sentences of his book about the Susquehanna’s Indians. It would have taken time for people passing through there to acquire an appreciation for its meaning and significance, time for it to become meaningful and significant enough to merit a name, time for its size and beauty to cause them to stand in great awe in its presence.

The typical traveler in today’s mobile society has more than likely crossed many rivers too. How to get them to understand and appreciate the meaning and significance of this river in a short amount of time has been the challenge for interpreters for many years. Fortunately, many already have risen to that challenge. The Lancaster-York Heritage Region’s 2001 **Management Action Plan** lists *The Susquehanna River and Beyond* as one of the defining elements of its Subtheme, *Natural Ways*. Fermatta’s Interpretive Plan for the **Susquehanna Gateway Region’s Conservation Landscape** exclaims, “It’s all about the river.”

The Susquehanna River also figures prominently in the work of many local artists, such as Rob Evans, who grew up on a farm along the river. In 2005, Evans put together a traveling exhibit called Visions on the Susquehanna. The internationally acclaimed exhibit recorded the evolution of democracy in America through the works of master painters who, like him, drew on the Susquehanna River as their subject matter and source of inspiration over the last two and a half centuries. The river is also the unifying theme of the **Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail**, a federally designated water trail linking all the places Smith passed through on his explorations in 1608, or that Native Americans passed through on their much longer journey down the river to see him.

Reaching back even further, we could say the river was also the organizing element of the first interpretive plan recorded for this region, the petroglyphs inscribed by the Native people on the boulders located in the center of the Susquehanna River below Safe Harbor Dam. Like modern day interpretive plans, these petroglyphs convey iconic subjects and ideas the earliest known inhabitants of this region wanted others to know were meaningful and significant to them many centuries years ago.

As Donald A. Cadzow, Archaeologist for the Pennsylvania Historical Commission wrote in a 1934 booklet on the subject called, *Petroglyphs in the Susquehanna River near Safe Harbor, Pennsylvania*,

*“We believe zoomorphic pictographs were used for a great variety of serious purposes. That they were not scrawls made to occupy idle moments has definitely been proved by a continuation of similar symbols among living groups. Some of them represent mythology and religious practices. . . . Others are representations of animals or birds and may indicate success in hunting. Depicted in certain places, they give notice that game can be found in that locality. Undoubtedly, too, records of important events and visitors were perpetuated in stone.”*

Jack Brubaker, author of **Down the Susquehanna to the Chesapeake**, a contemporary account of life along the Susquehanna, describes avocational archaeologist Paul Nevin’s interpretation of the Safe Harbor petroglyphs as iconographic wayfinding symbols, something we might only have expected to find in a comprehensive modern day interpretive plan:

“Nevin developed a much larger view of the Safe Harbor petroglyphs than Cadzow had imagined. . . . He thinks the carvings may have conveyed information about a tribe’s boundaries or hunting grounds, or they may have signified events or sacred places. . . .He [Nevin] knows there is something more when he stands on Footprint Rock. . . .The prints are of bare feet, with toes splayed, the way toes operate when they have never been confined by shoes. . . .[According to Nevin,] ‘When you stand in those footprints, you look directly at the mouth of the Conestoga.’”

Inspired by the lessons we have learned from the many interpretive plans already prepared for this region, we too have chosen the Susquehanna River as the central element of our thematic framework for this park.

### **LESSONS OF PROSPERITY, DECLINE AND REVIVAL FROM THE SUSQUEHANNA**

Many of the people attracted to this river prospered from its bounty. Native Americans pulled shad and eel from its waters and grew crops in the fertile alluvial soils that lined its banks. Early European settlers, like the Wrights and the Dritts, established ferries and lived in magnificent manors along its banks. Visionary leaders and entrepreneurs who followed them built bridges, canals, railroads and highways across and alongside the river. For two centuries, commerce and trade flourished there because of the river.

Frederick H. Abendschein’s Images of America series for **Columbia, Marietta, and Wrightsville**, describes a variety of industries that flourished here:

*“Manufacturing such diverse items as silk, lace, wagons, industrial laundry equipment, stove, cast-iron fittings, portable air compressor, clothes and commercial cast iron all took root in Columbia and grew. At the same time, small businesses such as bakers, a brewery, hotels, livery stables, butchers, shoe and clothing stores, drugstores, restaurants, and corner grocery stores also developed.”*

Business also flourished across the river in Wrightsville, originally the western terminus for the Wrights Ferry, as Columbia was first known, with the opening of the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal in 1840.

*“Over the years, Wrightsville [was] home to such diverse businesses as cigar manufacturing, quarries, limekilns, lumber mills, a silk mill, a flour and feed mill, and hardware manufacturing.”*

Up the river in Marietta, ferries, rafts, the canal and later the railroad brought commerce to town too. Between the mid 19th and early 20th century, six anthracite iron furnaces operated concurrently east of Marietta, due largely to the presence of the river.

Today, Marietta’s industries include a large vaccine manufacturer and a ceiling tile plant. In Wrightsville, a foundry owned by the same family for three generations continues to make cast iron products, while a third generation family owned drugstore still anchors the downtown in Columbia. None of them are still there because of the river though. Likewise, many of the small shops and storefronts that once served the industries that thrived there because of the river are empty now.

The decline of these river towns can be traced- at least in part- to the decline of the industries that depended on the river as a means of power and transportation, but they also were victims of other choices society collectively made. American’s wanderlust for greener pastures led to western expansion and eventually the discovery of superior grades of ore that doomed the eastern seaboard’s iron industry. Their preferences for malls and a suburban lifestyle emptied main streets of commerce and neighborhoods of a sense of community that comes from close living. American’s preferences for automobiles and their decision to subsidize the construction of superhighways and deregulate the trucking and airline industries contributed to the demise of more energy efficient railroads.

Clearly, the lifestyle choices American’s individually and collectively have made and are making now can and have had significant ramifications for the places they live, work and play. This interpretive plan is about learning from those who came to this river before them, about the goals and objectives they had, the choices they made to achieve those goals and objectives, and the legacies they left behind based on the choices they made. But it’s also about the people who live and work there now, the reasons they went there or stayed there, and the choices they are making and the legacies they too hope to leave behind. It’s a plan for a community that believes in its future, is working hard to secure it, and is anxious to share its lessons with anyone else who is willing to listen and learn something from them.

## The Central Theme: Lessons & Legacies from the Susquehanna

The central theme for this project, **Lessons and Legacies from the Susquehanna**, poses two sets of questions. The first, **Lessons from the Susquehanna**, challenges visitors to consider the lessons they might learn from the individual and collective choices made by the people drawn to the banks of this river - from its earliest inhabitants to the people who call this place home today.

### LESSONS FROM THE SUSQUEHANNA

Why did the First People come here?  
In what ways did the choices they make  
cause them to prosper or to fail?

Why did the first Europeans come here?  
Why did others follow them here?  
In what ways did the choices they make  
cause them to prosper or to fail?

Why are people still drawn to this river?  
In what ways are they succeeding?  
In what ways are they failing?

What lessons can we learn from the  
choices all of them made?

The second part of the theme, **Legacies on the Susquehanna**, is about the legacies people leave behind, the residue of their cultural evolutions, and how our understanding of how those legacies, both good ones and bad ones - might help people make better choices in their own lives. This question challenges people to think about the legacies they will leave behind, and how the choices they make today might influence their legacies.

### LEGACIES ON THE SUSQUEHANNA

Many years ago,  
ancient people left marks  
on the boulders  
in the center of this river.

What marks will we leave  
for people to admire  
1,000 years from now?

The river, a universally recognized symbol of life and continuity, provides the thread that ties the lessons and legacies themes together in a language that is understood by every culture and every class of people. The river is a gauge by which everyone can measure their success or their failure in their relationships with each other and with their environment. The river's endless flow binds everyone together historically. Its fragility binds them together ecologically. Its power and might bind them together economically, and sometimes in tragedy. Its beauty and majesty bind them together in awe and adoration. The river is the thread with no beginning and no end, a constant source of change and renewal and inspiration.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGING IMPORTANT LESSONS LEARNED**

Both aspects of the central theme were heavily influenced by lessons learned from Freeman Tilden, author of the book, *Interpreting Our Heritage*, written in 1957 for the National Park Service and still in wide use by interpreters today. Tilden believed the best interpreters were not necessarily the experts who were most knowledgeable about their subject, but oftentimes were the park rangers, or the local history buff that could grasp and passionately share the essence of their subjects in ways that fully engaged their listeners. Tilden also taught his students that, "The chief aim of interpretation is not instruction, but provocation."

The chief aim of this interpretive plan, then, is to provoke residents and visitors to take action in their own communities by using the lessons they learn here to inform the choices they make at home. The interpretive plan provides a consistent framework that the implementers of this park should use to answer important questions about the meaning and significance of the historic, natural and cultural resources of this place. The framework begins where beginnings should begin- with questions about origins and original objectives, and ends with the question most of us ask near the end of our journeys, "What will our legacies be?"

1. *Why were and are people drawn to this place?*
2. *What did or do they hope to achieve?*
3. *In what ways did or are they succeeding?*
4. *In what ways did or are they failing?*
5. *What lessons can we learn from their experiences and the choices they made or are making now?*
6. *What were or will their legacies be?*

#### **Media Plan for the Susquehanna Heritage Park**

The Media Plan describes interpretive recommendations for each of the five existing parklands- Highpoint Park, Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve, Kline's Run Park, Native Lands Park, and the Zimmerman Center- and the three river towns of Wrightsville, Columbia and Marietta associated with the Susquehanna Heritage Park. The media plan recommendations are contained in the master plan descriptions for each park that follows.

## REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY CONCEPT

The regional concept for connectivity includes features located on both the west and east banks of the Susquehanna River, in York and Lancaster Counties respectively. This area and the attractions within have been branded through the efforts of PA DCNR, the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area and their partners as the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape.

### NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- Captain John Smith Chesapeake Water Trail

### NATIONAL RECREATION TRAILS

- Susquehanna River Trail
- Mason Dixon Trail System

### RIVERTOWNS

- Wrightsville
- Columbia
- Marietta
- Washington Boro
- Long Level
- Accomac

### COLLECTION OF NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT NATIVE AMERICAN ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

### CONEJOHELA FLATS IMPORTANT BIRD AREA - SUSQUEHANNA RIVER FLYWAY

### EXISTING TRAILS

- Atlantic Coast Bicycle Route
- Bicycle PA Route S
- Mason Dixon Trail
- Northwest River Trail
- Native Lands Trail
- Chickies Rock Trail

### PARKS

- Samuel Lewis State Park
- Wrightsville Riverfront Park
- Marietta Riverfront Park
- Columbia Borough Riverfront Park
- Lock 2
- Klines Run Park
- Native Lands County Park
- Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area
- Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve

### CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Zimmerman Center for Heritage
- Columbia, Wrightsville, Marietta
- Blue Rock Heritage Center

#### **PROPOSED TRAILS**

- Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal Trail (Long Level Trail)
- East Prospect Borough Connector Trail
- Northwest River Trail Extension (Charles Greenway)
- Atglen-Susquehanna Trail
- Turkey Hill Trail Extension
- Little Chiques Trail

### **LOCAL CONNECTIVITY CONCEPT**

The local concept for connectivity includes those features located between Lock 2 and Wrightsville. The local connectivity concept is illustrated on page 89. The local connectivity plan can be achieved through a number of on-going efforts, including implementation of the Wrightsville Borough Park master plan, the existing Susquehanna River Water Trail, the existing Mason Dixon Trail, and the potential Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal, proposed herein.

#### **PARKS**

- Klines Run Park
- Native Lands County Park
- Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area
- Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve
- Lock 2

#### **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

- Zimmerman Center for Heritage

#### **HIKING TRAILS**

- Mason Dixon Trail from Wrightsville Riverfront Park to Lock 2 - existing
- East Prospect Borough Connector Trail – proposed
- Native Lands Trails – existing
- Wilton Meadows Nature Trails – proposed

#### **BIKE ROUTES**

- PA Bicycle Route S – along State Route 462 - existing
- Atlantic Coast Bike Route – along State Route 624 – existing

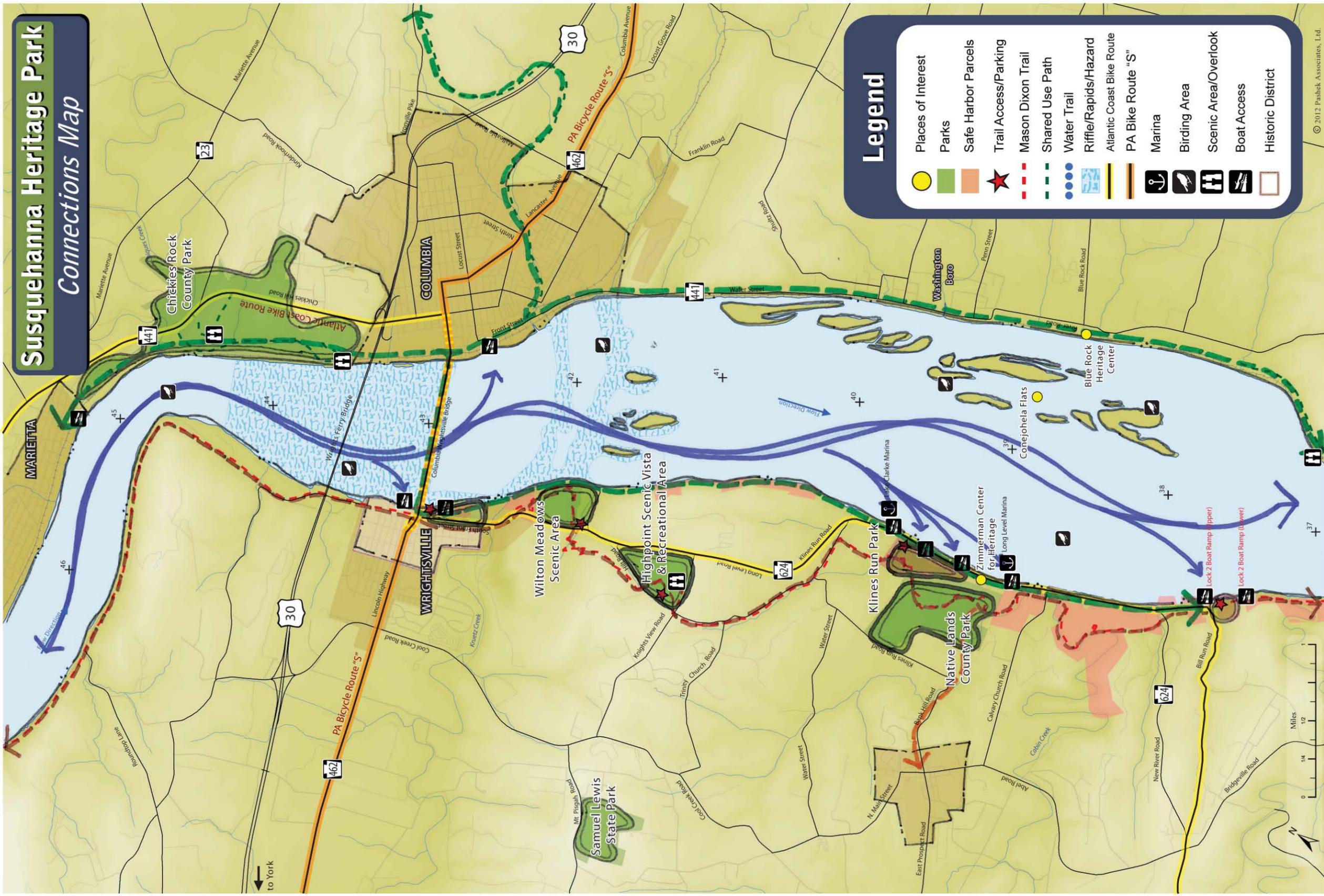
#### **SHARED USE PATH - PROPOSED**

- Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal Trail (Long Level Trail) Wrightsville Riverfront Park to Lock 2, primarily parallel to River

#### **LOWER SUSQUEHANNA RIVER WATER TRAIL - EXISTING**

- Wayfinding to and from Susquehanna Heritage Park - proposed

# Susquehanna Heritage Park Connections Map



## Legend

- Places of Interest (Yellow circle)
- Parks (Green square)
- Safe Harbor Parcels (Orange square)
- Trail Access/Parking (Red star)
- Mason Dixon Trail (Red dashed line)
- Shared Use Path (Green dashed line)
- Water Trail (Blue dashed line)
- Riffle/Rapids/Hazard (Blue wavy line)
- Atlantic Coast Bike Route (Yellow line)
- PA Bike Route "S" (Orange line)
- Marina (Anchor icon)
- Birding Area (Bird icon)
- Scenic Area/Overlook (Binoculars icon)
- Boat Access (Boat icon)
- Historic District (White square with black border)

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## Potential Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal Trail

Although outside of the scope of work for this planning effort, there was a desire by the project steering committee to preliminarily identify the potential to connect Wrightsville Riverfront Park with each park and extending south to Lock 2, generally paralleling Long Level Road.

Therefore, a desktop analysis and field view of the corridor lead to recommending the corridor described herein be further evaluated, by completing a feasibility for a trail within the study area. Ideally the trail would be a shared use trail separated from Long Level Road (State Route 624). However, a feasibility study may determine that bike lanes or shared roadway options may be necessary to provide continuity along parts of the corridor.

### POTENTIAL SUSQUEHANNA & TIDEWATER CANAL TRAIL ROUTE

This shared use path is proposed to follow the former Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal corridor. The canal began operation in 1840. It was located along the west bank of the Susquehanna River beginning in the north at Wrightsville and terminating 45 miles south at Harve de Grace in Hartford County, Maryland. The majority of the traffic along this canal was traveling to Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York.

This trail, proposed to follow the path of the former canal, would connect Wrightsville Borough to Lock 2, including the Susquehanna Heritage Park properties in between. The northern end of the trail would begin in Wrightsville Riverfront Park and extend approximately three tenths of a mile (1,564 feet) through the park. Once the trail leaves the park, it would enter property owned by the Wrightsville Borough Municipal Authority. The trail would then travel approximately a quarter of a mile (1,361 feet) through this property. At the southern end of the municipal authority property a bridge is needed to cross over Kruetz Creek.

Once crossing Kruetz Creek the trail would enter property owned by the Safe Harbor Water Power Corp. and extend approximately two tenths of a mile (856 feet) before passing over property owned by County Line Quarry. The trail is proposed to extend through the County Line Quarry property, below the Wilton Meadows Scenic Area, for approximately eight tenths of a mile (4,245 feet).

After passing through the County Line Quarry property, the trail would again enter property owned by Safe Harbor Water Power Corp. This section of the trail passes through this property for just over one mile (5,467 feet).

Leaving the Safe Harbor Water Power Corp. property, the trail would then follow the right-of-ways of Kinard Lane and Boathouse Road for just over a half mile (2,762 feet) before entering into property owned by Grove Enterprises. The proposed trail would pass through the Grove Enterprises property along the gravel road through the boat parking area for approximately three tenths of a mile (1,584 feet).

After passing through the Grove Enterprise property, the proposed trail once again enters property owned by Safer Harbor Water Power Corp. for approximately four tenths of a mile (2,082 feet), just north of the Zimmerman Center at the Native Lands County Park. At this point, the proposed trail would need to cross 12 privately owned parcels for just under a quarter of a mile (1,200 feet). Through this stretch the trail is proposed to be located along the river side of Long Level Road, or if necessary could be bike lanes or a shared road, on Long Level Road.

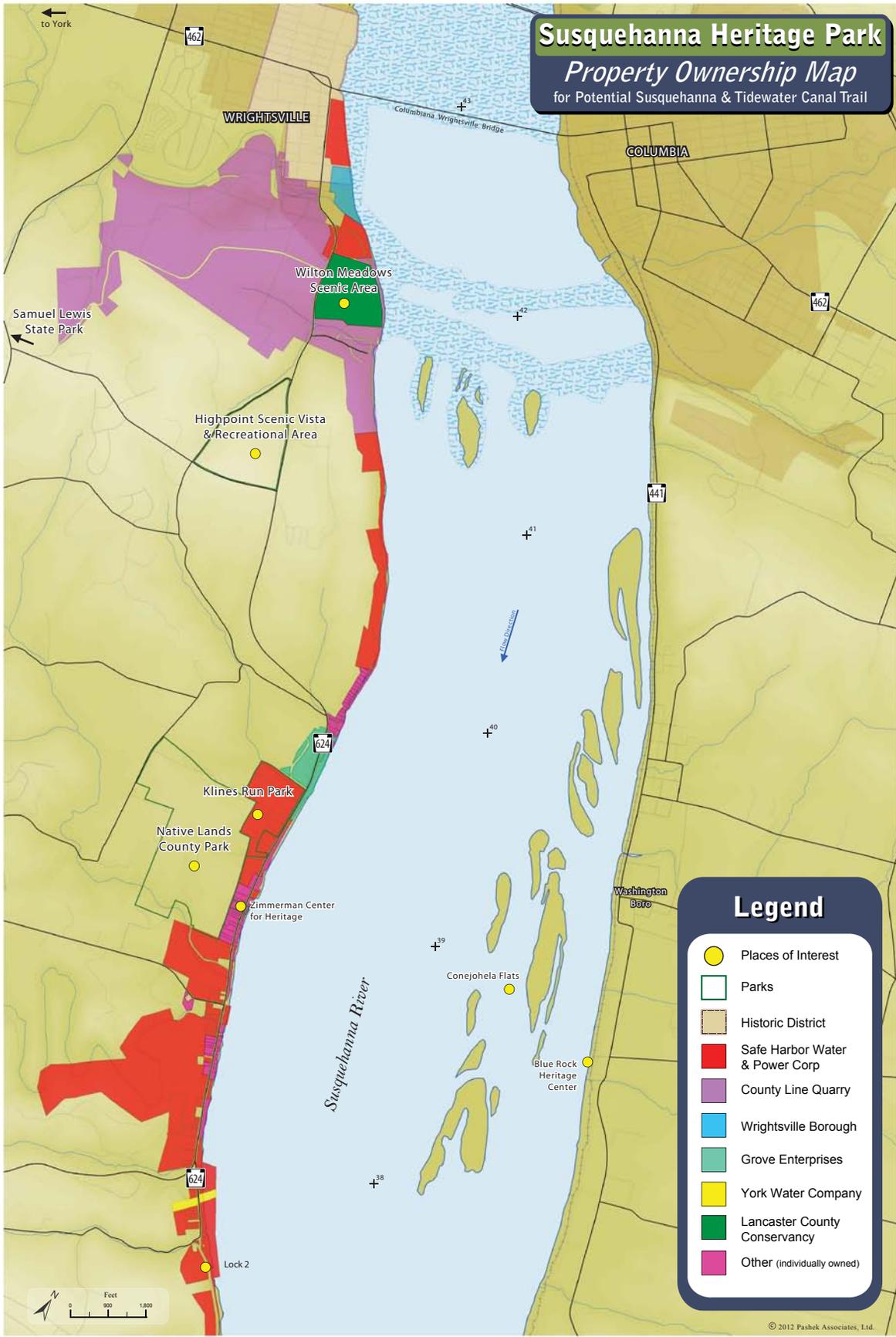
After passing through these properties, the proposed trail would again enter Safe Harbor Water Power Corp. properties. The proposed trail would continue to parallel the river, along the river side of Long Level Road, for approximately four tenths of a mile (2,161 feet) until it reaches the mouth of Cabin Creek. At this point,

the proposed trail would cross Long Level Road and pass behind Lake Clarke Marina, the cottages , along the road through the Safe Harbor Ballfields and past several private properties, for just over three quarters of a mile (4,034 feet). The proposed trail would then meet with Long Level Road at its intersection with Craley Road, Pennsylvania Route 624. At this point the proposed trail would parallel Long Level Road, all the while still being on Safe Harbor Water Power Corp. properties, for approximately one tenth of a mile (647 feet), and then enter property owned by the York Water Company, for a distance of approximately 200 feet. After passing through the York Water Company parcel, the proposed trail would enter Safe Harbor Water Power Corp. property one last time for approximately two tenths of a mile (1,200 feet) to Lock 2.

<b>Potential Susquehanna &amp; Tidewater Canal Trail Alignment</b>		
<i>Wrightsville Borough Park to Lock #2</i>		
<b>Property</b>	<b>Distance</b>	<b>Miles</b>
Wrightsville Riverfront Park	1,564	0.30
Wrightsville Borough Municipal Authority	1,361	0.26
Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation	856	0.16
County Line Quarry	4,245	0.80
Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation	5,467	1.04
Kinard Lane and Boathouse Road	2,762	0.52
Grove Enterprises	1,584	0.30
Safe Harbor Water Power Corp	2,082	0.39
12 Private Properties	1,200	0.23
Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation	2,161	0.41
Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation (ballfields)	4,034	0.76
Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation	647	0.12
York Water Company	200	0.04
Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation (Lock 2)	1,200	0.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,363</b>	<b>5.56</b>

To be clear, this is truly a potential route, which needs to be further explored, evaluated, and studied to determine the true feasibility of the alignment or alternative alignments which achieve the same vision and goal.

While exploring opportunities for the route, Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation indicated they have the original plan and profile plates for the Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal. These plates may be valuable in studying the feasibility of the potential route. If nothing more they can be used to interpret the canal and the remaining remnants throughout the corridor. We recommend these documents be scanned/photographed and archived before the plates deteriorate further.





# Master Plans

The master plans for the Susquehanna Heritage Park properties is a result of intensive analysis, active public participation and in-depth discussions with stakeholders regarding recreation, conservation, cultural resource preservation, and economic development desires. These master plans provide the foundation to guide decision-making for future investments into the Susquehanna Heritage Park.

## HIGHPOINT SCENIC VISTA & RECREATION AREA

The recent improvements associated with the development of the Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation area have created an outstanding experience. Upon arriving at the site one is taken on a journey, with opportunities to learn about the history and heritage of the region, as they climb the trail to the experience spectacular views offered at the scenic vista. Improvements recommended for consideration, as a result of the public input process included exploring:

- improve wayfinding to the property
- enhance the entrance by acknowledging and defining it with native landscaping
- enhancing the arrival experience by relocating the portable restrooms away from the pedestrian route to the scenic vista
- providing a small to medium size picnic shelter in the lower portion of the property for programmed activities
- providing opportunities to provide shaded areas on the property to allow visitors to get out of the sun, especially on hot summer days
- address erosion and maintenance concerns associated with the existing compacted aggregate path
- improving and expanding upon the existing interpretive opportunities
- providing opportunities to expand the internal trail system by extending it through the wooded area on the northern portion of the property
- providing an accessible parking opportunity closer to the summit/scenic vista

Several concepts were explored to accommodate the desires above and to respond to the overall mission, vision, and goals established for the Susquehanna Heritage Park. As a result two concepts were further refined and presented to the steering committee for their consideration.

# CONCEPT 1



# CONCEPT 2



Each concept was reviewed and evaluated by the committee, and resulted in providing us with the final direction for the master plan.

Current with the physical planning of the property, recommendations for expanding the interpretive offerings were explored, presented, critiqued, and refined. This resulted in the master site development plan for Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area as follows.

