



High Tide. NJ's N Branch Rancocas Creek
Photograph Joe Pluck's Hot Air Ballon, July, 2024.



Cast Away Island - NJ's Quintessential Natural Resource - Environmental Resource Inventory

North Branch Rancocas Creek - Rancocas Creek Water Trail



All Photos from Cast Away Island

Preamble: Cast Away Island - Environmental Resource Inventory



High Tide - Eastern Viewshed
Looking Up North Branch, Rancocas Creek

Who's that knocking ?

North Branch Rancocas Creek Water Trail

Naturally, here is where we find a
peaceful, tranquil symmetry of
nature, tides, history, heritage,
people and community



Cast Away Island ERI



Photo by
ks337

Enroute Cast Away Island - Timbuctoo North Branch - Rancocas Creek Water Trail

Cast Away Island is an isolated partially submerged 15 acres oligohaline wild-rice marsh on the North Branch of New Jersey's Rancocas Creek. It is naturally protected, sheltered and isolated by Rancocas State Park and Long Bridge Burlington County Park.

Bathed by twice-daily tides and constantly flowing past amber Pine Barrens waters, the island sits in the apex of New Jersey's largest remaining colonies of wild rice, hosts eagles, kingfishers, turtles, migrating fish and numerous other wildlife. It also supports year-round multi-use.

For centuries the Rancocas Creek has supported people - from Native Americans to early American intrigue, the underground rail-road and so also 19th-century sand and clay mining. Historic maps and WPA charts show how navigation shaped the Rancocas Creek Cast Away Island maritime cultural landscapes and communities.

Cast Away Island ERI

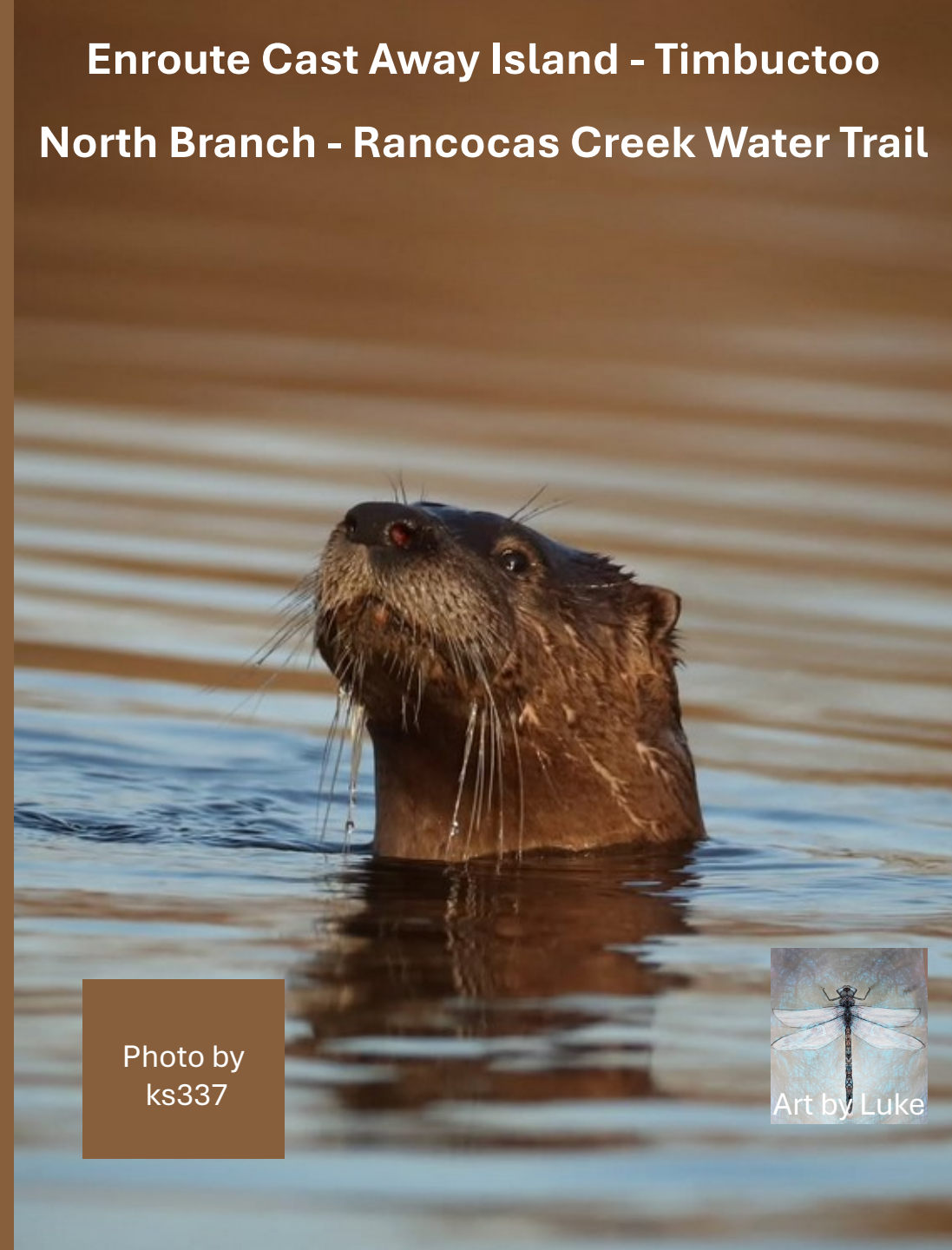


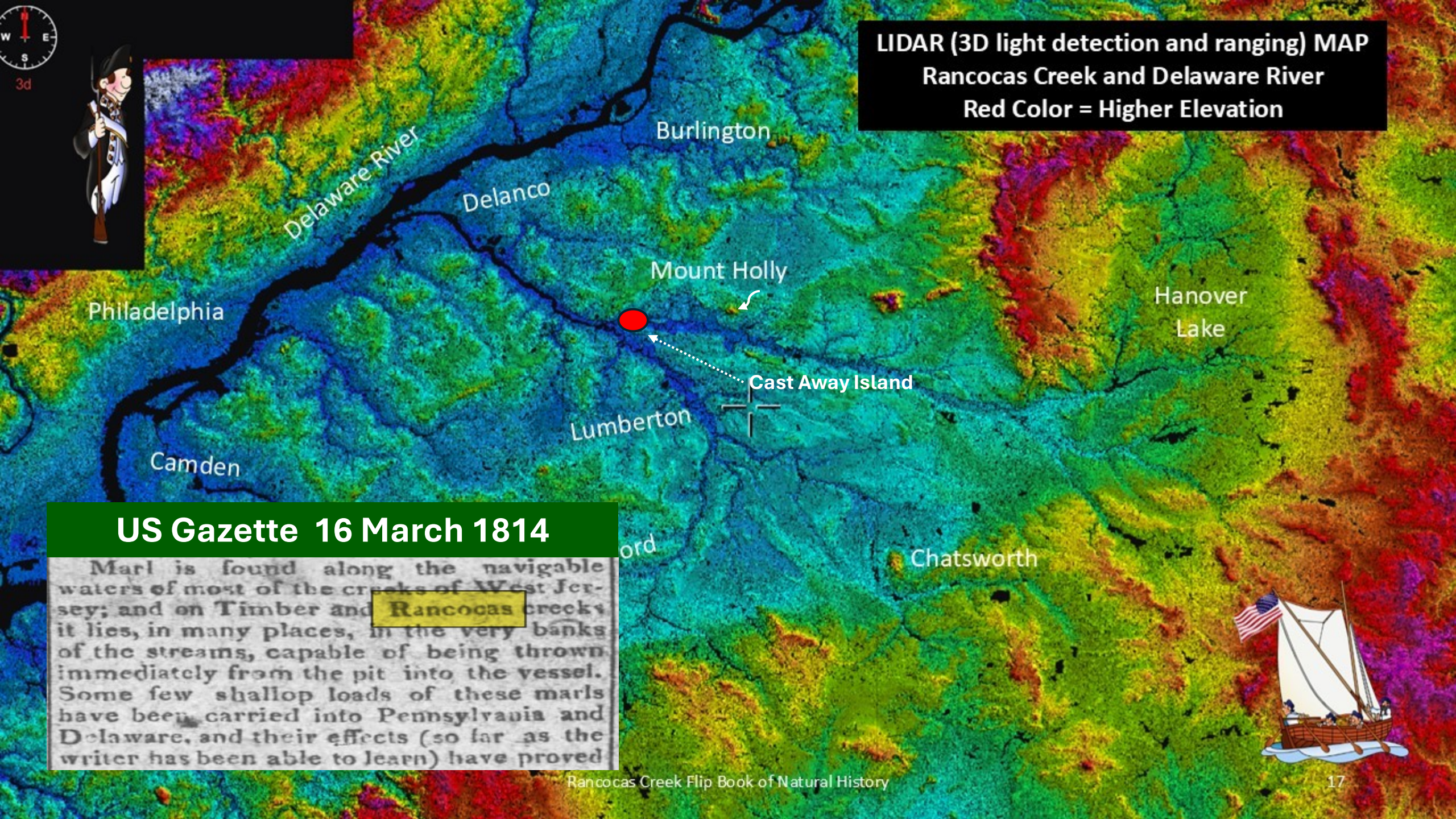
Photo by
ks337



Art by Luke



LIDAR (3D light detection and ranging) MAP
Rancocas Creek and Delaware River
Red Color = Higher Elevation



US Gazette 16 March 1814

Marl is found along the navigable waters of most of the creeks of West Jersey; and on Timber and **Rancocas** creeks it lies, in many places, in the very banks of the streams, capable of being thrown immediately from the pit into the vessel. Some few shallop loads of these marls have been carried into Pennsylvania and Delaware, and their effects (so far as the writer has been able to learn) have proved

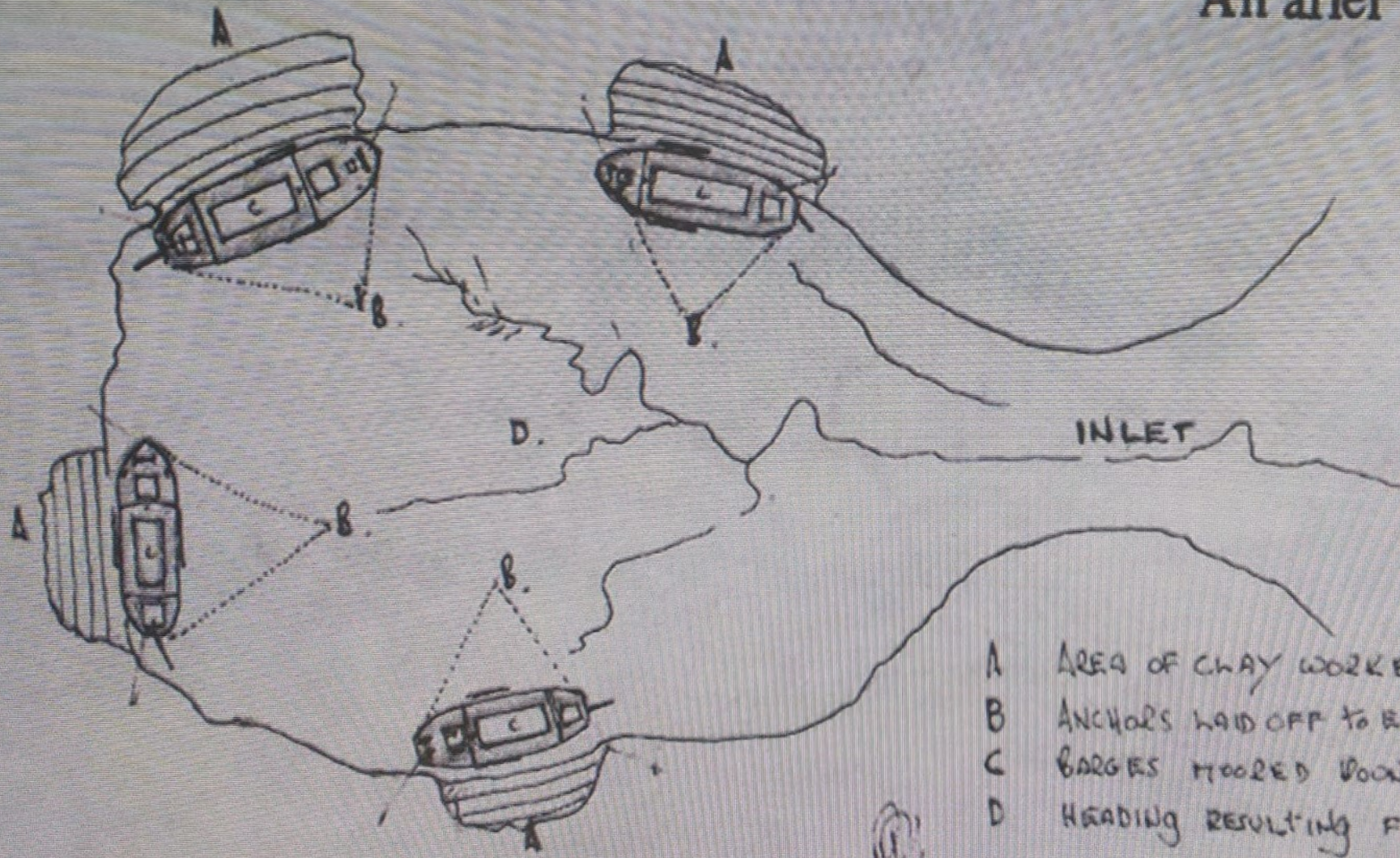


Mud and Muddies

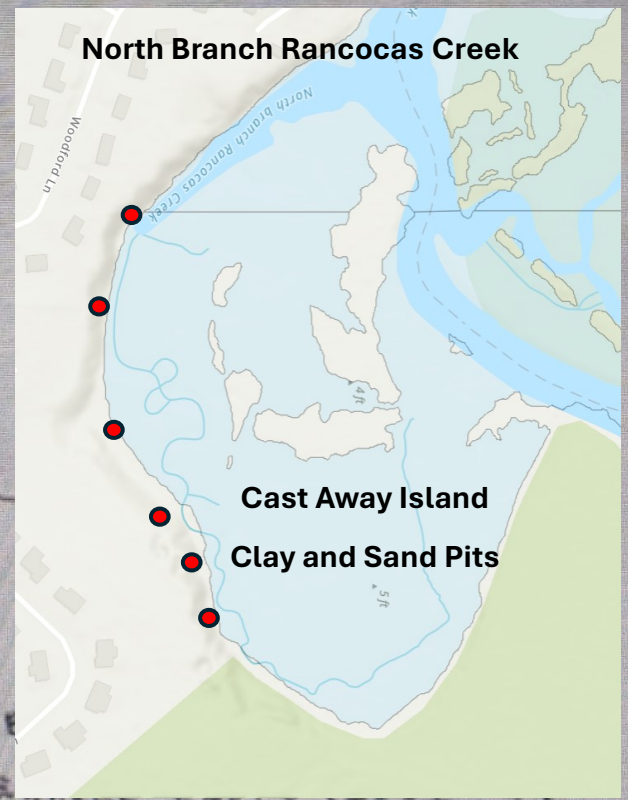
1851

Extraction Method for Clay/Sand Holes Along a Tidewater Creek/River (as an example)

An ariel view of a clay hole.



- A AREA OF CHAY WORK
- B ANCHORS LAID OFF TO BARGE WORK START ON TIDE
- C BARGES MOORED ROUND MUD HOLE
- D HEADING RESULTING FROM WORKING & FLOODING AT HIGH WATER.



Cement, mud, and "muddies" : Willmott, Frank G

Sections

Preamble

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Section Two: Cast Away Island Wild-Life

Section Three: Who was here first?

Section Four: Maritime Cultural Landscape

Section Five: NJDEPs Rancocas Creek Canoe Trail

Section Six: People, Place, Community, Heritage

Section Seven: Multi-Use Public Access

Conclusion



Cover Photo: Looking East. High Tide. N Branch Rancocas Creek Water Trail . State of NJ Rancocas Natural Area , left.
Cast Away Island, right. Timbuctoo, Mt. Holly, center. Arneys Mount, upper right.

Photograph Joe Pluck's Hot Air Ballon, July, 2024.

Cast Away Island ERI

Environmental Resource Inventory - Table of Contents



- Title Page
- Preamble
- Table of Contents
- Dedication
- Enhanced Awareness
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- Location
- Maps and Charts
- Contents
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- Summary
- Conclusion
- Appendix

Water Snake Ambushing, Eating Eel

Cast Away Island



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Geography

Physiographic region and/or subregions
Maps/Charts/Slope, Relief, Elevation
Freshwater Oligohaline tidewater marsh

Geology

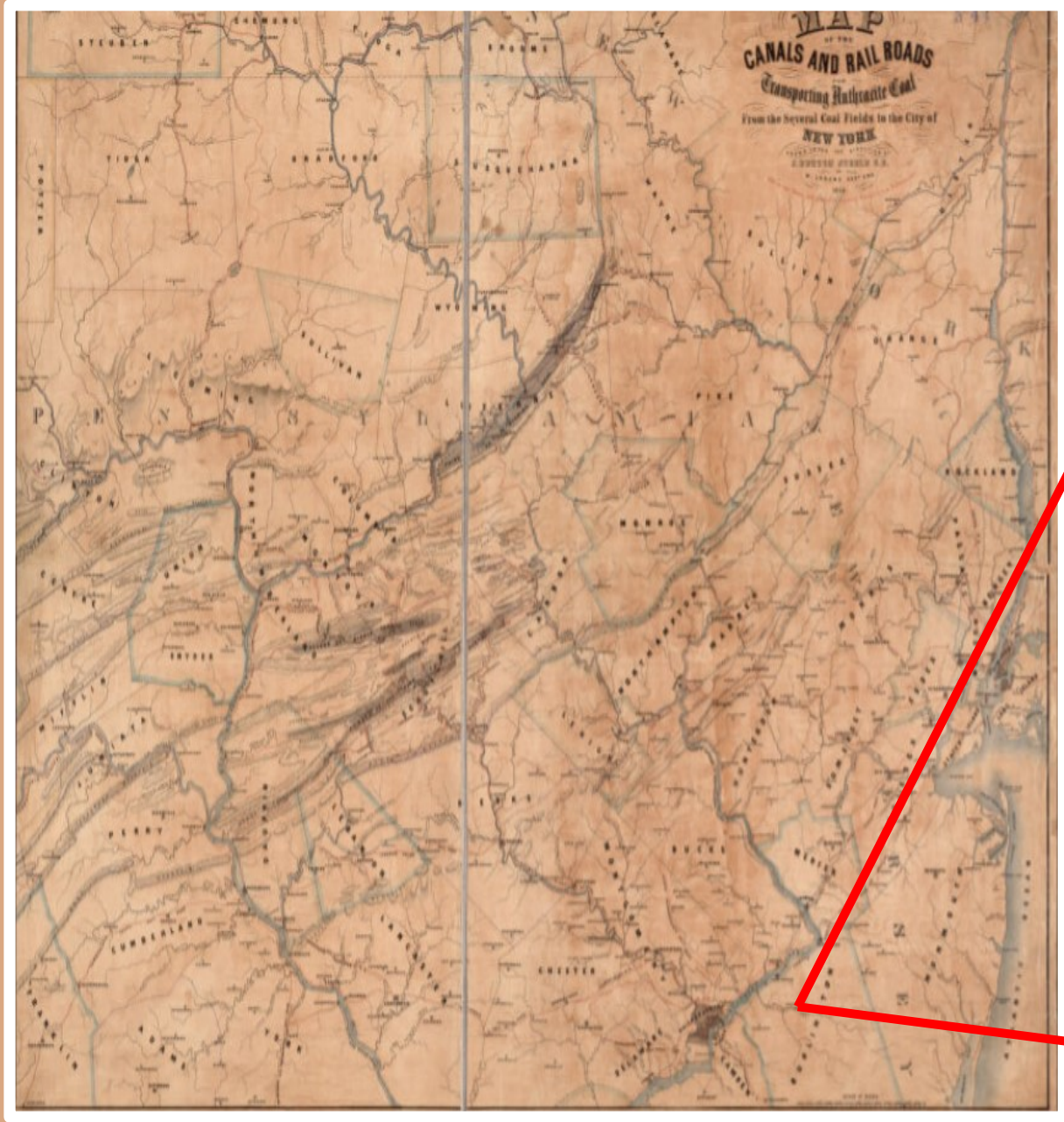
Unconsolidated (loose rock, sands) and thickness
Geologic resources (e.g., sand and gravel)

Soils

Soil types, texture, stoniness, depth, types
Erodibility, potential soil loss in cubic feet per year
Surface runoff , permeability, perviousness
Nutrient absorption (exchange capacity)



*High Tide – Beggar Tick Flowers hold their blossoms under water
Cast Away Island*



Cast Away
Island

Cast Away Island ERI



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Cast Away Island

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**Low-Tide, at the “Portal”
Cast Away Island to the Right**



Seals are infrequent visitors

**Rancocas Creek
Commerce Rapid
Growth from Location
of Delaware River
Ports, People,
Community, Heritage,**



Maritime Commerce, North Branch



The rise in the river gave raftsmen much trouble.

Mt. Holly News 1882



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Vegetation

Types of vegetation

Fire hazard, history of wildfires

Pollution affected types

Vegetation of recreational and/or historic value

Vegetation of economic value

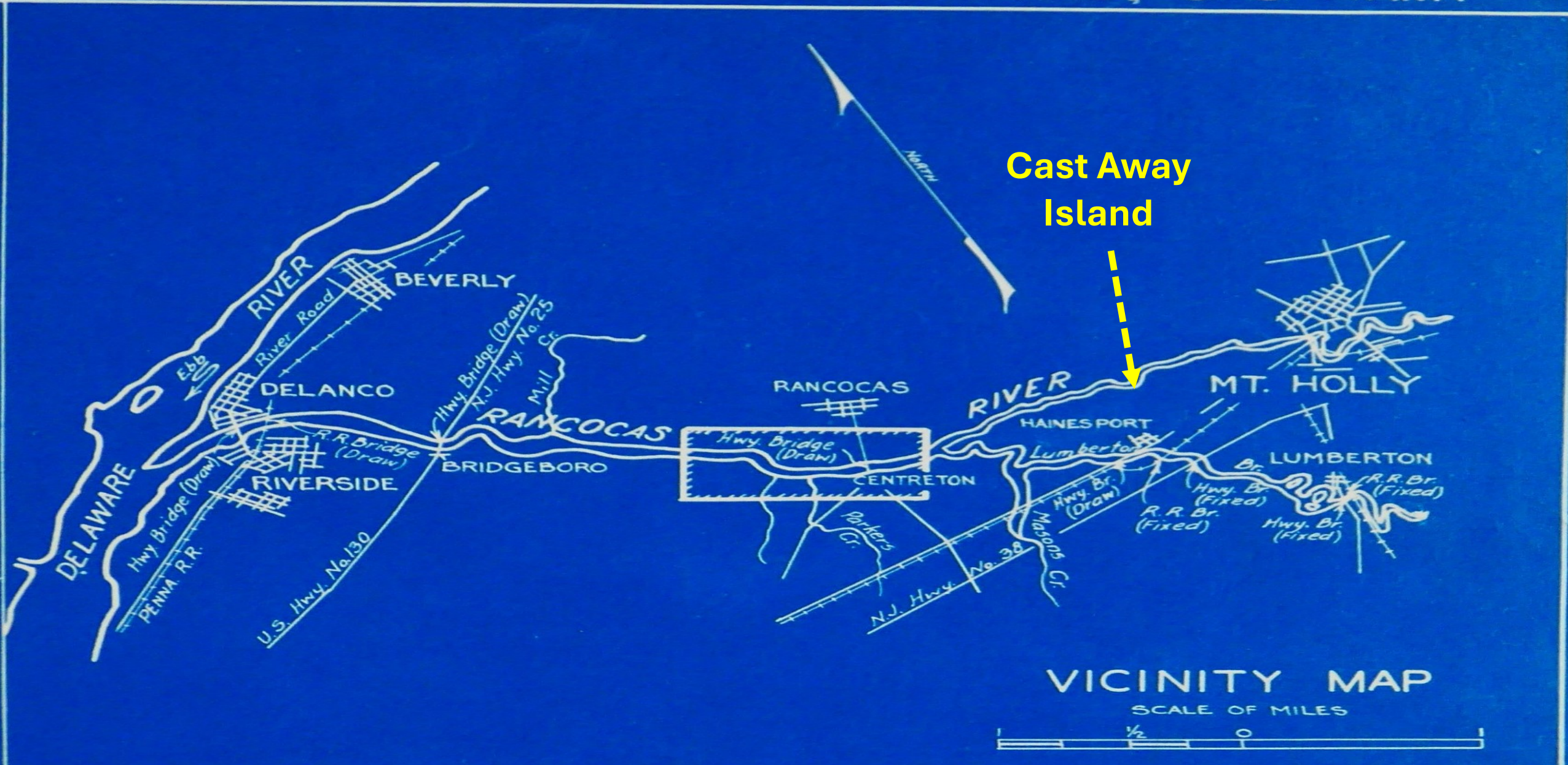
Rare or endangered species

Hydrophytes (wetlands)

Forest cover

Agricultural areas

Cast Away Island Viewshed





Cast Away Island

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(including easements)

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Cast Away Island



Leave No Trace

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Multi-Use

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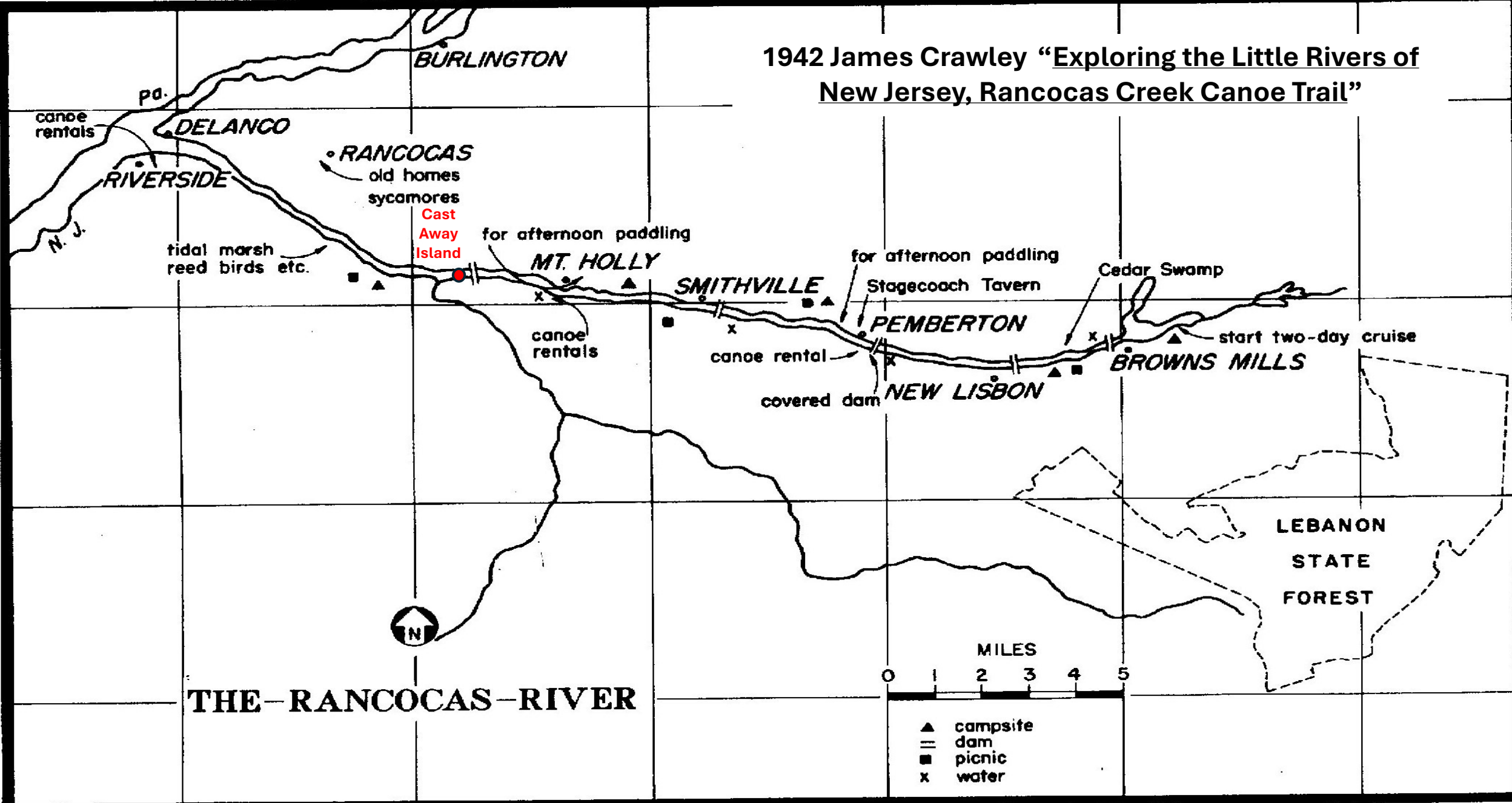
Equivalent sound level

Day/night sound level



Courtesy Larry Tigar Mt. Holly Historical Society

1942 James Crawley "Exploring the Little Rivers of New Jersey, Rancocas Creek Canoe Trail"



THE RANCOCAS RIVER



Photo by
ks337

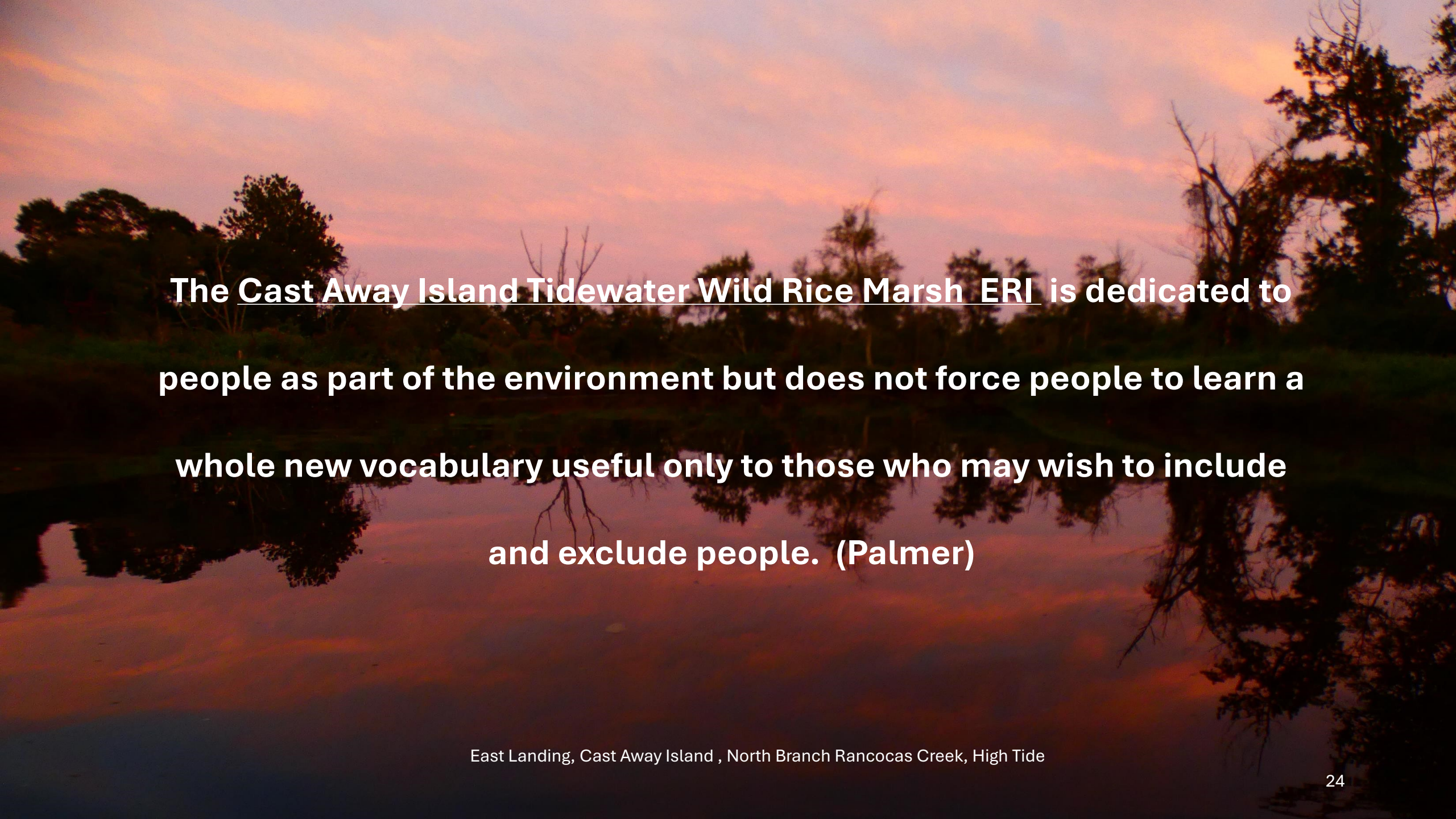
Photo from Cast Away Island

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Summary

Conclusion

Appendix



The Cast Away Island Tidewater Wild Rice Marsh ERI is dedicated to people as part of the environment but does not force people to learn a whole new vocabulary useful only to those who may wish to include and exclude people. (Palmer)

Rancocas Creek Water Trail
"Wishbone"

Melpine

Timbuctoo

Mt Holly

Cast Away Island

Hainesport

LUMBERTON

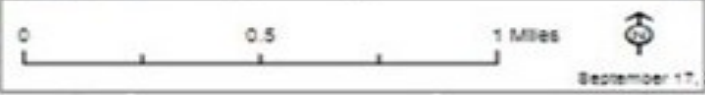
Rancocas Creek Water Trail
North and South Branch Tidewaters

Cast Away Island sits on the
Southern Bank of the N. Branch
Rancocas Creek of the Rancocas
Creek Water Trail



Trail Features		Preserved Open Space	
	Water Trail		State
	Launch Access		Local
	Rest Stop		

	Mile Marker
1 Iron Works Park - Mt Holly	0
2 Monroe St. Park - Mt Holly	0.5
R1 Melpine - NJDEP	5
R2 Confluence - NJDEP	6
3 Rancocas State Park	7.5
4 Hainesport Launch - Hainesport	8.5
5 Lumberton Launch - Lumberton	10



Enhanced Awareness

Welcome to Cast Away Island on a Rancocas Creek Tidewater Wild Rice Marsh

Cast Away Island is privately owned by a legally registered 501c3 organization.

Cast Away Island is located 10 miles East of the Delaware River Federal tidal navigation channel. It is 2 miles west of Burlington County's County Seat, historic Mount Holly. Guarded against urban development to the North and West by Rancocas State Park and the State of NJ Rancocas Natural Area. Cast Away Island is flanked on the East and South by Burlington County's Long Bridge Park. Cast Away Island, sentential of isolation preserves, protects and restores a natural ecosystem, naturally.

Here among "green-sand" Cast Away Island is sculpted by expansive quilts of yellow flowering begger-ticks, bounding to life after the natural seasonal cycles of a 1,700 acre wild rice tidewater marsh. NJ's largest remaining colony of wild rice.

Here as bald eagle snap up ducks a plenty, where eels and fishes spawn and migrate to the sea, here where hummingbirds call, here is where we find a peaceful, tranquil symmetry of nature, history, heritage, people and community.



Rancocas Creek
North Branch

Rancocas Creek
North Branch

Rancocas State Park
State of NJ Natural Area

Cast Away Island

Block 12 - Lot 1

Hainesport Township

Portal

Landing

Block 12 Lot 1

Burlington County
Long Bridge Park



Not Passable at Low Tide

30 - 45 Foot High Sand Bluffs

County Park
Trail System



Cast Away
Island

Cast Away Island ER

Lane

Introduction to the Cast Away Island ERI

This ERI seeks not to plot every detail of the island, but rather provide a lay of the land. The purpose of the ERI is provide a window, a portal into the heart of New Jersey’s natural beauty. This ERI promotes elements of multi-use conservation that we catalogue by eye. These we should not overlook. The ERI is meant to share the knowledge from those who know the wonders, mysteries, the tides, currents, winds , the open spaces and communities of New Jersey’s Rancocas Creek, from the Pinelands to the Delaware River tides.

Growth in South Jersey, in Burlington County and in the Rancocas Creek Watershed expands as populations and communities grow. Pressure is placed on all areas and manner of open space. Sometimes however there is a space, there is a spot, there is a location, 6 miles from the nearest public boat launch that says “hold yer horses”.

We seldom wonder if a creek, a tidewater, a marsh, has its own history, its own story, its own connections to people, place and community. Cast Away Island ERI presents an agreeable variant of multi-use year-round activity that is a path for those who have yet to learn, to see, listen and study field, forest, the water, the tides, the marsh, the creek and ourselves.

This ERI presents a relaxing sociability of Cast Away Island that is worth knowing.

All Photos Unless Otherwise Noted from Cast Away Island





Snapping Turtle Cast Away Island

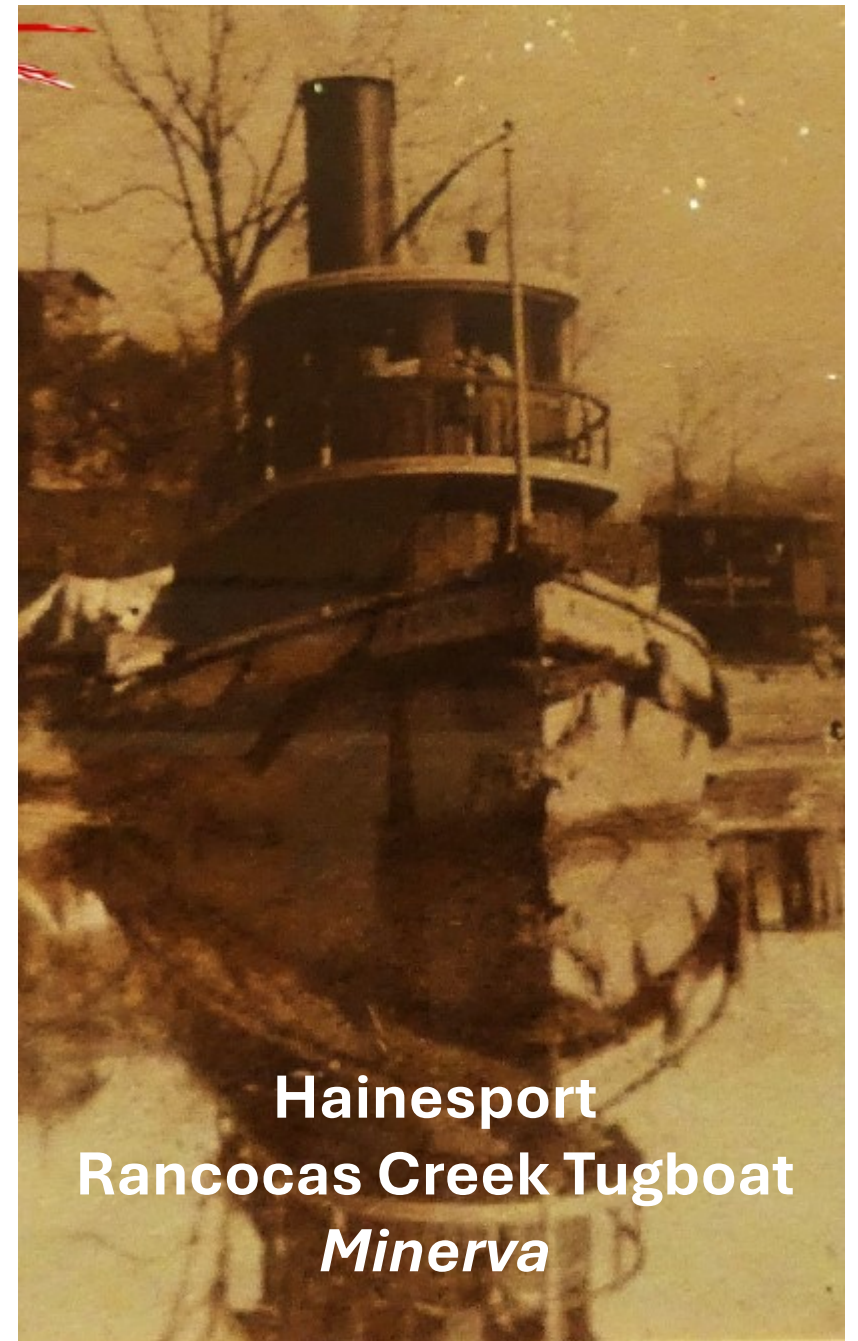
First, however is location. Maps and Charts of the Cast Away Island ERI

Preamble, the first step in this ERI is to define the precise location of the North Branch Rancocas Creek's Cast Away Island. These maps and navigation charts set the foundation of the Cast Away Island ERI. The brevity of these maps and navigation charts help the reader ascertain location.

The arrangement of the Cast Away Island ERI maps, navigation charts, and a table of contents provides information that portrays Cast Away Island as an exercise on the economy of simple graphics and explanations.

The Cast Away Island ERI opens your immersion into NJ's Rancocas Creek tidewater dynamics fusion with amber flowing pine barrens waters, natural history, ecology, conservation and a more personal inquiry. The ERI is geared to people of all walks of life who want to know more about what happens why, how and when the last remaining hidden niches of New Jersey are exposed.

Cast Away Island ERI



**Hainesport
Rancocas Creek Tugboat
*Minerva***

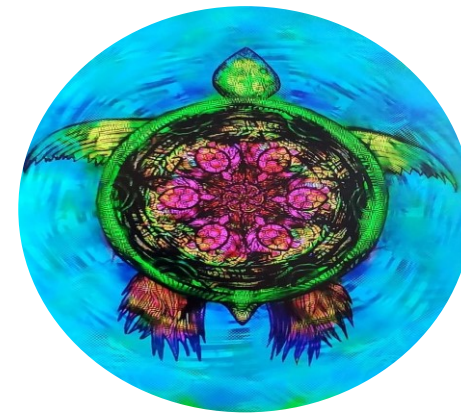
Up the Creek Neighbor, NJ State Bird
American Goldfinch Taking a Look...



Lumberton Launch
South Branch

Section One:

Location of Cast Away Island



Rancocas Creek drains a 360 square mile bisected watershed. Its headwater sources are found deep inside 3 sub-watersheds of the NJ Pine-Lands National Reserve. Rancocas Creek then slowly winds, meanders and flows across Western New Jersey's outer coastal plain, coursing through pine barrens forested glades, entering the inner coastal plain to join the tide at Mt. Holly on the North Branch and Lumberton on the South Branch.



The tidal reaches of the Rancocas Creek, sailed by Swedes in the mid 1600's and Native American's before, extend in a north-western direction from its Pine Barrens headwaters. The Rancocas tides flow east from Delanco, North of Philadelphia. Here on the tide Rancocas Creek widens, bordered by lush heavily wooded forests and wild rice marshes. These tidewaters connect people to the Burlington County Rancocas Creek Greenway. The Rancocas joins the Delaware River Federal Navigation Channel, Mile 102N.

Rancocas Creek Watershed Geographic Regions

Delaware River
to Confluence

Cast Away Island

Mt. Holly

Confluence
to
Head of Tide

Lumberton

Head of Tide
to
Pine Barrens

Pine Barrens



Pine Barrens

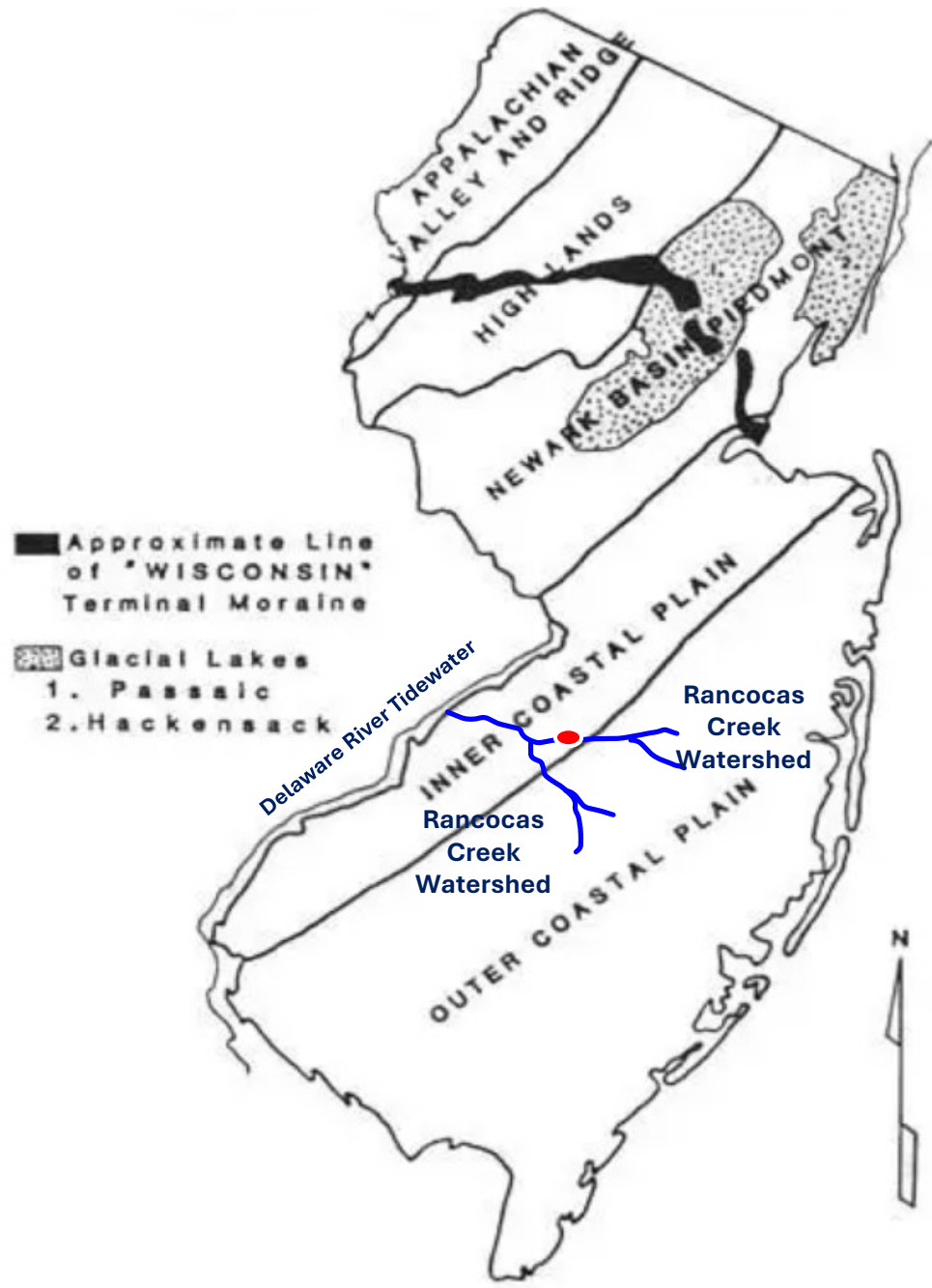
Mount Holly is on Rancocas River, affords a water route for medium draught vessels to Camden, Philadelphia and all Delaware River Ports, cities and towns.

NJ Legislative Documents 1911

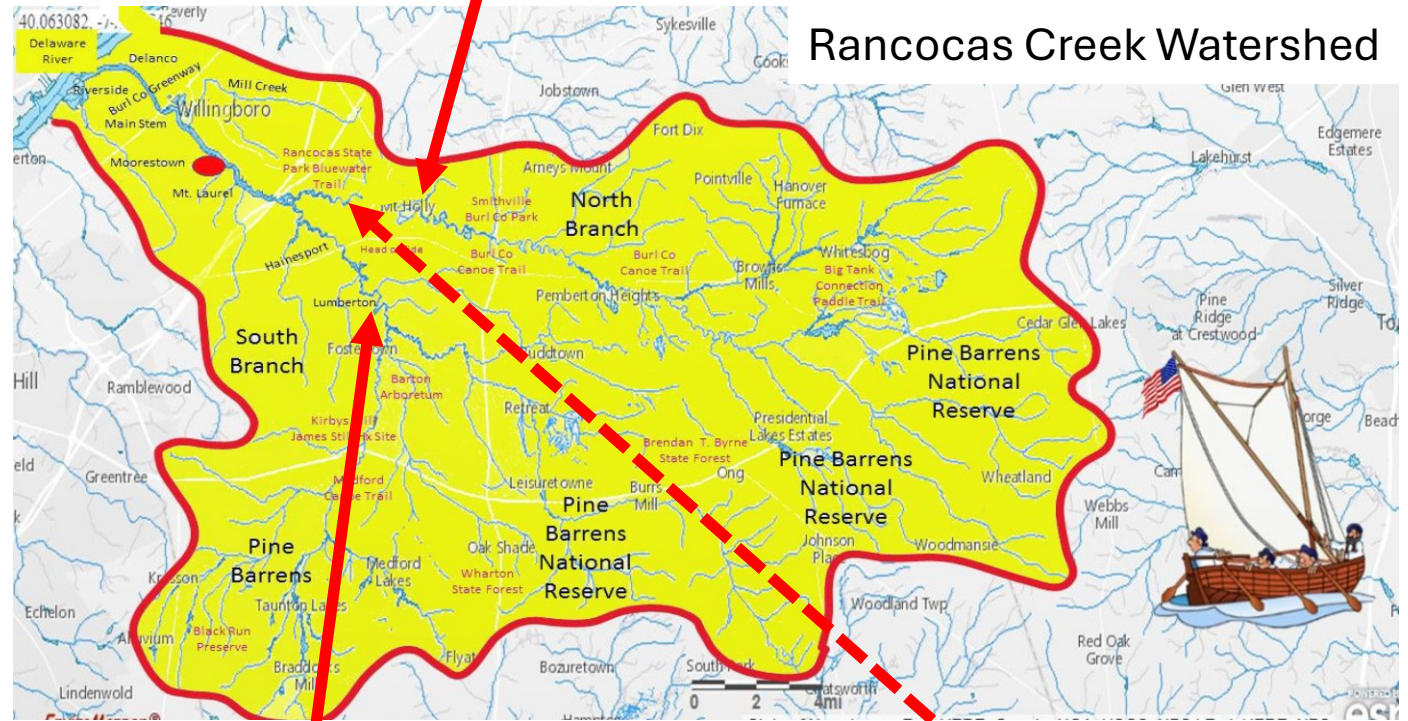
A landscape photograph capturing a sunrise over a body of water. The sky is filled with dramatic, dark clouds, with a bright orange and yellow glow from the sun just above the horizon. The water in the foreground is dark, with ripples that reflect the colors of the sky. In the middle ground, there is a dark silhouette of a shoreline with various trees and bushes. In the far distance, a range of mountains is visible under the colorful sky.