## HIGHPOINT SCENIC VISTA & RECREATION AREA

### MASTER SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

#### Gateway to the Lower Susquehanna (where the visitor's journey begins)

*“A monument can be nothing more than a rough stone, a fragment of ruined wall as at Jerusalem, a tree, or a cross. Its sanctity is not a matter of beauty or of use or of age; it is venerated not as a work of art or as an antique, but as an echo from the remote past suddenly become present and actual.”*

J.B. Jackson from his essay, **The Necessity for Ruins**

From the summit of this hill, a beautiful and natural monument where people gather to honor, consecrate, and celebrate the present and the past, a spectacular 360 degree panorama unfolds. To the east, we have a 180 degree view of the Susquehanna River winding its way from Pennsylvania's endless mountains to the submerged estuary of the Chesapeake Bay, collecting the waters of the entire eastern half of the Commonwealth on its path to the ocean.

To the northeast, the 3 rivertowns of Wrightsville, Columbia and Marietta flank the river and mark the places people have gathered for a century or more of commerce, culture and camaraderie. Beyond them, historic Lancaster beckons us to visit the farmlands and the plain people who tend them. To the northwest lies historic York, where the nation's founders signed the Articles of Confederation two centuries ago, said to be inspired in part by the Iroquois Confederacy's Great Law of Peace.

To the west lie the rolling hills of the piedmont, with its quaint hamlets, villages and boroughs nestled in valleys of the bosom of the earth. Looking south, giant wind turbines on the escarpment above Safe Harbor Dam guide our view to the place the region's First People etched iconic marks on the boulders near the center of the Susquehanna a millennium ago. Below that, a fantastic stone villa called Indian Steps is a single man's tribute to the native people who hunted, gathered and grew crops on these lands millennia before Europeans settled here.

On the Conejohela Flats north of the windmills and south of Columbia, the Susquehannocks, the native people this river is named after, built the palisaded village which they departed from, circa 1608, to meet John Smith during his journeys to explore the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. About a half century later the Susquehannocks built two more palisaded villages across the river - one after the other - and then they too were gone, victims of disease and constant war with other native people and the Europeans with whom they traded.

## Physical Improvements

Physical improvements to the property must be carefully integrated into the natural landscape in order to maintain the awe inspiring character and 360 degree views present on the property. Therefore, most of the proposed improvements are associated with the lower portion of the site.

Recommended improvements include:

- Replace the existing portable restrooms with composting restrooms located south of the parking lot, away from the pedestrian entrance.
- Expand the existing overflow parking area to the north.
- Re-construct the compacted aggregate Heritage Trail to resolve erosion and maintenance concerns. We recommend the trail be outsloped to direct water downhill from the trail, and that dips be constructed along the trail to collect and divert water off of the trail before it becomes concentrated flow which causes erosion of the trail.
- Re-align Meadow and Eastern Meadow Trails to reduce grades.
- Plant native shade trees along the Heritage Trail up to its intersection with the Mason Dixon Trail. Do not plant shade trees beyond this intersection as they may interfere with views from the vista.
- Establish a natural surface Woodland Trail through the woodlands located on the north side of the property.
- Create a secondary entrance from Knights View Road and develop a small accessible/short term parking area. Parking should be screened from view with a haha wall and native shrub plantings located on the west side of the parking area.
- Expand and enhance interpretive efforts as further described herein.





## THE PUBLIC'S CRITIQUE OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

This grassy knoll, with its serpentine path leading to a granite terrace at its peak, provides an elegant vantage point to orient visitors to the places they will learn the **Lessons and the Legacies of the Lower Susquehanna** region. We initially were reluctant to add anything that might detract from its minimalist elegance. However, we understood there was a need to help visitors find the sites from the summit when knowledgeable people aren't there to guide them. Brochures at the trailhead provide some guidance, and a video was produced with a narrative describing the region's significant people, places and events. But there also was a feeling confirmed by comments at public meetings for this project, that something more could be done, something to help make the visitor's pilgrimage up the hill more comfortable and self directed.

Some visitors also complained that the experience is too stark, that shade trees need to be planted to offer some relief from the sun on sultry summer days. Some felt more information could be shared before you reach the summit. Some would like to see more parking and a larger shelter at the trailhead so more visitors can use the park. Access for the elderly and disabled also could be better, perhaps with a more accessible path so visitors can reach the summit without having to climb the entire trail.

All of these concerns were taken into consideration for the development of interpretive recommendations for this site.

## Interpretive Recommendations for Highpoint

We believe Highpoint is the place where, ideally, the visitor's journey should begin. It's the place residents and the York County Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area, and others should send visitor's to get an overview, both literally and historically, of the natural, cultural and historic resources this region has to offer. It's the outdoor classroom where parents and teachers can take children to learn about the significant people who lived and worked here or are living and working here now. Here they can look out on the horizon and form a mental map of the places where significant events happened or are happening in their communities.

We also think it's important to preserve the sanctity of this place, because Highpoint is the place residents come to pay tribute to the people whose shoulders they stand upon, or where native people come in the twilight or the dawn to honor the change of seasons in rituals practiced by their ancestors for millennia. Usage should be limited so the reverential nature of the visitor's experience here is not diminished.

We also want to avoid changes that would significantly alter the visual experience here. We think the nakedness of the hillside- clothed (ideally) in native grasses- is part of its beauty, that too many trees offering shade along the path could block views or take too much nature away from the visitor's experience, because we think exposure to the elements is part of that experience too.

So new plantings should be limited to copses of trees planted at the trailhead, with additional trees along the path offering shade only at the lower end where the vistas are shorter. Tree species should be carefully chosen so canopies cannot grow high enough or large enough to interrupt the 360 vista at the summit.

To expand the learning experience of the vista, we offer three choices:

### *Option 1*

Create an app for hand held devices that visitors can use to geospatially scan the horizon as they climb to orient themselves to the features of their surroundings. This would be the most cost effective and least visually intrusive choice, or perhaps the first step of a phased plan. It would also allow content to be changed and updated as new information about any of the natural, historic, and cultural resources is

discovered. A QR code embedded or engraved on a boulder at the base of the trail could be the device visitors use to log on to the app. As they climb the trail, their mobile device would project the image of the resource visible on the horizon on the screen, and allow them to zoom in, or zoom out accordingly.

### *Option 2*

Iconic marks identifying each of the region's historically significant sites would be carved or sandblasted in the face of smooth gently rounded stone pavers set flush with the surface of the ground along the winding path up the hill, chronologically telling stories about the people drawn to the river, and how the choices they made and the legacies they left behind influenced this region's natural, cultural, political and architectural landscapes. As they physically climb higher toward the summit, they also are climbing to a higher plateau of awareness and understanding of the region's heritage.

Each symbol inscribed on each stone would be carefully crafted, like a corporate logo, so that together they create a family of images with a consistent design theme that explains the relationship between man, the river and the water for each feature. Like option 2, the stones would be chronologically arranged, with the earliest at the beginning of the trail, so that as you walk the path you are learning the history of the region as it evolved over time. The symbols would function as mnemonic and wayfinding devices to help visitors find and learn more about each site on apps, printed matter like brochures, and on signage leading to and at the featured sites. (See graphic symbols for each of the parkland sites, modeled after petroglyphs).

### *Option 3*

Like option 2, but the stones depicting the region's attractions along the trail would be substituted with salvaged artifacts or replications of or inspired by artifacts from each of the parkland sites. For example, a large rounded boulder weathered and worn from the Susquehanna inscribed with a snake, a universal symbol for knowledge could mark the first attraction alongside the trail, with its head pointed in the direction of the Safe Harbor petroglyphs in the center of the Susquehanna River. A QR code embedded in the stone would provide a link to websites where visitors could learn more about that feature and a map that shows them how to find it from Highpoint.

## EXAMPLES OF HOW QR CODES MIGHT BE USED

When visitors reach the summit, residents and visitors will have learned why people were drawn to the Lower Susquehanna (lessons), and how the choices they made influenced this region's natural, cultural, political, and architectural landscape (legacies). The app will identify the region's major attractions visible on the horizon, and provide links and directions where residents and visitors can go to learn more about each of the local and regional heritage sites.

### *Quick Response (QR) codes*

Android and Apple iOS applications can be developed to read the QR codes and link them to online interpretive media content such as narrations, images, scholarly resources, etc. QR codes can also be etched in stone souvenirs (e.g. key chains, paper weights, etc.) that visitors could use to remember, relive, recall and share their visit here with others.



### *Waystops*

Currently, the Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area contains six waystops, along the pedestrian route leading to the scenic vista, which are keyed to the Heritage Waystop Guide brochure. We recommend consideration be given to expanding the number of waystops along the trail to provide additional opportunities for interpreting the heritage and culture of the lower Susquehanna Valley region. Further, we recommend developing Android and iOS applications to provide multimedia interpretive content that can be accessed by scanning QR codes placed at each waystation. Further, we recommend the waystations be designated by incorporating art, sculpture, or recreations of objects along the edge of the landscape along the trail. These objects should be selected to generate interest and the desire to learn more about the corresponding feature.

Potential waystops that illustrate the legacies and corresponding lessons of the Lower Susquehanna Riverlands are described on the following pages.

### *Susquehanna River & the Chesapeake Bay Waystop*

**Legacy:** Creation of the Susquehanna River, the via and the bay.

**Lesson:** The bay was created by a bolide impact (meteor) that struck the earth 35.5 million years ago, creating the Susquehanna River, the drainage basin for the entire eastern half of Pennsylvania .

**Media:** A bolide meteor, like the Holsinger meteor that created the Arizona crater, placed on the side of the trail.



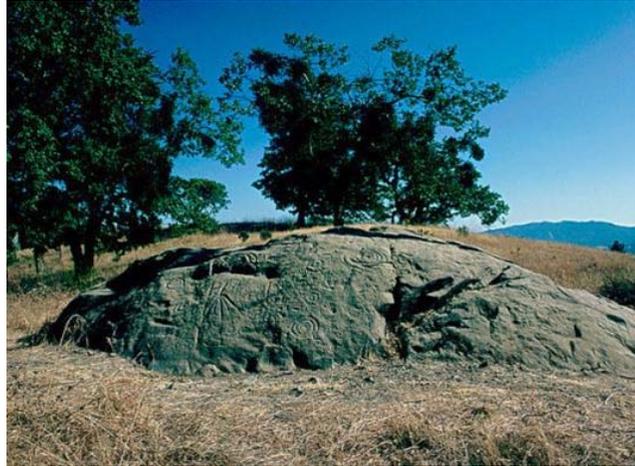


*Safe Harbor Petroglyphs Waystop*

Legacy: Petroglyphs on the rocks at Safe Harbor.

Lesson: The carvings represent the earliest form of art and communication in this region.

Media: A large, rounded, locally sourced boulder weathered and worn from the Susquehanna, inscribed with a snake, the universal symbol for knowledge, with its head pointed in the direction of the Safe Harbor petroglyphs in the center of the Susquehanna River.



*Native Lands Heritage Site Mosaic Waystop*

Legacy: The Susquehanna River is named after the Susquehannocks.

Lessons: The Susquehannock society and the choices they made that may have contributed to their collapse.

Media: A colorful mosaic of glazed tiles fabricated by a local artist inspired by the illustration of the inset on the map of “The Indian Fort Sasquesahanok”.

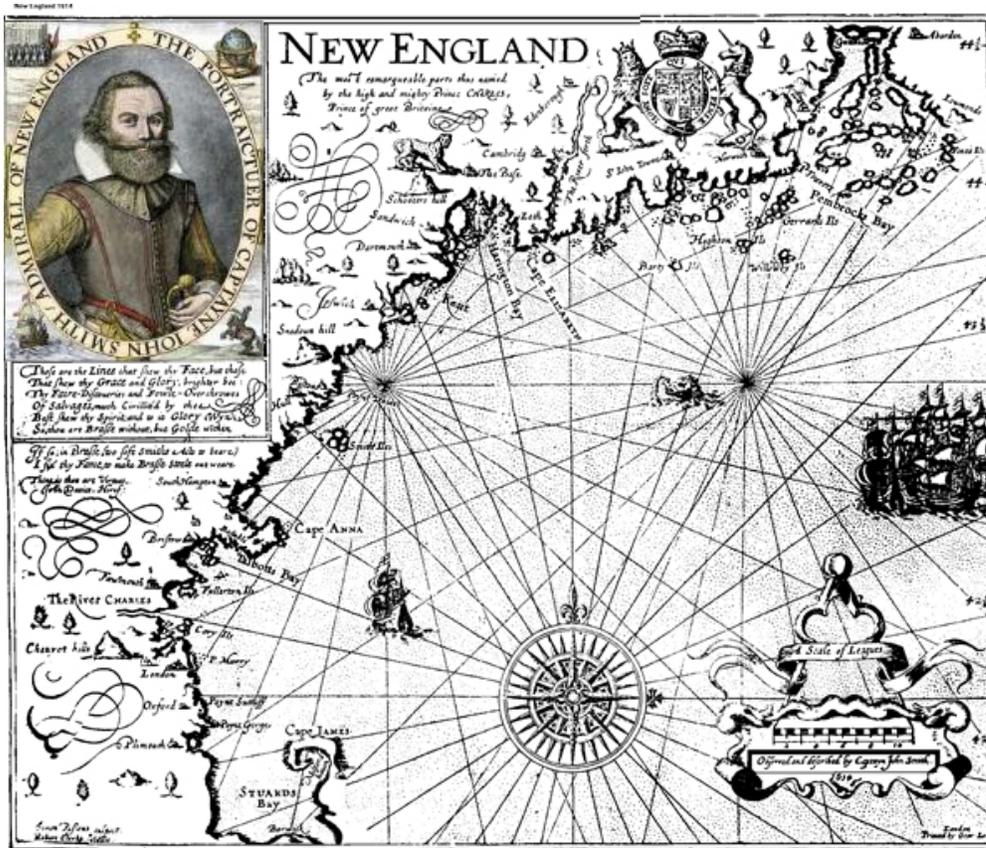


*John Smith Trail Waystop*

Legacy: John Smith Trail, formative ideas about freedom.

Lesson: Could 17th century European's formative ideas of freedom been influenced by John Smith's travels in the early 1600's.

Media: A large, flat stone engraved with a map of John Smith's expeditions of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.



40TH parallel Waystop

- Legacy: PA's southern border; the Mason Dixon Line.
- Lessons: Cresap's war, Mason-Dixon survey.
- Media: Vertical cast stone number 40 at Mason Dixon trail crossing.



### *Long Level Waystop*

- Legacy: Monocacy Path, Wrights Ferry, Turnpikes, Tidewater Canal, PRR, Wrightsville Bridge & the Lincoln Highway.
- Lesson: Long Level created a safe crossing of the Susquehanna that invited settlement and spurred the region's prosperity.
- Media: Mercer tile-like collage of images from various modes of transportation (e.g.; moccasins, canal lock, railcar wheel, highway marker) set in the trail.



### *Furnaces & Foundries Waystop*

- Legacy: Many businesses in the region still produce cast iron products.
- Lesson: Furnaces and foundries in Wrightsville, Marietta and Columbia flourished due to the availability of coal, lime and iron ore shipped up and down the river.
- Media: A cast iron plate salvaged from one of the region's historic foundries.

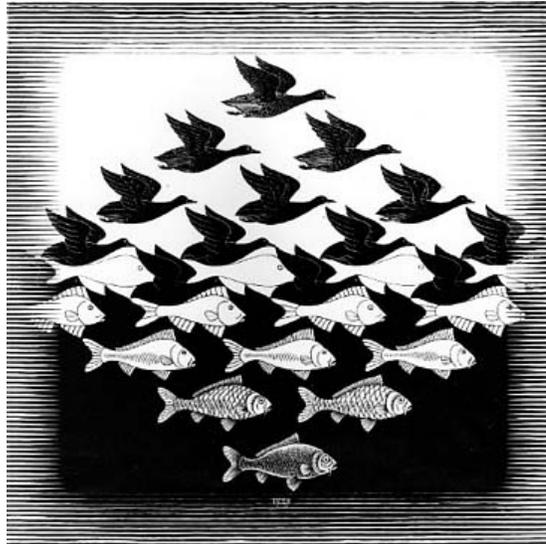


*Lake Clarke, Shad Island & Safe Harbor Dam Waystop*

Legacy: Lake Clarke, created by the Safe Harbor Dam.

Lessons: The building of the 3 dams on the Susquehanna had beneficial impacts (power generation, flood control) as well as unintended impacts on native habitat, fish & wildlife (e.g.; shad).

Media: Bronze casting of Escher inspired mural of fish and fowl set in trail.



*Conejobela Flats Important Bird Area Waystop*

Legacy: An Important Bird Area (IBA) recognized by the Audubon Society.

Lesson: This IBA is one of the most important stopover sites for migratory birds in the Susquehanna River Flyway.

Media: Cast bronze statue of stilt sandpiper on side of trail.



#### **LESSONS LEARNED FROM THIS SITE**

By the time visitors reach the top of the hill, they will have been introduced and oriented to all of the natural, cultural and historic features of the region, and know where they are and how to find them.



## Opinion of Probable Construction Costs

The development costs projected herein for improvements to Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area, as well, as the remaining properties, are based on the following assumptions:

1. Unit prices for construction are based on the consultant's experience with construction costs in 2013.
2. Costs assume improvements are constructed through a public bid process utilizing the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry's prevailing wage determination.
3. The condition of the properties at the time of construction will be similar to their conditions in 2013.
4. To budget for inflation costs for improvements that will occur after 2013 we recommend a 4.5% annual increase in costs be budgeted for each year thereafter. Additional increases may be necessary to address escalation of steel and fuel prices as their costs continue to escalate at unprecedented rates.
5. Opinions on probable construction costs should be confirmed/revised upon completing preliminary design.

In-kind, donated, and volunteer labor and materials can reduce the overall project cost from the costs projected herein. Additionally, alternate sources of funding, including grant opportunities may assist in offsetting construction costs.

The table on the following page reflects our opinion of probable construction costs for implementing the improvements proposed for Highpoint Scenic Vista & Recreation Area.

<b>Highpoint Scenic Vista &amp; Recreation Area</b>				
<b>Item</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Unit Price</b>	<b>Extension</b>
Entrance Sign Native Landscaping	1	LS	\$5,000	\$5,000
Composting Restrooms	1	Unit	\$75,000	\$75,000
Overflow Parking Expansion	2267	SY	\$5	\$11,335
Re-construction of compacted aggregate trail, including out sloping and drainage dips.	2400	SY	\$15	\$36,000
Native Shade Tree Plantings - bare root	120	EA	\$25	\$3,000
Native Shade Tree Plantings - balled and burlapped	20	EA	\$350	\$7,000
Natural Surface Woodland Trail	1003	SY	\$5	\$5,015
Secondary access from Knights View Road and accessible/short term parking, including wall and native shrub screening	1	LS	\$75,000	\$75,000
Interpretive Opportunities	12	EA		\$30,000
Shelter (approx. 20x30)	1	EA	\$45,000	\$45,000
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>\$292,350</b>
Construction Overhead	10	%	\$292,350	\$29,235
Erosion and Sedimentation Control Measures	4	%	\$292,350	\$11,694
Construction Contingency	10	%	\$292,350	\$29,235
Professional Fees (design, permitting & engineering)	15	%	\$292,350	\$43,367
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$406,367</b>

# WILTON MEADOWS NATURE PRESERVE

Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve was acquired to protect and preserve forest and woodland resources, wildlife resources and scenic resources with the goal of promoting the stewardship of the natural resources and open space, to insure the public enjoyment of the open space, and preservation of the scenic viewshed.

Both the property's owner, the Lancaster Conservancy, and participants in the Susquehanna Heritage Park Memorandum of Understanding desire to retain the preserve as open space by managing and interpreting the resources present, and providing for the continuity of the Mason Dixon Trail through the property.

Improvements recommended for consideration, as a result of the public input process included exploring:

- install a sign, reflecting the Susquehanna Riverlands brand, to identify the location of the property.
- opportunities to provide vehicular access onto the property from Long Level Road
- maintain a native grass meadow habitat
- provide an accessible compacted stone loop trail around the perimeter of the meadow
- manage and limit invasive species on the property
- reforest the steep hillside on the southern portion of the property

Several concepts were explored to accommodate the desires above and to respond to the overall mission, vision, and goals established for the Susquehanna Heritage Park. As a result two concepts were further refined and presented to the steering committee for their consideration.

## CONCEPT 1



## CONCEPT 2



Each concept was reviewed and evaluated by the committee, and resulted in providing us with the final direction for the master plan.

Current with the physical planning of the property, recommendations for expanding the interpretive offerings were explored, presented, critiqued, and refined. This resulted in the master site development plan for the Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve as follows.

# WILTON MEADOWS NATURE PRESERVE

## MASTER SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

### Nurturing a Natural Legacy

*“In the Rights of Nature (1989), I was curious if American natural rights ideology, taken to its logical limits, could lead some philosophers and activists to the rights of nature. Although I did not recognize it fully in 1982 (in Wilderness and the American Mind), wilderness plays a critical role in environmental ethics; it is the best place to learn that humans are ecologically and ethically involved in the larger community of life. Wilderness preservation is a gesture of planetary modesty and a badly needed exercise of restraint on the part of a species notorious for its excesses.”*

Roderick Nash, **Wilderness and the American Mind**, Preface to the 4th edition

Wilton Meadows is a 45 acre conservation area maintained by the Lancaster County Conservancy. According to a press release announcing the purchase of the property,

*“The nonprofit conservancy acquired Wilton Meadows in Hellam Township. It includes the Mason-Dixon Trail, providing bikers with an expansive view of the river. Long Level Road, which runs through the property, also has views high above the river. Hellam Township donated the land to the conservancy with help from the Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County, which holds a conservation easement on the land. The land includes native species of plants and wildlife, a continuous canopy with multi tiered understory of trees, shrubs, wildflowers and grasses that provide natural habitat, breeding sites and corridors for the migration of birds and wildlife. There is a curved path to the high point of the property and vistas.”*

Located on a bluff high above the river, Wilton Meadow’s open fields and forested edges provide a natural sanctuary for a variety of important birds and plants and a visual and recreational opportunity for the occasional hunter, hiker, neighbor or passerby who happens upon it. Artifacts of ancient people lie buried beneath the surface, protected for now until appropriate non-destructive technologies are available to explore them.

Aside from the occasional interloper noted above, this site appears to see little human activity, perhaps by design of its current keepers, perhaps by design of its remote location, steep slopes, difficulty of access, unmarked and undeveloped trails, and limited parking. Feedback from the public specific to this site suggests little need for change, although a strong desire for educational opportunities was expressed as a general comment at the public meetings. What role if any this property play in the heritage park fold, or more specifically in the development of educational opportunities, will be up to the Conservancy to decide.

## Physical Improvements

Recommended physical improvements include:

- install a sign, reflecting the Susquehanna Riverlands brand, to identify the location of property.
- construct a small vehicular access road and parking area immediately off of Long Level Road. This access is needed to meet accessibility requirements as well as serve the day to day needs of operations and maintenance personnel. Further, it will provide the public with direct access to the property.
- maintain a native grass meadow habitat on the knoll of the property.
- provide an accessible compacted stone loop trail around the perimeter of the meadow.
- reforest the steep hillside on the southern portion of the property.

## Interpretive Recommendations - Wilton Meadows - Nurturing a Natural Legacy

### BACKGROUND TO OUR APPROACH TO INTERPRETATION OF THIS SITE

Roderick Nash's seminal book, **Wilderness & the American Mind**, provides an intellectual journey through the American public's changing attitudes toward wilderness, from the earliest days when wilderness was viewed by the country's Eurocentric minded "pioneers" as an enemy filled with 'savage men' and beasts to be fought and conquered; through the period beginning around 1890 when the wilderness and its 'native people' had largely been subdued and conquered, and their near disappearance from the landscape inspired a debate among a new generation of "conservationists"- like Muir and Thoreau on one side and Pinchot and Roosevelt on the other- over the need to protect the few remaining vast swaths of wilderness that all of them saw as the essence and embodiment of the American spirit, and the latter also saw as a vast reserve of natural resources to be managed for its economic value and national security; to present times when "biocentric naturalists" –influenced by a previous generation of "ecologists" like Aldo Leopold, credited with introducing the concept of 'the land ethic' that recognized man as 'part of' rather than 'apart from' nature- inspired the present debate over the moral and ethical rights of 'nature's residents' to survive and thrive independent of and with rights akin to 'humankind' -even on small islands of wilderness.

Wilton Meadows - potentially one of those small islands - provides an opportune setting to explore the practical work of this most present intellectual debate.

### INTERPRETIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

#### *Option A: Maintenance of Wilton Meadows as a Natural Area*

DCNR guidelines for 'natural areas' suggest a hands-off approach to management of the land.

According to DCNR literature:

*"Natural Areas are managed by nature, and human intervention is limited. They provide places for scenic observation, protect special plants and animal communities and conserve outstanding examples of natural beauty."*

Development of trails and man-made facilities are discouraged in natural areas. Natural areas serve as important benchmarks for comparing human impacts on developed land to see how far we've pushed nature. They are a valuable aid in the ethical naturalist's toolkit.

If the Conservancy's vision for this site is as a 'natural area,' as visualized by DCNR's guidelines, there is little to do here other than to let nature run its course... and to limit human intervention as much as possible to scientists and naturalists to carefully monitor and measure nature's hand as it undertakes its own restoration of this site. But if this site is to be the kind of place Nash might have visualized when he said, "*wilderness ... is the best place to learn that humans are ecologically and ethically involved in the larger community of life,*" then the question that arises from such a hands-off approach- one that purposefully limits access by the general public- would be, "*Who*" would learn that humans are ecologically and ethically involved in the larger community of life? Scientists? Biocentric Naturalists? That would be like preaching to the choir.

In his concluding chapter to **Susquehanna's Indians**, Barry Kent wonders whether enough people will ever understand the broad patterns of cultural evolution well enough to influence their destinies.





### *Option B: Maintenance of Wilton Meadows as a Conservation Area*

DCNR defines “Conservation Areas” as: “generally extensive tracts managed to protect the undeveloped character of the area and allow for public recreation.”

If the Conservancy chooses this vision with an allowance for and focus on ‘education’ instead of ‘recreation,’ Wilton Meadows could become an outdoor classroom whose purpose, in addition to protecting important habitat, would be to develop a land ethic by engaging the public in the design, implementation and monitoring of its return to a “natural state.”

Under this scenario, we see a limited amount of development occurring there to provide accessible trails. All interpretive media beyond the trailhead would be portable and non-intrusive (i.e.; consistent with conservation policy- what comes in with the visitor leaves with the visitor). To the extent it is relevant and ecologists and biocentric naturalists believe it does not unfavorably influence nature’s hand in the restoration of this site, we also see reforestation, invasive species eradication, and wildlife management activities occurring there that engage and enlist the support of the public.

### **NURTURING A NATURAL LEGACY- A PHASED PLAN FOR WILTON MEADOWS**

The design of interpretive media for this site will depend on the Conservancy’s vision for how the site will be managed. We have suggested two possible scenarios for their consideration- one as a Natural Area, and the other as a Wild Area- both of which, however, presumes a return to its natural state. If the management approach of that outcome is as a Natural Area, and access is to be restricted mostly to the scientific community, we recommend any scientific findings be made publicly available and widely accessible.