Sunrise Cast Away Island

Leave No Trace

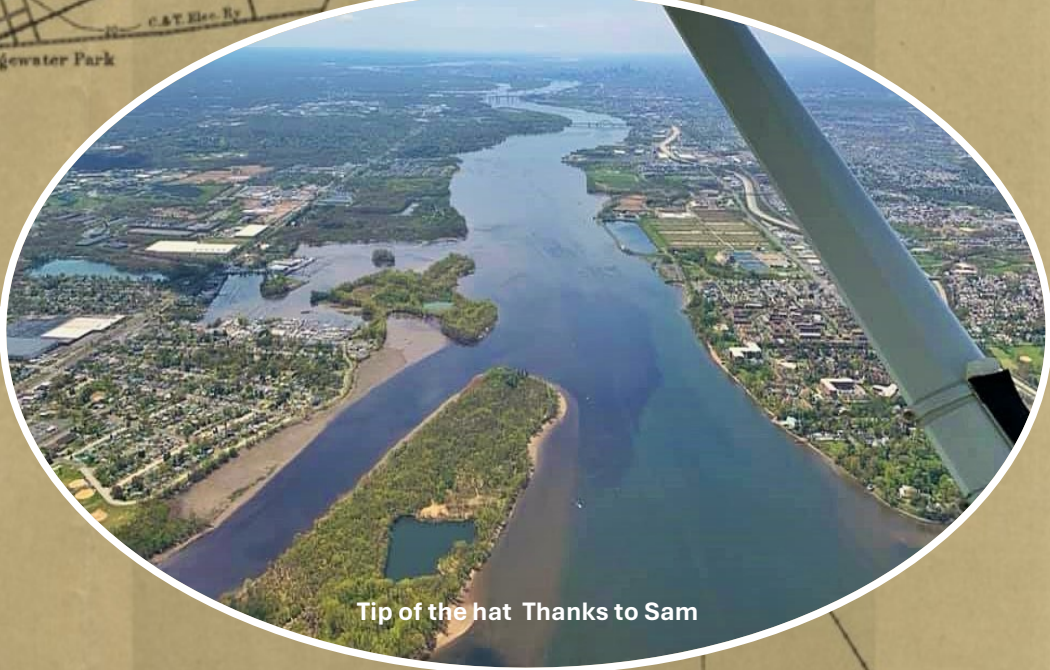
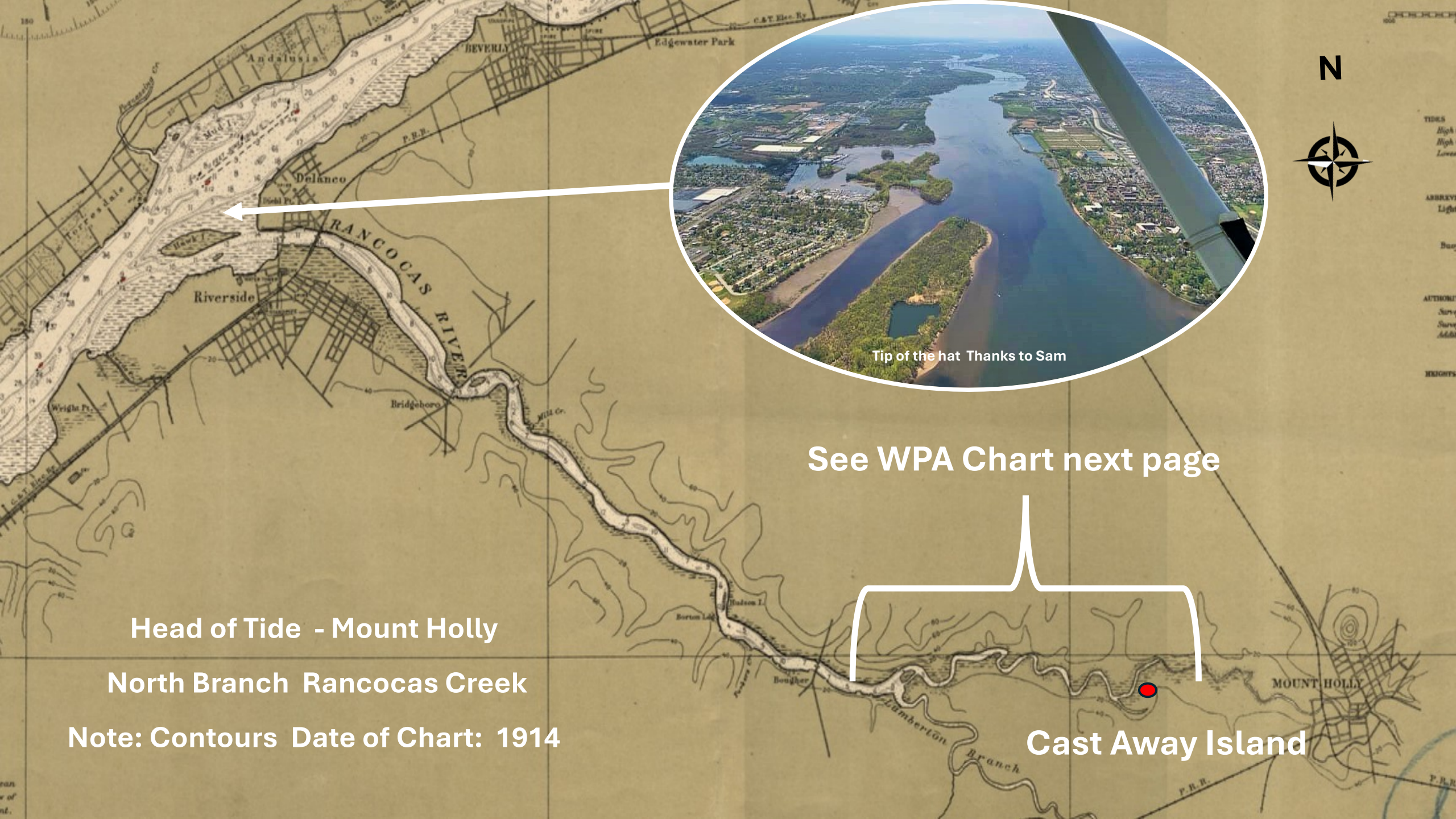


Head of Tide N Branch Mount Holly



Cast-Away Island

Head of Tide S Branch Lumberton



Tip of the hat Thanks to Sam

See WPA Chart next page

Head of Tide - Mount Holly

North Branch Rancocas Creek

Note: Contours Date of Chart: 1914

Cast Away Island

1936 - WPA (Work Progress Administration) Centerton to Cast Away Island

Deck Barge
Pre 1917



State of NJ
Rancocas
Natural Area

Rancocas
State Park

Melpine
Landing

Rancocas
State Park

Sand
Wharves

Sand Wharf

Cast Away
Island

Forks of the
Rancocas

Phosphorus
Works

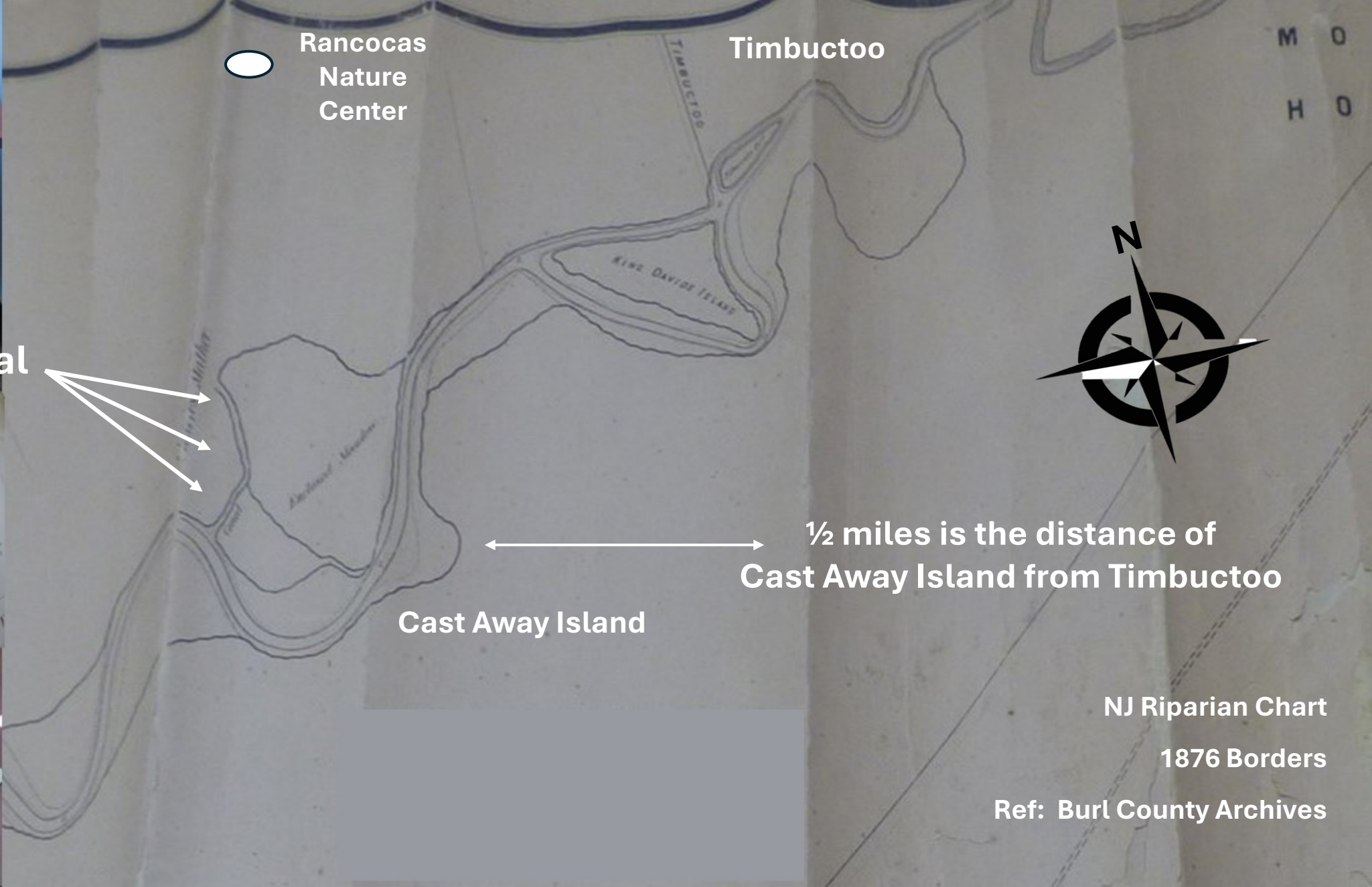
Stone Quarry
Landing

Mason Creek
Landing

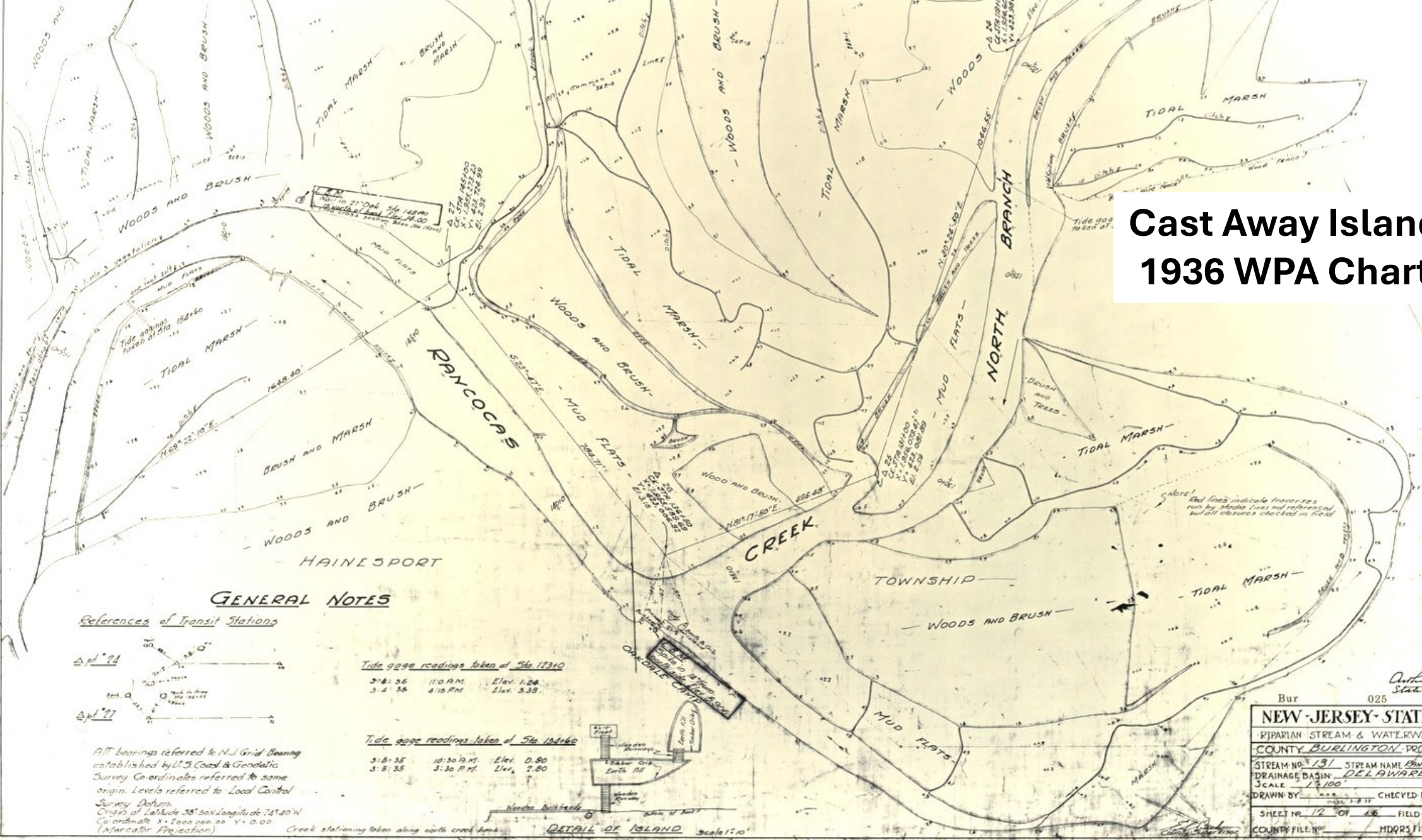
Cast Away Island ERI

KEY MAP
RANCOCAS CREEK
NORTH BRANCH
STREAM No 131

Bur	015
NEW JERSEY STATE E-R-A	
RIPARIAN STREAM & WATERWAYS SURVEY	
COUNTY <u>BURLINGTON</u> PROJECT <u>SF2-198</u>	
STREAM No <u>131</u>	STREAM NAME <u>RANCOCAS CREEK</u>
DRAINAGE BASIN <u>DELAWARE RIVER</u>	
SCALE <u>1" = 500'</u>	
DRAWN BY <u>E.S.S.</u>	CHECKED BY <u>J.W. HARRIS</u>
DATE <u>APR 1936</u>	FIELD BOOK <u>12-6</u>
SHEET No <u>2</u> OF <u>16</u>	COUNTY FILE No _____
HOURS FILE No _____	



Cast Away Island 1936 WPA Chart



Cast Away Island ERI



High Tide, kayak pole passage

No passage on tide.

Open channel poorly defined

See Muddies and Mud (1851)

Creek side bluff - sand mines and sand holes

Cast Away Island



1940 Aerial Survey USDA

**Horse Head Point
33 feet**

**Timbuctoo
(Grubbs Run)**

Canal

**Long
Bridge Park**

Cast Away Island

**Mt.
Holly**



Today's
Rancocas Nature Center

20-380

1959

Horse Head Point
33 feet

Timbuctoo
(Grubbs Run)

Canal

Long
Bridge Park

Mt. Holly

Cast Away Island

20-378

To the North / NW / NE: State of New Jersey Rancocas Natural Area, Rancocas State Park

Rancocas Natural Area Management Plan

Adoption Date
September 8, 1998



RANCOCAS NATURAL AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN
PAGE 1

Introduction

The Rancocas Natural Area occupies 58 acres within the Rancocas State Park (Figures 1 and 2). The park is located in Westampton Township, Burlington County, New Jersey, and contains roughly 1,252 acres. The natural area is adjacent to land currently leased from the Division of Parks and Forestry by the NJ Audubon Society for its Rancocas Nature Center (Figure 2).

The management plan provides an outline for conserving and protecting the natural resources and associated values of the Rancocas Natural Area, as summarized in the management objective of this natural area. It provides a brief overview of the physical and biological features of the area and describes the current objectives and concerns for managing the natural area.

The Natural Areas System was established and is administered pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:1B-15.4 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 13:1B-15.12a et seq. A "Natural Area" is defined as: "an area of land or water, owned in fee simple or as a conservation easement by the Department, which has retained its natural character, although not necessarily completely undisturbed, or having rare or vanishing species of plant or animal life, or having similar features of interest, which are worthy of preservation for present and future residents of the State" (N.J.A.C. 7:5A-1.3). Rancocas was added to the Natural Areas System in 1978 through promulgation of rules associated with the Natural Areas System Act of 1975.

The Division of Parks and Forestry, through Lebanon State Forest, serves as the local agency responsible for administration and implementation of policy and land management practices affecting Rancocas Natural Area. As part of its responsibilities to implement management policies and practices, Lebanon State Forest may consult with other Divisions, organizations and individuals, as well as the ONLM, as necessary to achieve the management objective of this plan.

The Office of Natural Lands Management (ONLM) is responsible for overall administration of the Natural Areas System, promulgation and revision of rules governing System lands, and preparation of management plans. The ONLM also periodically monitors implementation of the management techniques outlined in management plans, and may propose amendments to plans as needed.

Management Objectives and Concerns

The management objective of the natural area is the "preservation of freshwater marsh and southern floodplain habitat, including one of the largest stands of wild rice in New Jersey." Several activities are consistent with this objective:

- Identify the natural area boundary with natural area signs.
- Monitor and assess the impact of public use in the natural area.
- Promote natural resource education in the natural area.
- Maintain and enhance interpretive loop trail.
- Monitor and control erosion on foot paths not maintained as trails.
- Monitor and control invasive exotic species.
- Protect archeological features.
- Maintain and enhance habitat for threatened and endangered species.

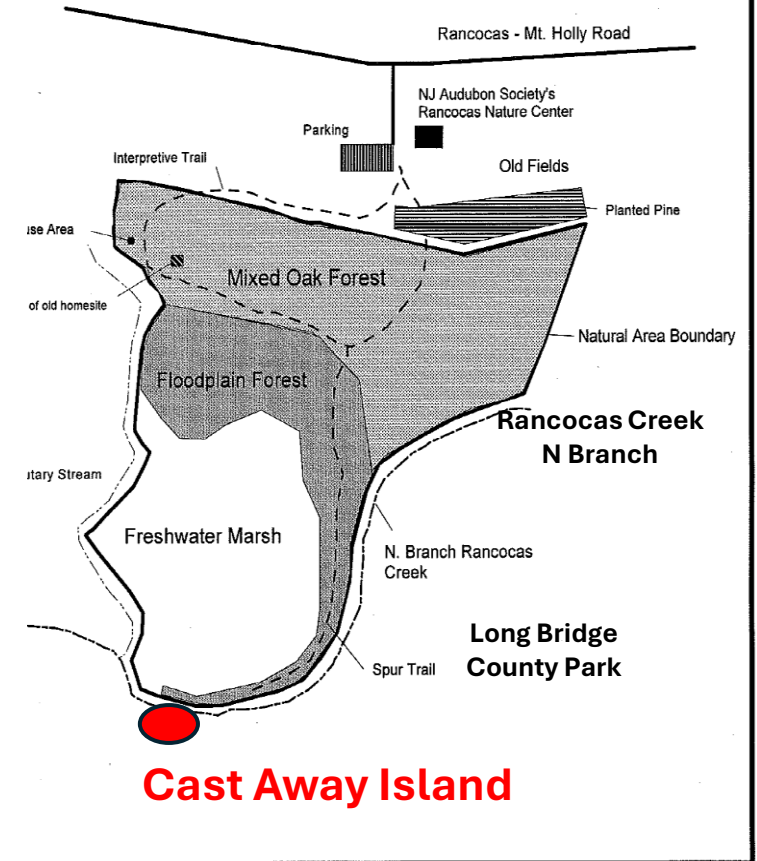


Figure 3. Rancocas Natural Area Boundary and Biotic Communities

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Parks and Forestry
Office of Natural Lands Management
P.O. Box 404
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0404

Forks of the Rancocas

Delaware River/ Philadelphia

South Branch

Main Stem

Rancocas State Park

Westampton

North Branch

Rancocas State Park

Hainesport

**State of NJ
Rancocas Natural Area**

**Cast Away
Island**

**Long Bridge
Burl Co Park**

Photograph Joe Pluck's Hot Air Ballon, July, 2024.

To the East and South East,
 Long Bridge Burlington County Park
 Rancocas Creek Burlington County
 Greenway

Cast Away Island haven for wildlife fusion
 with the natural world is guarded against
 development and incursions by people
 flanked by Burlington County's Long Bridge
 Park.

This location isolates Cast Away Island,
 naturally. It's isolation protects and
 restores an exemplary natural resource
 of New Jersey.





Timbuctoo

Horse Head Point
33 feet

Long Bridge
Burlington County Park

30 feet

Rancocas State Park

30 feet

Cast Away Island
5 feet

Hainesport Township Municipal Park

30 feet

State of NJ Rancocas Natural Area
5 feet



Rancocas State Park

30 feet

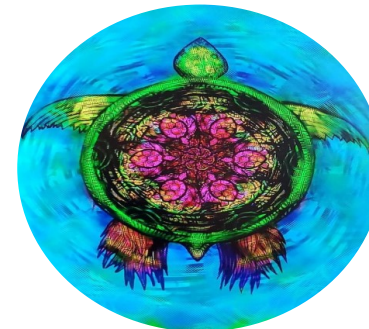
Map of Elevations
Cast Away Island Elevation: 5 feet



**Tree Swallow nesting
Cast Away Island**

Section Two

Cast Away Island Wildlife



Cast Away Island

wildlife is protected

from people because its

isolated from people.

**Wildlife thrives in their
private world, naturally.**

Here man intrudes.