If the Conservancy chooses an approach more akin to DCNR’s criteria for Conservation Areas that permit public access, but for educational rather than recreational purposes, a study should be done to determine the carrying capacity of the land, i.e., to determine how much human intervention could occur before it defeats the over arching objective of allowing this site to return to its natural state as a wildlife preserve.

There’s little question that the more the public is involved in the decisions related to the management of this site - the more vested they are in its design, its implementation, and in monitoring and measuring its outcome- the more likely it will be that the lessons they learn there will find their way into the conscience choices they make individually (e.g., at home) with regard to the use of their own land, and collectively with regard to the use of the public’s land (e.g., when they vote). In either case, the legacy of this initiative will be the influence it has not just on this site, but on ensuring a more favorable outcome of the choices people make with regard to the use of many lands in the Susquehanna Valley, and perhaps even to serve as a model for elevating the conscience of society’s stewardship ethic towards its lands in places well beyond the Susquehanna.

### **INTERPRETIVE MEDIA FOR WILTON MEADOWS**

#### *Wilton Meadows “Nurturing a Natural Legacy” App*

The app for Wilton Meadows will be used by the public as a crowd sourcing tool for scientists and naturalists to gather data on birds and plants that reside at or visit this site, as well as general information about the human visitors to the site to observe its return to a native state. For example they could collect phenological data, like ecologist Aldo Leopold did at his Sand Crane homestead. Wikipedia defines phenology (not to be confused with phrenology) as the study of periodic plant and animal life cycle events and how these are influenced by seasonal and inter-annual variations in climate, as well as habitat factors, such as elevation.

A sign at the trailhead at the parking lot will advise visitors of the purpose of this site, and the restrictions on human activity determined by the carrying capacity analysis completed as part of the Wild Area designation study. Visitors will be invited to use their hand held devices to log on to the app; and to turn on

their geospatial software to record their movement through the site. The app will advise the visitor of how many other visitors are present at the site, and whether the carrying capacity for that day has been reached, including any additional restrictions related to seasonal variations, such as nesting and breeding seasons.

Potential visitors also would also be able to log on from their home to find out whether the site has reached its capacity for that day or time, or just to observe what others may be recording at the site in real time. Over time, data on visits and visitors to the site could be used to refine estimates of the carrying capacity of this undeveloped conservation area, based on correlating visits and impacts, which will in turn provide a new baseline to improve our understanding of the carrying capacity of conservation areas near to or even within urbanized areas.

A primary objective of this initiative would be to expand the public's awareness that a conservation area does not have to be the lone province of vast remote swaths of land preserved for the American public's aesthetic, recreational, economic or national security interests, but in fact can be islands within urban contexts that become havens for wildlife, as well as baselines from which we can assess our own progress as a species-scientific canaries in the mineshaft- from which we gain an ability to formulate an appropriate response to environmental conditions that might improve our chance to head off our own cultural extinction.

The app will include easy to use buttons for uploading photos and notes into a database as they walk through the site, automatically logging their location as well, so that a database of user movements is recorded that could be used to help scientists understand user interests and preferences, and so trail maintenance could focus on areas where use and needs are greatest. Links to visual recognition apps, like **LEAF SNAP**, which identifies trees from photos taken by a hand held device, will help users accurately identify flora and fauna, ensuring that the data they collect is useful to scientists and naturalists.

The Conservancy could partner with existing volunteer environmental organizations whose membership may already be active in the area, like the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's **Project Feederwatch**, that provides resources to help people to identify and track bird activity in their backyards; or York County's chapter of **Wild Ones**, a non-profit environmental education and advocacy organization devoted to promoting environmentally sound landscaping practices and to the restoration, preservation, and the establishment of new native plant communities.

### *Trail Signage Kiosk*

Signage at the site should be limited to a kiosk at the trailhead to minimize human intrusions beyond the trailhead, so as not to conflict with the message that the purpose of this site is to return to a natural state beyond the trailhead. In addition to information that defines the objectives and instructions for using the app, the signage kiosk could provide brochures and response cards and drop boxes for collecting responses for people who may not have access to hand held electronic recording devices. Trailhead signage should conform to **2010 ADA Accessibility Draft Guidelines for Outdoor Trail Use**, including information on the entrance sign that helps users determine accessibility based on their needs before they get on the trail, including tread width, length, grade, surface materials, etc.

### *Lessons Learned from Wilton Meadows*

Why are certain birds and animals drawn to this site? Why do certain plants thrive here? In what ways does this environment serve them well? In what ways is it failing them? Are the plants and animals that are here good for each other? What can we do to help this site return to a natural state of balance? If we are capable of harming nature, are we also capable of helping nature? What will our legacy here be?

One of the most important outcomes of this study will be the translation of data collected at this site into messages that graphically communicate the lessons learned here in language that is universally understood and relevant to the average user. How could the lessons learned from the data gathered at this site be shared in a way that provokes or inspires the general population to be better stewards of their own back yards? How could it help other communities learn how to make wise choices about the use of their developed land?

Experts in communications should be consulted in the development of what that information should be, and how to most effectively communicate the messages we want people to learn here. There are a variety of print and on-line publications available that could serve as models or references for how to effectively communicate data, such as TEDtalks founder Richard Saul Wurman's books like **Understanding USA**.

#### *Nurturing a Natural Legacy on the Susquehanna*

In his book called **Linked**, physicist Albert-Laszlo Barabasi, said to be the nation's foremost expert in the new science of networks, offers a brilliant explanation of the importance of interconnectivity, and why the survival of our own species may be dependent on the survival of all other species:

*“Robustness- rooted in the Latin word robus, meaning oak, the symbol of strength and longevity in the ancient world- is an increasingly investigate topic in many fields. . . . Most systems displaying a high degree of tolerance against failures share a common feature: Their functionality is guaranteed by a highly interconnected complex network. A cell's robustness is rooted in its intricate regulatory and metabolic network; society's resilience is rooted in the interwoven social web; the economy's stability is maintained by a delicate network of financial and regulatory organizations; an ecosystem's survivability is encoded in a carefully crafted web of species interactions. It seems that nature strives to achieve robustness through interconnectivity.”*

What will the legacy of this site be? Will it be a place of refuge for wildlife to thrive in our absence, a gesture of planetary modesty and a badly needed exercise of restraint on the part of a species notorious for its excesses?” Could such an exercise of restraint on this site offset or at least mitigate the excess of another site whose purpose is commonly understood to be necessary for the survival of our species?

Or will it be a place where people go to learn how to exist in harmony with nature, a place that helps us understand how our own species might exist in balance with nature in our own urbanized environments? David Ehrenfeld, author of **Becoming Good Ancestors, How We Balance Nature, Community and Technology**, offers this perspective from Penn State ecologist Chris Uhl about the relationship between conservation and home:

*“The ultimate challenge for conservation biology isn't to create more parks, manage more forests, or shepherd through more environmental legislation. Rather, the challenge is to change the way we as a society perceive the natural world. Einstein was right: “We shall require a substantially new manner of thinking if mankind is to survive.” The parks and enlightened legislation will come rushing in once we get our thinking right. . . . As mundane as it may sound, for many of us the land at our doorstep provides the starting point for developing an affection for the earth, which is a necessary foundation for living respectfully within the confines of our planet. The healing of the earth will spread outward from the land around our doorsteps.”*

While we lean toward Chris Uhl's argument for more involvement by the public rather than less, either direction would be a great legacy to leave here.

## Opinion of Probable Construction Costs

The following table reflects our opinion of probable construction costs for implementing the improvements proposed for Wilton Meadows. These costs are based on the same assumptions presented for Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area.

<b>Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve</b>				
<b>Item</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Unit Price</b>	<b>Extension</b>
Access Road	358	SY	\$50	\$17,900
Pervious Parking Area	230	SY	\$38	\$8,740
Meadow Restoration	8.44	AC	\$1,500	\$12,660
Reforestation	2.49	AC	\$4,500	\$11,205
Compact aggregate trail	2384	SY	\$20	\$47,680
Trailhead kiosk	1	EA	\$5,000	\$5,000
<b><i>Subtotal</i></b>				<b><i>\$76,545</i></b>
Construction Overhead	10	%	\$76,545	\$7,655
Erosion and Sedimentation Control Measures	4	%	\$76,545	\$3,062
Construction Contingency	10	%	\$76,545	\$7,655
Professional Fees (design, permitting & engineering)	15	%	\$76,545	\$11,482
<b><i>Total</i></b>				<b><i>\$106,398</i></b>



Wilton Meadows Overlook



## KLINES RUN PARK

The following recommendations for Klines Run Park assumes the management and operations of the park are leased as described in the management scenarios presented herein.

Improvements recommended for consideration in Klines Run Park, as a result of the public input process included exploring:

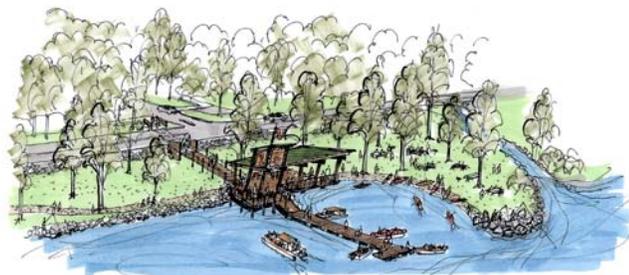
- consider relocating lower parking area and road through park to provide direct access from parking areas to the river.
- provide for safe pedestrian access to and from park, across Long Level Road.
- provide non-motorized and motorized water trail landing and boat access to park.
- Provide for Susquehanna & Tidewater Shared Use Trail through park, parallel to Long Level Road.
- Provide a visitors center that serves as the first point of contact for those visiting the Susquehanna Heritage Park, including a 21st century museum interpreting 12,000 years of Native American and Euro American cultural change with gallery space to accommodate Susquehanna art and space to interpret the legacies and lessons of the Susquehanna.
- provide opportunities for permanent and ephemeral works of art in the landscape.
- reduce operations and maintenance needs requirements of the park.
- create a childrens' discovery natural play area.
- Improve trail connections between Klines Run Park and the Native Lands.

Various concepts were explored to accommodate the desires above and to respond to the overall mission, vision, and goals established for the Susquehanna Heritage Park. As the concepts were further refined and presented to the steering committee for their consideration. Concepts took into consideration the previously proposed visitors center planning efforts illustrated on the following pages.



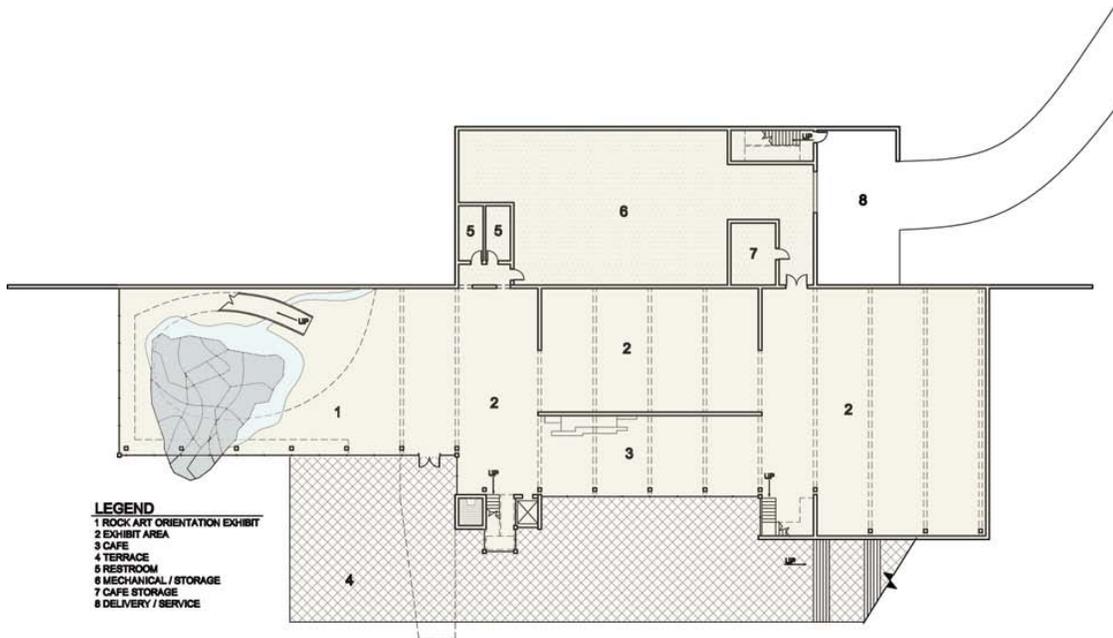


KLINES RUN PARK SITE PLAN



KLINES RUN PARK WATER TRAIL LANDING & BOAT ACCESS FACILITIES

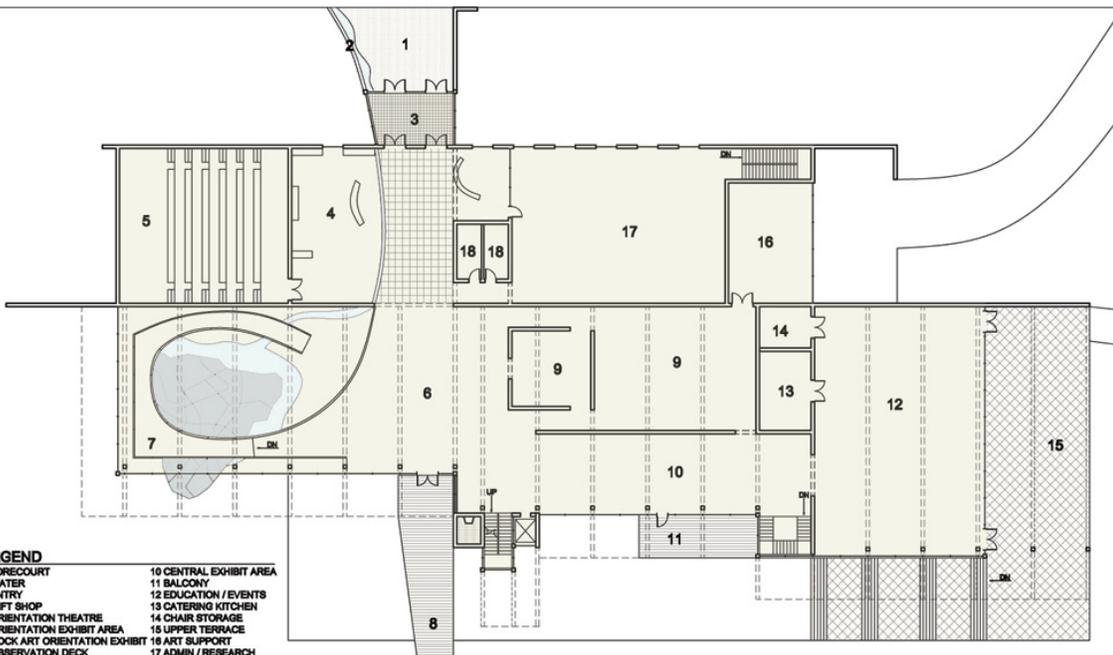




**LOWER LEVEL**  
0' 4' 8' 16'



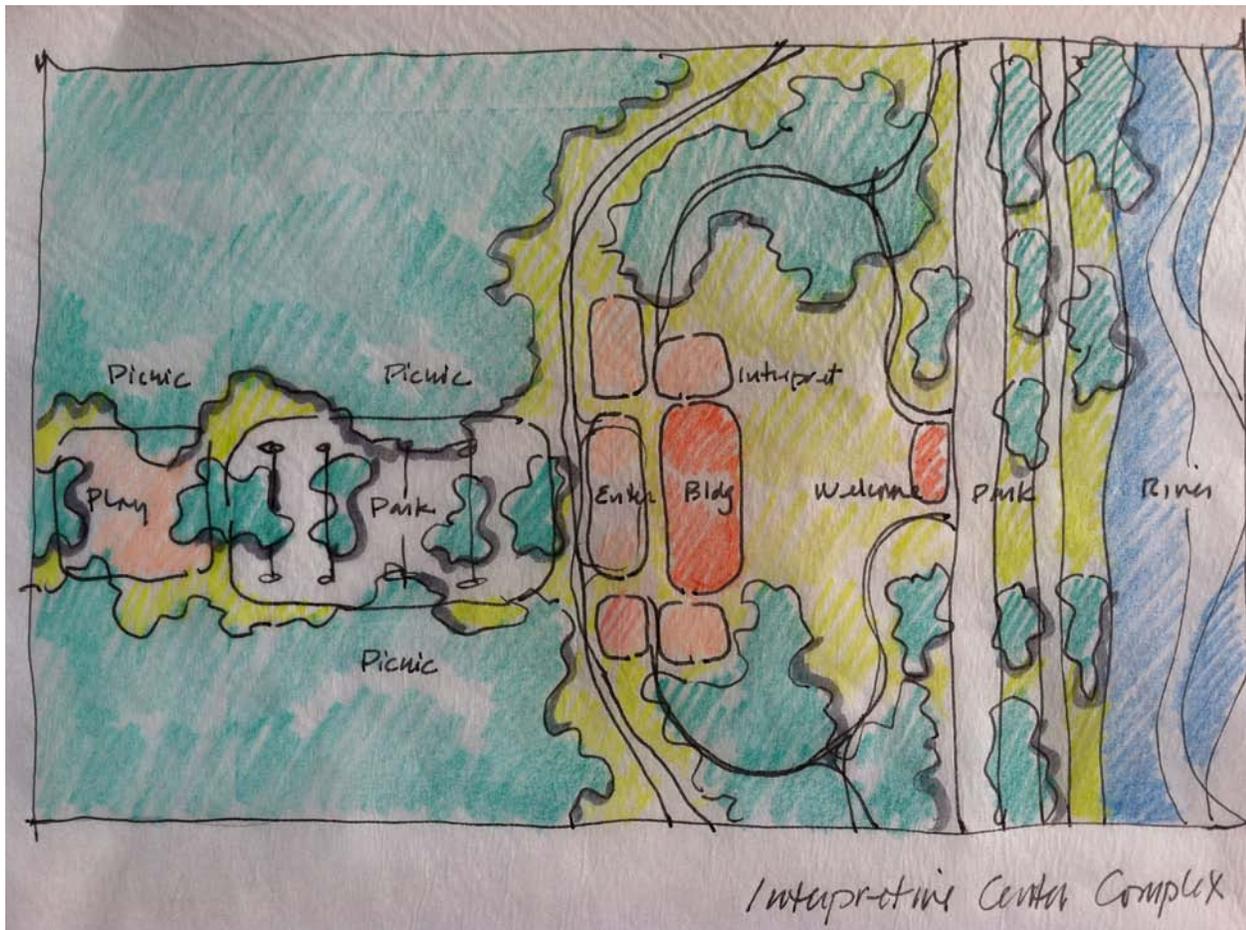
**SUSQUEHANNA GATEWAY  
RIVER HERITAGE CENTER**



**UPPER LEVEL**  
0' 4' 8' 16'



**SUSQUEHANNA GATEWAY  
RIVER HERITAGE CENTER**



Grading studies were conducted early on in the process to determine the impact of the visitors center on the existing landscape of Klines Run Park. As a result it was determined that the building size should be reduced to avoid substantial grading impacts. Therefore, we recommend two buildings, the first being a visitors center and the second, a native heritage center. These buildings are further described on the following pages.

## KLINES RUN PARK

### CONCEPT PLAN

#### Interpreting Our History, Heritage, and Environment

As the doorway into the Susquehanna Heritage Park, visitors will access the park by vehicle, bicycle, non-motorized boat, motorized boat, and on foot. Upon reaching the park they will be introduced and immersed into the legacies and lessons of the Susquehanna. From Klines Run Park they will also be directed to the other properties that make up the Susquehanna Heritage Park, and to the rivertowns of Columbia, Wrightsville and Marrietta.

#### Physical Improvements

Klines Run Park will be home to many signature features of the Susquehanna Heritage Park. These include:

##### Riverlands Shelter, Water Trail Landing & Boat Access Facilities

- A Lower Susquehanna Water Trail destination
- Transient motorized boat slips
- Accessible fishing opportunities

##### Susquehanna Riverlands Visitors Center

- A 21st century museum interpreting 12,000 years of Native American and Euro American cultural change
- Susquehanna River Art Galleries, indoor and outdoor environments
- Susquehanna River Environmental Interpretation
- Our Interaction & Impact on the River
- Petroglyph Exhibit

Due to the spatial constraints of the site and limited area to accommodate a large structure, as acknowledged on the previous page, we recommend a second building be placed in the park. The Native Heritage Center would have an emphasis on Paleoindian, Late Archaic, Late Woodland and Contact periods.

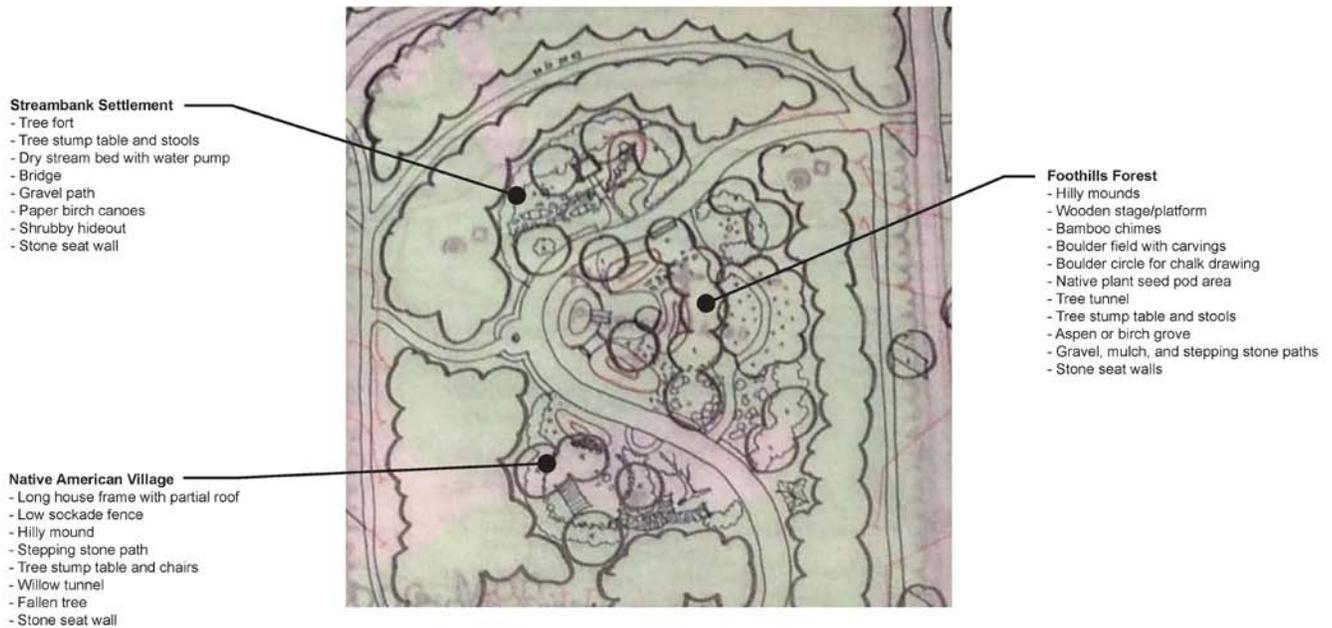
##### Native Heritage Center

- Interpretation of native cultures and their period of contact with Europeans
- Art gallery
- Artifact exhibits

##### Children's Natural Discovery Area

- Foothills Forest
- Streambank Settlement
- Native Heritage Village

## Children's Natural Discovery Area



Other physical improvement recommendations for Klins Run Park include:

### Riverlands Access

- Relocate Long Level Road
- Move lower parking lot to river side of road
- Reduce paved area, provide infiltration areas for stormwater
- Vehicular and boat trailer parking

### Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal Trail

- 10' wide shared use path
- Boardwalks as required
- Destination & ephemeral art installations

### Long Level Road (S.R. 624) Pedestrian Improvements

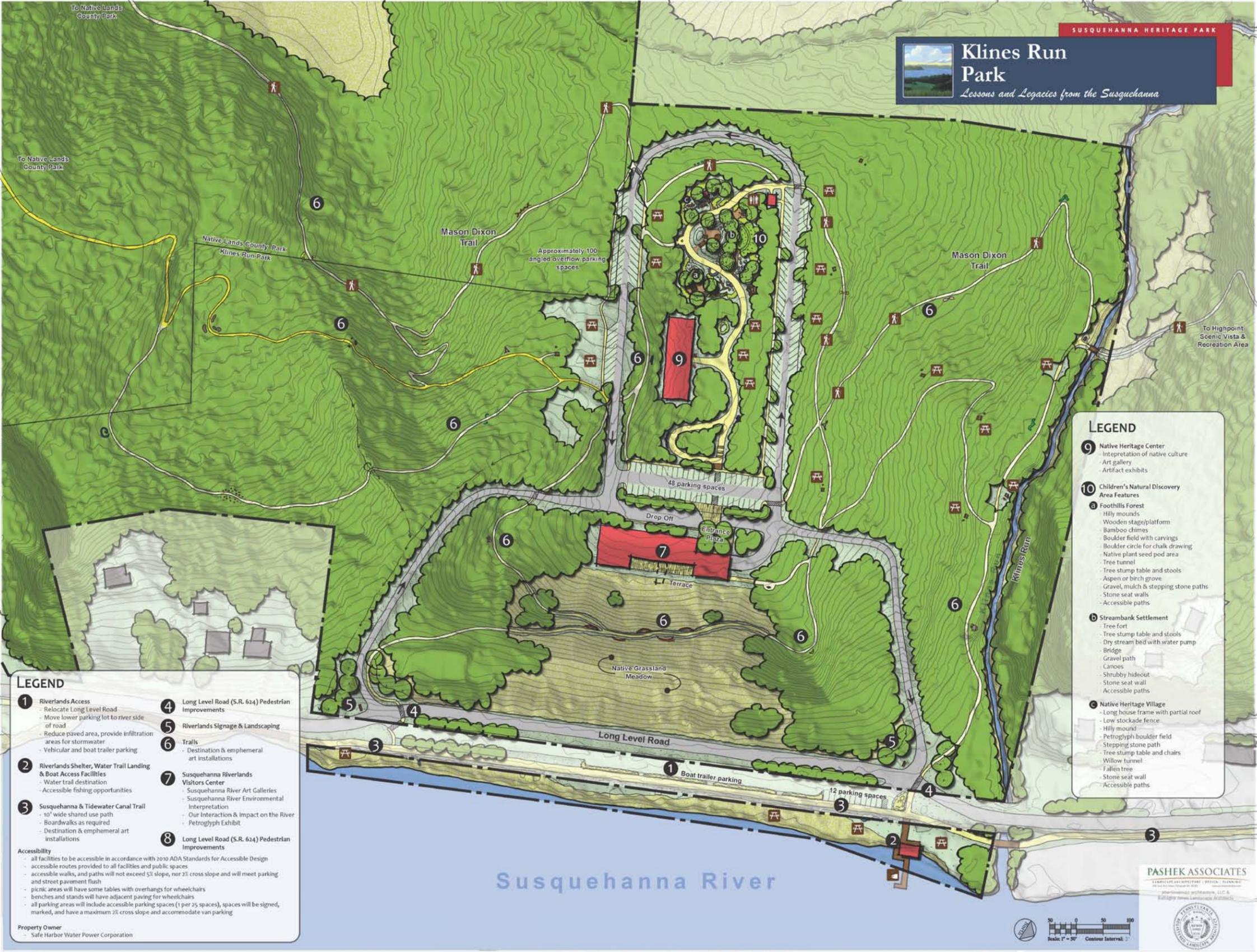
### Riverlands Signage & Landscaping

### Trails

SUSQUEHANNA HERITAGE PARK

# Klines Run Park

*Lessons and Legacies from the Susquehanna*

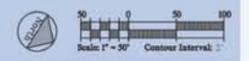


- LEGEND**
- 1** Riverlands Access
    - Relocate Long Level Road
    - Move lower parking lot to river side of road
    - Reduce paved area, provide infiltration areas for stormwater
    - Vehicular and boat trailer parking
  - 2** Riverlands Shelter, Water Trail Landing & Boat Access Facilities
    - Water trail destination
    - Accessible fishing opportunities
  - 3** Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal Trail
    - 10' wide shared use path
    - Boardwalks as required
    - Destination & ephemeral art installations
  - 4** Long Level Road (S.R. 624) Pedestrian Improvements
  - 5** Riverlands Signage & Landscaping
  - 6** Trails
    - Destination & ephemeral art installations
  - 7** Susquehanna Riverlands Visitors Center
    - Susquehanna River Art Galleries
    - Susquehanna River Environmental Interpretation
    - Our Interaction & Impact on the River
    - Petroglyph Exhibit
  - 8** Long Level Road (S.R. 624) Pedestrian Improvements
- Accessibility**
- all facilities to be accessible in accordance with 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
  - accessible routes provided to all facilities and public spaces
  - accessible walks, and paths will not exceed 5% slope, nor 2% cross slope and will meet parking and street pavement flush
  - picnic areas will have some tables with overhangs for wheelchairs
  - benches and stands will have adjacent paving for wheelchairs
  - all parking areas will include accessible parking spaces (1 per 25 spaces), spaces will be signed, marked, and have a maximum 2% cross slope and accommodate van parking
- Property Owner  
Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation

- LEGEND**
- 9** Native Heritage Center
    - Interpretation of native culture
    - Art gallery
    - Artifact exhibits
  - 10** Children's Natural Discovery Area Features
    - a** Foothills Forest
      - Hilly mounds
      - Wooden stage/platform
      - Bamboo chimes
      - Boulder field with carvings
      - Boulder circle for chalk drawing
      - Native plant seed pod area
      - Tree tunnel
      - Tree stump table and stools
      - Aspen or birch grove
      - Gravel, mulch & stepping stone paths
      - Stone seat walls
      - Accessible paths
    - b** Streambank Settlement
      - Tree fort
      - Tree stump table and stools
      - Dry stream bed with water pump
      - Bridge
      - Gravel path
      - Canoes
      - Shrubby hideout
      - Stone seat wall
      - Accessible paths
    - c** Native Heritage Village
      - Long house frame with partial roof
      - Low stockade fence
      - Hilly mound
      - Petroglyph boulder field
      - Stepping stone path
      - Tree stump table and chairs
      - Willow tunnel
      - Fallen tree
      - Stone seat wall
      - Accessible paths

Susquehanna River

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## SUSQUEHANNA RIVERLANDS VISITORS CENTER



- Legacy:** A world class 21st century museum interpreting 12,000 years of Native American and Euro American cultural change with regionalist inspired art gallery & outdoor exhibit space.
- Lesson:** Visitors will learn how the choices they and others make can positively or negatively impact the physical, social, natural and political landscape in which they live by interpreting the past 12,000 years of our regions history.
- Media:** Galleries will provide space for new exhibits and collections centered on the theme, Lessons & Legacies from the Susquehanna. The center will showcase the Visions on the Susquehanna collection of art that describes the changes in the evolution of democracy in America through the eyes of master painters, whose paintings of the Susquehanna mirror our own cultural and political evolution.



## CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY AREA

Legacy: A learning environment inspired by a York County Native American woman's statement:  
"When I was a child, we didn't have playgrounds, we just went out into the woods and played."

Lessons: "Play is the highest form of research." - Albert Einstein

Primary Media: children's play area that uses local materials in natural settings that give children a chance to discover how the choices we make impact the people who follow us (e.g.; large boulder field where children can leave their own marks (legacy) in chalk petroglyphs for others to discover).



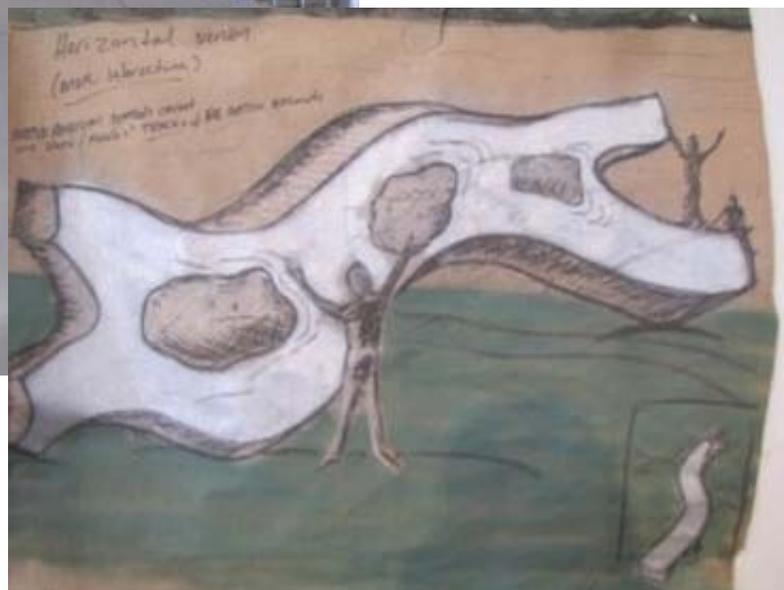


## KLINE'S RUN SCULPTURE GARDEN

Legacy: World class sculpture garden that attracts visitors to the region.

Lesson: The grounds of the interpretive center will showcase permanent 3 dimensional art that examines man's relationship to the river and the lands around it.

Media: 3 dimensional art (sculpture) commissioned for the site; including castings or replicas of the lower Susquehanna River petroglyphs recovered by state archaeologists when the dam was built, the earliest known land art associated with this region.



## DESTINATION ART

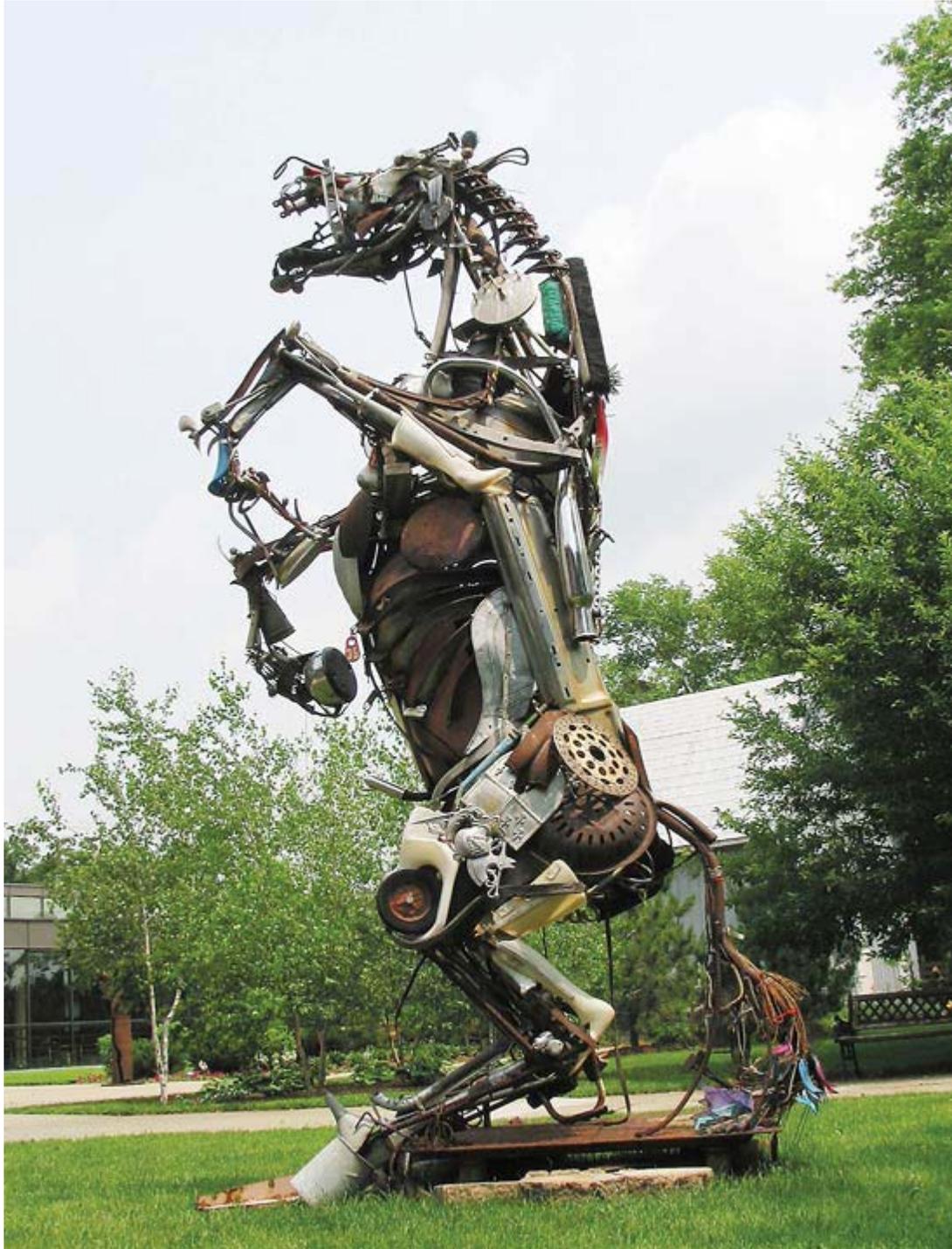
Legacy: Large scale sculpture of shad that attracts visitors to Kline's Run recreation area.

Lesson: Shad was a staple of Native American and early settler's diet, efforts to reintroduce shad.

Media: World class destination art (sculpture) commissioned for the site.







## Interpretive Opportunities for Kline’s Run Park

We see four opportunities for developing interpretive media for this site:

1. **The Garden of Ceremonial Time:** A playground/outdoor classroom that uses art as the play apparatus to teach the lessons and legacies of the Susquehanna
2. **The Kline’s Run Wilderness Area:** An extension of the playground into the “wilderness” area of the site
3. **The Native Heritage Center Interpretive Center:** An interpretive center featuring lessons and legacies with emphasis on Paleoindian, Late Archaic, Late Woodland and Contact periods.
4. **The Visitors Center:** An interpretive center featuring lessons and legacies interpreting 12,000 years of Native American and Euro American cultural change in Long Level.

The playground would be located between the two interpretive centers, which would function like bookends and as visual termini for the Garden of Ceremonial Time located in the courtyard between them. The Kline’s Run Wilderness Area would occupy the remainder of the site, left to or encouraged to return to its natural state. In all likelihood, the development of facilities on this site would be phased. The phasing plan could change, depending on the availability of funds specific to each of the program elements.

All of the components at Kline’s Run would be conceptually linked by the Lessons and Legacies theme. The interpretive opportunities described below also assume that most of the existing lawn areas will be replaced with native grasses to reduce maintenance costs (mowing), to cultivate an appearance more consistent with the site’s wilderness state, and to allow for the development of paths that direct visitors to specific sites and features we want them to discover in the wilderness areas of the site.

### PHASE 1. THE GARDEN OF CEREMONIAL TIME

A playground, outdoor classroom and outdoor sculpture garden that replaces the existing outdated playground equipment with a play area specifically designed to engage children in a play-filled environment that teaches the lessons and legacies of the Susquehanna. Playground equipment would be designed and fabricated by local artists with the idea that they would help interpret the region’s natural, cultural and historical resources or teach important lessons learned from the legacies of that heritage.

#### *Background to the Design of the Garden of Ceremonial Time*

*“Play is the highest form of research.”*  
Albert Einstein

*“We didn’t have playgrounds where I grew up, we just went out into the woods and played.”* - Native American mother, in response to a question a member of the audience asked at the second public meeting for this project: *“Should there be a Native American theme to the playground at Kline’s Run Park?”*

When Einstein said, *“Play is the highest form of research”* he could not have had in mind anything like today’s typical playground: Chuckie Cheese and Mickey’s D’s theme parks filled with products designed to promote brand loyalty and encourage return trips; community parks filled with plastic molded seahorses, choo choo trains and race cars marooned alongside pressure treated wooden pirate ships- all incongruously floating together on seas of engineered fill designed to keep children safely occupied while distracted parents visit with real or imagined (virtual) friends - play worlds built more for bottom lines, entertainment, risk aversion and distraction than the kind of learning Einstein or our Native American mom must have had in mind.

Our obsession with engineering children's playtime is not a surprising outcome from a society that evolved out of a Prussian educational system designed to churn out obedient factory workers. We have been taught to orchestrate every moment of our children's day, including our children's play, leaving them little time and few opportunities to learn lessons that might help them become more creative, imaginative, independent and productive citizens. It's a self-perpetuating model that we are sure to pass on to the next generation unless we find a way to break the mold.

On the surface, the solution to all this coddling seems quite simple-nature. It's probably what Einstein had in mind -he famously took daily walks through Princeton woods with colleagues like astrophysicist Neils Bohr to clear his head- and surely what our Native American mom had in mind. Unfortunately, our risk adverse, technology pre-occupied culture is unlikely to accept anything that simple as a viable option today, even if it looks better on the bottom line.

A December 2011 report from American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry found that, "*Children in the United States watch an average of three to four hours of television a day. By the time of high school graduation, they will have spent more time watching television than they have in the classroom.*" Children clearly love their technology, even more so than their parents. They've grown up with cell phones, I-Pads, desktops, laptops, and a whole host of virtual screen worlds - in addition to those TV's. It's just the reality of the world we live in today, and a world Einstein and most parents did not live in when they were kids.

Compounding the problem is the broad (geographically) and oftentimes sensationalized news coverage of child kidnappings, abuse and murders that understandably and sometimes not so understandably have caused so many parents to fear sending their children outdoors that child psychologist Richard Louv felt the need to invent a new medical term to describe the parental phobia: "*nature deficit disorder.*" In his book, **Last Child in the Woods**, Louv attributes the lack of children's exposure to the outdoors- coupled with all those sedentary alternatives we just mentioned- TVs, computers, media games- as a probable cause of a host of physical and mental childhood and adolescent pathologies in America (and other first world countries), including the obesity epidemic, attention deficit disorder, and depression.

In his 1957 classic, **Interpreting Our Heritage**, Freeman Tilden noted that, "*Interpretation addressed to children (say up to the age of 12) should not be a dilution of the presentation to adults, but should follow a different approach. To be at its best it will require a separate program.*" Tilden seemed to be onto the idea that kids learn differently than adults do- even before TV and advertising execs perfected that art. While it's easy to be dismissive of the product driven messages of a Disney or McDonald's playground or park, it's hard to not admire the effectiveness of the model. What would a playground designed around Disney's, Tilden's, Einstein's and a native American moms ideas of play look like? What are the messages we'd like children to learn here? How could we make this playground fun and engaging for children of every age and every ability or disability?

#### *The Conceptual Design of the Garden of Ceremonial Time at Kline's Run Park*

*"More and more now I find myself thinking there about time, how it drifts in from the future, how it brushes past us briefly in the present, and then drifts off again to become the past, and how none of these stages, neither past, nor present, nor future, is really knowable. Presented with this dilemma, I have come in recent years to accept the primitive concept of ceremonial time, in which past, present, and future can all be perceived in a single moment, generally during some dance or sacred ritual. Ceremonial time was perceived easily by the people who lived on the land...for most of human history."*

John Hanson Mitchell - **Ceremonial Time**, *Fifteen Thousand Years on One Square Mile*

The interpretive objective of the playground at Kline's Run Park will be to show this broad swath of land along the river between Marietta and Safe Harbor in a single moment in the context of humankind's entire existence through representations of the legacies left behind by the actions of both man and nature- the rise and fall of the land, the watershed, the tributaries, the river, the wind, the boulders, the trees, the petroglyphs, the palisades, the ruins of the canal, the bridges, the iron rails, the macadam, the dams, the locks, the foundries, the furnaces, the limekilns, the clocks, the wind turbines, the river towns themselves- each feature providing an opportunity to tell the story about man and his relationship to the river, to the land, and to other men in a place where time is suspended.

The playground will be a diorama of the region's legacies rendered in miniature set against the backdrop of a timeless landscape situated between the Native Heritage Center and the Visitors Center. The playground will begin at the edge of the hillside so its entrance is highly visible from Long Level Road, a specific concern of the study committee. The land itself will be gently sculpted to conceptually represent the topographical features of the long level swath of land between Marietta and Safe Harbor, including foreshortened versions of familiar wayfinding landmarks and vistas such as Highpoint, Chickies Rock and Turkey Hill.

The origins and destination of the Susquehanna River will also be represented by a map maker's break line (change of material) in the riverbed between the petroglyphs site below the dam and the Chesapeake Bay, and a similar break line between Marietta and two symbolic tributaries that feed the river in the highlands of New York. The origins and destination features create an opportunity to share the metaphor that life is like a river: the two tributaries at the origins represent genetic inheritance and cultural inheritance, other tributaries that feed the river (at Long Level) represent the lessons learned from the legacies others have left us on our journey through life; Long Level represents the smooth periods of life, times for enjoyment and reflection; boulders in the stream represent the occasional challenges we will face; the crater representing the Chesapeake Bay will represent the pool of knowledge we acquire near the end of our journey that we, as elder stewards, share with others before the river merges with the ocean and becomes part of civilization's cultural heritage upon our final destination.

A large metal sculpture of the river, interactive - meant to be touched and climbed upon, (already fabricated, originally intended for Harrisburg) will be the centerpiece of the Garden, placed at the center of the river, in the center of the park. The river is the reason most people were or still are drawn to this place, so it will stand in the Garden of Ceremonial Time as a symbol of origins. It will also represent the metaphor of the river as a symbol of change and diversity. Its four undulating sides welded together at their joints are symbolic of choices different societies make, each of its four sides wiggling along, each pushing and pulling against the other side while seeking its own path, all leading in the same direction- forward. The sculpture is very big, big enough to be noticed, and big enough to crawl through, and to play on. It's a good model of what we mean by sculpture serving as play apparatus.

The Garden of Ceremonial Time is a place where people can tell the story of origins, like the story of the origins of the Iroquois people written in 1828 at Tuscarora Village by David Cusick, the first Native American historian to write the history of his people. The Iroquois story sounds a lot like the origins story written in the Christian Bible, and the Mormon story, except man and woman were created equal in the Iroquois' origins story:

*“The good mind continued the works of creation and formed numerous creeks and rivers on the Great Island (North America), and then created numerous species of animals of the smallest and greatest to inhabit the forests, and fishes of all kinds to inhabit the waters. When he had made the universe, he was in doubt respecting some beings to possess the Great island; and he formed two images from the dust of the ground in his own likeness, male and female, and by his breathing into their nostrils he gave them living souls and*

*named them EA-GWE-HOWE, i.e., a real people.”*

David Cusick, from **Sketches of the Ancient History of the Six Nations: Comprising A Tale of the Foundation of the Great Island (North America), the Two Infants Born, and the Creation of the Universe**

The scientific story of how and why the river appeared, representing geologic time, will utilize natural features- a huge round boulder partially buried in the earth in the center of a bowl shaped crater at the south end of the wide and shallow boulder-strewn riverbed paved in natural riverstone that runs in a north-south direction the length of the playground -to explain the creation of the Chesapeake Bay and the Susquehanna River from the impact of a bolide meteor 35 million years ago.

Three triangular wellhead towers (30 feet high, look like radio antenna towers) extending above the ground around the rim of the crater serve as props to explain how rigs drilling 300 to 500 meters below the earth's surface discovered breccia created by the impact of the bolide meteor, the same elements discovered at the famous Canyon Diablo bolide crater in Arizona (the three towers also function as lamp posts for lighting the playground at night). The bowl shaped crater will serve as a small natural amphitheater for storytelling and performances by and for approximately 50 children. The meteor will be the storytellers perch or stage, and the strata of rock exposed in the face of the bowl shaped crater will provide the seating; the amphitheater will also function as an outdoor classroom to teach the geology of the region, with each concentric row of seats representing a layer of the earth's strata.

The riverbed between the break lines (generally corresponding to the 5 mile stretch of Long Level) could be flooded with 2” of water between the first day of summer and the first day of fall to celebrate the solstice and the equinox, creating a shallow splash pool where children can also learn about evaporative cooling, watersheds, the water cycle and the region's first astronomers, the ancient Shenk's Ferry people who accurately charted the solstice and the equinox.

The Susquehannock Native American life will be represented by 3 foot tall wooden palisades constructed at three sites reflecting the geographic locations of the Washington Boro and the Upper and Lower Liebhart villages. Environmental art inspired by longhouses designed to function as play apparatus will provide sheltered play areas for small children within the palisades. The palisaded villages will be surrounded by gardens of heritage crops that would have been used by the Susquehanna People, like corn, squash and beans and medicinal herbs, ideally planted and tended by volunteer gardeners from the Native American community.

The woodlands west of the playground will be maintained as wilderness area,- a place to explain where the women of the Susquehannock village collected firewood for cooking and heating- and to function as a natural play area designed and maintained by nature. Fallen trees, boulders, outcroppings, swales, trails and ridges will become the props for worlds that only children can imagine, the kind of place our Native American mother might have played as a child, or perhaps a miniature version of Winnie the Pooh's "100 Acre Wood," (see the Kline's Run Wilderness Area description for more detail.)

The Conejohela flats along the riverbed west of the Washington Boro site will be represented by a corporate or privately funded sculpture commissioned by a local artist of birds taking off in flight from a bed of tall native grasses. This sculpture will provide a setting for explaining the significance of the flats for migratory and nesting birds, and to teach children about important bird areas (IBAs) like the Susquehanna Flyover and Wilton Meadows. The story of shad, river herring and eel migration and their importance as a food source to both native and Colonial Americans will be represented with another commissioned sculpture showing them swimming in runs upstream. A walk to the fish ladder at the Safe Harbor Dam play apparatus (discussed

below) will explain partnerships between the power companies and fish and wildlife agencies to reintroduce shad to the river.

The story of how people traveled here-the evolution of the region's transportation system- will be represented by a walking trail that begins as a narrow tree lined dirt path (single track trail) that originates at the front door of the Native Heritage Center at the south end of the garden along the west side of riverbed, then widens to become a wagon road (double track trail) that by the time it reaches the front door of the Visitors Center becomes a yellow striped macadam proxy for the Lincoln Highway (and a place where small children can safely ride tricycles, skates and scooters). Before reaching its northern terminus, the macadam skate park arcs over and across the canal bed and river on top of a cast concrete sculpture inspired by the Wrightsville Bridge, its graceful arches and buttresses mimicking the arched roots that anchor the park's massive trees to the earth.

The street plans of each of the three river towns will be outlined in brick pavers in their respective geographic locations at the north end of the playground. Street names and donors will be inscribed on the face of the brick paved areas of each town site. The heritage of each town will be represented by a commissioned sculpture of an existing town legacy created by a local artist. The 3-dimensional pieces will provide a vertical dimension and focal point for each of the town plans, and will also function as wayfinding devices, i.e.; "meet me at the [Wrightsville sculpture] in the playground". The primary purpose of the sculptures, however, will be to function as playground apparatus, and as props for telling stories about the heritage of each of the three river towns. All sculptural play apparatus will be designed to be accessible. Rubber mats made from recycled tires will make soft landings below the apparatus while serving as props to talk about recycling and re-purposing used materials.

Wrightsville's heritage could be represented by a sculpture of the brick limekilns that tell the story of the limestone that attracted the iron industry to this place and continues to provide employment at the quarry south of town today. The construction and materials of this commissioned artwork could be donated or funded by the foundry, the quarry and a local brickyard. The Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal south of Wrightsville at Long Level will be represented by a shallow depression, its bottom paved so its gentle slope functions as a handicap ramp between the two interpretive centers, providing an accessible trail route for wheelchairs, strollers, and walkers between all the features in the playground. Canal locks lined with ashler stone will provide access points to the paved canal, and serve as outdoor classrooms for explaining how the canal worked. Major tributaries feeding the river at Long Level will be shown as well.

Columbia's heritage could be represented by a giant clock face (50 feet in diameter) made of 2 foot tall by two foot long by 2 foot wide Roman numeral numbers standing vertically around a brick clock face. The numbers are short enough for children to climb on and tall enough for grown ups to sit on as park benches (the horizontal bars on top of the Roman numerals would be the seats, the bars across the bottoms the bases) for roundtable discussions in the park. Small children can use the numbers to learn how to count to 12, while older children and adults can use them as props to discuss how the European concept of linear time, important to the development of an industrial economy, is different from the Native American concept of ceremonial time, important to the development of a stewardship ethic. The numbers could be donated by a local foundry or quarry in partnership with a grant secured from the Institute for Museum & Libraries Fund (IMLF) in partnership with the National Watch & Clock Museum of Columbia.

Marietta's heritage could be represented by a sculpture of the 6 iron furnaces on the east side of the riverbed below an elevated mound representing the geologic formation of Chickies Rock. Iron rails set in the ground below Chickies Rock will disappear as the path becomes a trail through the woods to the Native Lands park. Like the brick kilns at Wrightsville, the iron furnaces will be designed to also function as play apparatus where

children can meet, climb, play hide and seek, and learn about the history of the region's iron industry that was enabled by the canal and later the railroad that followed the river's edge.

Harnessing nature's wind and water power will be represented by a concrete dam built across the river at Safe Harbor, with its Depression-era colonnaded façade cast in bas relief. Small wind turbines constructed on the bluff above the dam will actually provide power for the park's lighting. These features could be funded by the Safe Harbor Power Company. The concrete dam would be designed as a play apparatus safe for children to climb on and over. The outflow raceway and fish ladder would function as a water slide in the summer when the shallow river is flooded, and to explain how fish ladders can be used to allow shad, river herring and eel to climb the river to spawn.

Below the dam, the region's earliest art will appear on a field of boulders -worn smooth and round from millennia of waters flowing past them- etched with a hundred mysterious markings whose legend is decipherable only to those willing to learn something about the ancient people who made them. Replicas of Big and Little Indian Rocks displaying petroglyphs will be etched in stone and outlined in paint so they are highly visible. Children will be encouraged to add their own temporal "marks" with chalk.

Like follies in an English landscape or garden, the built features that reflect European (post contact period) legacies on the lower Susquehanna will be constructed of "modern" materials (we imagine them as being fairly abstract, reminiscent of Giorgio de Chirico paintings of the Italian Piazza's). The natural and Native American features in the park that reflect the pre-contact period legacies will utilize natural materials as much as possible (more like Andy Goldsworthy land art). The use of plastic or concrete to represent natural materials (trees, boulders, rock outcroppings, etc.) should be discouraged so that the beauty and patina that natural materials acquire with the passage of time can be enjoyed and the effects of weathering by wind, water and sunlight on man-made materials can be seen and taught. Lessons should also include discussions about why materials like concrete and petroleum derived plastics contribute to global warming. The follies will be commissioned artwork, designed by local artists. As noted earlier, we imagine them as being fairly abstract, representing rather than depicting the legacies left behind by the people who were drawn to this river.

*An App for the Ceremonial Garden at Kline's Run Park, providing more Lessons from the Legacies of the Susquehanna*

While some of the lessons we want children and their parents to learn at this playground will be self evident, many will not. The purpose of the Susquehanna Ceremonial Gardens App will be to provide a tool for learning when teachers and guides are not around. The app will have a 3-D image of the playground that looks and functions like a video game, with zoom in and zoom out features to facilitate viewing, and interactive features designed by "gamers" who know how to engage people of all ages. Touch pad hyper links will connect each legacy feature in the playground with the lessons (messages) we want them to learn about those natural, cultural or historic features, and links and maps of how to find the actual site the feature represents. The virtual playground will be actively managed so that new stories can be added by teachers, interpreters, and stewards of the regions heritage sites.

**PHASE 2. SUSQUEHANNA LESSONS & LEGACIES WILDERNESS AREA AND SCULPTURE PARK**

The purpose of the wilderness area of the park will be to allow the land at Kline's Run Park to return to its natural state as much as possible to create an environment where children can learn through unstructured play in the spirit of the Native American mother's idea of play. For example, fallen trees will become play apparatus, the hole in the ground left by their upturned roots becomes a hobbit house, a lesson plan on how

trees are nourished, and how roots form the structure that, like the arches beneath the Wrightsville bridge, anchor them to the earth- until nature's more powerful force, the wind, knocks them down. The tree trunk becomes a plank or a bench for a class picture, its branches a fort or a place to climb.

The two foot high trunk of another large diameter tree purposefully felled due to disease will become a bench to sit on, a perch for an interpreter to deliver a talk on tree diseases, or a lesson plan on how trees grow or how we can measure the impact of climate change by the size of each ring. When the tree decays, it will be a place to learn about fungus and how trees break down and become part of the earth again. Boulders and outcroppings will be places to climb, or places to learn about rock shelters. Trails through the native grasses will be places to invent adventures, or to take nature walks and learn about native plants and invasive ones. The ruins of the dam and settler's home on Kline's Run will become a place to catch crawdads or salamanders, to learn about the early settlers who built them, and to learn about the impermanence of human endeavors, and nature's ability to reclaim and restore itself.

The wilderness park will include outdoor sculptures made from natural materials, like land art sculptor Andy Goldsworthy's stone walls and cairns, earthen mounds, and ephemeral landscape art that use leaves, and twigs and ice and other impermanent materials that fade away in an hour, a day, or a week. The art will feature local artists and be designed to communicate messages about the region's natural heritage, based on the Lessons and Legacies of the Susquehanna theme.

#### **PHASES 3 AND 4**

Development of a the 15,000 to 20,000 square foot **Native Heritage Center** designed to exhibit artifacts recovered from the parklands. Further, this center could potentially house the artifacts in a climate controlled museum quality space that provides for their preservation. The focus of the center should be the along the Lessons and Legacies theme, focused on the Paleoindian, Late Archaic, Late Woodland and Contact periods.

Development of a 15,000 to 20,000 square foot **Visitors Center** at the other end of the courtyard overlooking the Susquehanna, focused on the region's post contact history. The center would provide a permanent home for the paintings of the Visions of the Susquehanna exhibit, with classrooms and additional galleries featuring traveling exhibits that promote interpretation of the regions natural, cultural and historic heritage sites around the Lessons and Legacies of the Susquehanna theme.

Building two separate interpretive structures on this site initially was a response to the concern that the one 35,000 square foot interpretive center originally proposed for this site would be an overwhelmingly large structure entirely out of context with its surroundings. That concern prompted us to recommend two separate structures, one at the front of the site overlooking the river focused on post contact heritage, and a separate structure at the back of the site focused on native American heritage, with the playground between them. Those ideas continued to evolve into the following plan recommendations as the interpretive framework for this site became more defined.

## NATIVE LANDS

The Native Lands are important to us locally, regionally, and nationally. It is significant to us because of the role it played in the relationship between Native Americans, their interaction with Europeans, and the westward expansion and settlement of North America by European cultures. Just as important, it is considered sacred ground to Native Americans who are connected with the native culture who called this land home before Europeans arrival.

Like Highpoint, Native Lands possess awe-inspiring characteristics, from a different perspective. The site is largely undisturbed and from many locations on the property 19th and 20th century activities are not evident. With little imagination one can experience the landscape as those who came before us had experienced it. Further, the property offers views, in several locations, of the Susquehanna River valley. Where more recent impacts are located on the property, they are associated with the European settlement of the land, as evidenced with the Dritt Family Cemetery and the farmstead ruins, remnant trees from the orchard, alterations to the stream running from the farms spring, etc.. Last, with a little knowledge of the Susquehannock culture, one can imagine and almost visualize their activities that occurred on this land. It is these qualities that create the experience of the Native Lands. And, it is these qualities that we wish to preserve and interpret for current and future generations.

Given the nature of these lands, we recommend the word ‘Park’ be dropped from its designation. Referring to the property just as the Native Lands gives it the proper connotation and perspective that it deserves.

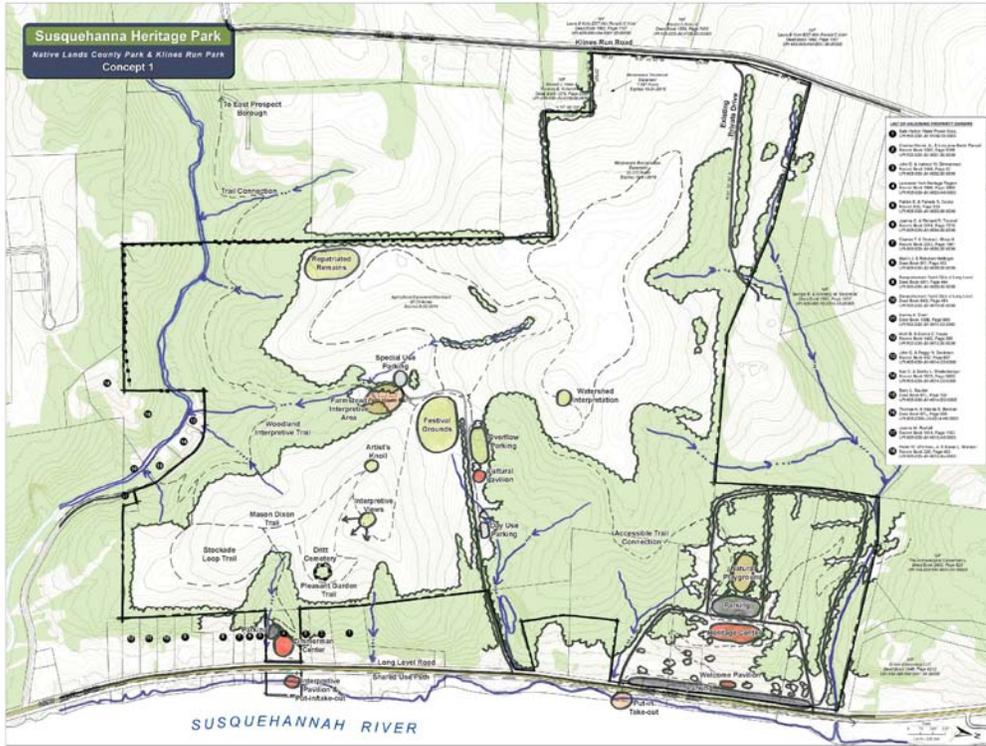
Improvements recommended for consideration in the Native Lands, as a result of the public input process included exploring:

- place signs, reflecting the Susquehanna Riverlands brand, at entrances to property
- retain character of the landscape, preserve views of undeveloped landscape
- limit uses of the site to passive recreation and enjoyment of the landscape
- respect the sacredness of the site
- explore opportunities to interpret Susquehannock village location
- set aside land for repatriation of native heritage remains and artifacts
- minimal development
- provide accessible trail opportunities
- stabilize/remove unsafe portions of farmhouse to provide for safety of visitors
- interpret farmhouse remains
- consider using farm lane from Long Level Road into the site as the primary access
- plan to accommodate special events on the site
- consider secondary access to site from Klines Run Road

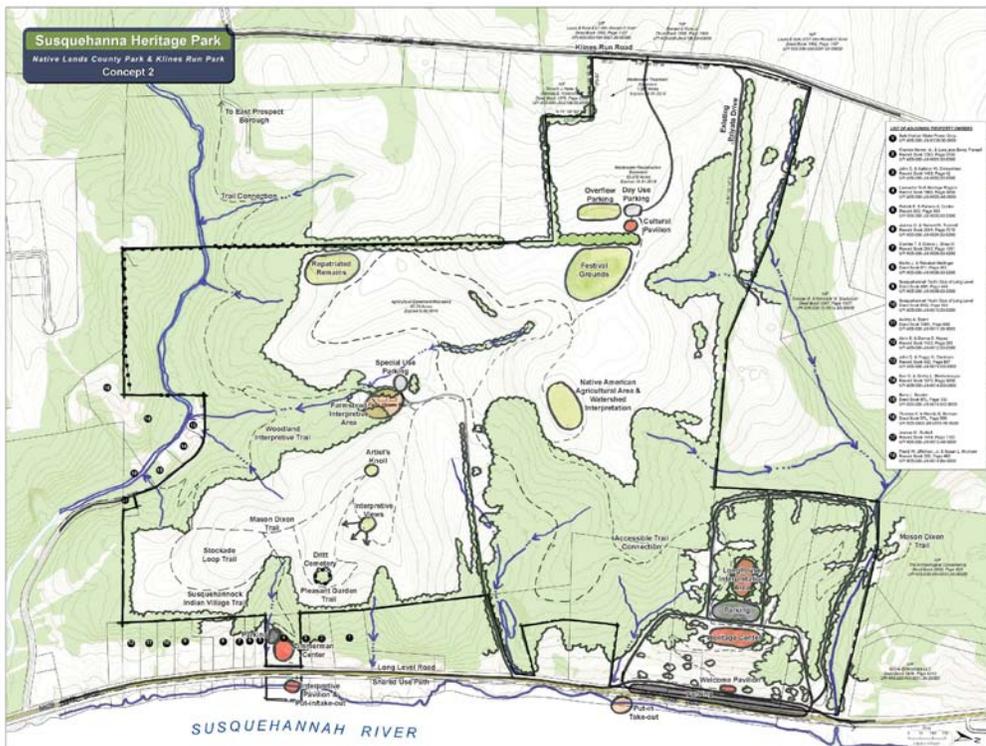
Various concepts were explored to accommodate the desires above and to respond to the overall mission, vision, and goals established for the Susquehanna Heritage Park. As a result two concepts were further refined and presented to the steering committee for their consideration.

Each concept was reviewed and evaluated by the committee, and resulted in providing us with the final direction for the master plan.

# CONCEPT 1



# CONCEPT 2



## NATIVE LANDS

### MASTER SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

#### Interpreting Our Heritage and Environment

The Native Lands provides a venue to celebrate and interpret our region's cultural heritage, and to preserve the rural landscape of the past.

#### Physical Improvements

Currently the site is only accessible by foot. We recommend two vehicular points of access be established.

##### NATIVE LANDS FARM LANE ENTRANCE

The main access should be from Long Level Road and follow the alignment of the former farm lane leading into the site and terminating in the vicinity of the former farmstead. This public access should retain the character of the former farm lane. The Lane should extend into the site and terminate at the proposed day use area. From the day use area a tractor lane (two track natural surface access) should extend to the site of the former farmstead. This portion of the lane should be limited access for maintenance, operations, special event, & accessible parking at the farmstead.



### **EASTERN DAY USE AREA**

The day use area will include pervious parking areas for approximately 20 visitors. Two of the proposed spaces will be accessible parking spaces. Immediately adjacent to, and northwest of the parking area we propose a three season shelter. This shelter should be designed to accommodate programming needs as well as provide composting restrooms and storage areas. There should be water and electricity at this site in order to accommodate and facilitate programming. The day use area will provide accessible trail routes leading to the Trail of History and the Farmstead. The shelter should be tucked into the landscape in such a manner that it is screened from various views of the undeveloped landscape.

### **PASSIVE OPEN SPACE AND SPECIAL EVENT GROUNDS**

We propose to designate the gently sloping landscape immediately adjacent to the south side of the farm lane as the passive recreation and special event area. This location is visually screened by the hedge road along the southern side of the farm lane, and it is screened from other views on the property because it sits below the adjacent knoll located further to the south. The open space should be maintained as a tall grass meadow, and only mowed as required to maintain the meadow and to accommodate special events that may occur two to four times a year. There should be electricity at this site to accommodate and facilitate programming.



### 19TH CENTURY FARMSTEAD

The farmstead ruins provide an intriguing opportunity to interpret the legacy and lessons of man's impact on the land as European settlers began their westward expansion. Given the condition and safety concerns associated with the farmstead, we recommend the structure be removed down to the root cellar. We recommend the root cellar be preserved for interpretation. The adjacent garage is from more recent times, not appropriate to the interpretive program, therefore, we recommend it be removed.



The adjacent stone foundations that supported barns that once stood on the property should be retained. We recommend adapting the barn foundation to become a picnic grove. Other opportunities for interpretation include establishing and maintaining a heirloom garden and fruit orchard. From this area the Native Lands Trail will extend south past the farmstead spring and into the Canadochly Creek valley. It will continue northward through adjacent property, eventually reaching East Prospect Borough.



### **SUSQUEHANNOCK VILLAGE**

The existing natural surface trail extending to the southern reach of the property circles the approximate location of the Susquehannock village that once accommodated a population of upwards of 900 people. Previous archeological investigations indicate this area was once enclosed with a wooden palisade. It is believed the site of the village was chosen for its strategic advantage, as the topography would have allowed those within the palisaded village to see over the palisade and identify anyone that may be approaching the village before they reach it. This site has special significance to Native Americans because it was once occupied by their ancestors.

We recommend consideration be given to constructing a section of the palisade to allow visitors to experience what the site contained in years past. Further, we recommend the village area be maintained as a special place, and serve as a venue for Native American storytelling and other cultural interpretation events.



### **NATIVE HERITAGE REPATRIATION AREA**

As suggested by members of the Native Heritage Council of Lancaster and York Counties, we recommend an area of Native Lands be set aside for the appropriate repatriation on Native remains and artifacts subject to appropriate laws and customs. This area was selected as it secluded from other activity areas.



### **DRITT FAMILY CEMETERY**

As noted earlier the Zimmerman Center for Heritage (aka Dritt Mansion), now the home of the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area was the home of Jacob Dritt, who lived in the home from 1783 until he drowned in the river in 1817. Dritt served in the Revolutionary War and became Major General of the Commonwealth Militia. His stone house was a residence and a place of business, for Dritt was an entrepreneur engaged in wine and liquor trading, farming, milling and operating a river ferry. He also laid out and sold the original lots for the village of Washington Boro, directly across the river.

Dritt had eleven children with his wife, Maria Elizabeth, and the house remained in the family until 1851. The Dritt Family Cemetery, on the hilltop behind the house, is now part of Native Lands. Jacob Dritt is not buried here, but it is the final resting place of his wife and relatives, with graves dating from 1824 to 1879.

The cemetery provides an opportunity to interpret those who settled York County, following the Susquehannocks. A trail leads from the cemetery to the Zimmerman Center for Heritage located to the east.



### TRAIL THROUGH HISTORY

From the day use area a loop trail is proposed through the western portion of the property. We recommend interpretive stations be located along the trail to allow visitors to walk back in time and discover the history associated with the property. The following is a sample time line that could be interpreted along the trail:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
c. 1850	Farmhouse constructed on Native Lands
1777	York “First Capitol” of the United States
1763	Conestoga Indian Massacre occurred
c. 1750	Dritt Mansion was constructed
1749	York County established August 19, 1749
c. 1680	Last Susquehannock Village was abandoned
1620	Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth, Massachusetts
1608	Captain John Smith “discovered” the Susquehanna River and the Susquehannocks
c. 1575	Susquehannocks began their 1st village on the lower Susquehanna
1492	Columbus “discovered” America
c. 1200-1500	Algonkian Indians carved petroglyphs on rocks in the Susquehanna River
c. 800 AD	Native Peoples in the area were practicing horticulture, making pottery, and using bows and arrows, known as the “Late Woodland Period”
c. 1500 BC	Native Peoples were living in semi-permanent groups, trading with other Indians, and using vessels made from soapstone quarried from sites near the Maryland Line, known as the “Transitional Period”
c. 5,000 years ago	Native Peoples were hunting, fishing, and gathering foods as they traveled through the area in their seasonal pattern, middle of the “Archaic Period”
c. 10,000 years ago	Tools and debitage (debris) found on this land could date back this far, known as the beginning of the “Archaic Period”
c. 12,000 years ago	The last Ice Age ended. It is likely that Native Peoples were hunting, fishing, and gathering foods as the seasons allowed. Before this time most of the plants, trees and animals that now live here could not live here. The land and climate was much like today’s arctic tundra, during the “Paleoindian Period”
c. 14,000 years ago	Evidence has been found on the Lower Susquehanna that Native Peoples may have first visited this area during the “Paleoindian Period”

### **KLINES RUN ROAD ENTRANCE - WESTERN DAY USE AREA**

As described earlier in this section, we recommend a secondary vehicular access be created into the Native Lands from Klines Run Road. This access should be controlled, and opened as needed to accommodate peak use of the site. This entrance also provides an opportunity to isolate special events, either in the western or eastern portion of the park as desired. And, this secondary entrance will help to address those concerned with traffic along Long Level Road. The access road should extend into the property until it reaches the prominent treeline between the Native Lands and adjacent private property located to the southwest.

The access road should end in a small day use parking area. This day use area should also contain pervious parking areas for approximately 20 visitors. Two of the proposed spaces will be accessible parking spaces. In addition, we recommend a 30' x 45' picnic shelter with composting restrooms (to accommodate approximately 50 people) be constructed in this location. Water and electric service should be provided to this shelter. The existing treeline should be extended and reinforced to screen the western day use area from various views of the undeveloped landscape.



# Native Lands County Park - East

*Lessons and Legacies from the Susquehanna*



**LEGEND**

<p><b>1</b> Native Lands Farm Lane Entrance - Main day-use vehicular entrance - Maintain farm lane 'feeling'</p> <p><b>2</b> Day Use Area - Accessible trail connection to Klines Run Park - Three season shelter, composting restrooms and storage area with water &amp; electric - Vehicular parking area, 2 accessible &amp; 17 pervious spaces</p> <p><b>3</b> Passive Open Space &amp; Special Event Grounds - Extend hedge row to screen day use area from open space - Water &amp; electric hook-ups</p> <p><b>4</b> Farm Lane - Limited access (accessible parking, special event &amp; operations &amp; maintenance) - 'Farmstead lane'</p>	<p><b>5</b> 19th Century Farmstead - Preservation &amp; interpretation of farmstead fruit cellar - Adaptive re-use of barn foundation for picnic grove - Half-acre vegetable garden - Fruit tree orchard - Accessible parking spaces, 4</p> <p><b>6</b> Native Lands Trail - retain views of 18th century landscape</p> <p><b>7</b> Susquehannock Village - Palisade re-creation - Cultural interpretation &amp; story-telling special event area</p> <p><b>8</b> Dritt Family Cemetery - Interpretation of York County's settlers - Trail to John &amp; Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Pleasant Garden</p> <p><b>9</b> Native Heritage Repatriation Area</p> <p><b>10</b> Trail Through History - See western enlargement</p>
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**Accessibility**  
 - all facilities to be accessible in accordance with 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design  
 - accessible routes provided to all facilities and public spaces  
 - accessible walks, and paths will not exceed 5% slope, nor 2% cross slope and will meet parking and street pavement flush  
 - picnic areas will have some tables with overhangs for wheelchairs  
 - benches and stands will have adjacent paving for wheelchairs  
 - all parking areas will include accessible parking spaces (1 per 25 spaces), spaces will be signed, marked, and have a maximum 2% cross slope and accommodate van parking

**Property Owner**  
 - York County

Zimmerman Center for Heritage

Susquehanna River

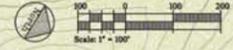
See Klines Run Park Enlargement





# Native Lands County Park - West

*Lessons and Legacies from the Susquehanna*



PASHEK ASSOCIATES



### LEGEND

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1 Day Use Area</b><br/>- Accessible trail connection to Klines Run Park<br/>- Three season shelter, composting restrooms and storage area with water &amp; electric<br/>- Vehicular parking area, 2 accessible &amp; 17 pervious spaces</p> <p><b>2 Passive Open Space &amp; Grounds</b><br/>- Extend hedge row to screen day use area from open space<br/>- Water &amp; electric hook ups</p> <p><b>3 Farm Lane</b><br/>- Limited access (accessible parking, special event &amp; operations &amp; maintenance)<br/>- "Farmstead lane"</p> <p><b>4 19th Century Farmstead</b><br/>- Preservation &amp; interpretation of farmstead fruit cellar<br/>- Adaptive re-use of barn foundation for picnic grove<br/>- Half-acre vegetable garden<br/>- Fruit tree orchard<br/>- Accessible parking spaces, 4</p> | <p><b>5 Native Lands Trail</b><br/>- retain views of 18th century landscape</p> <p><b>6 Native Heritage Repatriation Area</b></p> <p><b>7 Monocacy Path</b><br/>- Trail interpreting 17th century native american route</p> <p><b>8 Trail Through History</b><br/>- Interpretive timeline from modern times through european settlement to native american past<br/>- accessible trail</p> <p><b>9 Day Use Area</b><br/>- Picnic shelter and composting restrooms with water &amp; electric<br/>- Vehicular parking area, 2 accessible &amp; 17 pervious spaces<br/>- Extend hedge row to screen day use area</p> <p><b>10 Passive Open Space and Special Event Grounds</b><br/>- Overflow parking</p> |
|---|--|
- Accessibility**  
all facilities to be accessible in accordance with 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design  
accessible routes provided to all facilities and public spaces  
accessible walks, and paths will not exceed 5% slope, nor 2% cross slope and will meet parking and street pavement flush  
picnic areas will have some tables with overhangs for wheelchairs  
benches and stands will have adjacent paving for wheelchairs  
all parking areas will include accessible parking spaces (1 per 25 spaces), spaces will be signed, marked, and have a maximum 2% cross slope and accommodate van parking
- Property Owner**  
York County



### Trail through History

Date	Event
c. 1850	Farmhouse constructed on Native Lands
1777	York "First Capitol" of the United States
1763	Conestoga Indian Massacre occurred
c. 1750	Dirt Mansion was constructed
1749	York County established August 19, 1749
c. 1680	Last Susquehannock Village was abandoned
1620	Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth, Massachusetts
1608	Captain John Smith "discovered" the Susquehanna River and the Susquehannocks
c. 1575	Susquehannocks began their 1st village on the lower Susquehanna
1492	Columbus "discovered" America
c. 1200-1500	Algonkian Indians carved petroglyphs on rocks in the Susquehanna River
c. 800 AD	Native Peoples in the area were practicing horticulture, making pottery, and using bows and arrows, known as the "Late Woodland Period"
c. 1500 BC	Native Peoples were living in semi-permanent groups, trading with other Indians, and using vessels made from soapstone quarried from sites near the Maryland Line, known as the "Transitional Period"
c. 5,000 years ago	Native Peoples were hunting, fishing, and gathering foods as they traveled through the area in their seasonal pattern, middle of the "Archaic Period"
c. 10,000 years ago	Tools and debris (debris) found on this land could date back this far, known as the beginning of the "Archaic Period"
c. 12,000 years ago	The last Ice Age ended. It is likely that Native Peoples were hunting, fishing, and gathering foods as the seasons allowed. Before this time most of the plants, trees and animals that now live here could not live here. The land and climate was much like today's arctic tundra, during the "Paleoindian Period"
c. 14,000 years ago	Evidence has been found on the Lower Susquehanna that Native Peoples may have first visited this area during the "Paleoindian Period"

## Interpretive Media

### 4. NATIVE LANDS PARK

*“I found that when the moment was right, by concentrating on some external object, an arrowhead...or the running walls or foundations of the area, I was able to perceive something more than a simple mental picture of what some past event was like. I not only could see the event or the place in my mind’s eye, but would also hear it, smell the woodfires, and sometimes, for just a flash, a microsecond if you care to measure things, I would actually be there, or so it seemed.”*

*John Hansen Mitchell, Ceremonial Time: Fifteen Thousand Years on One Square Mile (1984)*

- Legacy: A culturally sacred and archaeologically significant National Register site left largely undisturbed except for low impact usage and minimal structures used predominantly to commemorate, interpret and celebrate the culture, customs and beliefs of Native Americans and the early settlers to this region.
- Lesson: Visitors learn that this site on the banks of the river is a sacred place for Native Americans and the families of early European settlers who come here to celebrate and honor their ancestors, their customs and their heritage.
- Media: Pow wows, storytellers, Native American games (e.g; lacrosse), plantings of crops, orchards and gardens used by native people and early settlers.

## Native Lands Heritage Site

- Legacy:** A culturally sacred and archaeologically significant National Register site left largely undisturbed except for low impact usage by Native Americans (e.g.; ceremonial or sacred dances).
- Lesson:** Visitors learn why the Susquehannock's settled here, how they lived before contact with Europeans, and how some of those choices - warlike relations with neighbors, depletion of natural resources, exhaustive investment in their built environment- contributed to the end of their society after the Europeans arrived.
- Media:** Apps that provide links to the Susquehannocks, grass trails tracing the location of the palisade and the longhouses inside it.



## 5. FARMSTEAD RUINS

*We are inclined in America to think that the value of monuments is simply to remind us of origins. They are much more valuable as reminders of long-range, collective purpose, of goals and objectives and principles. As such even the least slightly of monuments gives a landscape beauty and dignity and keeps the collective memory alive.*

*J.B. Jackson, Concluding with Landscapes (1984)*



- Legacy: A farmstead site that will over time return to its natural state.
- Lesson: Visitors learn about early settlers subsistence form of living and how that choice is disappearing from this landscape.
- Media: Ruins of agrarian farmstead, agricultural buildings, cartways, cemetery and landscape features interpreted through signage, apps and brochures.
- Possible Outcomes: as this property recedes into the landscape, it will either return to dust - with only the bones of former buildings left as its legacy- or it will inspire a group of local citizens to rally and preserve it if they can discover some aspect of its heritage (e.g; Maryland & the Cresap family) that is significant enough to merit the cost to preserve and maintain it.