**The following section
offers a partial listing of
the flora, fauna and
wildlife that use Cast
Away Island as home.**

Cast Away Island



Tidal (low tide) Ice Scour

Connecting Cast Away Island to Burlington County, the State of New Jersey's Rancocas Creek Commerce, Heritage & Natural Resources



Rudder 1840's Schooner



Sand Mine Wharf



Cast Away Island



Rancocas Creek Deck Barge

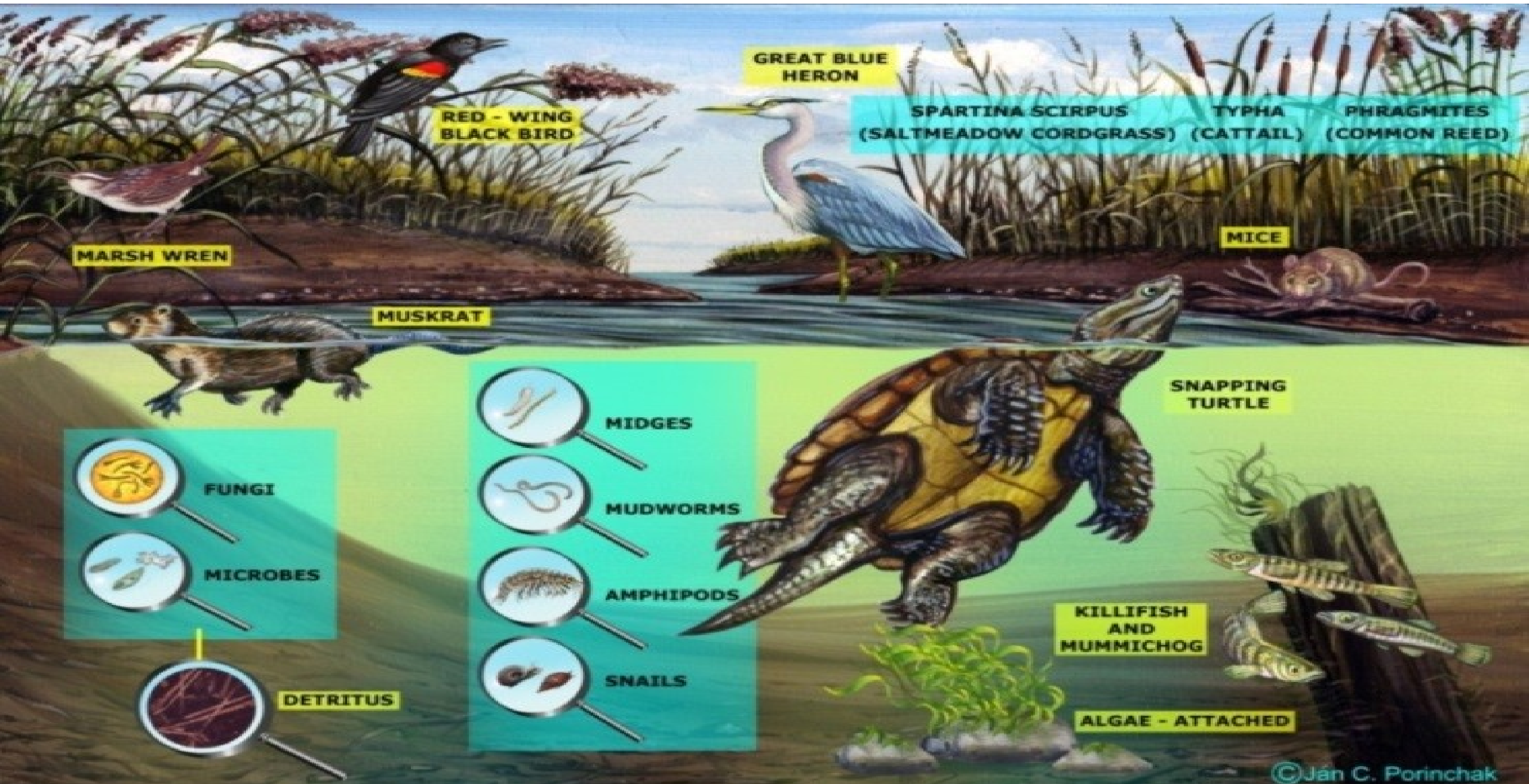


Cast Away Island Sand Barrel



Tugboat Minerva Boat Hook

Wooden remains of Cast Island Wharf and Vessels are the foundation of Cast Island Ecology



Citation, Naturally



**Cast Away Island Sunrise & Wildlife
Osprey, Black Crowned Night Heron, Wood Duck, Red Fox**





Kingfisher
Cast Away Island

Kingfisher Ecology Life Cycle and Native American Myths



The kingfisher holds various symbolic meanings in Native American mythology, reflecting its role as a messenger and a sign of good luck. Among Eastern Woodland Indians, the kingfisher is viewed positively, symbolizing good fortune and abundance. In another legend, a human thief was transformed into the first kingfisher, while in the Siouan tribes, the kingfisher is associated with fertility. Some tribes view the kingfisher as mischief.

The kingfisher's presence is often seen as a sign of balance, freedom, and courage, and it is revered for its association with good luck and joyful spirits. Kingfishers are also considered totems in some Native American cultures, and are used as clan animals in others.



Properties

-  CONIFEROUS WOODED WETLANDS
-  DECIDUOUS SCRUB/SHRUB WETLANDS
-  DECIDUOUS WOODED WETLANDS
-  DISTURBED TIDAL WETLANDS
-  DISTURBED WETLANDS (MODIFIED)
-  FORMER AGRICULTURAL WETLAND (BECOMING SHRUBBY, NOT BUILT-UP)
-  FRESHWATER TIDAL MARSHES
-  HERBACEOUS WETLANDS



On Pine Run Canal
High Tide, NW Approach to Cast Away

Freshwater Oligohaline Tidewater Marsh

Freshwater oligohaline tidewater marshes are crucial for estuarine and tidewater ecosystems, providing essential habitats for fish, crustaceans, birds, and other wildlife.

Rancocas Creek tidewater marshes and wetlands support a diverse range of species, including important fish and invertebrates, and play a vital role in nutrient cycling and water quality.

Naturally, ecological significance of oligohaline marshes extends beyond their role in fisheries, as they also contribute to the overall health and the year-round multi-use productivity of tidewater ecosystems.

Rare and Endangered Plants of Cast Away Island Intertidal Zone

Smith's Club-rush, *Schoenopectus smithii* S2 (imperiled because of rarity; 6 to 20 occurrences).

Awl-leaf Arrowhead, *Sagittaria subulata* S3 (rare in the state, with 21 to 50 occurrences).

Parker's Pipewort, *Eriocaulon parkeri* S2 (imperiled because of rarity; 6 to 20 occurrences).

Shore Quillwort, *Isoetes riparia* S3 (rare in the state, with 21 to 50 occurrences).

American Waterwort, *Elatine americana* S2 (imperiled because of rarity; 6 to 20 occurrences).

Mississippi Arrowhead, *Sagittaria calycina* S2 (imperiled because of rarity; 6 to 20 occurrences).

REFERENCES:

Ferren, Wayne R., and Alfred E. Schuyler. 1980. Intertidal Vascular Plants of River Systems near Philadelphia. Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Vol. 132.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection. List of Endangered Plant Species and Species of Concern, May 2016.

For explanation of the State ranks (S2,S3) see above NJDEP publication.





Art by Luke

**American
Bittern**

**Inhabitant
of
Rancocas
Creeks
“Wild Rice
Tidewater
Marshes”**

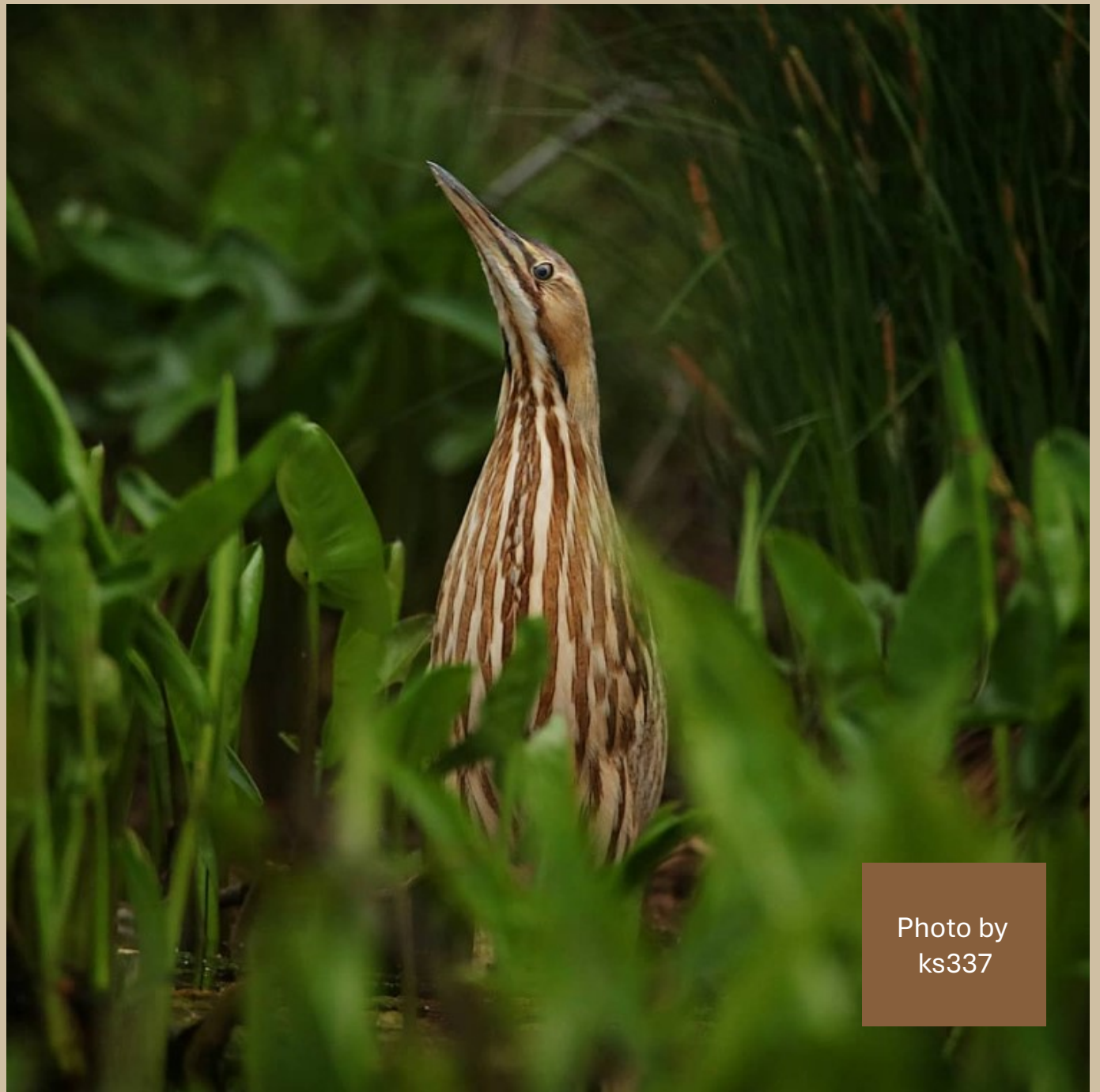


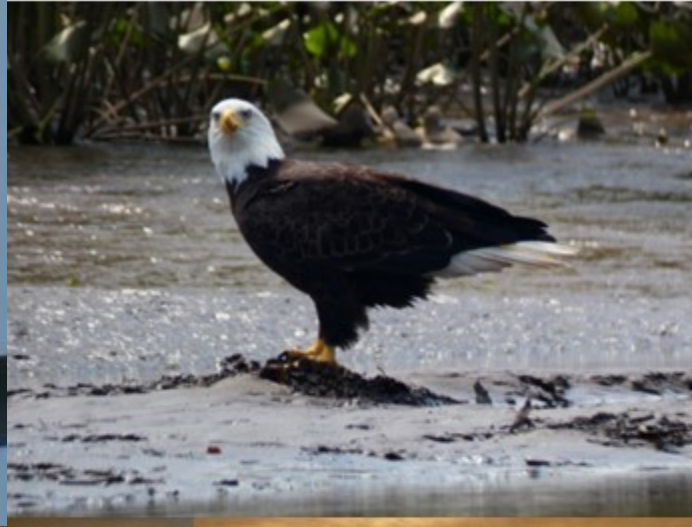
Photo by
ks337

Cast Away Island Viewshed

North into the State of NJ Rancocas Natural Area



North Branch - Rancocas Creek - High Tide



**Cast Away Island
Bald Eagles**

Cast Away Island ERI





Bald Eagle Facts

The bald eagle's ecology is deeply intertwined with its habitat and the ecosystem it inhabits. As an apex predator, it plays a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance by regulating fish and small mammal populations, preventing overgrazing of aquatic vegetation, and maintaining water quality. Its scavenging habits also contribute to the decomposition process, recycling nutrients back into the soil, which supports the growth of new plant life. The bald eagle's presence can even influence the behavior of other species, leading to a more diverse distribution of

The large, majestic bald eagle was selected as the U.S. national emblem in 1782 “as a symbol of strength, courage, beauty, and freedom.”¹ During the nesting season, bald eagles are always found close to a water body where a ready supply of fish or waterfowl is available. They typically nest in old, large trees with a clear flight path on one or more sides, and often, a view of the water. The bird’s population in the lower 48 states decreased drastically in the 1960s, from environmental contamination, loss of habitat, and illegal shooting of wildlife.

Biggest threat to Bald Eagles are over-development, loss of habitat, politicians who could care less and people not respecting Eagle’s privacy.



Leave No Trace



**Cast Away Island
Bald Eagle Habitat**






Cast Away Island: Eagle “scarfing” duck



State of New Jersey Rancocas Natural Area



EAGLES EARS ARE SMALL HOLES ON EITHER SIDE OF THE HEAD BACK BEHIND THE EYES, UNDER THE FEATHERS

CAN SEE **7X** BETTER THAN HUMANS

LIFESPAN

30

YEARS

EAGLES CAN SEE BOTH **FORWARD AND SIDWAYS** AT THE SAME TIME

BOTH EYES FOCUS FORWARD ON A SINGLE ITEM, AND THIS PERMITS **VERY ACCURATE DEPTH PERCEPTION** ALLOWING THEM TO SWOOP IN FOR THE KILL

CRUISING SPEED

30-50

KM/HR

BALD EAGLES ARE NOT BALD AT ALL

HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO, THE ENGLISH WORD FOR **WHITE** WAS **BALDE** AND THE WORD **PIEBALDE** MEANT **MOTTLED WITH WHITE**, SO THE EAGLES WITH **WHITE HEADS** WERE CALLED **BALDE EAGLES**

EAGLE BILLS ARE MADE OF **KERATIN**, SIMILAR TO **HUMAN FINGERNAILS**

BALD EAGLES HAVE BETWEEN **7000 AND 7200 FEATHERS**

FEATHERS ARE MADE OUT OF **KERATIN** THAT GROW CONTINUOUSLY LIKE HAIR

THEY ARE **LAYERED TO TRAP AIR** TO INSULATE BIRDS AGAINST COLD & RAIN

TOP SPEED

120

KM/HR

TOP ALTITUDE

Indicator Species: The Health of Ecosystems

Bald eagles act as an indicator species—a biological marker that reflects the health of the environment. Their population trends can provide insights into the overall ecosystem's condition.

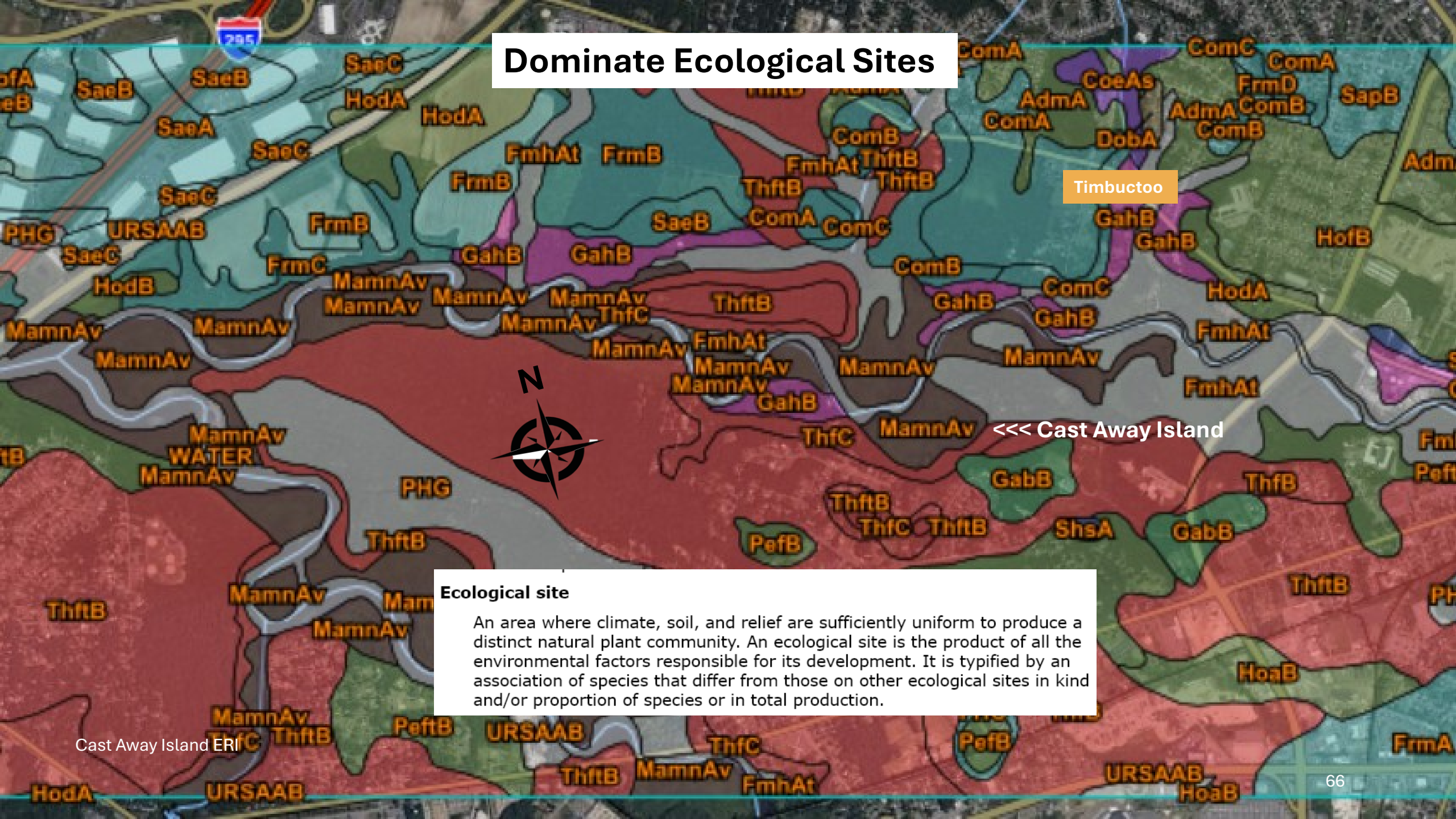
A decline in bald eagle populations may signal environmental issues such as pollution, habitat loss, or decline in prey availability. Monitoring eagle populations, is important for multi-use conservation and managing ecosystems sustainably. A robust population of Bald Eagle's generally indicates a healthy environment capable of supporting diverse populations of wildlife and these connections to multi-use.



Rancocas Creek, Hainesport

Leave No Trace

Dominate Ecological Sites



Timbuctoo

<<< Cast Away Island

Ecological site
An area where climate, soil, and relief are sufficiently uniform to produce a distinct natural plant community. An ecological site is the product of all the environmental factors responsible for its development. It is typified by an association of species that differ from those on other ecological sites in kind and/or proportion of species or in total production.

Cast Away Island ERI

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
AdmA	Adelphia fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	82.0	1.8%
CoeAs	Colemantown loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	16.3	0.3%
ComA	Collington fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	108.2	2.3%
ComB	Collington fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	49.5	1.1%
ComC	Collington fine sandy loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes	18.1	0.4%
DobA	Donlonton loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	4.6	0.1%
FmhAt	Fluvaquents, loamy, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	317.8	6.8%
FrfB	Freehold loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	13.7	0.3%
FrfC	Freehold loamy sand, 5 to 10 percent slopes	7.9	0.2%
FrmA	Freehold fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	124.1	2.7%
FrmB	Freehold fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	180.2	3.9%
FrmC	Freehold fine sandy loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes	43.0	0.9%
FrmD	Freehold fine sandy loam, 10 to 15 percent slopes	5.3	0.1%
GabB	Galestown sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	44.3	0.9%
GahB	Galloway sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	86.9	1.9%
GakB	Galloway fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	1.7	0.0%
Hoab	Holmdel loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	46.5	1.0%
HodA	Holmdel fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	119.6	2.6%
HodB	Holmdel fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	11.7	0.2%
HofB	Holmdel-Urban land complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	97.2	2.1%

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
MamnAv	Mannington-Nanticoke complex, 0 to 1 percent slopes, very frequently flooded	436.4	9.3%
PefB	Pemberton sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	31.0	0.7%
PeftB	Pemberton sand, thick surface, 0 to 5 percent slopes	222.0	4.8%
PHG	Pits, sand and gravel	163.9	3.5%
SaeA	Sassafras fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	121.5	2.6%
SaeB	Sassafras fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	154.8	3.3%
SaeC	Sassafras fine sandy loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes	31.1	0.7%
SapB	Sassafras-Urban land complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	18.9	0.4%
ShsA	Shrewsbury fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	4.3	0.1%
ThfB	Tinton sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	295.5	6.3%
ThfC	Tinton sand, 5 to 10 percent slopes	133.6	2.9%
ThfB	Tinton sand, thick surface, 0 to 5 percent slopes	1,337.4	28.6%
UdrB	Udorhents, refuse substratum, 0 to 8 percent slopes	2.4	0.1%
URSAAB	Urban land, sandy, 0 to 8 percent slopes	139.1	3.0%
WATER	Water	178.2	3.8%
WofA	Woodstown fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	7.2	0.2%
WofB	Woodstown fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	14.1	0.3%
Totals for Area of Interest		4,670.4	100.0%



Cast Away Island Migration
Selected Examples

Lifecycle of Cast Away Island eels.



Leave No Trace

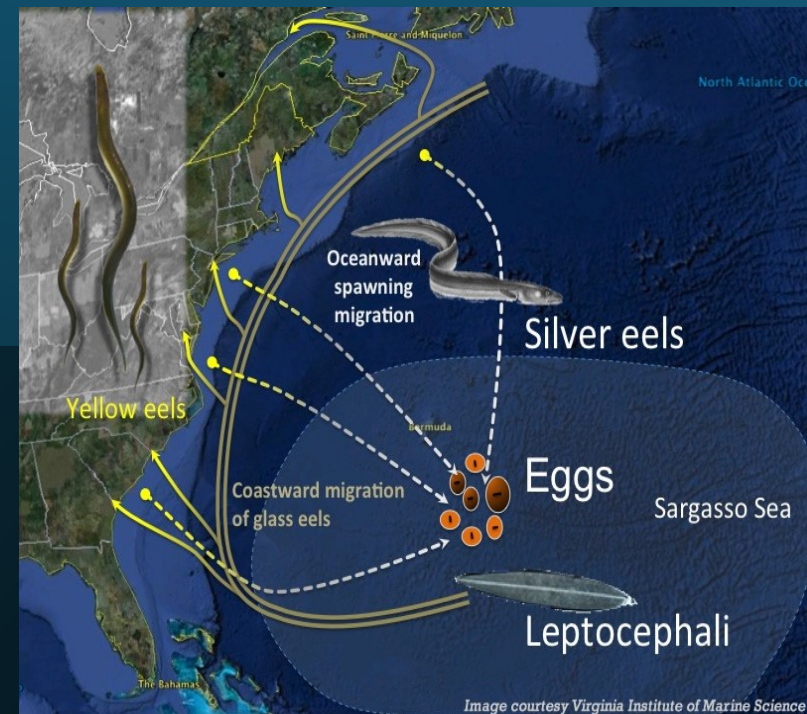


Image courtesy Virginia Institute of Marine Science

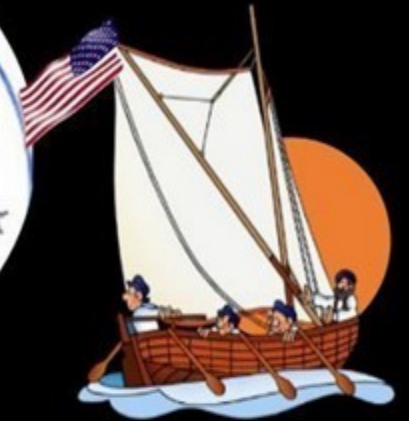
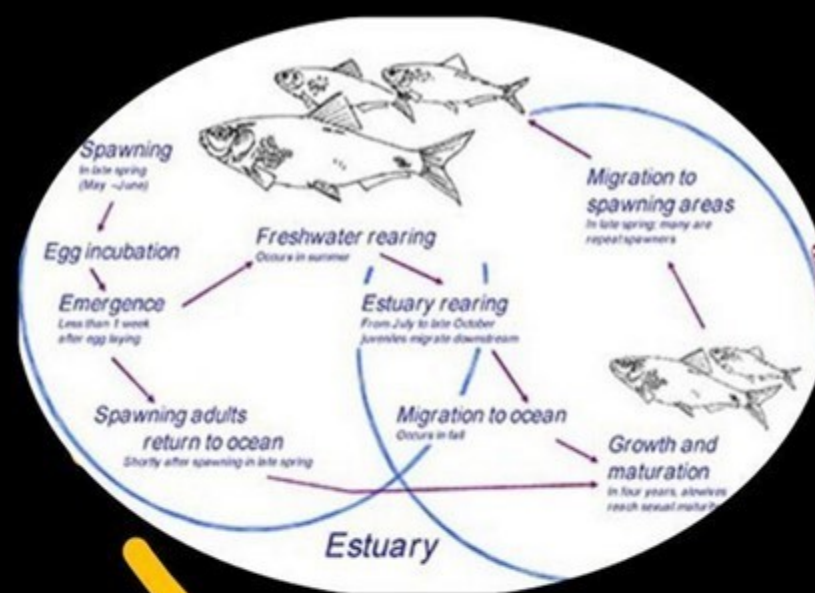


Cast Away Island blueback herring

- Spawning migrations of adult alewife and blueback herring have been confirmed in the Rancocas main-stem as well as the north, south and southwest branches..

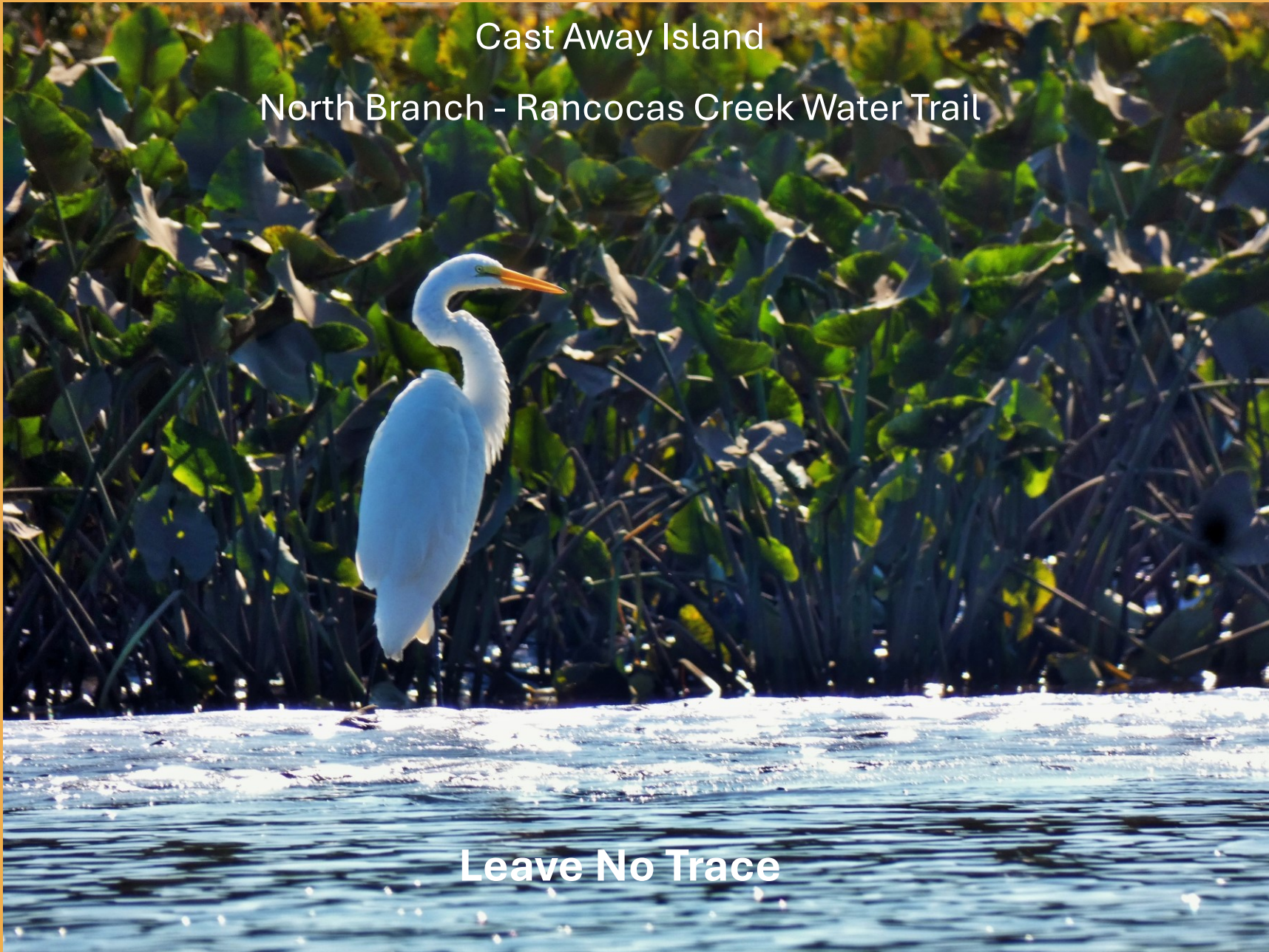
- Rancocas Creek herring are anadromous (lives in saltwater and returns to freshwater to spawn) and spawn in coastal rivers during the spring. River herring refers to alewife (*Alosa pseudoharengus*) and blueback herring (*Alosa aestivalis*).

- Blueback herring move into coastal rivers during March and April when the water temperatures reach the mid-50s. The spawning site can be from the tidal zone to more than 100 miles upstream. Females release as many as 250,000 eggs in shoreline areas where they are fertilized by the male. Upon spawning, the adults return to offshore areas to overwinter. Newly hatched fish remain in the lower riverine area for several months before moving to sea.



Cast Away Island

North Branch - Rancocas Creek Water Trail

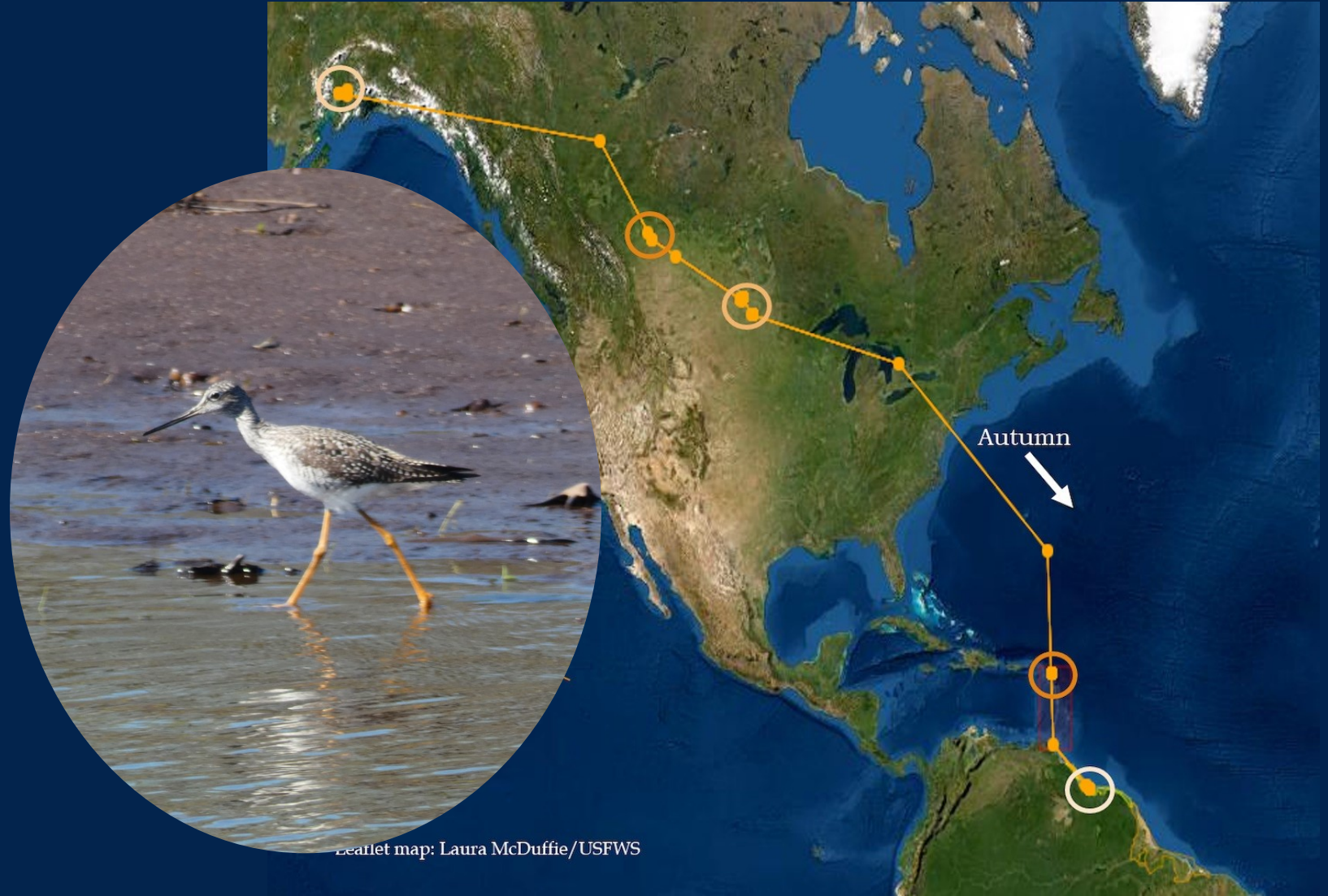


Leave No Trace

Yellow Leg Sand-piper Rancocas Creek Yearly Cast Away Island Visitor

Migration

Medium- to long-distance migrant. Spring migration is earlier than most other shorebirds, with the species beginning to leave South America by late February and arriving in the U.S. 2-3 weeks later. Fall migration is prolonged and variable. Adult Greater Yellowlegs leave around the end of July, with young birds following 4-6 weeks later.



Cast Away Island Spring Migration



Leave No Trace

Rancocas Creek Tidewater Migratory Pathway Cast Away Island Monarchs and Begger Tick Ecology



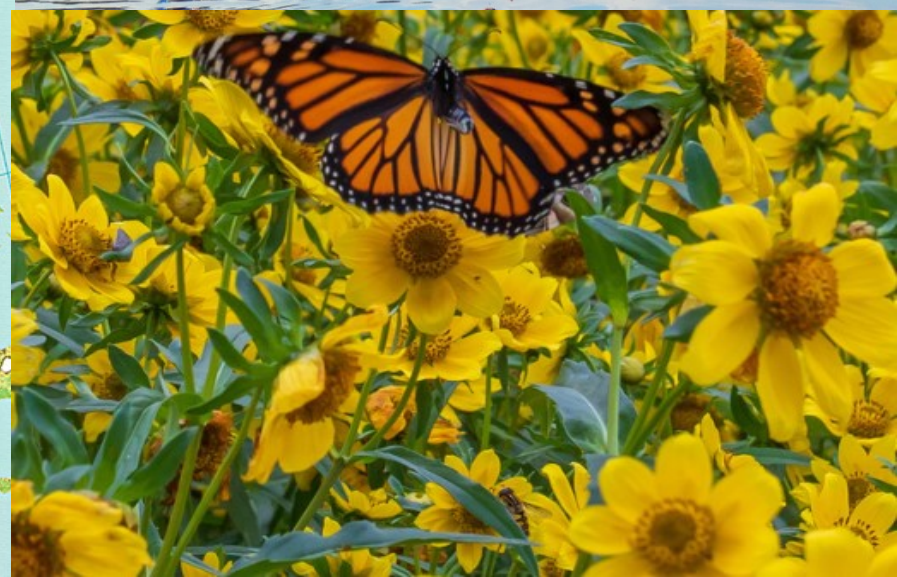
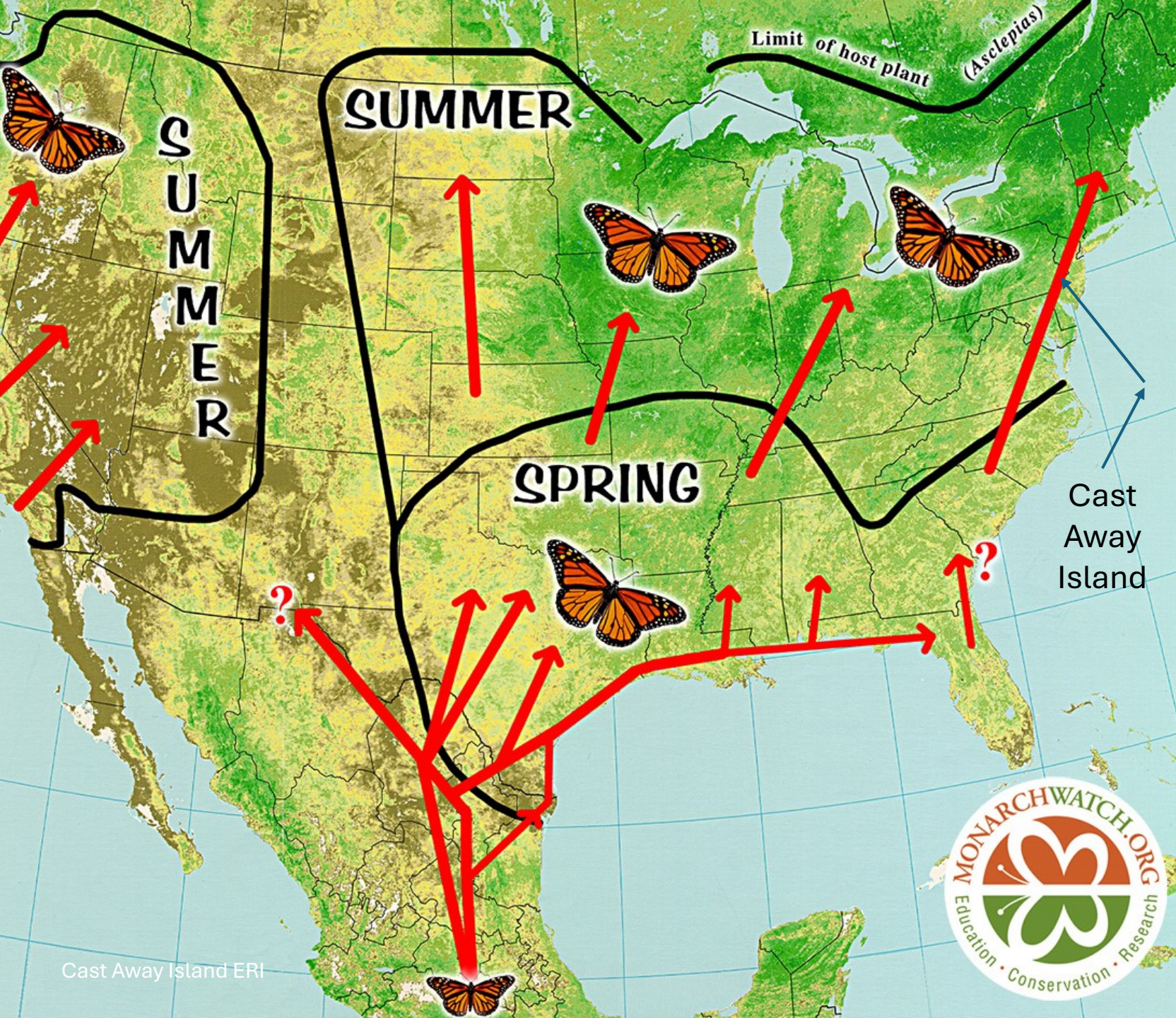
#ks337photo



A Possible Leg of their Migration Route ?

70 miles

Cape May



Cast Away Island ERI

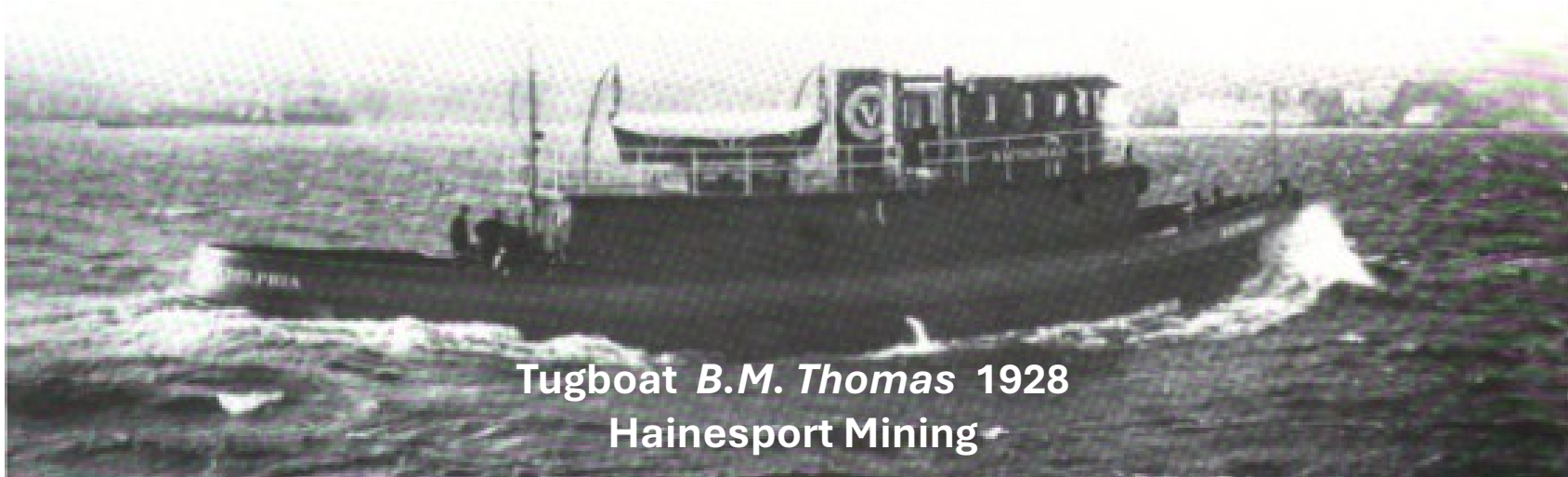


Cast Away Island Monarchs



Cast Away Island

Section Three: Who was here first?



Industrial Sands of Cast Away Island

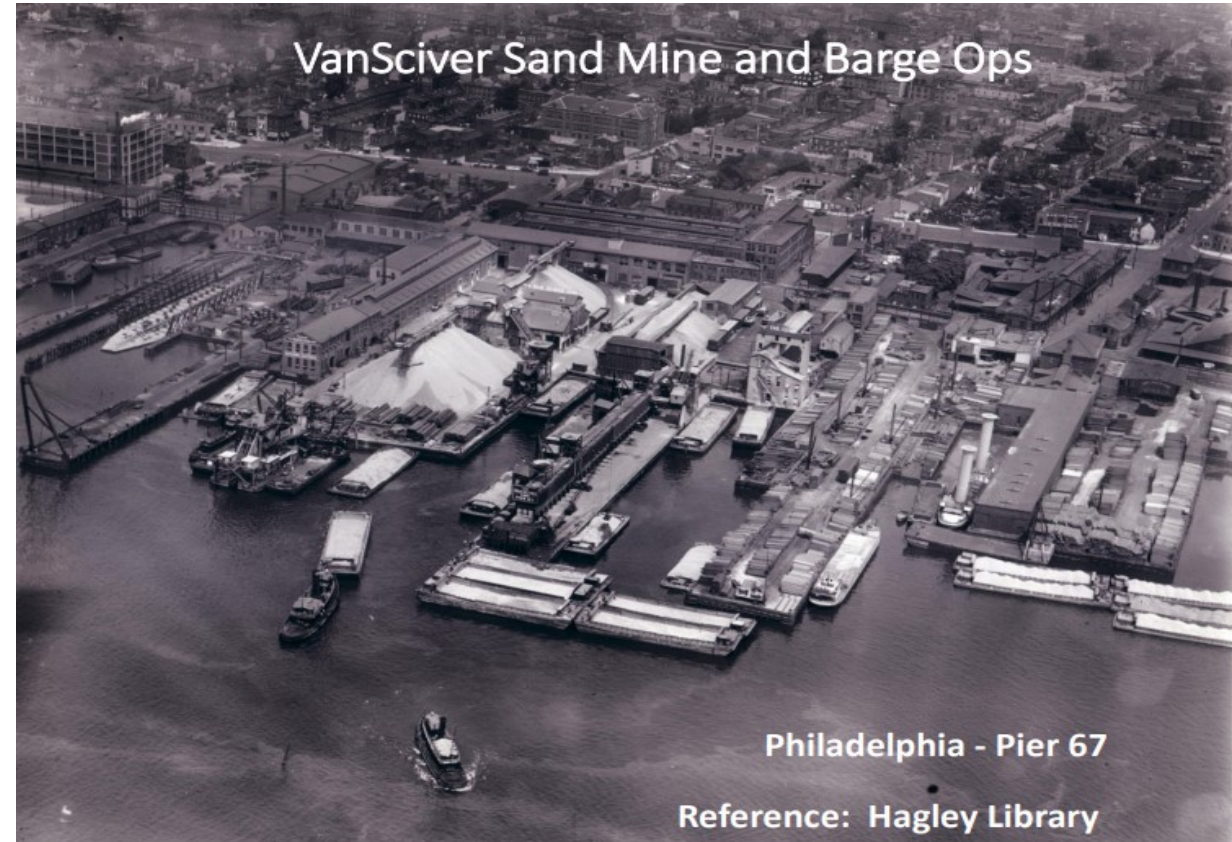
Extractive Resources and Sand Mining

“these sands are dug at the most available points along the Rancocas Creek to market, in this case the Delaware River” (Smith, 1926)