## 6. DRITT FAMILY CEMETERY

*[Landmarks] stand for continuity, community, identity, for links with the past and the future. In the contemporary American community these roles are what counteract our mobility and fragmentation and forgetfulness of history.*

*J.B. Jackson, Stone and Its Substitutes (1984)*

Legacy: An early American family's memorial to its ancestors.

Lesson: Visitors will learn why the Dritt family settled here, and how that choice influenced their lives.

Media: Interpreted through signage, apps and brochures.

"We build on foundations we did not lay. We warm ourselves by fires we did not light. We sit in the shade of trees we did not plant. We learn from persons we did not know. We are ever bound in community."

*Rev. Peter S. Raible*



## Laws Regarding Burial Practices and Cemeteries

State and federal laws govern responsibilities associated with burial grounds and cemeteries. The following is a summary of applicable state and federal laws. All recommended improvements to Native Lands Park must take into consideration how each of these laws applies to the specific recommendations for improvements.

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### *Burial Grounds, Municipal Control Act of May 10, 1923 (P.L. 198, No. 144)*

This Act states that courts have the authority to designate local governments as the caretakers of neglected burial grounds. The local government must then finance the maintenance of the burial ground, and these grounds must be open to the public. Furthermore, a petition signed by at least 25 citizens residing within a five-mile radius of the municipally-owned and maintained burial ground may be used by a court as means to order the local government to rid the burial ground of weeds, overgrown brush, etc.

#### *Historic Burial Places Preservation Act of April 29, 1994 (P.L. 141, No. 22)*

This Act defines “Historic burial place” as “A tract of land that has been in existence as a burial ground for more than 100 years wherein there have been no burials for at least 50 years and wherein there will be no future burials or listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.”

It further states that municipalities may not use eminent domain to take a historic burial ground for an alternate use. PHMC approval must be given before a burial ground is taken for “public use.” If the burial ground is taken for public use, then the burial ground authority must preserve a record of what was removed. This record must be sent to the county and PHMC.

Furthermore, this Act also stipulates that the following actions are illegal: the removals of a fence, tomb, monument, gravestone, or fragment. These actions are legal only if the object(s) is being removed with consent of the owner or descendent and a court order for the purpose of “repair or replacement, reproduction or preservation and display in an accredited museum.”

### FEDERAL LAWS AND ACTS PROTECTING BURIAL SITES

There are two important federal acts that have an influence on historic properties and Native American graves. These are the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended 2000, and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of November 16, 1990.

These acts can help determine whether a cemetery property can be shown to be part of a Native American grave site or if the integrity, significance, and history of an extant cemetery can qualify for the National Register of Historic Places through National Register Criteria.

Additionally, if federally assisted projects are likely to have an adverse effect on historical and archaeological resources of a burial ground or cemetery, appropriate federal review process must be initiated for compliance with sections of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

#### *Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*

This Act states that any project to be funded with federal money must be reviewed to determine whether or not that project may produce an “adverse effect” on any cultural resource eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Based on its assessment, PHMC issues recommendations as to how to proceed with a given project.

### *The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended 2000*

This Act promotes a national policy to preserve historic properties, significant historic and prehistoric sites, buildings and objects that are either eligible or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Act gives some protection to cemeteries that are eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This protection only applies when federal funds, permits, or licenses are involved. The National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies or their representatives to identify archaeological or historic properties that will be affected by a federally funded, permitted or licensed project and to determine those properties' eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. If the properties are eligible, the federal agency must gauge the effect the project will have on the properties.

### *Role of State Historic Preservation Office*

Section 101(b)(3) of the National Historic Preservation Act states that one of the responsibilities of the State Historic Preservation Officer (in Pennsylvania, the officer is the executive director of the PHMC) is to advise and assist the federal agencies in carrying out their historic preservation responsibilities. As historical and archaeological resources, eligible burial sites and cemeteries will receive identification and consideration throughout the planning and development of federal projects.

### *Native Indian Tribes and the Section 106 Review Process*

Section 101 (d)(2) of the Act states that a tribe may assume all or any part of the functions of a State Historic Preservation Officer in accordance with subsections (b)(2) and (b)(3) of this section, with respect to tribal lands, as such responsibilities may be modified for tribal programs through regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior. Please refer to the Act and the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation for more information on Indian Tribes and the Section 106 process.

### *Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of November 16, 1990*

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) is the primary federal legislation pertaining to graves and human remains in archaeological contexts. It requires that remains and artifacts be returned to identified descendants or groups if and when they are uncovered during activities such as archaeological excavations. NAGPRA establishes definitions of burial sites, cultural affiliation, cultural items, associated and unassociated funerary objects, sacred objects, cultural patrimony, Indian tribes, museums, Native Americans and Native Hawaiians, right of possession, and tribal land. NAGPRA gives guides and priorities concerning the ownership or control of Native American cultural items that are excavated or discovered on federal or tribal lands after the date of enactment of the act. Guides are given concerning the intentional excavation and removal of Native American human remains and objects on federal or tribal land, as well as for the inadvertent discovery of Native American remains and objects on federal or tribal lands. Process is established in assisting federal agencies and museums in the determination of the appropriate Native American group responsible for disposition of various human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and materials of cultural patrimony. NAGPRA required that all museums make an inventory of such items, stipulating that geographical and cultural affiliation be identified if possible, and that upon request from a tribe a museum or federal agency would provide documentation and repatriate materials if "appropriate."

Native American human remains, graves, and ritual objects located on federal and tribal land are encouraged to be protected in situ. In cases where in place preservation is not possible, or if archaeological excavation is necessary for planning or research, or if the remains are inadvertently discovered, then consultation is necessary prior to excavation under an Archaeological Resources Protection Act permit. If remains covered by the law are discovered, the project will be stopped for 30 days while the review and consultation process proceeds.

## General Guidelines for the Management of Archeological Sites within the Susquehanna Heritage Park

Early in the SHP planning process, partners of the SHP established their desire to develop guidelines to appropriately treat the archeological sites located within the properties. Towards that end guidelines for the management of archeological sites were prepared. These guidelines were developed by the local partners with input from PHMC and professional archeologists. This process resulted in the following guidelines. We commend the SHP partners for developing and following these guidelines to protect and preserve the archeological resources for future generations to study.

### **PURPOSE**

The Susquehanna Heritage Park (SHP) is comprised of six properties containing several known archaeological and historical sites, as well as many areas of high probability for containing additional archaeological resources. These properties have been acquired for the purpose of preserving them from damage and destruction in order that through a long future they may be studied to increase our understanding of the lives of their occupants and of the past in general. Archaeological sites within the SHP are to be managed according to the principles of Conservation Archaeology, which mandates that major parts of the sites are to be saved for future generations. To this end, research on SHP archaeological sites is welcomed so long as it employs professional standards, is carefully controlled and thoroughly documented to minimize damage and maximize our increase in knowledge.

### **GENERAL POLICIES**

Each property owner within the SHP is ultimately responsible for their own property and how it is managed. These guidelines have been developed to assure that the greatest care and highest professional standards are followed when conducting archaeological investigations within the SHP properties, and to establish the SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee and provide a process within which they may operate.

#### *A. Management*

1. These guidelines have been established to provide guidance to property owners within the SHP to assist in the management of archaeological resources. In addition to these guidelines individual property owners within the SHP may also establish site specific management plans to manage their specific sites. These guidelines, as well as any additional specific cultural resource management plans developed by individual property owners, should adhere to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, as well as the "Guidelines For Archaeological Investigation in Pennsylvania" revised November 2008 by the Bureau of Historic Preservation, The Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, Pa. Individual management plans for archaeological sites within the SHP should consider such matters as: ground disturbing activity, stabilization, site security and protection, nondestructive use of the property, research, curation, access, and other issues relevant to prudent management and stewardship for the public good.
2. Provisions should be made by all property owners of archaeological sites within the SHP for adequate ground cover, minimum erosion, stabilization, and disturbance (from planting, mowing, grazing, etc.) and for fencing and monitoring when appropriate and necessary. For property owners without professional archaeologists on staff, the SHP's Archaeological Research Review Committee should be consulted for best practices.
3. While public access is a key component of the SHP, individual property owners should take great

care in managing archaeologically sensitive properties, and limit access to sensitive archaeological areas if needed in order to assure the protection of archaeological resources.

4. If an individual property owner within the SHP wishes to allow archaeological research, the research will be permitted when appropriate to a problem-oriented program, but permission will be required with the conditions stated below. Field schools and other training programs are allowed if they are problem oriented, adequately supervised, and meet the stipulations for a permit outlined below.
5. All human remains encountered within the SHP properties will be treated with dignity and respect. Research must comply with the terms of Pennsylvania state laws and applicable provisions of any federal laws governing human burials.
6. Because the SHP believes in the widest possible dissemination of information about its properties; researchers, visitors, and other users are encouraged to fully cooperate with the scientific media as well as popular media, including newspapers, magazines, journals, and electronic media. In all such contacts, the property owner shall be identified as the owner of the archaeological site and consulted prior to distribution of any information.
7. Media access to news about SHP archaeological sites and research thereon shall not be discriminatory. The SHP partners shall not sponsor or condone the preferential access to news for its own publications, nor will it allow any researcher or user to give preferential access to news about research or use on any SHP property to any media outlet.

#### *B. Archaeological Research Review Committee*

1. **Formation.** The initial SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee shall be formed by the owner of the property receiving the first research request.
2. **Members.** The SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee shall include the appropriate property owner, and insofar as is possible and practical, (a) a representative of a state or local archaeological society or other organization and (b) a recognized authority on the archaeology and/or history of the area and problems of the research being proposed, who is not involved in the project or associated with its sponsors and (c) a representative of the PHMC. The committee could also include a non-professional avocational archaeologist, historian, or other appropriate specialist, who is interested in the local or regional archaeology and history, or a nationally recognized authority on archaeological research design and excavation procedures.
3. **Appointments.** When a member resigns from the Committee the substitute appointment to the SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee shall be recommended by the remaining committee members.

#### *C. Procedures for Applying for a Research Permit*

1. Formal application for any archaeological research within the SHP shall be made in writing to the individual property owner, with (a) a detailed research plan, (b) an endorsement of the research by the institution or organization employing and funding the investigator, and (c) evidence of compliance with individual property owner's insurance policy. All research must have institutional/organizational affiliation, and the Principal Investigator must have a graduate degree in anthropology/archaeology, preferably a Ph.D.

2. A request for non-invasive research (such as a magnetometer survey, mapping, aerial photography, and zero collection surface survey) may be submitted, with the approval of the property owner, by stating in letter form, the questions being addressed, the work to be done, the personnel involved, the sponsoring organization, the dates of the project, the expected research benefits, and a timetable for a report. Whenever appropriate, the research should follow the procedures outlined below.
3. For more invasive field work (surface collecting, testing, or excavation) a comprehensive research design will be submitted, comparable to that required by the National Science Foundation or the National Endowment for the Humanities, including (a) the relation of the proposed work to previous investigations at the preserve or in the area, (b) specific area(s) of the preserve designated for investigation, (c) the proposed field procedures, (d) techniques for acquiring and analyzing data, (e) a timetable for the field report, the analysis and reporting of the results, (f) a detailed budget for field work, analysis and publication, and for costs of curation of artifacts and samples for curation, (g) a copy of a negotiated curation agreement, and (h) such other details as an individual property owner may specify.
4. The research design should be oriented to problem solving rather than mere data gathering. A curriculum vitae of the principal investigator and any other professional staff should be included.
5. In the event of more than one request to conduct research at a single property within the SHP at the same time, the property owner in consultation with the SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee, may require the applicants to coordinate their plans before the applications receive further consideration; or the property owner may appoint the SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee to consider them and select only one for approval.
6. When an individual property owner receives a research request, the property owner should immediately circulate the request to the SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee and request that the Committee meet to review and comment upon the proposed research. The SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee will evaluate the qualifications of the researcher(s) and review the application and determine if it is acceptable.
7. Each SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee member will receive a copy of the proposal and within 30 days will discuss it with the other Committee members in person, by e-mail, and/or telephone conference, and the Committee will make a recommendation to which a majority of the members must agree. The SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee will notify the property owner of the Committee's recommendation, which may be (a) the acceptance of the proposal as submitted, (b) acceptance subject to modifications specified by the committee, or (c) rejection, with specific reasons stated. The property owner will communicate to the applicant the results of the review. In the case of (b) the same Committee will review the revised application, if one is submitted. In the case of (c) the property owner may, but need not necessarily, invite rewriting and re-submission.
8. At their discretion, the SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee may approve a project on the condition that the project receives adequate funding.

#### *D. Research Procedures*

1. **Compliance:** The SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee may appoint a member of the Committee to monitor the research project during the field work and report to the property owner and Committee periodically or at its conclusion.
2. Changes in the permitted research design, such as extending the excavations beyond areas indicated in the application or modifying the data collection procedures, are possible, but only if they have prior approval by the SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee. Failure to obtain such approval can result in revocation of the research permit and banishment from the site.
3. The site must be left in safe, stable, and secure condition during interruption in the work and its completion, at the expense of the investigator. All excavations must be backfilled.
4. Each backfilled area must be identified by including, at the investigator's expense, well-fired ceramic tiles (about 3"x 3") that name the property owner and give the date of the backfilling.
5. **Preliminary Report.** Within 90 days after the conclusion of any field season the principal investigator will provide a written report of results to the property owner and the SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee for review. This report will include a map of the property indicating the location(s) of field work, and discussion of results. It may include a request for modification of the original proposal if a subsequent field season has already been approved. Failure to submit a preliminary report in a timely manner may be grounds for denying future research on the property.
6. **Final Report.** Within a reasonable period of time following completion of the analysis of the data (usually a year or less), one or more papers or scientific reports will be presented at professional meetings and will be submitted for publication. Copies of papers presented at meetings and of their published versions, as well as any other published reports, will be sent to the property owner, the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer, and, if requested, to members of the SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee, and to any other organization or institution that the property owner may specify. All reports, papers, and presentations should acknowledge the ownership of the property and the SHP.

#### *E. Ownership and Disposition of Collections*

1. **Ownership.** The collections from a field program will include all artifacts, samples or specimens for analysis (faunal or floral identification, pollen study, dating, etc.) and all related documentation whether written or taped or digital and including maps, diagrams, drawings, and photographic negatives and one print of each. The collection remains the property of the property owner until it is transferred to the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission (unless otherwise specified) where it will be professionally curated. Collections will not belong to the excavator, and the excavator's institution may or may not be chosen as the permanent repository. All costs associated with preparing and curating collections shall be the responsibility of the researcher.
2. **Borrowing Collections.** The excavator, through his/her institution or sponsoring organization, may borrow a collection until analysis is complete and when doing so must inform the property owner of the location in which it will be kept, and of any change in its location. Portions of the collection may

not be loaned to others, except for analysis and identification, in which case specimens and artifacts may be sent temporarily to appropriate laboratories.

3. **Duplication of Documents.** The excavator may duplicate any and all documents relating to the collection for his/her permanent use and possession. Duplication of artifacts, however, will require permission from the SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee.
4. **Final Repository.** All collections from lands within the SHP shall be donated to, and permanently curated by, the Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission (PHMC). The documentation must remain in the same repository as the rest of the collection and be stored in accordance with proper archival standards. The deaccessioning of any part of a collection obtained from SHP properties by a repository will result in that part of the collection being transferred to another facility deemed appropriate by the SHP Archaeological Research Review Committee. Researchers planning to collect artifacts from SHP properties as part of their approved research must first obtain a curation agreement with the PHMC before they can initiate fieldwork at the site. Any fee for curation shall be paid for by the researcher.

### *Public Education*

At the conclusion of a research project within the SHP the investigator should assist all interested parties in updating and expanding any information they are disseminating to the public in the light of new data and conclusions. Publication of a report on, or description of, the research in a popular medium is encouraged but not required.



## Opinion of Probable Construction Costs

The development costs projected herein for improvements to Native Lands, as well, as the remaining properties, are based on the following assumptions:

1. Unit prices for construction are based on the consultant's experience with construction costs in 2013.
2. Costs assume improvements are constructed through a public bid process utilizing the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry's prevailing wage determination.
3. The condition of the properties at the time of construction will be similar to their conditions in 2013.
4. To budget for inflation costs for improvements that will occur after 2013 we recommend a 4.5% annual increase in costs be budgeted for each year thereafter. Additional increases may be necessary to address escalation of steel and fuel prices as their costs continue to escalate at unprecedented rates.
5. Opinions on probable construction costs should be confirmed/ revised upon completing preliminary design.

In-kind, donated, and volunteer labor and materials can reduce the overall project cost from the costs projected herein. Additionally, alternate sources of funding, including grant opportunities may assist in offsetting construction costs.

This Opinion of Probable Cost does not include the following features that were discussed during the planning process as each of these facilities require further inquiry and analysis to determine their necessity and feasibility, once the Native Lands property is improved.

- Eastern day use area three-season building: The committee discussed the possibility of constructing a three-season building in-lieu of a traditional picnic shelter. The three-season shelter would extend the building's use into the spring and fall seasons, as well as, provide an opportunity for indoor storage and exhibit space.
- Susquehannock Heritage Park Maintenance Center: To address the maintenance needs of the Susquehanna Heritage Park we suggest consideration be given to establishing a maintenance center on the 1.287 acre parcel fronting Klines Run Road. Currently there is a barn on the property. The barn can be evaluated to determine the feasibility of re-purposing it into a maintenance facility which may accommodate offices, interior storage areas, garages for storage of vehicles and other motorized equipment and an outdoor storage yard for bulk materials. If it is determined that it is not feasible then the barn could be raised and a new structure can be built in its place. The maintenance center should be sufficient enough in size to allow all of the Susquehanna Heritage Park properties to be maintained from this facility. The maintenance center should be screened so that it cannot be seen from the Native Lands property.

The table on the following page reflects our opinion of probable construction costs for implementing the improvements proposed for Native Lands.

<b>Native Lands</b>				
<b>Item</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Unit Price</b>	<b>Extension</b>
Erosion and Sediment Control	1	LS	\$150,000	\$150,000
"Native Lands Farm Lane Access Road - Park Sign"	1	EA	\$750	\$750
Bituminous Paving	3000	SY	\$38	\$114,000
Culvert	1	LS	\$100,000	\$100,000
Hedgerow	1823	LF	\$15	\$27,345
"Eastern Day Use Area - Parking Access Road - Bituminous Paving	1100	SY	\$35	\$38,500
Pervious Parking Spaces	450	SY	\$35	\$15,750
Shelter	1	LS	\$50,000	\$50,000
Composting Restroom	1	Ls	\$100,000	\$100,000
Pervious Walkways	200	SY	\$125	\$25,000
Kiosk	1	LS	\$2,500	\$2,500
Water and Electrical Service	1	LS	\$150,000	\$150,000
Passive Open Space & Special Event Grounds - Grading	7050	SY	\$5	\$35,250
"19th Century Farmstead Access Road - Paved Wheel Paths"	350	SY	\$40	\$14,000
Pervious Parking Spaces	140	SY	\$35	\$4,900
Farmstead Stabilization and Improvements	1	LS	\$75,000	\$75,000
Picnic Grove including barn foundation shelter	1	LS	\$150,000	\$150,000
Heirloom Orchard Trees	21	EA	\$350	\$7,350
Interpretation Stations	1	LS	\$20,000	\$20,000
Monocacy Path	7700	LF	\$5	\$38,500
Susquehannock Village - Palisade Fence	200	LF	\$125	\$25,000
Dritt Family Cemetery - Interpretive Station	1	LS	\$2,500	\$2,500
Native Heritage Repatriation Area - Interpretive Station	1	LS	\$2,500	\$2,500
Trail Through History - Accessible Trail - 1.5 Miles	4500	SY	\$30	\$135,000
Trail Through History - Interpretive Stations	17	EA	\$2,500	\$42,500

<b>Native Lands</b>				
<b>Item</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Unit Price</b>	<b>Extension</b>
Western Day Use Area - Entrance Sign	1	EA	\$750	\$750
Access Road	3200	SY	\$38	\$121,600
Hedgerow Reinforcement	800	LF	\$15	\$12,000
Pervious Parking Spaces	450	SY	\$35	\$15,750
Composting Restroom	1	LS	\$100,000	\$100,000
Pervious Walkways	80	SY	\$125	\$10,000
Accessible Trail to Susquehannock Village	1300	SY	\$35	\$45,500
Trail to Klines Run Park	600	SY	\$30	\$18,000
Kiosk	1	LS	\$2,500	\$2,500
Water and Electrical Service	1	LS	\$100,000	\$100,000
<b><i>Subtotal</i></b>				<b>\$1,752,445</b>
Archeological Clearances	1	LS	\$50,000	\$50,000
Construction Overhead	10	%	\$1,752,445	\$175,245
Erosion and Sedimentation Control Measures	4	%	\$1,752,445	\$70,098
Construction Contingency	10	%	\$1,752,445	\$175,245
Professional Fees (design, permitting & engineering)	15	%	\$1,752,445	\$262,867
<b><i>Total</i></b>				<b>\$2,485,899</b>

## John & Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage

The Zimmerman Center for Heritage is a regional center for preservation and heritage education housed in a grand manor overlooking the Susquehanna River. The National Register nomination for this historic bluestone house lists its date of construction as 1758, although historians believe it may have been built as early as 1738. Before this house was built, the fifth Lord Baltimore granted Thomas Cresap a 150 acre lot on land the center now occupies. Cresap called his place “Pleasant Garden\*” operated a ferry here and collected taxes for Lord Baltimore, maintaining his allegiance to the southern state. At that time, the actual physical location of the border between Maryland and Pennsylvania was unclear and in dispute.

- \* Research conducted in the spring of 2013 strongly indicates that Cresap’s land did not abut the river. The eastern property line was west of today’s Zimmerman Center, and the tract extended to just west of the Native Lands farmstead buildings. John Meyer Sr. (probably the builder today’s Zimmerman Center) was granted the sliver between the Pleasant Garden Tract and the river in 1748 (PA Warrant). However, Cresap no doubt used this sliver of land as though he owned it.

Pennsylvanians came to despise Cresap as the “Maryland Monster” for his aggressive behavior in dealing with local settlers. Cresap was finally arrested in 1736 and driven out of the area after a series of bloody local skirmishes known as “Cresap’s War”. King George II intervened and re-stored general peace to the area in 1738. Disputes continued until 1763, when descendants of Lord Baltimore and William Penn settled the issue. From 1763 to 1767, Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon surveyed Pennsylvania’s border with Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. Although work was completed in four years, opposition by Native Indians delayed a final resolution until 1784. The new boundary, about 15 miles due south, ran 244 miles west from the Delaware River. It became known as the Mason-Dixon Line and is still marked by colonial boundary stones in some places. This line grew to symbolize the border between North and South and Free states and Slave states.

Like Cresap and the Wrights of Wrightsville, Jacob Dritt also decided to operate a ferry on the Susquehanna, choosing this site where Cresap had operated his ferry. Dritt was engaged in a variety of business enterprises, including the wine and liquor trade, farming, and milling. He fought in the Revolutionary War, was a Major General of the Commonwealth Militia, and sold lots across the river at Washington Boro. Dritt lived here between 1783 and 1817, when he drowned in the river. The manor house and grounds are still remembered and revered as the Dritt Mansion by many of the old timers of this community.

In 1818, Margaret Dritt, the youngest of Jacob Dritt’s 11 children, married Samuel Bonham. They purchased 150 acres that included the Dritt home, calling it Locust Spring. While the Bonhams occupied the Dritt Mansion, it was known as the Bonham Place, according to the Tritt Family History Volume I.

Samuel Bonham also purchased part of what would become Native Lands in 1832, including where the farmstead sits. He had the barn on today’s ruins built in 1855. He may have also built a house or renovated an existing house that is now all or part of the farmhouse ruins. Horace sold the farmstead property in 1868.

The home passed through several hands again before being purchased by John and Cathy Zimmerman, who restored it in the 1990’s, and then donated it to the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Region in the spring of 2007. It stands now as their legacy to this community. The Zimmerman Center is also nationally recognized as a historic landmark by its listing on the National Register, a tribute to its original builders and owners, and to the successive owners and the craftsmen and designers they engaged to plan for, preserve, adapt and maintain it.

In 2011 the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area adopted a master plan for the John & Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Pleasant Garden. Since their adoption of the plan, they have successfully obtained funding, through the PennDOT Transportation Enhancements program, to implement many of the improvements recommended in the master plan. Improvements will include: vehicular and pedestrian circulation improvements on the west side of Long Level Road; pedestrian crossing improvements across Long Level Road; and water trail landing & boat access facilities for both motorized and non-motorized boaters. These improvements will be completed in the Spring of 2014.

### LESSONS FROM THE LEGACY OF THE ZIMMERMAN CENTER

*“What are the choices that we must make if we are now to succeed, and not to fail? There are many specific choices ... that any of us can make as individuals. For our society as a whole, the past societies we have examined ... suggest broader lessons. Two types of choices seem to me to have been crucial in tipping their outcomes toward success or failure: long-term planning, and a willingness to reconsider core values. On reflection, we can also recognize the crucial role of these same two choices for the outcomes of our individual lives.”*

*One of those choices has depended on the courage to practice long term thinking, and to make bold, courageous, anticipatory decisions at a time when problems have become perceptible but before they have reached crisis proportions.*

*The other crucial choice illuminated by the past involves the courage to make painful decisions about values. Which of the values that formerly served society well can continue to be maintained under new changed circumstances?”*

Jared Diamond, **Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed**

What lessons we can learn from this property’s legacy and the legacies of the people who lived here? Why did they come here? What were their original objectives? In what ways did they succeed? In what ways did they fail? What lessons can we learn from the choices they made? What legacies did they leave behind? What legacy will the current owner leave behind?

The lessons here range from Thomas Cresap’s unwillingness to change - to adapt to new ways or to abandon old ways that no longer served him or the interests of the community he chose to dwell in- to Jacob Dritt’s and the Bonham’s apparent adroitness at adaptation, judging from their success and the esteem they earned in the business world, and Dritt’s rank and role as leader in the military. Both of those families continue to be held in high regard by the local community a century or more later.

The property’s prior owners, the Zimmermans, successful in business and held in high esteem as well by the community, provide two additional lessons about successful adaptation. First by their efforts to modernize this house to suit their own contemporary lifestyle while still preserving and maintaining the character defining features that honors their predecessors and thereby the interests of the community they chose to live in, and later by gifting the house to that community as a center for heritage, what preservationists call adaptive reuse of an historic structure. Both are acts of civility and of humility.

So this property provides lessons about cultural and architectural adaptation, both indicators and models of successful cultural evolution. The story of Locust Springs and The Zimmerman Center are stories about their respective owner’s willingness to change and adapt; the story of Cresap is not. Like the river itself that over the centuries maneuvered its way across the land as it first headed north, then south, moving slightly east, then

slightly west but always moving forward seeking the path toward least resistance, this property has also been the scene of constant change, sometimes by external factors its occupants had no control over, and other times by the choices they consciously and purposefully made to accommodate each generations different needs and ever-changing lifestyles over its two and a half centuries of continued use. Successful cultural evolution is about understanding the context of our environments well enough to know what to change and when to change, and when and how to accept what we cannot and/or should not try to change.

### INTERPRETIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ZIMMERMAN CENTER

The Zimmerman Center already has excellent interpretive media, including brochures and a website. These lessons and legacies could be added to the interpretive media the next time they are updated. Looking beyond to the changes that have been proposed for restoring the gardens around the house, we suggest SGHA consider the possibility of naming the gardens Locust Springs in recognition of the strong favorable sentiment toward the Dritt, Tritt and Bonham families that continues to exist within this community. By calling this place **The Zimmerman Center at Locust Springs**, they would not only be honoring the legacies of all the families who have added meaning and significance to the property, but have also been exemplary models of successful cultural and architectural adaptation, perhaps the most important lesson this center has to offer its neighbors.

We also recommend that SGHA consider developing a working relationship with Lancaster's Thaddeus Steven College of Technology's Preservation Trades Technology Program, a collaborative effort between the College and the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission (PHMC). As noted on their website, PHMC and the College are looking to partner with other organizations that would like to offer training at their locations. The program fits within SGHA's mission of educating residents about the region's heritage, and would bring together local tradespeople skilled at restoration, owners of historic properties, and planners and designers skilled at identifying and preserving the character defining features of historic properties that can and should be saved while successfully accommodating modern lifestyles and needs.

Zimmerman already functions as an excellent example of successful adaptation, but perhaps it could assist the program in other ways as well, whether as a clearing house, training ground, or actual restoration project, like the adaptation of the barn as an outdoor interpretive shelter at the former Dritt homestead. It would be a great way to partner with two other organizations that are working to preserve the regions heritage. Attaching Thaddeus Stevens legacy to the Zimmerman Center would also bring added appreciation for the important but oftentimes less heralded role that skilled craftsmen add to the heritage story. That would be a story we suspect Stevens and all the previous owners of this house would appreciate sharing.

Promoting the adaptive reuse of historic structures is a great service to the preservation community. Very, very few buildings have owners who can afford to preserve them as museums, and very few of those convey enough information about values and principles worthy of saving or revisiting from time to time to rediscover their usefulness and relevance to modern people with modern challenges and needs.

The Zimmerman Center is an excellent example of adaptive reuse that showcases the effectiveness of re-purposing historic buildings using public and private dollars to extend their lives with a constructive use and a funding stream to maintain them for the next generation.

# Zimmerman Center for Heritage

Visitor Welcome, Interpretation & Water Trail Access Facilities

Lower Windsor Township, York County, Pennsylvania

December 2011





# Chapter 4

## HOW DO WE GET THERE?

The planning process for the Susquehanna Heritage Park began with the establishment of the Memorandum of Understanding between participating partners, continued with this master planning process, and will continue throughout the life of the Susquehanna Heritage Park.

Because of the nature of the Susquehanna Heritage Park and the desires and interests of the various property owners and partners, the recommendations contained in this plan should be periodically revisited, adapted and revised to respond to the needs of the partners and the visitors to the Susquehanna Heritage Park.

Further, given the ultimate desire to establish the Susquehanna Heritage Park as a premier destination in the Susquehanna Riverlands, and to designate the Susquehanna Riverlands as a National Recreation Area, the implementation of the Susquehanna Heritage Park will be done in stages, and at each stage, there will be transitions which will require elements and recommendations of this plan to be revisited.

In this Chapter you will find strategies that can be implemented to begin the journey of creating the Susquehanna Heritage Park, and to continue that journey to reach the Susquehanna Riverlands National Recreation Area.

### Management Structure

Management of the Susquehanna Heritage Park is a complex issue, given the multiple partners, and potential partners involved.

Since acquiring property for Native Lands County Park and Highpoint Scenic Vista & Recreation Area, the York County Parks Department has been given the responsibility of managing, operating, and maintaining both facilities. This responsibility was accepted, although there has not been an increase in the park department's staffing or operating budget.

Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation manages, operates and maintains Klines Run Park. Klines Run Park and Lock 2 are provided by SHWPC as part of their recreation fulfillment requirement as specified in the Federal Power Act, under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Discussions with representatives of SHWPC indicate they dedicate two full-time staff and four part-time seasonal staff to the operations and maintenance of Klines Run Park and Lock 2 boat launch facility. The seasonal employees are engaged from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Further, SHWPC has indicated they incur approximately \$100,000 in annual expenses to operate and maintain Klines Run Park.

SHWPC is interested in discussing the potential of leasing Klines Run Park and Lock 2 to an agency that would be willing to manage, operate, and maintain the areas on their behalf. A lease arrangement would need to be reviewed and approved by FERC. SHWPC will not enter into a lease that would require them to re-open their existing FERC license which is valid until 2030.

The SGHA owns, manages, operates and maintains the John and Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Pleasant Garden, and desires to continue to do so.

The Lancaster Conservancy owns, manages, operates and maintains the Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve and desires to continue to do so.

During the course of this study representatives of York County met with PA DCNR Bureau of State Parks representatives to discuss their thoughts on the Lower Susquehanna Conservation Landscape, and specifically whether they would consider a management, operations, and/or maintenance role in the Susquehanna Heritage Park. During those meetings DCNR representatives indicated that every possibility remains on the table and that the many specific details would need to be discussed and worked out before any final decisions are made. Subsequently, DCNR Bureau of State Parks has decided to receive approximately 140 acres called the Pinnacle Overlook from PPL through Lancaster County Conservancy for management by State Parks. DCNR is interested in determining whether there is interest in York and Lancaster Counties to support and establish a National Recreation Area throughout the Lower Susquehanna River valley.

National Recreation Area (NRA) is a designation for a protected area in the United States, often centered on large reservoirs and emphasizing water-based recreation for a large number of people. The first National Recreation Area was the Boulder Dam Recreation Area (later renamed Lake Mead National Recreation Area). Early National Recreation Areas were established by interagency memoranda of agreement between the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the National Park Service. In 1963, the President's Recreation Advisory Committee issued an Executive Branch policy that established criteria for establishing National Recreation Areas. The policy also called for all future National Recreation Areas to be established by acts of the United States Congress. In 1964, Congress made Lake Mead National Recreation Area the first area to be established by statute. In 1965 Spruce Knob-Seneca Rocks National Recreation Area became the first NRA under the administration of the U.S. Forest Service and, in 1972 Congress created Gateway National Recreation Area under the management of the National Park Service thereby becoming the first "urban national park". One NRA, Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area was redesignated Cuyahoga Valley National Park in October 2000.

Areas with this designation are managed by different federal agencies, most of which operate within the Department of the Interior or the Department of Agriculture. Some national recreation areas are under the National Park Service (US Department of the Interior), under the Bureau of Land Management (US Department of the Interior), and others are managed by the U.S. Forest Service (US Department of Agriculture). All are federally designated by the US Congress.

Based on the existing practices of the current land owners, the immediate needs, and the future vision for a federally designated National Recreation Area, the management structure for the Susquehanna Heritage Park is likely to evolve over time.

### **NEAR TERM MANAGEMENT SCENARIOS**

In the short term (1-3 years) we recommend consideration be given one of the following management scenarios. Regardless of the scenario selected, the SGHA and the Lancaster Conservancy will continue to have sole responsibility for their corresponding properties.

#### *Management Scenario 1*

York County Department of Parks and Recreation is designated as the lead agency to manage, coordinate, and oversee the implementation of the vision establishing the Susquehanna Heritage Park, continuing its day to day management, operations, and maintenance responsibilities, and potentially entering into a lease agreement

with Safe Harbor Water and Power Corporation to assume the management, operations, and maintenance responsibilities of Klines Run Park. This scenario will require a corresponding increase in staffing and funding to cover the additional responsibilities of managing, operating, and maintaining the Susquehanna Heritage Park.

#### *Management Scenario 2*

York County Commissioners establish a recreation authority to be the lead agency to manage, coordinate, and oversee the implementation of the Susquehanna Heritage Park, providing day to day management, operations, and maintenance responsibilities, and potentially entering into a lease agreement with Safe Harbor Water and Power Corporation to assume the management, operations, and maintenance responsibilities of Klines Run Park. This scenario also requires sufficient funding to staff and fund the expenses associated with managing, operating, and maintaining the Susquehanna Heritage Park.

#### *Management Scenario 3*

Continue the current scenario in which each individual entity continues to be responsible for the management of its corresponding properties.

#### *Near Term Management Scenarios in Order of Preference*

Scenario 1 is preferred, as it does not require the creation of a separate authority. That said, there is concern at the York County Department of Parks and Recreation that they may be given this responsibility without corresponding staffing and financial support to properly coordinate, implement, manage, operate, and/or maintain the Susquehanna Heritage Park, and the existing County Parks under their purview to the current standards and expectations of County residents. Therefore, Management Scenario 2 is then the second preference, should details of Scenario 1 not be able to be successfully established and accepted by the York County Department of Parks and Recreation, or if the partners prefer to have a separate agency be responsible for the Susquehanna Heritage Park.

Scenario 3 poses concerns, as the properties will continue to be managed by multiple agencies, and without coordination between the entities, the overall branding of the Susquehanna Heritage Park may be lost. This concern has been addressed to an extent as the partners have entered into a memorandum of understanding for the creation of the Susquehanna Heritage Park. Under this scenario there is no incentive to improve the quality of recreation and conservation efforts at Klines Run Park, as SHWPC's first and foremost priority, as it should be, is their hydroelectric power operations. That said, it is the current scenario, and could continue to serve as such for the short term until a management scenario that provides better communication and an overall management structure can be established.

#### **LONG TERM MANAGEMENT SCENARIO**

One potential vision is creating a federally designated National Recreation Area. It would be appropriate for DCNR to participate in a coordinated effort with interested and engaged partners. Although DCNR is also under the same fiscal constraints as the county and municipalities, their participation would be welcomed asset in working towards the goal of establishing a National Recreation Area in the lower Susquehanna Valley.

Such a scenario could be implemented over time either as a medium or long term priority. As part of this planning process, such dialogue has begun at an informal level between Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation, PA DCNR and York County. All interested parties must continue the dialogue and work out the details for this to become a reality. Given the complexities of such an arrangement we believe implementing this scenario could take three to five years, or longer, even with committed partners. That said the partners must continue to pursue this in the immediate and short term.

We recommend quarterly meetings be held between York County, and Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation continue pursuing the transfer of the Klines Run Park recreation area management, operations, and maintenance responsibilities to York County.

## Existing Partners

Existing partners in the Susquehanna Heritage Park Memorandum of Understanding include:

- York County Department of Parks and Recreation
- Farm and Natural Lands Trust of York County
- Lancaster Conservancy
- Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area
- Mason-Dixon Trail System
- Conejohela Chapter of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology
- Lancaster-York Native Heritage Advisory Council
- Safe Harbor Water Power Corporation
- Hellam Township

We recommend consideration be given to inviting Lower Windsor Township to participate in the MOU.

## Potential Partners

Potential partners are the organizations, agencies and foundations that have been identified in the area that may be able to assist with various aspects of implementation of the recommendations and implementation strategies set forth in this plan. This list is not all inclusive, but identifies typical organizations, agencies and foundations that can be resources for implementing the strategies recommended in this plan.

- York County Parks Foundation Charitable Trust
- York County Heritage Trust
- Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area
- York County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement
- York County Community Foundation
- Lancaster Community Foundation
- Historic York, Inc.
- Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society
- Pennsylvania Archaeological Council
- Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
- Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission
- National Park Service

## Native Lands Designation

During the course of this process we came to the realization that the Native Lands County Park may be better designated as the “Native Lands” or the “Native Lands Heritage Area”. The term park invokes connotations of active recreation areas and facilities, which is not appropriate to the vision for the native lands. Therefore, we recommend York County Commissioners consider renaming the property in the immediate to short term.

## Susquehanna Riverlands National Recreation Area Designation

Ultimately there is a desire for the Susquehanna Heritage Park to serve as an anchor for the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape being undertaken by PA DCNR and its partners. One possible outcome of this would be to establish the Susquehanna Riverlands as a National Recreation Area. National Recreation Areas are areas which are federally designated by the U.S. Congress. We recommend the partners continue to advance their efforts considering the potential for the Susquehanna Riverlands to be nominated as a National Recreation Area.

National Recreation Areas are designated in accordance with the following policy.

### **POLICY ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF RECREATION AREAS**

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BRANCH POLICY  
GOVERNING THE SELECTION,  
ESTABLISHMENT, AND ADMINISTRATION  
OF NATIONAL RECREATION AREAS  
BY THE RECREATION ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Circular No. 1, March 26, 1963

#### *Preamble*

The Recreation Advisory Council believes that:

1. Greater efforts must be made by Federal, State, local governmental, and private interests to fulfill adequately the steeply mounting outdoor recreation demands of the American people; The Federal Government should provide leadership and stimulus to this effort, but does not have sole or primary responsibility for providing recreation opportunities; Present Federal programs should be augmented by a system of National Recreation Areas made up of a limited number of areas where the recreation demand is not being met through other programs.

The system of National Recreation Areas should:

1. Provide for Federal investment in outdoor recreation that is more clearly responsive to recreation demand than other investments that are based primarily upon considerations of preserving unique natural or historical resources, the need to develop and conserve public lands and forests, or the requirements of major water resource development undertakings;
2. Be areas which have natural endowments that are well above the ordinary in quality and recreation appeal, being of lesser significance than the unique scenic and historic elements of the National Park System, but affording a quality of recreation experience which transcends that normally associated with areas provided by State and local governments;
3. Be consistent with Federal programs relating to national parks, national forests, public lands, fish and wildlife, water resource development, grants for urban open space, recreation programs on private agricultural lands, and programs for financial assistance to States in providing recreation opportunity.

In order to provide a rational basis for planning and evaluating proposed projects where outdoor recreation use is the dominant or primary purpose, the Recreation Advisory Council hereby sets forth the guidelines it believes should govern the selection, establishment, and administration of National Recreation Areas.

Under authority bestowed upon the Council by Executive Order 11017, of April 27, 1962, the Council commends this policy to all concerned Federal agencies, and by mutual agreement makes it binding upon the member agencies of the Recreation Advisory Council. It shall be applied to the existing backlog of National Recreation Area proposals, as well as to all future proposals.

#### *Terminology and Definition of Scope*

Many names have been used in the past in describing areas to be acquired and developed, or to be administratively designated, predominantly for recreation use. Some of these are National Seashore, National Lakeshore, National Waterway, National Riverway, National Recreation Demonstration Areas, and similar names which embody either the physical resource base or the functional purpose to be served. This policy statement includes such areas.

The following criteria are not intended to apply to (a) the classical elements of the National Park System; (b) the standard recreation use areas designated under National Forest practices; (c) the normal scale of recreation development associated with Federal multiple-purpose impoundments; (d) the National Wildlife Refuges, Game Ranges, and National Fish Hatcheries; (e) military and national defense installations; and (f) sites within the zone of metropolitan responsibility, such as provided through the Open Space program of the Housing and Home Finance Agency, or which primarily serve massive day use requirements that properly should be met by local and State agencies of government. On the other hand, it is conceivable that National Recreation Areas may include within their boundaries portions of any existing Federal real property.

#### *Primary Criteria for Selection of National Recreation Areas*

These criteria represent an essential test. National Recreation Areas are conceived of as consisting of a limited number of areas. Therefore, the Council recognizes that a high degree of judgment will have to be exercised in the choice of priorities among qualifying areas.

Application of the following seven primary criteria shall be mandatory for all proposals:

1. National Recreation Areas should be spacious areas, including within their perimeter an aggregate gross area of not less than acres of land and water surface, except for riverways, narrow coastal strips, or areas where total population within a 250 - mile radius is in excess of 30 million people.
2. National Recreation Areas should be located and designed to achieve a comparatively high recreation carrying capacity, in relation to type of recreation primarily to be served.
3. National Recreation Areas should provide recreation opportunities significant enough to assure interstate patronage within the region of service, and to a limited extent should attract patronage from outside of the normal service region.
4. The scale of investment, development, and operational responsibility should be sufficiently high to require either direct Federal involvement, or substantial Federal participation to assure optimum public benefit.
5. Although non-urban in character, National Recreation Areas should nevertheless be strategically located within easy driving distance, i.e., not more than 250 miles from urban population centers which are to be served. Such areas should be readily accessible at all times, for all-purpose recreational use.
6. Within National Recreation Areas, outdoor recreation shall be recognized as the dominant or primary resource management purpose. If additional natural resource utilization is carried on, such additional use shall be compatible with fulfilling the recreation mission, and none will be carried on that is significantly detrimental to it.
7. National Recreation Areas should be established in only those areas where other programs (Federal and non-Federal) will not fulfill high priority recreation needs in the foreseeable future.

### *Secondary Criteria for Selection of National Recreation Areas*

Application of the following six secondary criteria will be given weight in situations where they bear a meaningful relationship to a specific proposal:

1. Preference should be given to proposed National Recreation Areas that:
  - a. Are within or closely proximate to those official U.S. Census Divisions having the highest population densities;
  - b. Are in areas which have a serious deficiency in supply of both private and public outdoor recreation areas and facilities as determined by the National Recreation Plan.
  - c. Are in areas which have a comparatively low amount of federally provided recreation carrying capacity;
  - d. Show an optimum ratio of carrying capacity to estimated cost.
2. National Recreation Areas may be based upon existing or proposed Federal water impoundments where it can be shown that significant increases in the scale of recreation development are required, beyond the level normally justified under standard multiple-purpose project development, in order to assure that full recreational potential is provided for projected needs.
3. National Recreation Areas may include within their boundaries scenic, historic, scientific, scarce or disappearing resources, provided the objectives of their preservation and enjoyment can be achieved on a basis compatible with the recreation mission.
4. National Recreation Areas should be in conformity with the National Recreation Plan prepared by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, and shall take into consideration State, regional, and local comprehensive plans.
5. Whenever possible, National Recreation Areas should be selected, developed, and managed to provide maximum compatibility with the recreation potential of adjacent rural areas in private ownership.
6. Preference should be given to areas within or proximate to a Redevelopment Area as officially designated by the Department of Commerce and deemed significant in the economic improvement of such a Redevelopment Area.

### *Establishment of National Recreation Areas*

National Recreation Areas shall be established by an Act of Congress. Legislation to establish National Recreation Areas will be processed in accordance with established procedures for handling legislation. Upon request of the Executive Office of the President, the Recreation Advisory Council will review specific National Recreation Area proposals, based upon studies made or prescribed by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. For those proposals referred to it, the Council will recommend appropriate action regarding authorization, modification; priority of establishment; and the responsible management agency or agencies.

### *Administration of National Recreation Areas*

National Recreation Area proposals should include recommendations as to the agency or agencies responsible for their management. In making this recommendation, sponsoring organizations should take into account the proximity of the proposed area to other publicly administered areas, along with such other factors as will assure effective and economical administration of the new area. Where deemed feasible and desirable, a joint Federal-State management arrangement may be recommended.

*National Park Service Handbook of Administrative Policies for Recreation Areas, 1968, 69-72.*

We recommend that all local partners continue to discuss establishing the Susquehanna Riverlands as a premier National Recreation Area.

### **NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION**

National Historic Landmarks are nationally significant historic places designated by the Secretary of the Interior because they possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States. Today, fewer than 2,500 historic places bear this national distinction. Working with citizens throughout the nation, the National Historic Landmarks Program draws upon the expertise of National Park Service staff who work to nominate new landmarks and provide assistance to existing landmarks.

Historic places that meet certain criteria may be nominated to become National Historic Landmarks. The National Park Service fosters the preparation of individual nominations and oversees theme studies that identify groups of potential landmarks. Completed nominations are reviewed by the National Park System Advisory Board, which makes recommendations for designation to the Secretary of the Interior. Designation as a National Historic Landmark automatically places a property in the National Register of Historic Places, if it is not already so listed.

We recommend that the project partners initiate a discussion with the Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission, Bureau of Historic Preservation the potential for obtaining National Historic Landmark designation for a yet to be defined Susquehanna Riverlands National Historic Landmark District. Subsequent guidance from PHMC will guide the project partners in determining what elements should be included in the district's nomination. We believe it may include, at a minimum, sites of historical significance in: Wrightsville Borough, Columbia Borough, Washington Boro, the Safe Harbor Petroglyph's, the Upper and Lower Leibhart sites, the Zimmerman Center for Heritage.

#### *National Historic Landmark Criteria*

The criteria applied to evaluate properties for possible designation as National Historic Landmarks or possible determination of eligibility for National Historic Landmark designation are listed below. These criteria are used by NPS in the preparation, review and evaluation of National Historic Landmark studies. They shall be used by the Advisory Board in reviewing National Historic Landmark studies and preparing recommendations to the Secretary. Properties shall be designated National Historic Landmarks only if they are nationally significant. Although assessments of national significance should reflect both public perceptions and professional judgments, the evaluations of properties being considered for landmark designation are undertaken by professionals, including historians, architectural historians, archeologists and anthropologists familiar with the broad range of the nation's resources and historical themes. The criteria applied by these specialists to potential landmarks do not define significance nor set a rigid standard for quality. Rather, the criteria establish the qualitative framework in which a comparative professional analysis of national significance can occur. The final decision on whether a property possesses national significance is made by the Secretary on the basis of documentation including the comments and recommendations of the public who participate in the designation process.

*Code of Federal Regulations / Title 36 - Parks, Forests, and Public Property / Vol. 1 / 2011-07-01373*

- (a) Specific Criteria of National Significance: The quality of national significance is ascribed to districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects that possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States in history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture and that possess a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association,

and:

- (1) That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to, and are identified with, or that outstandingly represent, the broad national patterns of United States history and from which an understanding and appreciation of those patterns may be gained; or
  - (2) That are associated importantly with the lives of persons nationally significant in the history of the United States; or
  - (3) That represent some great idea or ideal of the American people; or
  - (4) That embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen exceptionally valuable for a study of a period, style or method of construction, or that represent a significant, distinctive and exceptional entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
  - (5) That are composed of integral parts of the environment not sufficiently significant by reason of historical association or artistic merit to warrant individual recognition but collectively compose an entity of exceptional historical or artistic significance, or outstandingly commemorate or illustrate a way of life or culture; or
  - (6) That have yielded or may be likely to yield information of major scientific importance by revealing new cultures, or by shedding light upon periods of occupation over large areas of the United States. Such sites are those which have yielded, or which may reasonably be expected to yield, data affecting theories, concepts and ideas to a major degree.
- (b) Ordinarily, cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years are not eligible for designation. Such properties, however, will qualify if they fall within the following categories:
- (1) A religious property deriving its primary national significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
  - (2) A building or structure removed from its original location but which is nationally significant primarily for its architectural merit, or for association with persons or events of transcendent importance in the nation's history and the association consequential; or
  - (3) A site of a building or structure no longer standing but the person or event associated with it is of transcendent importance in the nation's history and the association consequential; or
  - (4) A birthplace, grave or burial if it is of a historical figure of transcendent national significance and no other appropriate site, building or structure directly associated with the productive life of that person exists; or
  - (5) A cemetery that derives its primary national significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, or from an exceptionally distinctive design or from an exceptionally significant event; or
  - (6) A reconstructed building or ensemble of buildings of extraordinary national significance when

accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other buildings or structures with the same association have survived; or

- (7) A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own national historical significance; or
- (8) A property achieving national significance within the past 50 years if it is of extraordinary national importance.

We believe the resources within the Susquehanna Heritage Park are qualified to be recognized as a National Historic Landmark given their association with Native Americans, European settlement and the westward in of North American, meeting criteria 1, 2, 3, and 6. Further, we also believe the potential exists to broaden this designation to a National Historic Landmark District, given the distribution of corresponding resources throughout the lower Susquehanna valley.

We recommend the project partners continue to work together, contact the National Park Service to begin the nomination process, and continue lobbying efforts to obtain the designation.

NPS Northeast Regional Office  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
215/597-1578  
FAX 215/597-0932  
NER\_NHL@nps.gov

To learn more about the National Historic Landmark nomination process, visit:  
[www.nps.gov/nhl/ProcessPubs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/nhl/ProcessPubs.htm).

## Phasing Plan

Few can afford to proceed in this manner and find it more appropriate to phase construction of improvements over a period of time. We recommend the improvements to the Susquehanna Heritage Park be constructed in a series of logical phases. Depending on the financial position of the County and respective partners. The success of grant writing efforts, this phasing plan may be expedited, or lengthened, depending on the financial capabilities of the partners implementing the improvements.

Based on discussions with York County Parks Department staff we recommend improvements to each park be made in accordance with the following phasing plans. To budget for inflation costs for improvements that will occur after 2013 we recommend a 4.5% annual increase in costs be budgeted for each year thereafter. Additional increases may be necessary to address escalation of steel and fuel prices as their costs continue to escalate at unprecedented rates. Further, all other assumptions identified earlier during the discussion on each park's opinion of probable construction costs must be considered.

## HIGHPOINT SCENIC VISTA AND RECREATION AREA PHASING PLAN

We recommend improvements to the Highpoint Scenic Vista and Recreation Area be constructed in a series of three phases.

### Phase I

- Native shade tree plantings
- Expansion of natural surface trails
- Interpretive stations

### Phase II

- Secondary access and parking from Knights View Road
- Overflow parking lot expansion

### Phase III

- Composting restrooms
- Shelter
- Rehabilitation of compacted aggregate trail

Highpoint Scenic Vista & Recreation Area					Phase I	Phase II	Phase III
Item	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Extension			
Entrance Sign Native Landscaping	1	LS	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
Composting Restrooms	1	Unit	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	\$0	\$75,000
Overflow Parking Expansion	2267	SY	\$5	\$11,335	\$0	\$11,335	\$0
Re-construction of compacted aggregate trail, including outsloping and drainage dips.	2400	SY	\$15	\$36,000	\$0	\$0	\$36,000
Native Shade Tree Plantings - bare root	120	EA	\$25	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$0
Native Shade Tree Plantings - balled and burlapped	20	EA	\$350	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0	\$0
Natural Surface Woodland Trail	1003	SY	\$5	\$5,015	\$5,015	\$0	\$0
Secondary access from Knights View Road and accessible/short term parking, including wall and native shrub screening	1	LS	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000	\$0
Interpretive Opportunity Stations	12	EA	\$2,500	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0	\$0
Shelter (approx. 20x30)	1	EA	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$0	\$0	\$45,000
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>\$292,350</b>	<b>\$45,015</b>	<b>\$86,335</b>	<b>\$161,000</b>
Construction Overhead	10	%		\$29,235	\$4,502	\$8,634	\$16,100
Erosion and Sedimentation Control Measures	4	%		\$11,694	\$1,801	\$3,453	\$6,440
Construction Contingency	10	%		\$29,235	\$4,502	\$8,634	\$16,100
Professional Fees (design, permitting & engineering)	15	%		\$43,853	\$6,752	\$12,950	\$24,150
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$406,367</b>	<b>\$62,571</b>	<b>\$120,006</b>	<b>\$223,790</b>

## WILTON MEADOWS CONSERVATION AREA PHASING PLAN

Given the limited expense associated with the recommended improvements to the Wilton Meadows Conservation Area we recommend they be implemented in one phase, as financing permits.