Tracey Mueller Photo

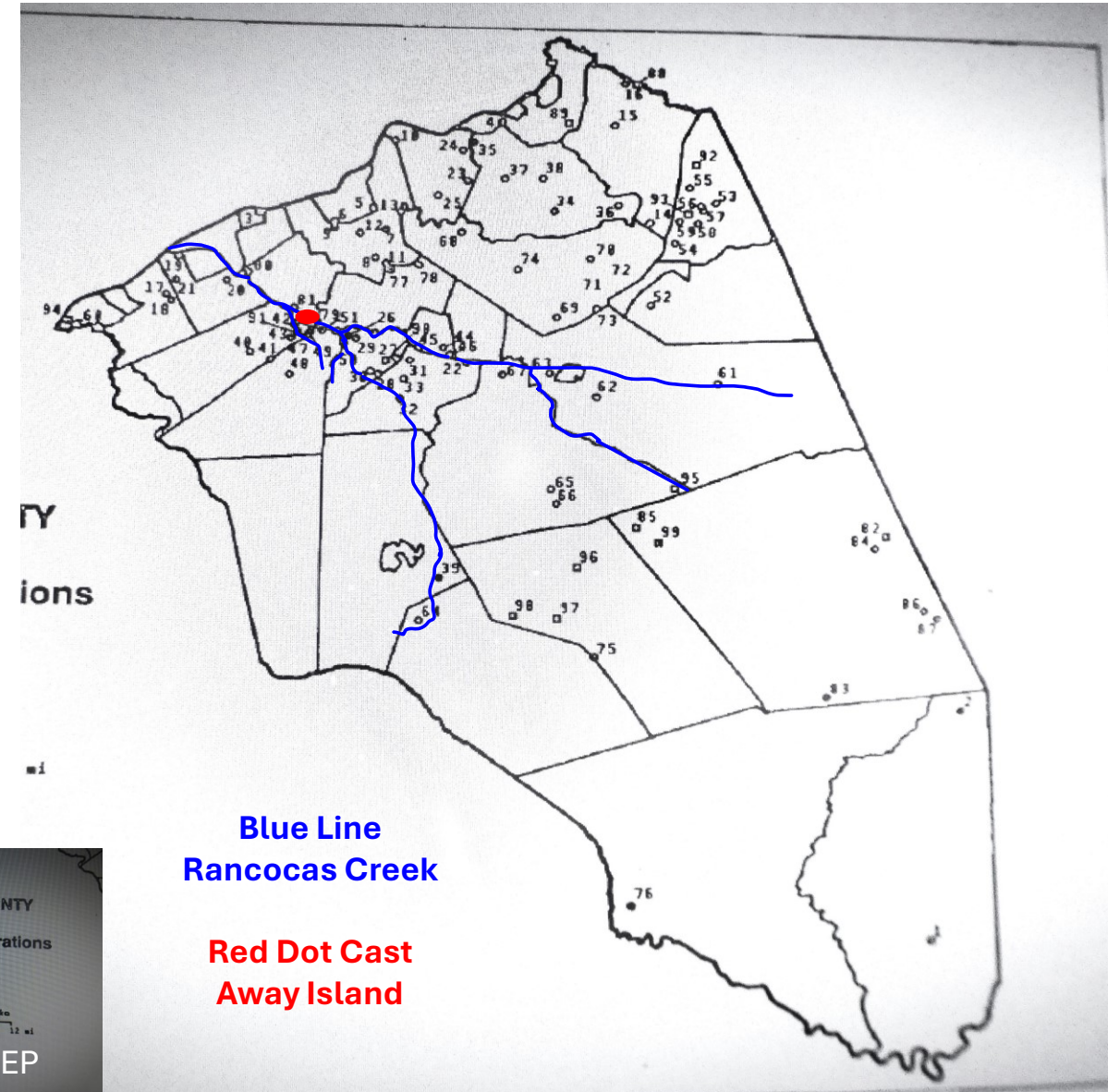
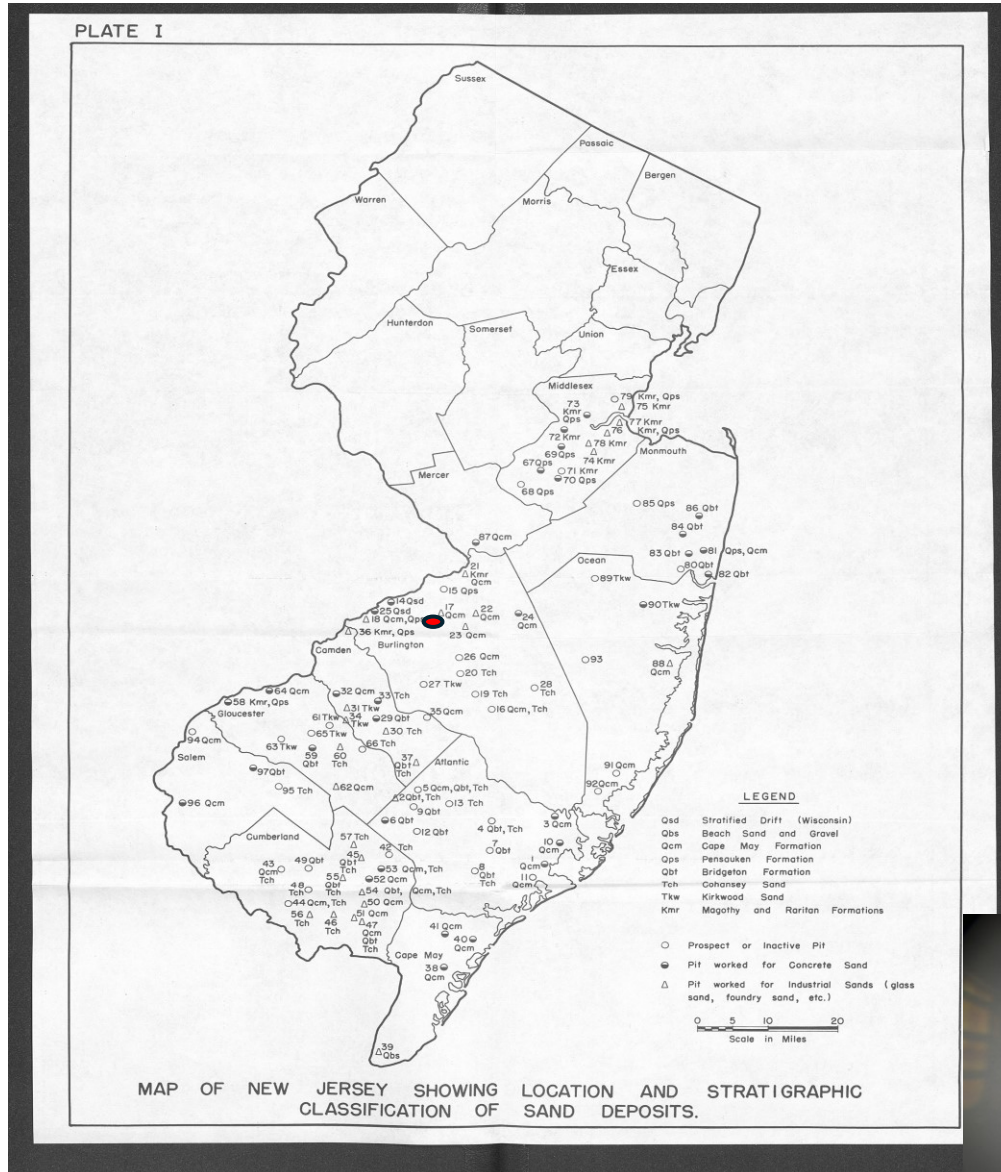
Rancocas Creek - Winter
Short Tether - Tugboat and Sand Barge
Breaking Ice
(note ice “pancakes” wake characteristics)



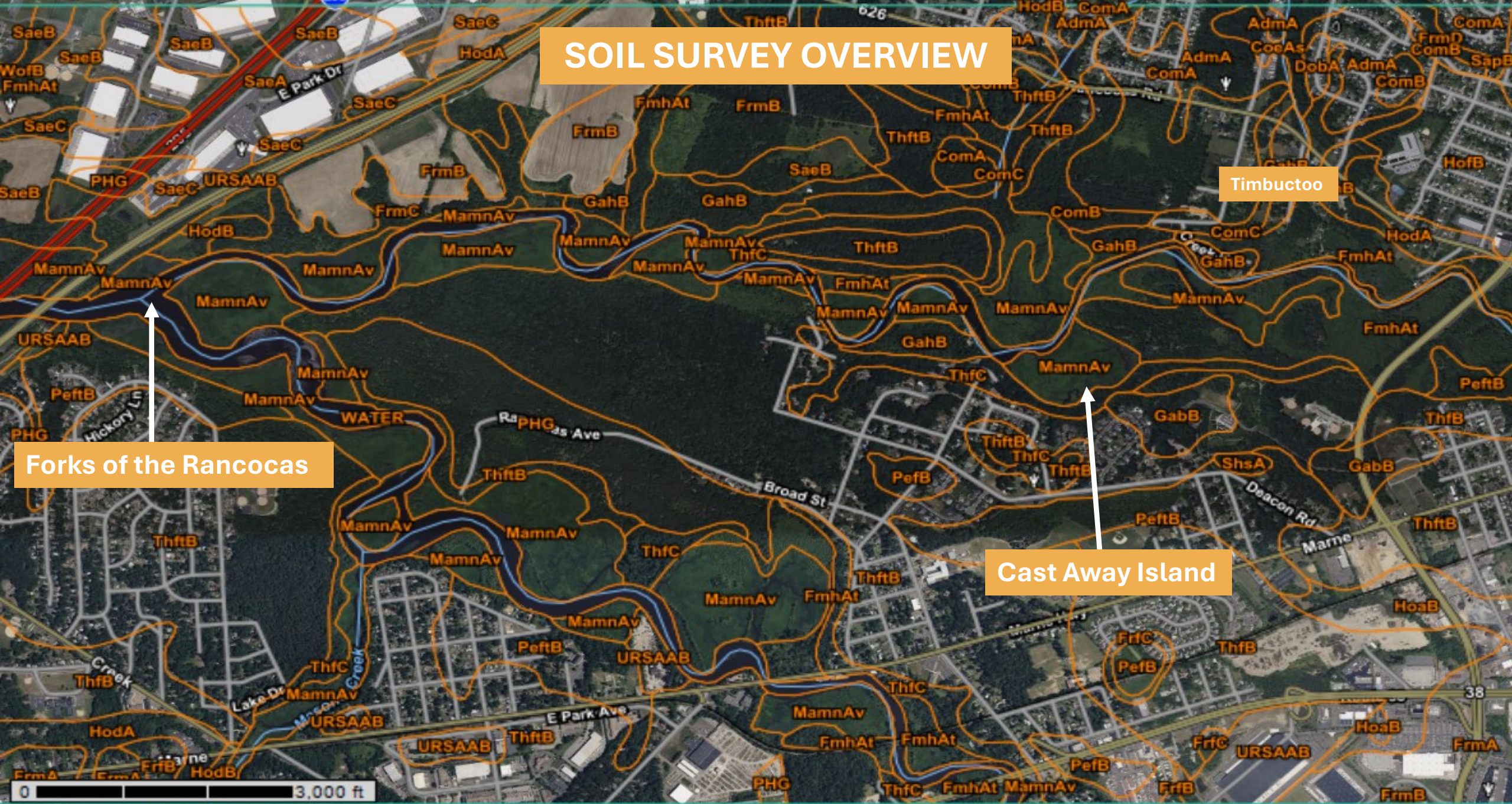
Philadelphia - Pier 67
Reference: Hagley Library

J. B. Van Sciver, Sr. born in Hainesport, May 14, 1861. With his brother George, developed the Hainesport Mining & Transportation Company, and the De Frain Sand Company. Port of Philadelphia Sand Wharf

Industrial Sands of New Jersey



SOIL SURVEY OVERVIEW



Timbuctoo

Forks of the Rancocas

Cast Away Island

Rancocas Creek Bedrock Geology

Philadelphia

DELANCO

CINNAMINSON

WILLINGBORO

SPRINGFIELD

PLUMSTED

MOORESTOWN

Mt. Holly

Pine Barrens National Preserve

Cast Away Island

Forks of the Rancocas

LUMBERTON

PEMBERTON

MANCHESTER

SOUTHAMPTON

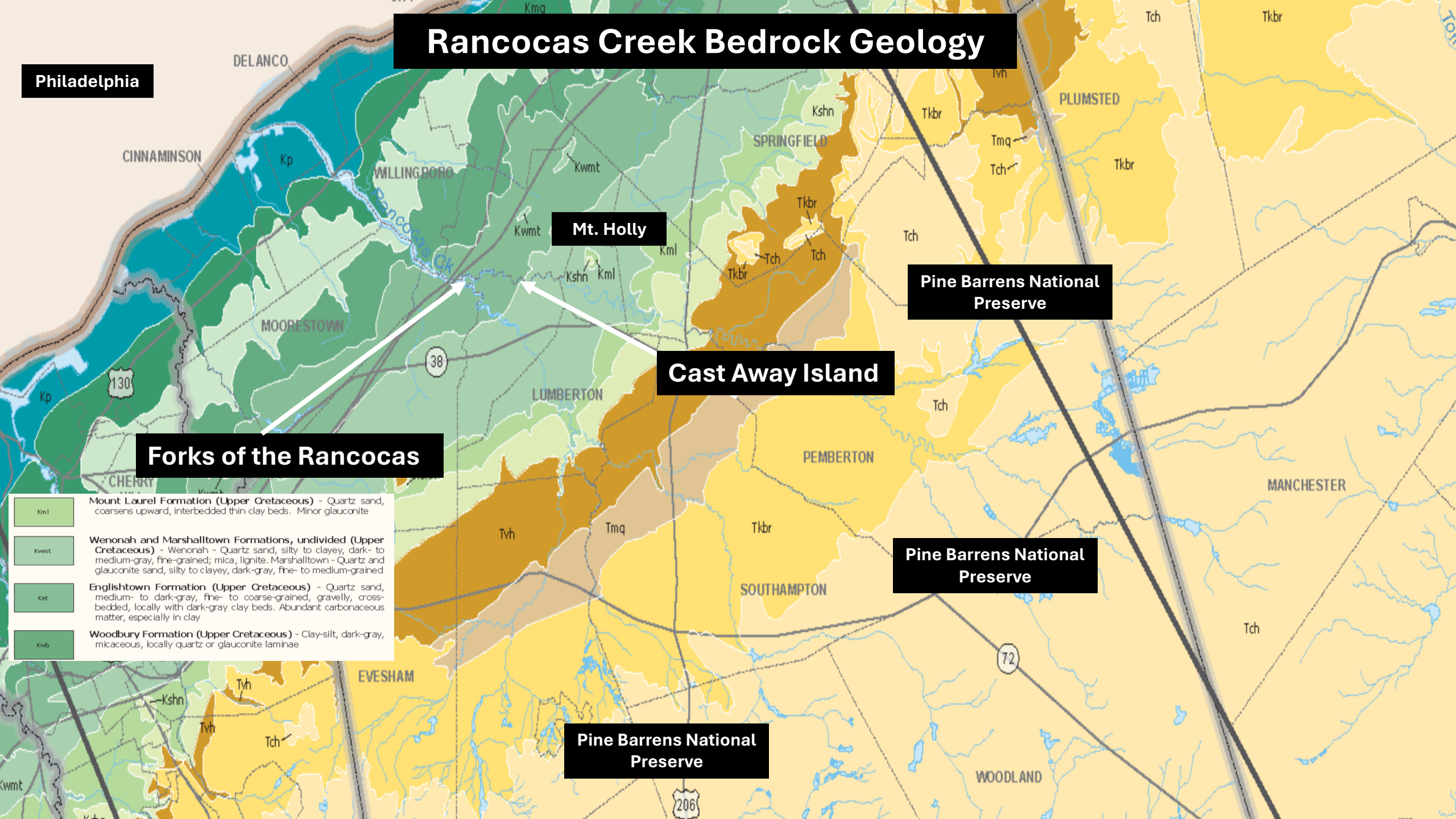
EVESHAM

WOODLAND

- Kml** Mount Laurel Formation (Upper Cretaceous) - Quartz sand, coarsens upward, interbedded thin clay beds. Minor glauconite
- Kwmt** Wenonah and Marshalltown Formations, undivided (Upper Cretaceous) - Wenonah - Quartz sand, silty to clayey, dark- to medium-gray, fine-grained; mica, lignite. Marshalltown - Quartz and glauconite sand, silty to clayey, dark-gray, fine- to medium-grained
- Ket** Englishtown Formation (Upper Cretaceous) - Quartz sand, medium- to dark-gray, fine- to coarse-grained, gravelly, cross-bedded, locally with dark-gray clay beds. Abundant carbonaceous matter, especially in clay
- Kwb** Woodbury Formation (Upper Cretaceous) - Clay-silt, dark-gray, micaceous, locally quartz or glauconite laminae

Pine Barrens National Preserve

Pine Barrens National Preserve



SOUTHERN (COASTAL PLAIN) NEW JERSEY

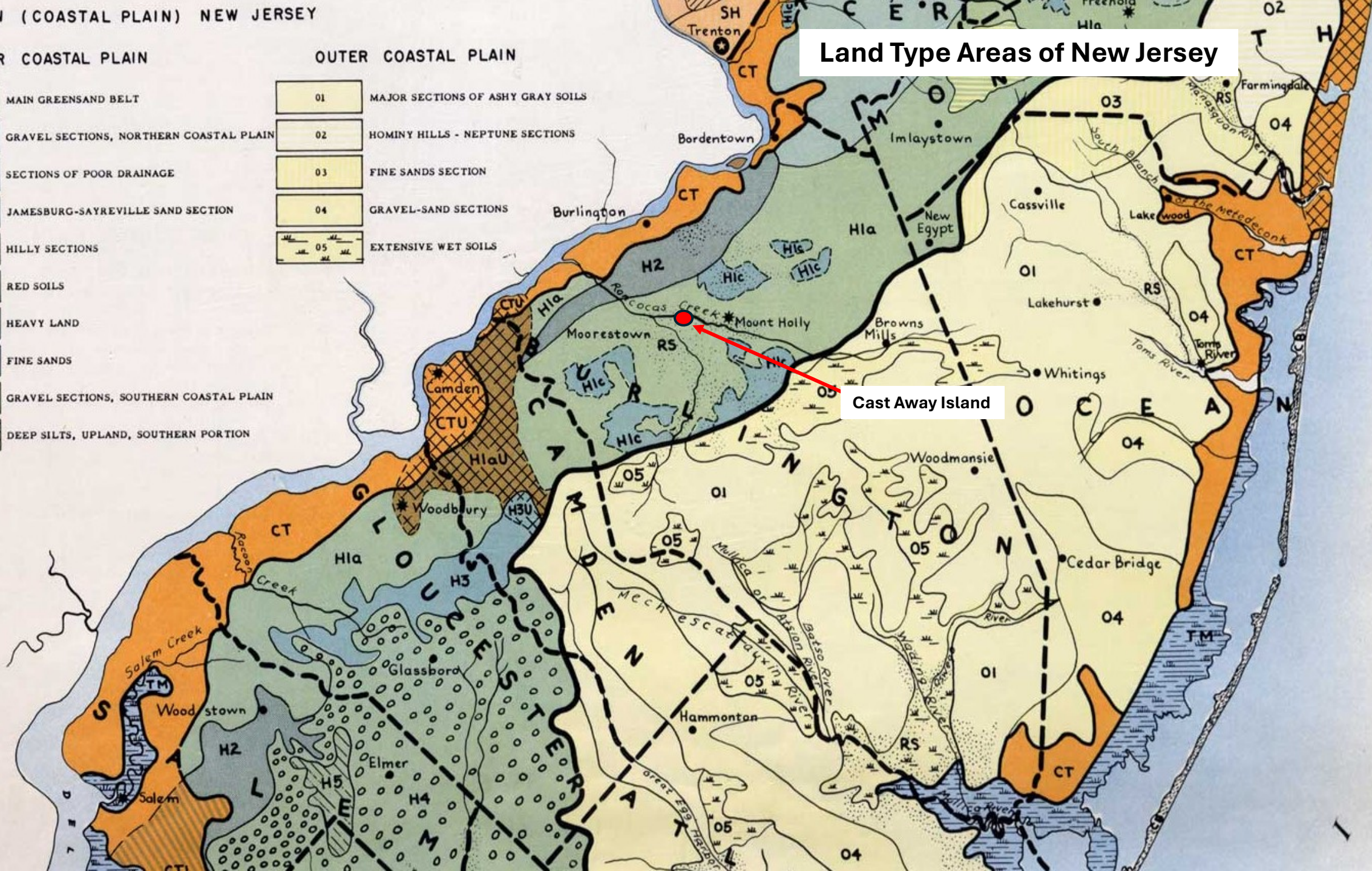
Land Type Areas of New Jersey

INNER COASTAL PLAIN

OUTER COASTAL PLAIN

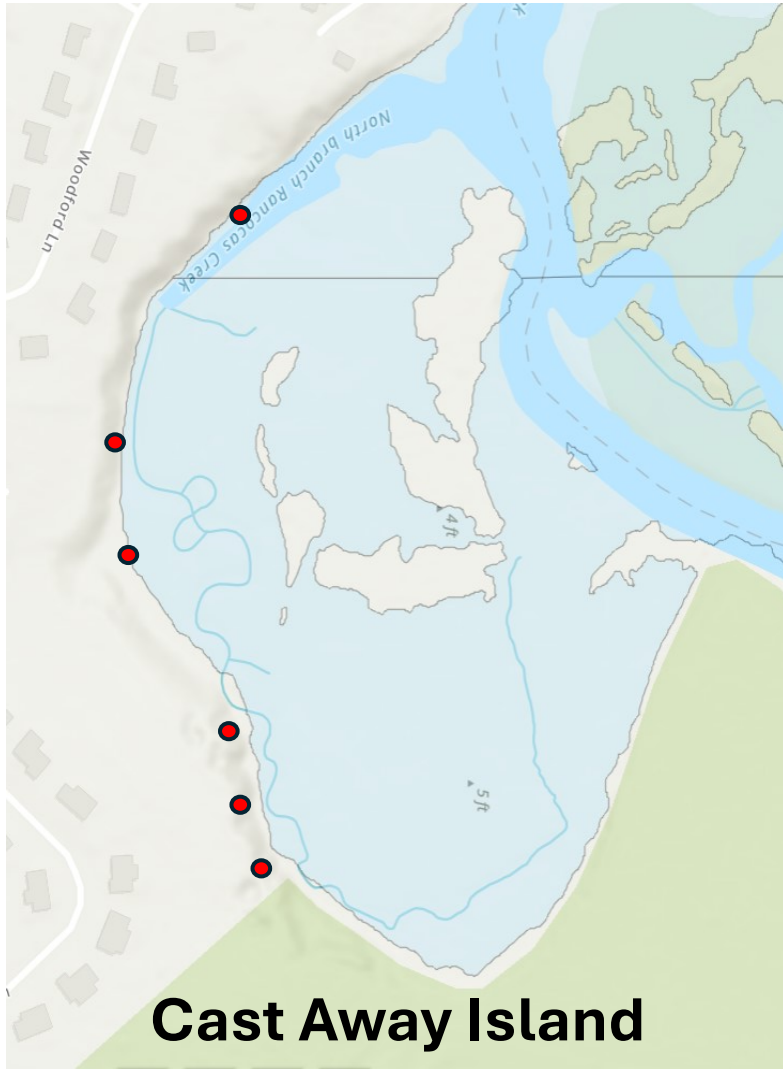
- H1a MAIN GREENSAND BELT
- H1b GRAVEL SECTIONS, NORTHERN COASTAL PLAIN
- H1c SECTIONS OF POOR DRAINAGE
- H1d JAMESBURG-SAYREVILLE SAND SECTION
- H1e HILLY SECTIONS
- H1f RED SOILS
- H2 HEAVY LAND
- H3 FINE SANDS
- H4 GRAVEL SECTIONS, SOUTHERN COASTAL PLAIN
- H5 DEEP SILTS, UPLAND, SOUTHERN PORTION

- 01 MAJOR SECTIONS OF ASHY GRAY SOILS
- 02 HOMINY HILLS - NEPTUNE SECTIONS
- 03 FINE SANDS SECTION
- 04 GRAVEL-SAND SECTIONS
- 05 EXTENSIVE WET SOILS

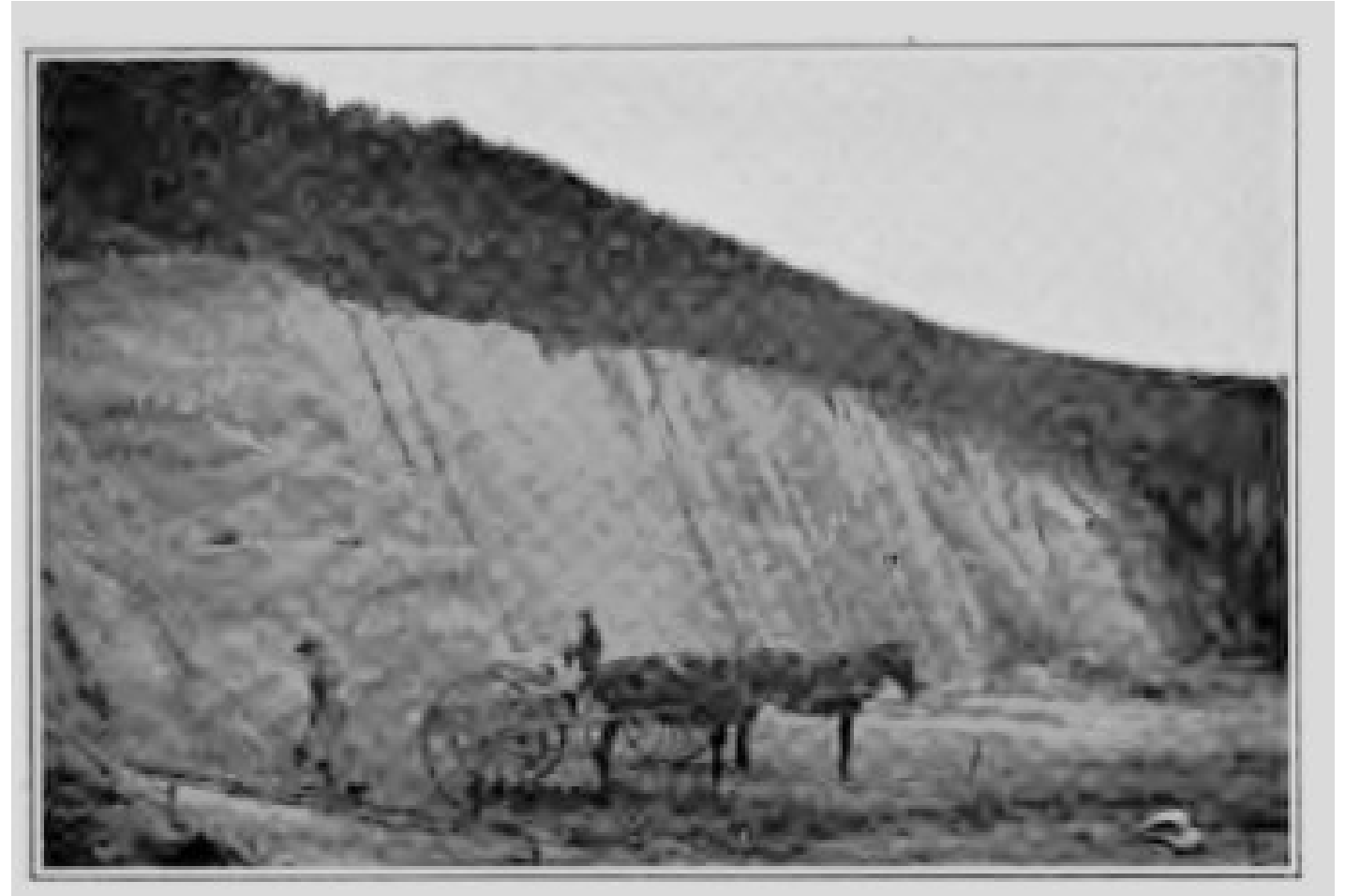


Cast Away Island

Rancocas Creek Cast Away Island Clay Holes Precursor to Rancocas Creek Sand Mining



**Cast Away Island
Clay and Sand Pits**



**As an example: Woodbridge, NJ Clay Mining
Ref: NJ Geologist, 1910**

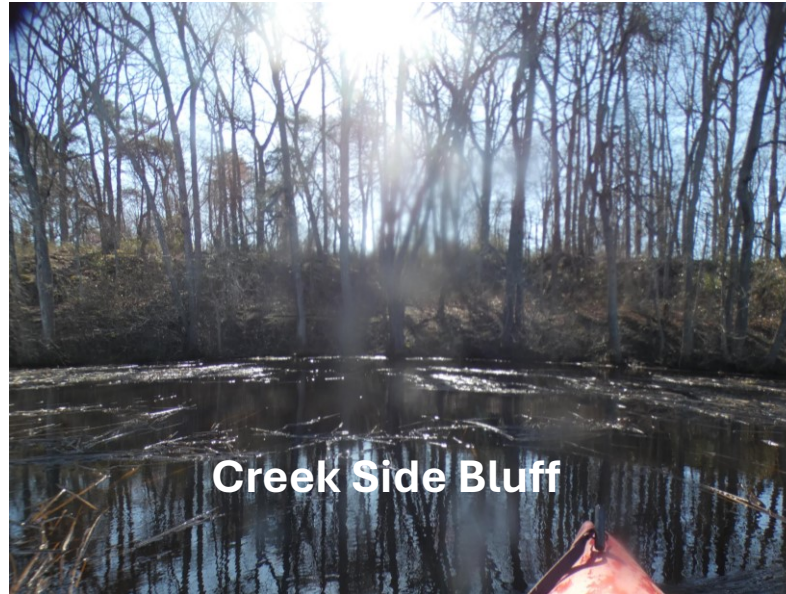


**From Beacon Hill Trail
Top of Creek Side Bluff**



**Remains of clay pits/sand mines/sand holes
Found along the South Bluff overlooking Cast Away Island**

Burlington County Long Bridge Park

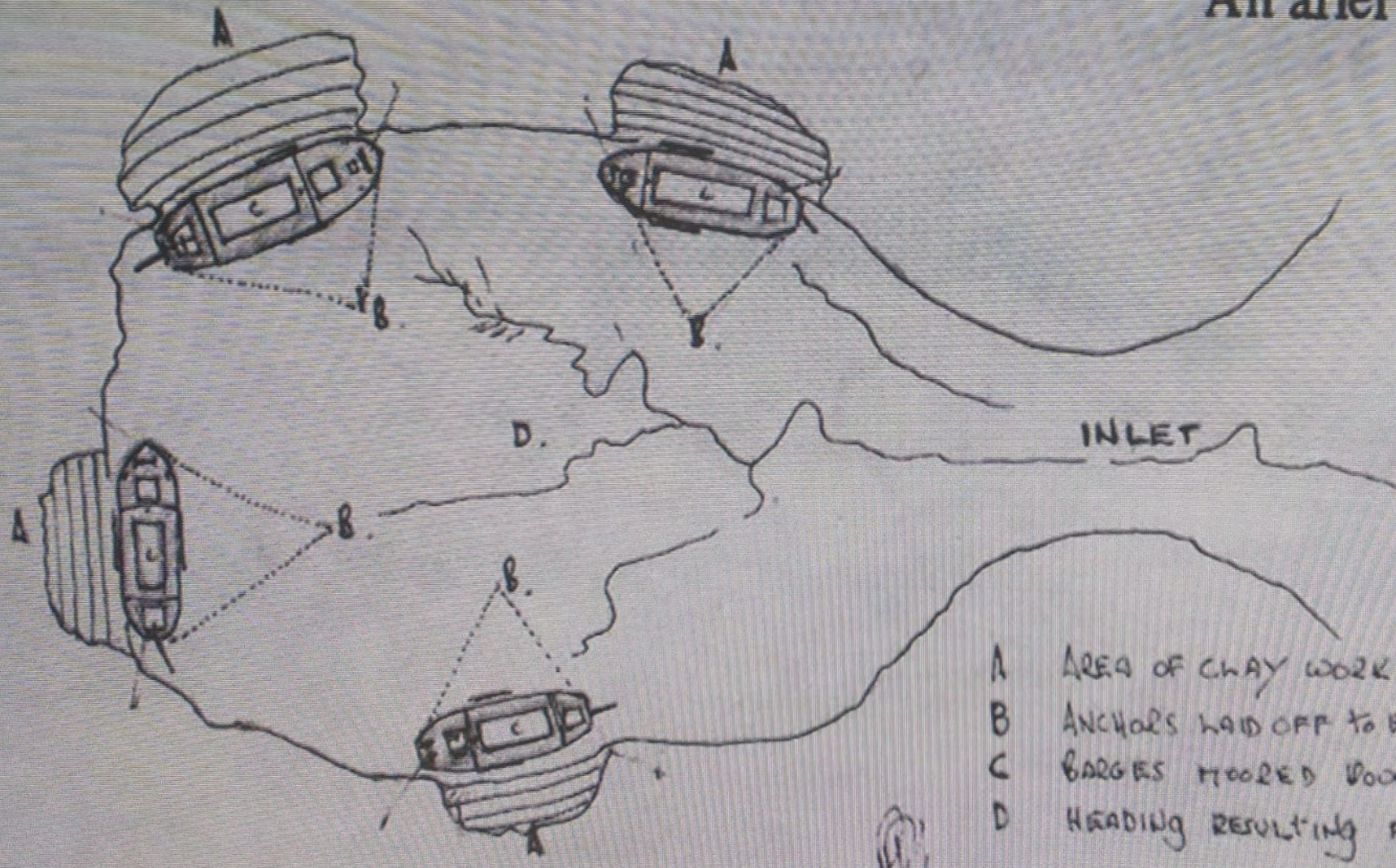


Mud and Muddies

1851

Extraction Method for Clay/Sand Holes Along a Tidewater Creek/River (as an example)

An aerial view of a clay hole.



- A AREA OF CLAY WORK
- B ANCHORS LAID OFF TO BARGE
- C BARGES MOORED ROUND MUD HOLE
- D HEADING RESULTING FROM WORKING & FLOODING AT HIGH WATER.



Cast Away Island Clay and Sand Pits

Cement, mud, and "muddies" : Willmott, Frank G

Mud and Muddies

1851



Extraction Method for Clay/Sand Holes Along a Tidewater Creek/River (as an example)

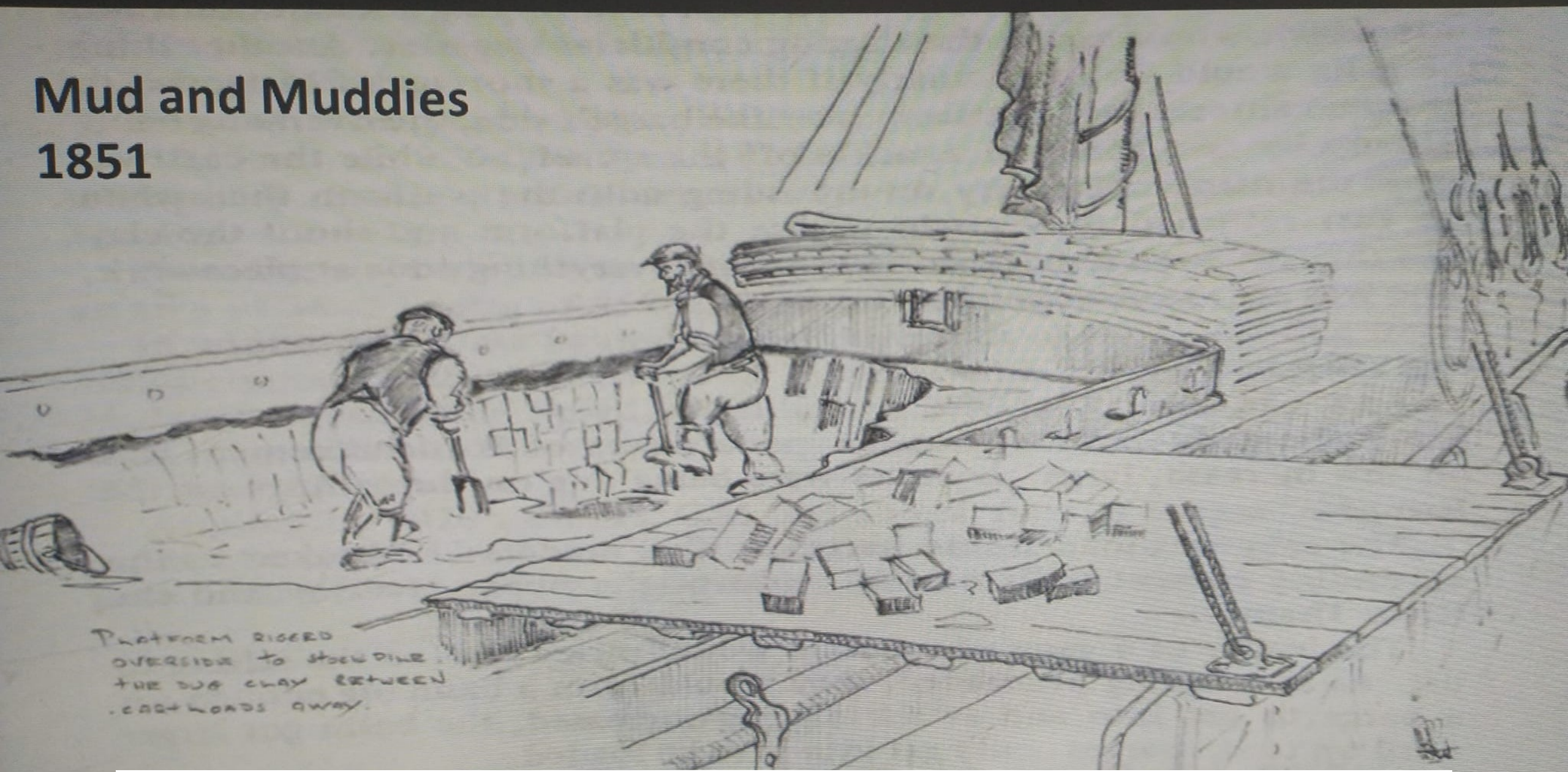
DISCHARGING OVERSIDE
ON THE HARD.

A barge unloading clay by hand.

Ref: Sand and Clay Mining Cornwall England

Circa: 1972

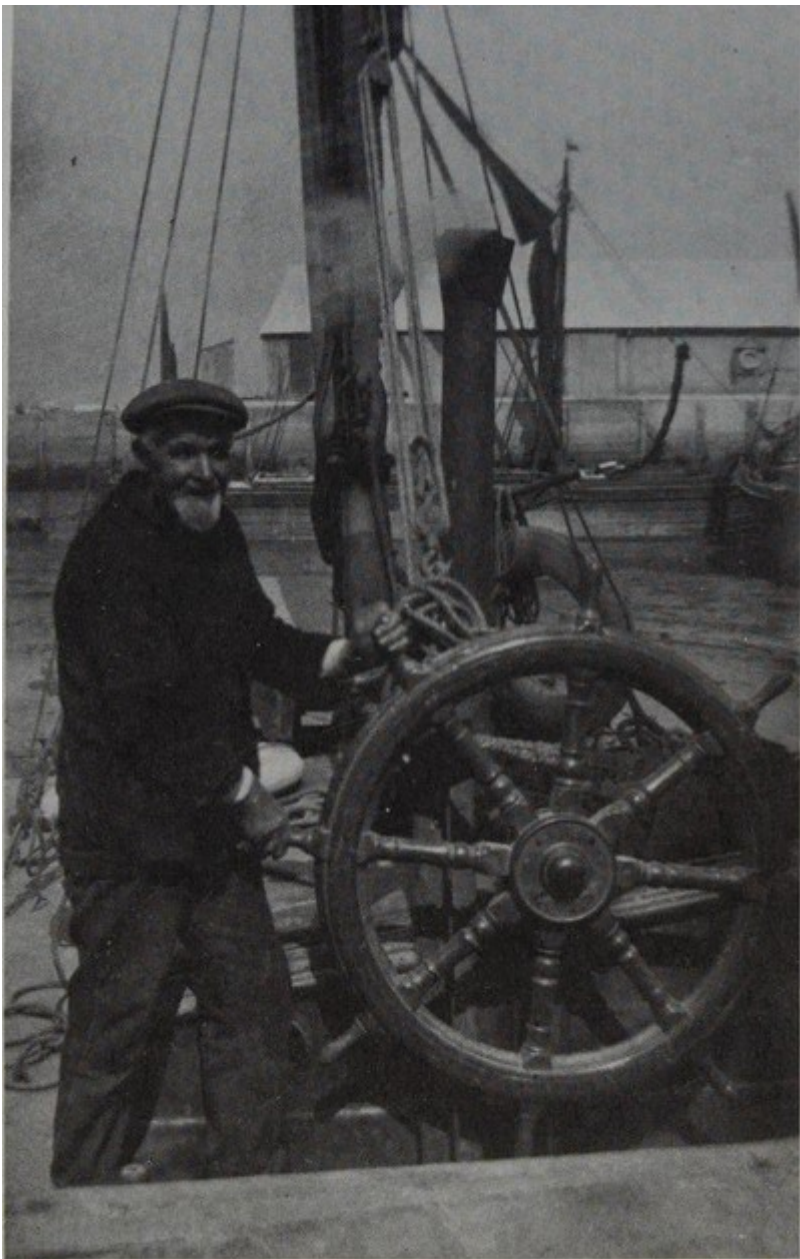
Mud and Muddies 1851



PLATFORM RICED
OVERSIDE TO STRENGTHEN
THE DUG CLAY BETWEEN
CARLOADS AWAY.

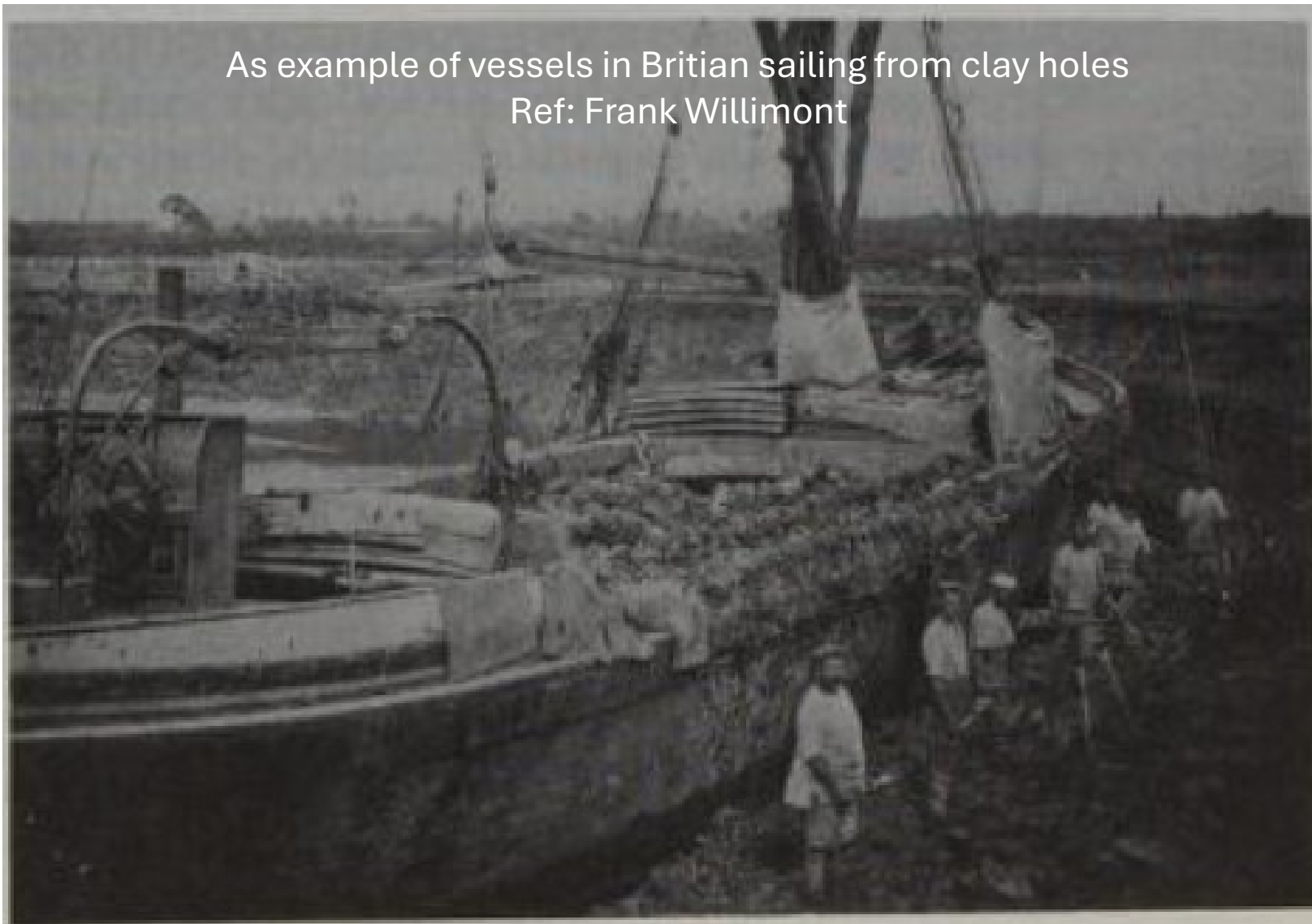
Extraction Method for Clay/Sand Holes Along a Tidewater Creek/River (as an example)

Unloading clay by hand.



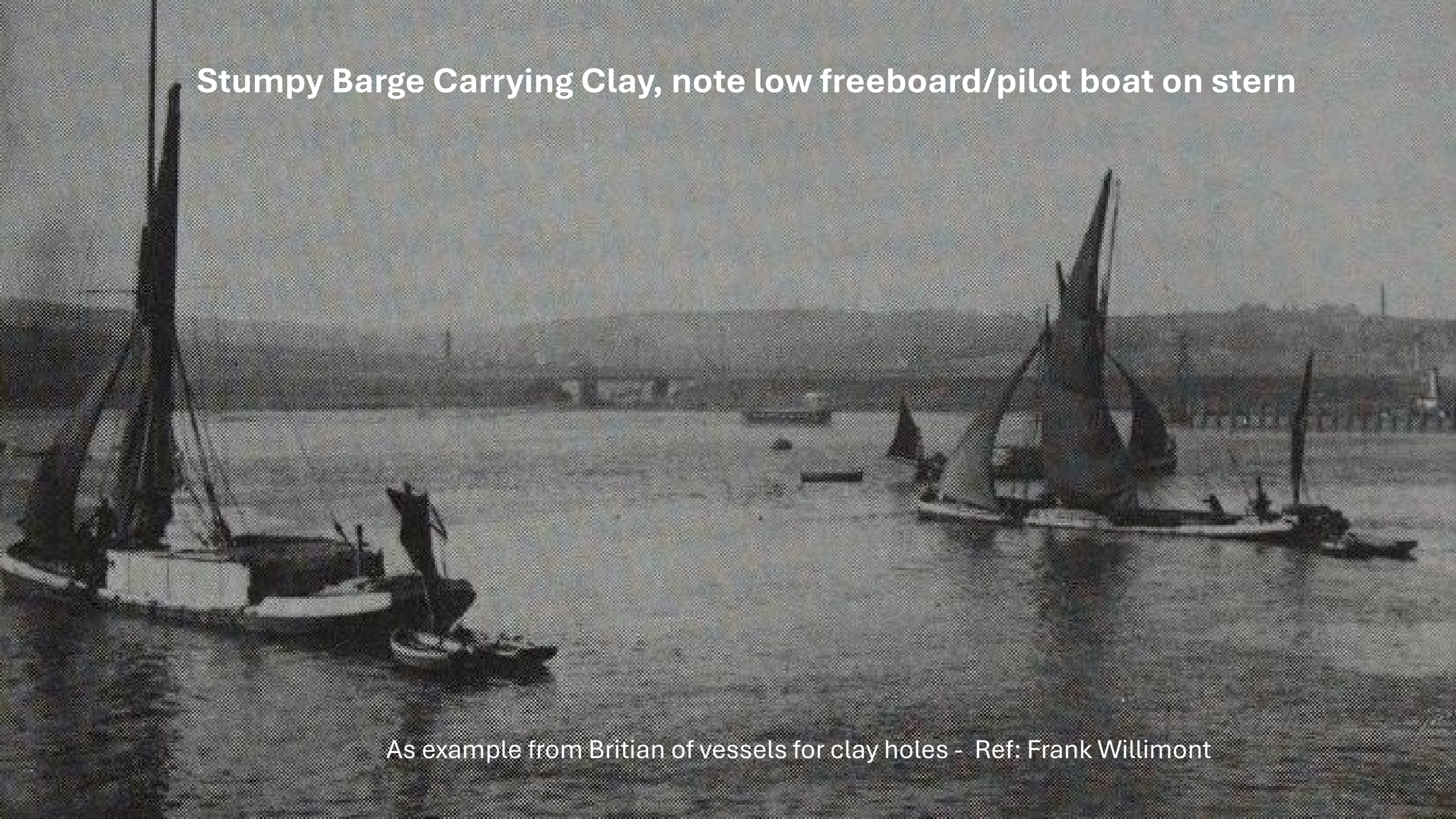
Mark (Curly) Ransley skipper of the Goldsmith Iron-pot *Gloria* which capsized in a squall in December 1929

As example of vessels in Britian sailing from clay holes
Ref: Frank Willimont

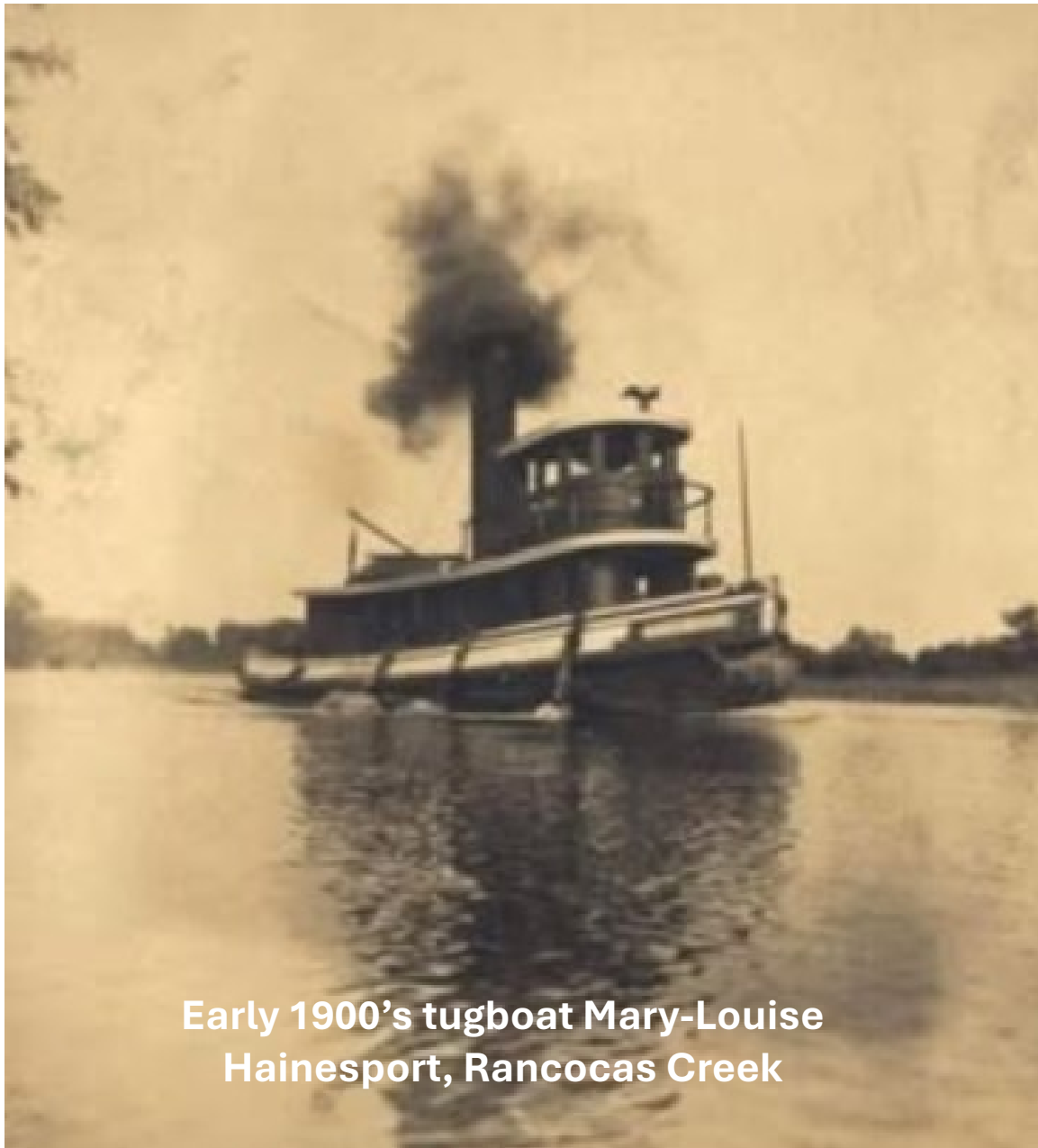


Muddies loading *Mahatma* at Stoke Saltings. Note – The lime cloths around the standard rigging and mast case.