### NATIVE LANDS PARK PHASING PLAN

#### Phase I

- Entrance road into park – Long Level Road
- Parking lot
- Accessible trail (short section)
- Composting restroom

#### Phase II

- Trail Through History – Accessible trail
- Interpretive stations
- Kiosk
- Farmstead improvements/interpretation
- Picnic grove
- Monocacy Path

#### Phase III

- Passive open space /special events area
- Susquehannock village
- Picnic pavilion

#### Phase IV

- Western Day Use area

Native Lands					Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV
Item	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Extension				
Erosion and Sediment Control	1	LS	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Native Lands Farm Lane Access Road - Park Sign	1	EA	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$0
Bituminous Paving	3000	SY	\$38	\$114,000	\$114,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Culvert	1	LS	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Hedgerow	1823	LF	\$15	\$27,345		\$0	\$0	\$0
Eastern Day Use Area - Parking Access Road - Bituminous Paving	1100	SY	\$35	\$38,500	\$38,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pervious Parking Spaces	450	SY	\$35	\$15,750	\$15,750	\$0	\$0	\$0
Shelter	1	LS	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$0
Composting Restroom	1	EA	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pervious walks	200	SY	\$125	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Kiosk	1	LS	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water and Electrical Service	1	LS	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Passive Open Space & Special Event Grounds - Grading	7050	SY	\$5	\$35,250	\$0	\$0	\$35,250	\$0

Native Lands					Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV
Item	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Extension				
19th Century Farmstead Access Road - Paved Wheel Paths	350	SY	\$40	\$14,000	\$0	\$14,000	\$0	\$0
Pervious Parking Spaces	140	SY	\$35	\$4,900	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Farmstead Stabilization and Improvements	1	LS	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000	\$0	\$0
Picnic Grove including barn foundation shelter	1	LS	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$0
Heirloom Orchard Trees	21	EA	\$350	\$7,350	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interpretation Stations	1	LS	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$0
Monocacy Path	7700	LF	\$5	\$38,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Susquehannock Ceremonial Village & Ceremonial Grounds - Palisade Fence	200	LF	\$125	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$0
Dritt Family Cemetery - Interpretive Station	1	LS	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500	\$0	\$0
Native Heritage Repatriation Area - Interpretive Station	1	LS	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500	\$0	\$0
Trail Through History - Accessible Trail - 1.5 Miles	4500	SY	\$30	\$135,000	\$0	\$135,000	\$0	\$0
Trail Through History - Interpretive Stations	17	EA	\$2,500	\$42,500	\$0	\$42,500	\$0	\$0
Western Day Use Area - Entrance Sign	1	EA	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$750
Access Road	3200	SY	\$38	\$121,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$121,600
Hedgerow Reinforcement	800	LF	\$15	\$12,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,000
Pervious Parking Spaces	450	SY	\$35	\$15,750	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,750
Composting Restrooms	1	EA	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
Pervious walks	80	SY	\$125	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
Accessible Trail to Susquehannock Village	1300	SY	\$35	\$45,500	\$0	\$0	\$45,500	\$0
Trail to Klines Run Park	600	SY	\$30	\$18,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Kiosk	1	LS	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
Water and Electrical Service	1	LS	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>\$1,752,445</b>	<b>\$547,250</b>	<b>\$444,000</b>	<b>\$155,750</b>	<b>\$262,600</b>
Archeological Clearances	1	LS	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction Overhead	10	%	\$1,752,445	\$175,245	\$54,725	\$44,400	\$15,575	\$26,260
Erosion and Sedimentation Control Measures	4	%	\$1,752,445	\$70,098	\$21,890	\$17,760	\$6,230	\$10,504
Construction Contingency	10	%	\$1,752,445	\$175,245	\$54,725	\$44,400	\$15,575	\$26,260
Professional Fees (design, permitting & engineering)	15	%	\$1,752,445	\$262,867	\$82,088	\$66,600	\$23,363	\$39,390
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$2,485,899</b>	<b>\$810,678</b>	<b>\$617,160</b>	<b>\$216,493</b>	<b>\$365,014</b>

## Operations and Maintenance Analysis

Planning for maintenance and operations is a very important consideration when planning the development of park facilities. Consideration must be given to ongoing staffing and maintenance costs, as well as major equipment needs. The projections provided in this section estimate maintenance costs based on implementation of the recommendations for the Susquehanna Heritage Park presented herein.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) developed a standard for classifying maintenance programs to allow for the forecasting of maintenance expenses related to park and recreation facilities. This standard was published by the NRPA in its publication *Park Maintenance Standards*. The following analysis utilizes this approach to determine the annual cost of maintaining the park after development of Master Plan recommendations.

The NRPA classification system identifies five levels (modes) of care that a park facility may receive. Each mode is further defined by the level of care for each of fourteen maintenance items. For the Susquehanna Heritage Park Mode II (High-level maintenance) was selected as the mode of care for the facilities. Mode II is described in detail as follows:

1. Turf Care: Grass cut every five working days. Aeration as required but not less than twice annually. Reseeding/sodding when bare spots are present. Weed control practiced when weeds present visible problems or represent 5 % of turf surface (in areas proposed as lawn). Some pre-emergent products may be used at this level (with special care near waterways).
2. Irrigation: Not required
3. Litter Control: Minimum of once per day, five days a week. Off-site movement of trash dependent on size of containers and use by the public. High use may dictate once per day cleaning or more. Containers are serviced.
4. Pruning: Usually done at least once per season unless species planted dictate more frequent attention. Sculptured hedges or high growth species may dictate a more frequent requirement than most trees and shrubs in natural growth style plantings.
5. Disease Control: Usually done when disease or insects are inflicting noticeable damage, reducing vigor of plant materials or could be considered a bother to the public. Some preventive measures may be utilized such as systematic chemical treatments. Cultural prevention of disease problems can reduce time spent in this category. Some minor problems may be tolerated at this level.
6. Snow Removal: Where necessary, snow removed by noon the day following snowfall.
7. Lighting: Replacement or repair of fixtures when observed or reported as not working.
8. Surfaces: Should be cleaned, repaired, repainted, or replaced when appearance has noticeably deteriorated.
9. Repairs: Should be done whenever safety, function, or bad appearance is in question.
10. Inspection: Inspection by some staff member at least once a day when regular staff is scheduled.

11. Floral Plantings: Some sort of floral plantings present. Normally no more complex than two rotations of bloom per year. Care cycle usually at least once per week except watering may be more frequent. Health and vigor dictate cycle of fertilization and disease control. Beds essentially kept weed free.
12. Restrooms: Should be maintained at least once per day as long as they are open to the public. High use may dictate service twice a day or more. Servicing period should ensure an adequate supply of paper and that rest rooms are reasonably clean and free from bad odors.
13. Special Features: Should be maintained for safety, function, and high-quality appearance as per established design.

### **PARK-SPECIFIC MAINTENANCE**

The Master Plan made the following assumptions to project maintenance costs for the Susquehanna Heritage Park: the York County Department of Parks and Recreation will perform all general park maintenance;

- The York County Department of Parks and Recreation will provide all manpower and equipment for general park maintenance tasks;
- Recreation organizations will perform partial maintenance on specific facilities (i.e. trail groups, etc.) and provide equipment for such maintenance;
- maintenance will be completed to meet the National Recreation and Park Society's definition of a "high standard of care"; and,
- little winter maintenance will be required.

## MAINTENANCE ANALYSIS

The following tables project the number of hours, and corresponding costs required to maintain all existing and proposed facilities, in the Susquehanna Heritage Park. This analysis does not include Wilton Meadows Nature Preserve or the John & Kathryn Zimmerman Center for Heritage at Pleasant Garden as each entity will continue to be operated and maintained by its respective owner.

<b>Highpoint Scenic Vista &amp; Recreation Area</b>									
<b>Task</b>		<b>Qty.</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Work hours per Unit</b>	<b>Times per Week</b>	<b>Weeks/ Times per Season</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>Cost per Hour</b>	<b>Cost per Task</b>
1	Entrance Sign and Landscaping	1	EA	0.5	1	36	18	\$25	\$450
2	Cleaning of Shelter	1	EA	0.5	7	36	126	\$25	\$3,150
3	Trash Collection	2	EA	0.25	5	52	130	\$25	\$3,250
4	Seasonal Mowing of Meadows (3 x per year)	55	AC	0.35	1	3	57.75	\$25	\$1,443.75
5	Kiosks - Update signs and fill brochure racks	2	EA	0.25	1	36	18	\$25	\$450
6	Daily Cleaning of Composting Restrooms	1	EA	1	7	36	252	\$25	\$6,300
7	Vacuuming/Cleaning of Pervious Parking Spaces (2 x per year)	2	EA	1	1	2	4	\$25	\$100
8	Accessible Trail Surface Maintenance	0.4	Mile	0.75	1	9	2.7	\$25	\$68
9	Natural Surface Trail Mowing	0.95	Mile	0.5	1	36	17.1	\$25	\$428
10	Natural Surface Trail Maintenance	0.95	Mile	1	1	8	7.6	\$25	\$190
11	Park Road Maintenance	0.7	Mile	4	1	2	5.6	\$25	\$140
12	Fence Maintenance	4299	LF	0.05	1	1	214.95	\$25	\$5,374
13	Interpretive Stations	12	EA	0.25	1	36	108	\$25	\$2,700
14	Turf Maintenance	2	AC	0.35	1	36	25.2	\$25	\$630
15	Miscellaneous Maintenance	1	EA	40	1	1	40	\$25	\$1,000
<b>Totals (Total Hours, Total Annual Maintenance Cost)</b>							<b>1009</b>		<b>\$25,223</b>

<b>Native Lands</b>									
<i>Task</i>	<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Work hours per Unit</i>	<i>Times per Week</i>	<i>Weeks/ Times per Season</i>	<i>Total Hours</i>	<i>Cost per Hour</i>	<i>Cost per Task</i>	
1	Entrance Sign and Landscaping	1	EA	0.5	1	36	18	\$25	\$450
2	Cleaning of Day Use Area Shelters	2	EA	0.5	5	36	180	\$25	\$4,500
3	Trash Collection	2	EA	0.25	3	52	78	\$25	\$1,950
4	Seasonal Mowing of Meadows (3 x per year)	105	AC	0.35	1	3	110.25	\$25	\$2,756.25
5	Kiosks - Update signs and fill brochure racks	2	EA	0.25	1	36	18	\$25	\$450
6	Daily Cleaning of Composting Restrooms	2	EA	1	7	36	504	\$25	\$12,600
7	Vacuuming/Cleaning of Pervious Parking Spaces (2 x per year)	4	EA	1	1	2	8	\$25	\$200
8	Accessible Trail Surface Maintenance	0.86	Mile	0.75	1	9	5.81	\$25	\$145
9	Natural Surface Trail Mowing	1.5	Mile	0.5	1	36	27	\$25	\$675
10	Natural Surface Trail Maintenance	1.5	Mile	1	1	8	12	\$25	\$300
11	Hiking Trail Surface Maintenance	1.46	Mile	0.5	0.5	36	13.14	\$25	\$329
12	Park Road Maintenance	0.7	Mile	4	1	2	5.6	\$25	\$140
13	Natural Surface Trail Maintenance	5.7	Mile	0.5	1	36	102.6	\$25	\$2,565
14	Farmstead Picnic Grove Maintenance	1	EA	0.5	3	36	54	\$25	\$1,350
15	Farmstead Heirloom Garden Maintenance	1	EA	1	2	36	72	\$25	\$1,800
16	Farmstead Heirloom Orchard Maintenance	1	EA	1	1	36	36	\$25	\$900
17	Turf Maintenance	3	AC	0.35	1	36	37.8	\$25	\$945
18	Miscellaneous Maintenance	1	EA	40	1	1	40	\$25	\$1,000
<b>Totals (Total Hours, Total Annual Maintenance Cost)</b>						<b>1304</b>		<b>\$32,605</b>	

<b>Klines Run Park</b>									
<b>Task</b>	<b>Qty.</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Work hours per Unit</b>	<b>Times per Week</b>	<b>Weeks / Times per Season</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>Cost per Hour</b>	<b>Cost per Task</b>	
1	Entrance Sign and Landscaping	2	EA	0.5	1	36	36	\$25	\$900
2	Cleaning of Shelter	4	EA	0.5	7	36	504	\$25	\$12,600
3	Trash Collection	10	EA	0.25	5	52	650	\$25	\$16,250
4	Seasonal Mowing of Meadows (3 x per year)	22.32	AC	0.35	1	3	23.44	\$25	\$585.90
5	Kiosks - Update signs and fill brochure racks	3	EA	0.25	1	36	27	\$25	\$675
6	Daily Cleaning of Composting Restrooms	3	EA	1	7	36	756	\$25	\$18,900
7	Vacuuming/Cleaning of Pervious Parking Spaces (2 x per year)	2	EA	1	2	1	4	\$25	\$100
8	Accessible Trail Surface Maintenance	0.2	Mile	0.75	9	1	1.35	\$25	\$34
9	Natural Surface Trail Maintenance	1.55	Mile	1	8	1	12.4	\$25	\$310
10	Park Road Maintenance		Mile	4	2	1	0	\$25	\$0
11	Turf Maintenance	5	AC	0.35	1	36	63	\$25	\$1,575
12	Turf Trimming	10	TLF	1	1	36	360	\$25	\$9,000
13	Weed Control	5	AC	2.2	1	9	99	\$25	\$2,475
14	Natural Discovery Area/Play Area	1	EA	2	3	36	216	\$25	\$5,400
15	Picnic Areas	15	EA	0.25	4	36	540	\$25	\$13,500
16	Water Trail Landing	1	EA	1	2	36	72	\$25	\$1,800
17	Miscellaneous Maintenance	1	EA	40	1	1	40	\$25	\$1,000
<b>Totals (Total Hours, Total Annual Maintenance Cost)</b>						<b>3368</b>		<b>\$84,205</b>	

<b>Susquehanna Heritage Park Maintenance Analysis</b>			
<b>Summary</b>			
<b>Park</b>	<b>Person Hours</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>O&amp;M Cost per Park</b>
Native Lands	1,340	\$25	\$33,500
Highpoint Scenic Vista & Recreation Area	1,009	\$25	\$25,225
Klines Run Park	3,368	\$25	\$84,200
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5,717</b>		<b>\$142,925</b>

Based on this analysis, approximately 5,700 hours may be necessary , on an annual basis, to properly maintain the park upon implementation of all of the recommendations within this Master Plan. Taking into consideration benefits such as vacation and sick time, we estimate a staff equivalent to two full-time and two seasonal positions will be required.

To fulfill the financial need of providing sufficient staffing levels to properly operate and maintain the Susquehanna Heritage Park would require an approximate increase of 7.5% in the parks and recreation department’s annual operating budget, which is currently around \$2 million dollars.

The above analysis assumes operations and maintenance personnel can be located in the vicinity of the Susquehanna Heritage Park. This analysis does not take into consideration the proposed Susquehanna Riverlands Visitors Center or the proposed Native Heritage Center.

Currently all York County Parks and Recreation operations and maintenance staff operate out of John C. Rudy County Park. John C. Rudy County Park is located 12 miles, which is approximately a twenty minute drive from the Susquehanna Heritage Park properties. Taking into consideration loading of equipment and travel to the SHP, staff would loose 20% to 25% of their workday to preparation and travel time. Thus requiring additional staff to make up approximately 1500 hours, on an annual basis, should staff responsible for the SHP continue to operate from John C. Rudy County Park.

Annual increases to the County Department of Parks and Recreation operating budget should commensurate with the level of service they are providing within the Susquehanna Heritage Park properties as they are improved.

## POTENTIAL SOURCES OF FUNDING

### PA DCNR Community Conservation Partnership Program (C2P2)

Community Recreation and Conservation grants are awarded to municipalities and authorized nonprofit organizations for recreation, park, trail and conservation projects. These include planning for feasibility studies, trail studies, conservation plans, master site development plans, and comprehensive recreation, park and open space and greenway plans; land acquisition for active or passive parks, trails and conservation purposes; and new development and rehabilitation of parks, trails and recreation facilities.

Most projects require a 50% match, which can include a combination of Cash and/or Non-Cash values. Eligible Project Types include: development, land acquisition and planning.

This is an annual grant program that typically opens in January, applications are typically due in April and awards are announced in the Fall.

Lori Keiffer Yeich, Natural Resource Program Supervisor  
PA DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation  
P.O. Box 1554  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-1554  
(717) 705-5956  
lyeich@pa.gov

[www.grants.dcnr.state.pa.us/GrantPrograms.aspx](http://www.grants.dcnr.state.pa.us/GrantPrograms.aspx)

### PA Act 13 of 2012 - TITLE 58: OIL AND GAS

(g) Use of funds.--A county or municipality receiving funds under subsection (d) shall use the funds received only for the following purposes associated with natural gas production from unconventional gas wells within the county or municipality:

1. Construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair of roadways, bridges and public infrastructure.
2. Water, storm water and sewer systems, including construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair.
3. Emergency preparedness and public safety, including law enforcement and fire services, hazardous material response, 911, equipment acquisition and other services.
4. Environmental programs, including trails, parks and recreation, open space, flood plain management, conservation districts and agricultural preservation.
5. Preservation and reclamation of surface and subsurface waters and water supplies.
6. Tax reductions, including homestead exclusions.
7. Projects to increase the availability of safe and affordable housing to residents.
8. Records management, geographic information systems and information technology.
9. The delivery of social services.
10. Judicial services.
11. For deposit into the county or municipality's capital reserve fund if the funds are used solely for a purpose set forth in this subsection.
12. Career and technical centers for training of workers in the oil and gas industry.
13. Local or regional planning initiatives under the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L.805, No.247), known as the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

## **DCNR POLICY ON OIL AND GAS LEASES ON DCNR FUNDED LAND**

Regarding the use of the money from natural gas wells located under the funded park. Any revenue from the gas lease and royalties shall be used by the municipality for purposes consistent with the primary purpose as defined in the Keystone Act, namely, “the conservation and preservation of open space, acquisition or development of park lands or natural areas for public benefit.” More specifically you may use the funds to pay workers to implement specific park/recreation-based capital improvement/rehabilitation projects (e.g., rehabilitating a swimming pool, building/renovating a pavilion, purchasing new playground equipment, etc.), but not for routine maintenance of recreational and park facilities. In other words, the oil and gas monies cannot be used to fund activities that would/should be conducted as a part of the county’s ongoing park and recreation maintenance program.

## **SOURCES OF ACT 13 FUNDING ELIGIBLE FOR RECREATION AND CONSERVATION PROJECTS**

There are three sources of funds being distributed through Act 13 that can be used for recreation and conservation purposes:

**Local Government Funding – Counties, Townships and Boroughs that have wells with a certain output are receiving funds based upon their number of wells. These funds can only be used for the following:**

- Construction, maintenance and repair of roadways, bridges and public infrastructure
- Water, stormwater and sewer systems
- Emergency preparedness and public safety
- Environmental programs including trails, parks and recreation, open space, flood plain management, conservation districts and agricultural preservation
- Preservation and reclamation of surface and subsurface waters
- Tax reductions, affordable housing, social services, judicial services, career and technical centers and local or regional planning initiatives.

**Statewide Initiatives – Marcellus Legacy Fund distribution to All Counties. All Counties will receive funds based upon their population that can only be used for the following:**

- Planning, acquisition, development and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, natural areas, community conservation and beautification projects, community and heritage parks
- Water resource management

**Statewide Initiatives - Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA). The CFA will administer a new fund that can be used for the following purposes:**

- Acid mine drainage, abatement and cleanup
- Orphaned or abandoned oil and gas well plugging
- Compliance with PA Sewage Facilities Act
- Planning, acquisition, development and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, parks and beautification projects
- Programs to establish baseline water quality data on private water supplies
- Watershed programs and related projects
- Up to 25% of funds for flood control projects

The Commonwealth Financing Authority is accepting applications for five programs established under the Act 13 Marcellus Legacy Fund to support conservation projects and environmental protection measures.

The new CFA programs provide \$14 million in funding available for abandoned mine drainage, abatement and treatment; watershed restoration and protection; water quality data; greenways trails and recreation; and orphan and abandoned well plugging programs in the state, Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP).

The current application deadline for the program is July 31, 2013 for consideration at the November 13, 2013 CFA Board meeting. Typically the application opens in January and closes in November.

CFA funds will require an application that will be reviewed by the CFA Board. Interested parties should contact their local municipality and or County administrator for additional information.

For information on Act 13 programs visit [www.pacounties.org/GovernmentRelations/Pages/Act13.aspx](http://www.pacounties.org/GovernmentRelations/Pages/Act13.aspx) or call (866) 466-3972.

## National Endowment for the Arts

Organizations may apply for creative placemaking projects that contribute to the livability of communities and place the arts at their core. An organization may request a grant amount from \$25,000 to \$200,000. Our Town will invest in creative and innovative projects in which communities, together with their arts and design organizations and artists, seek to:

- Improve their quality of life;
- Encourage greater creative activity;
- Foster stronger community identity and a sense of place; and
- Revitalize economic development.

National Endowment for the Arts  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20506  
<http://www.nea.gov/grants/apply/>

## Pennsylvania Council on the Arts

Pennsylvania Council on the Arts  
216 Finance Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
717-787-6883  
[www.pacouncilonthearts.org/pca.cfm?id=18&level=Second](http://www.pacouncilonthearts.org/pca.cfm?id=18&level=Second)

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE - RIVERS, TRAILS, AND CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE

National Park Service - Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance  
200 Chestnut Street, Third Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dave Lange, Program Manager  
david\_a\_lange@nps.gov  
(215) 597-6477

Sherry Peck  
sherry\_peck@nps.gov  
(215) 597-6478

Kathy Schlegel  
kathy\_schlegel@nps.gov  
(215) 597-6486

## National Park Service - American Battlefield Protection Program

National Park Service - American Battlefield Protection Program  
1201 Eye Street, NW (2255)  
Washington, DC 20005

The American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) promotes the preservation of significant historic battlefields associated with wars on American soil. The goals of the program are 1) to protect battlefields and sites associated with armed conflicts that influenced the course of our history, 2) to encourage and assist all Americans in planning for the preservation, management, and interpretation of these sites, and 3) to raise awareness of the importance of preserving battlefields and related sites for future generations. The ABPP focuses primarily on land use, cultural resource and site management planning, and public education.

<http://www.nps.gov/hps/abpp/>

## Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Keystone Historic Preservation and Museum Assistance Grant Programs

Bryan Van Sweden, Community Preservation Coordinator  
Commonwealth  
Keystone Building  
400 North Street,  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093  
(717) 772-5071  
bvansweden@pa.gov

[http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/grants\\_and\\_funding/3748](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/grants_and_funding/3748)

## National Fish and Wildlife Foundation: Keystone Initiatives Grants Program

The mission of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is to sustain, restore, and enhance the nation's fish, wildlife, plants, and habitats. Through the Keystone Initiatives Grants Program, the Foundation awards matching grants in the categories of bird conservation, fish conservation, marine and coastal conservation, and wildlife and habitat conservation. Prospective applicants should contact the targeted category's Keystone Director to discuss project ideas prior to submitting requests in order to help ensure the relevance of funding requests. The upcoming pre-proposal deadline is November 1, 2012; full proposals are due January 7, 2013. Visit the Foundation's website for detailed information about the Keystone Initiatives' objectives.

[www.nfwf.org/Content/NavigationMenu/GrantPrograms/ProgramsOverview/Keystones/default.htm](http://www.nfwf.org/Content/NavigationMenu/GrantPrograms/ProgramsOverview/Keystones/default.htm)

Chesapeake Bay Trust  
60 West Street, Suite 405  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
(410) 974.2941

The Trust's grant-making strategies are shaped by three core objectives; environmental education, demonstration-based restoration, and community engagement. We look to these objectives as basic touchstones for developing our grant programs, engaging new partners, and communicating about our work.

To support these objectives, the Trust currently makes awards through ten grant programs which are summarized here.

### Environmental Education

- K-12 Environmental Education Mini Grant
- Environmental Education

### Restoration

- Restoration
- Living Shorelines
- Community Greening
- Watershed Assistance
- Green Street Green Jobs
- AA Community Tree Planting

### Outreach and Community Engagement

- Outreach and Community Engagement
- Community Engagement Mini Grant

The Trust also supports organizations through these grant programs

- Capacity Building
- Pioneer
- Agriculture Initiative

## U.S. EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Grant

Chesapeake Bay Program Office  
410 Severn Avenue – Suite 109  
Annapolis City Marina  
Annapolis, MD 21403  
1-800-YOURBAY

<http://www.epa.gov/region03/chesapeake/grants.htm#rfp>

## York County Foundations

- Airie Knipel Harry V and J Williams Warehime Foundation
- The Powder Mill Foundation Appell Louis J Ttee
- Susquehanna-Pfaltzgraff Foundation
- Kinsley Family Foundation
- Long Home
- Bruce R and Madelyn G Snyder Foundation
- W Dale Brougher Foundation Inc
- Raymond I Richardson Foundation Inc Bowling Brook Home for Boys
- Key Foundation
- Russell and Eleanor Horn Foundation
- Bob Hoffman Foundation
- Gitt-Moul Historic Properties
- Elizabeth M Gitt Foundation
- Lawrence B Sheppard Foundation Inc
- Hanover Shoe Farms Foundation Inc
- Albert D Hermance Scholarship Tr
- Nancy & Tim Grumbacher Family Fdn
- Western Hemisphere Cultural Society
- Naylor Family Foundation
- The Stewart Foundation
- James Hogg Family Foundation Inc
- David Hogg Family Foundation Inc
- Smith Foundation
- Josiah W Elizabeth M & Charles Gitt Memorial Library Trust
- Eichelberger Family Foundation
- The Mann Family Foundation
- The George and Martha Hodges Foundation Inc
- Evergreen Foundation Trust Miller Warren F Ttee
- Evelyn W Bushwick Fam Charitable Tr 122799 Bushwick Evelyn W & Et AL Ttee
- Mir Family Foundation
- Bon Ton Foundation
- Dentsply International Foundation
- Clearview Terrace II Inc
- Gardner George & Marian T U A
- Burdis Family Foundation Janie C Burdis Ttee
- Elizabeth W Swartz Trust Uw FBO First Presbyterian Church of York

- Wolf Foundation
- Reverend Dr W L Hogg Charitabletrust Hogg James Ttee
- Daryl and Lois Paules Foundation Daryl & Lois Paules
- Domurad Family Foundation
- Pennsylvania State Park Memorial Fund Association
- Gross Family Foundation
- York Container Foundation
- William E Keller Charitable Foundation
- The R G Charitable Foundation
- Everybody Ought To Know Inc
- George & Dianne Thornton Foundation
- Spoutwood Farm Center Inc
- Ampersand Foundation
- Timothy R Pasch Family Foundation
- Hahn Home
- Highbourne Foundation
- Educating Little People Academy
- Gregory Wade Mcgrew Foundation
- Kelbrook Foundation Inc
- The Arthur J Glatfelter Foundation
- Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society Inc
- Shibboleth Christian Outreach

*Source: National Center for Charitable Statistics, <http://nccs.urban.org>*

# Legacies & Lessons from the Susquehanna



PASHEK ASSOCIATES

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | DESIGN | PLANNING

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[www.pashekassociates.com](http://www.pashekassociates.com)