Stumpy Barge Carrying Clay, note low freeboard/pilot boat on stern



As example from Britain of vessels for clay holes - Ref: Frank Willimont



Early 1900's tugboat Mary-Louise
Hainesport, Rancocas Creek

Hainesport Tugboats

Further details and references to be published

James Logan, Master of the Steamship "Travancore"	}	U. S. D. C.
vs.		E. D. of Pa.
The Ship "Manuel Llaguno," and the Steam Tugs "Newcastle" and "Mary Louise"		In Admiralty No. 9, of 1889

Statement of Facts and Conclusions of
Law

Argument in behalf of the Steamship
"Travancore"

II. That on Sunday, March 30, 1902, the barge Rogers was lying at Hainesport, Rancocas Creek, having on board a cargo of gravel to be carried to a wharf on the Schuylkill River, and that on said day the said barge and the barge "Jennie Bailey" were towed down the Rancocas Creek by the tug Maurice and were moored at Otis Street Wharf on the Delaware River over night.

Libellant's Statement of Facts.

The iron steamship *Treancore* of 1,149 tons registered burden was lying at Point Breeze on the Schuylkill River, February 19, 1889, receiving a cargo of case oil. She was properly moored with her port side against the wharf and bow down stream. By about two o'clock in the afternoon she had received upwards of 53,000 cases of oil, her entire cargo with the exception of some 250 cases, which were then being rapidly loaded. Her pilot had been engaged, was actually on board, and intended taking the steamer down the river as soon as the cargo was all in.

2.

The large American ship *Manuel Llaguno* was towed up the Schuylkill that afternoon by the steam tugs *Newcastle* and *Mary Louise* for the purpose of receiving a cargo of oil at the same wharf as that at which the *Treancore* was lying. The *Newcastle* was lashed upon the starboard quarter of the *Llaguno*, and the *Louise* was towing ahead by a hawser of about twenty or thirty fathoms length and leading out of the ship's starboard bow chock. The master of the *Newcastle* and the master of the *Llaguno* were aboard the latter and the mate was on the forecastle in charge of the tow line. A crew of eight stevedores were also aboard the *Llaguno* under a boss, assisting in shifting her, one of whom was at her wheel, and others on her forecastle under the orders of the mate. As the *Treancore* was not entirely loaded, the master of the *Newcastle* was directed by the Harbor Master employed by the Standard Oil Company

Tug-Boat Mary Louise

1891

It is known from this lawsuit tugboats and tows operated differently on the Rancocas as compared to sand barge tow on the open tidal waters of the Delaware River.

Shorter tow lines on the Rancocas are attributed to the meandering course of Rancocas Creek tidewaters.

Pretty Rancocas' Field.

The banks of the upper Rancocas, that beautiful, winding stream, whose dark cedar waters spring from the pine barrens of interior New Jersey and flow down the Delaware, where they commingle at Delanco, is one of the greatest sections for sand mining in the East. Its banks are dotted with wharves at Barton's landing, Centerton, Rancocas Park, Hainesport and Lumberton. All day long men dig in the fields near by and other men with carts haul the yellow dirt to the wharves, where it is dumped into the waiting barges to be towed to Philadelphia and other points. The bulk of the sand shipped by boat is used for iron molding, while that hauled by train away from the river points is sold for filtration purposes.

March

1909



J. W. PAXSON & CO. PHILADELPHIA.



*Wholesale and
Retail
Sole
Agents
for
the
State
of
New
Jersey
and
Delaware*

Shippers
OF
MOULDING SAND
PAK. & S.
NORTH DELAWARE AVENUE.



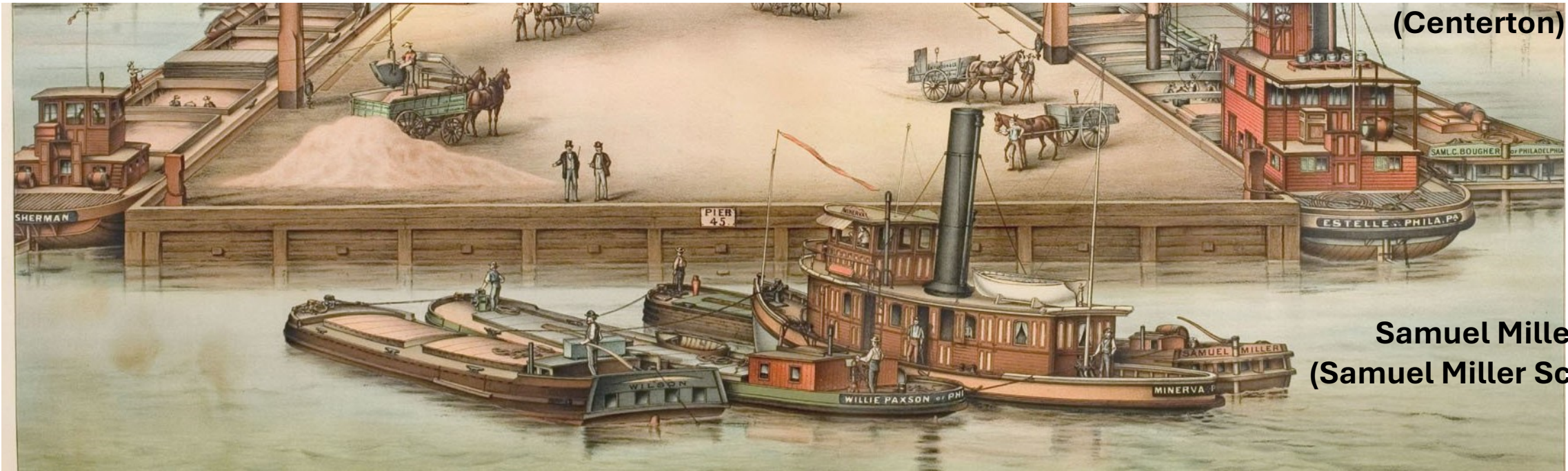
Manufacturers
OF
FOUNDRY FACINGS
AND
FOUNDRY SUPPLIES.

*Wholesale and
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the
State
of
New
Jersey
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Delaware*

J. W. PAXSON & CO. PHILADELPHIA.

Connection to Mount Holly

**Saml C. Bougher
(Centerton)**



**Samuel Miller
(Samuel Miller School)**

Wilson

**Willie
Paxson**

Minerva

Education is the enrichment of the individual, 1927

Journal of the Presbyterian Historical Society (1901-1930). Vol. 12, No. 7

THE SAMUEL MILLER SCHOOL AT MOUNT HOLLY, N. J.*

BY NORMAN W. HARKER, ESQ.

The Samuel Miller School is the accomplishment of a task, the furtherance of an idea, and the recognition of a man. Mr. Hart has told you fully of the accomplishment of the task which the growth of the school population of Mount Holly put upon your Board of Education. With the conviction that what was right would in the end prevail, and with some perseverance, the task today stands accomplished. It remains for me to tell you of the idea and of the man: indeed a privilege, for the two most interesting, vital and dynamic things in the world are ideas and men.

The idea is education. It needs no argument nor plea in this community. A town which has given birth or shelter to such educators as John Woolman, John Brainerd, Samuel Aaron, Dr. Samuel Miller, William Collom Cook, Alexander Forbes, Dr. Francis Newton Thorpe, and Dr. James S. Dunham, needs no apostle to arise and champion education. This new building will further that idea and be an equipment for the instruction of future generations in Mount Holly, the potentialities of which can be realized only as the years advance.

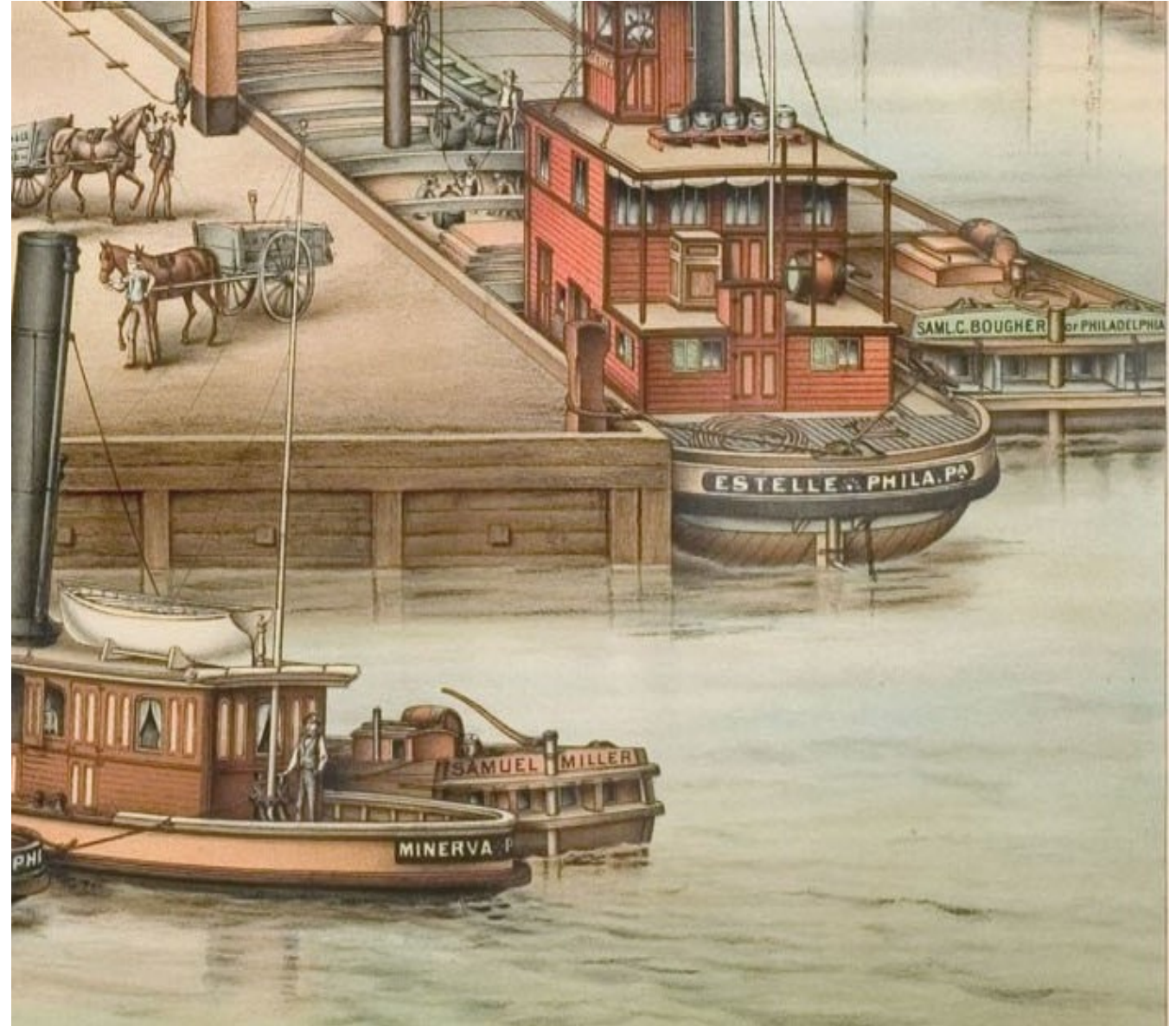
If education is worth having in Mount Holly, it is always worth making adequate provision for in this town, the tax rate to the contrary notwithstanding. This seems like a strange statement but it brings me to a phase of this idea of education which I wish to touch upon briefly. Education pays in dollars and cents. It is an old warning that if you hold a penny too

of a valuation which must be counted in six figures. Again, in this day when Mount Holly must bid for its fair share of an increase in desirable residential population from the opening of the Delaware River Bridge, we are able to say to the prospective resident, "We have modern and adequate school facilities for your children," while without this building we were compelled to admit that school facilities were very inadequate. There is no better advertisement for a town than proper school equipment and no worse advertisement than poor and inadequate school facilities. A new school brings growth and development. This new building makes Mount Holly a better town to live in.

Education is also an enrichment of the individual. I will

Barge *Samuel Miller* tied off Tug-Boat *Minerva*

Dr. Samuel Miller was one of the eleven children of the eminent Rev. Samuel Miller, D.D., LL.D., the second Professor in the Theological Seminary at Princeton. The son Samuel Miller was born in Princeton, January 23, 1816, and graduated from the College of New Jersey, in the class of 1833, at the age of seventeen. He served as a tutor in the College in 1835-36. Subsequently he studied law, and practiced at the bar for a short time, but feeling that he was called to a higher duty, he took a course in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and in October, 1844, was ordained an Evangelist by the Presbytery of New Brunswick. He served the little body of Mount Holly Presbyterians as "stated supply" when he took up his residence at Mount Holly in 1845, and became their regular pastor in 1850. In 1845, he established the West Jersey Collegiate Institute, filling the position of Principal for the twelve years of its existence. After the school was discontinued in 1857, Dr. Miller devoted his whole time to pastoral duties. In addition to devoted service to his Mount Holly congregation, he served the little church at Columbus, as "stated supply," for twenty years ('45 to '65) and until the congregation had grown strong enough to support a regular pastor. For some four years he also supplied Tuckerton and Bass River, making the journey from Mount Holly, forty to fifty miles, through the pines and sand, on horseback, in winter and summer, in fair weather and in storm, ambitious only to further his Master's cause and to serve his fellowmen. From 1865 to 1873 he gave most of his time to the Mount Holly Church, but extended his labors outside as opportunity pre-



March 1909 >>>

Rancocas Creek

Hainesport



The vicinity of Hainesport is probably the greatest sand shipping center on the Rancocas. Here, farms that were abandoned for agricultural purposes are daily turning earth to gold and amassing fortunes for their owners. It is not unusual for these mines to ship twenty barges, each containing 600 tons, a day. At this point more pretentious and labor-saving methods are in use. Huge steam shovels, reminding one of those used on the Panama canal, are continually eating into and down the sand banks until the water line is reached, and which compels them to stop. The ground all around is scattered with the roots of trees, reminding one of the huge spiders, and on the edge of the mine is a growth of small pines and scrub oak, which gives the scene a picturesque appearance.

The main facts are clearly stated in the opinion of the lower court (Record, p. 84) :

“The libellant was the insurer of a cargo of coal amounting to 558 tons that was taken on board the barge ‘Listie,’ to be carried in tow from the Port Richmond coal piers, on the Delaware River, to a wharf on the river Schuylkill. The barge was a hinged, or two-section vessel, each section about 78 feet long, 18 feet beam and 8 feet 4 inches from the water’s edge to the top of the covering board. The capacity of each was from 270 to 278 tons, and on the voyage in question the forward section or box was carrying 269 tons and the after section 289 tons. The voyage began about half-past six o’clock on the morning of August 1, 1908, and proceeded without event for about three miles down the Delaware River, the

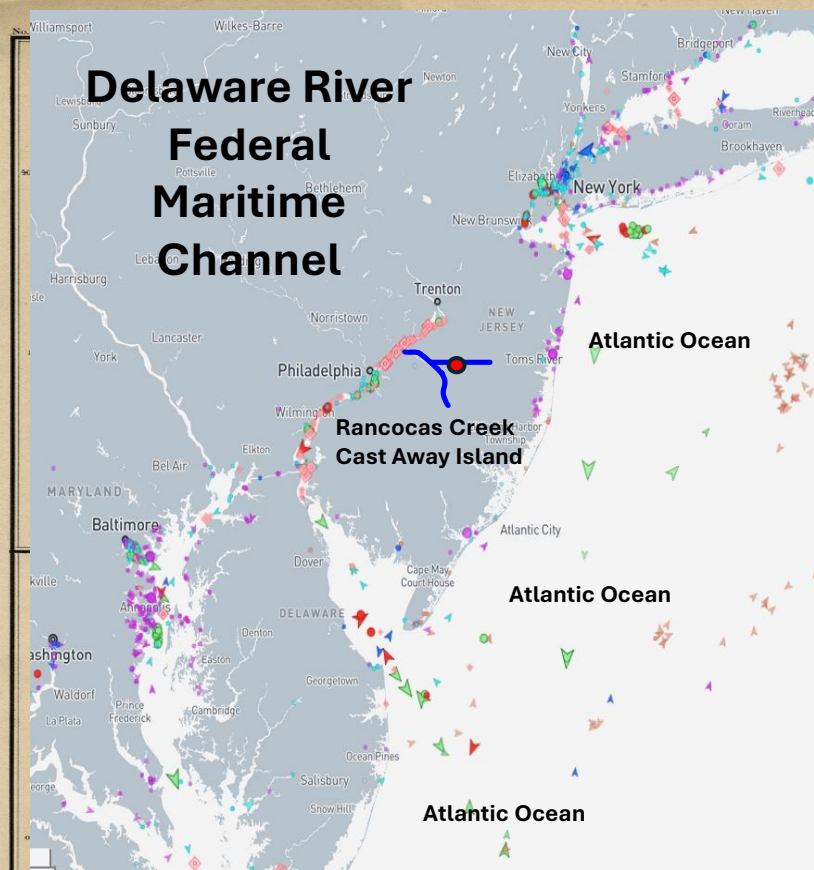
**Indicative of the size and scale
of
Rancocas Creek
Sand and Coal Barges that would
“tie-off”* at
Cast Away Island**

* Tied off – tugboat/barge is secured by ropes or chains to creek or river bank.

Example of barge shipping molding sand “tie-off” at South Jersey Tidewater Landing



*B. Shipping molding sand by **barge** from Dorchester, Cumberland County.*





PREHISTORIC LIFE IN NEW JERSEY



An interesting array of prehistoric life inhabited New Jersey during the Precambrian, Paleozoic, Mesozoic and Cenozoic time periods. These major eras of geologic time can be characterized by the predominance of certain types of fossils and trace fossils such as dinosaur trackways. Fossils are classified according to their physical characteristics and are evidence of life prior to recorded history. For many fossils, living relatives do exist. In New Jersey, fossils are most abundant in the northwestern part of the state and in southern New Jersey. The map contains images of prehistoric life superimposed on a geologic map. The images are positioned on the map approximately where fossils of the species have been discovered. Many fossils were unearthed during quarrying and construction of roads and buildings. Though most fossil sites are on private property, there are two fossil collecting sites open to the public in New Jersey. Both are located in Monmouth County and include Forcy Park and a site on Big Brook.

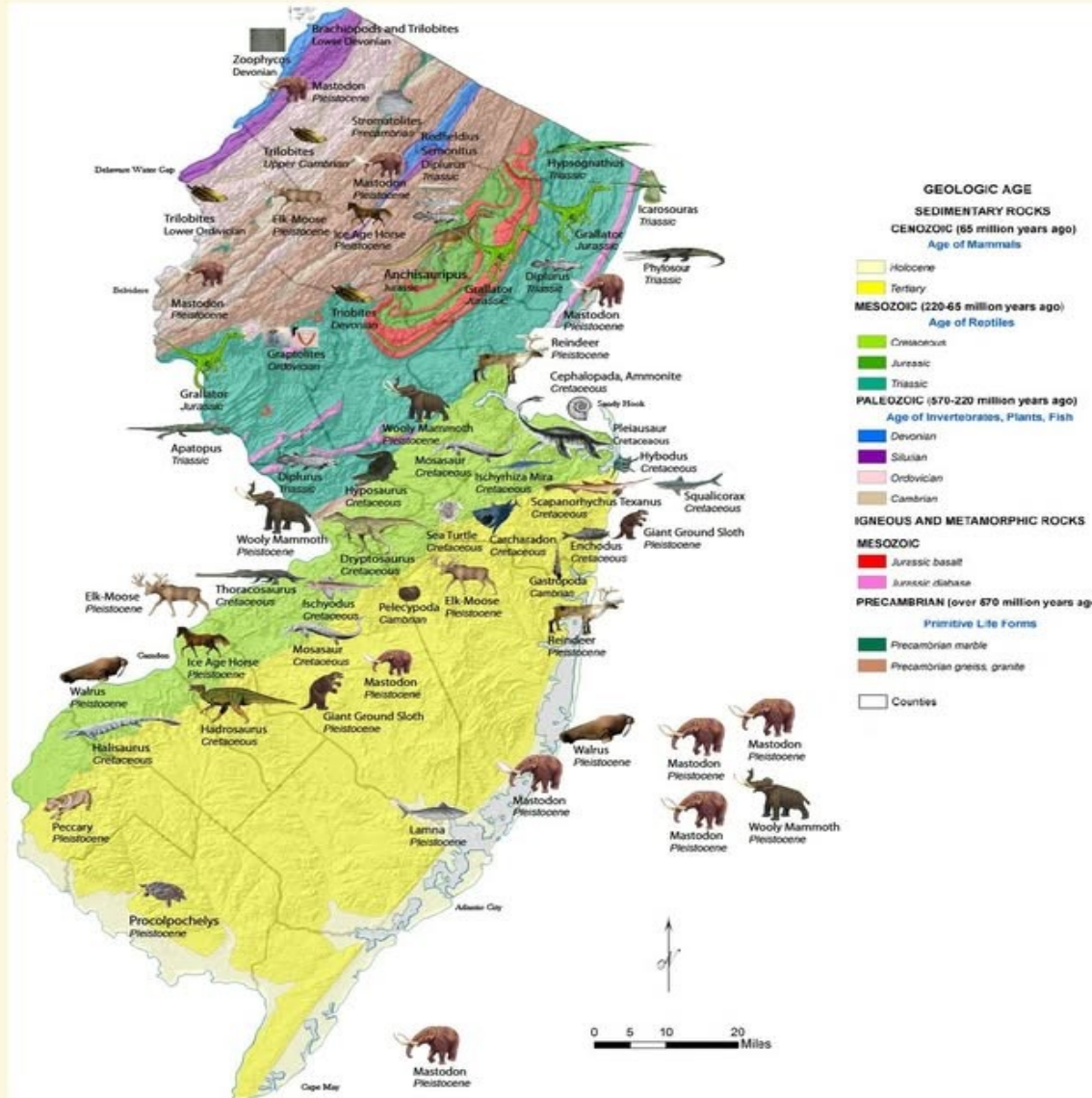
Precambrian: Most of the Precambrian rocks in New Jersey are igneous or metamorphic rocks and do not contain any fossils. However, stromatolites have been found in a 1.2 billion-year-old marble, indicating that marine conditions existed locally in the state at that time.

Paleozoic: Cambrian-age trilobites and stromatolites record the presence of a warm, shallow sea, while deeper water conditions prevailed during the Ordovician. Warm, shallow seas returned to northwestern New Jersey from the Late Silurian into the Devonian. Trilobites, brachiopods, bryozoans, corals, and crinoids are among the common fossils found in this time period.

Mesozoic: Fossils of early reptiles and fish are found in the Triassic sedimentary rocks. Footprints preserved in the sedimentary rocks indicate that bipedal dinosaurs roamed New Jersey during this time. Most of northern New Jersey was above sea level during the Cretaceous, while in southern New Jersey, sea level moved in and out over the coastal plain providing a variety of habitats from estuary to marine. Insect and leaf fossils indicate that low-lying swamps areas were covered by vegetation, while tracks and bones show dinosaurs inhabited the landscape. Mosasaurs, plesiosaurs, sharks, and squid-like animals (nautilus) swam the seas, while clams and oysters thrived on the sea floor below.

Cenozoic: Marine life continued to flourish in the Tertiary seas of southern New Jersey and fossils of brachiopods, shark teeth, echinoderms, and microscopic organisms indicate that the waters were warmer than those of the coast today. Ice sheets advanced and retreated over northern New Jersey during the Quaternary and sea level fluctuated as glaciers alternately grew and melted. Though not shown on this geologic map, the Pleistocene, or Ice Age ranged from about 1.3 million to approximately 11,700 years ago and was characterized by the formation of widespread glaciers. Mammals included both small forms, such as horses and giant ones such as mammoths and mastodons. They were found in many parts of New Jersey. The mammoths, mastodons and other mammals roamed the land in front of the ice sheets. During this time the coastline of New Jersey extended many miles farther into the Atlantic Ocean than it does today. Some mastodon, mammoth and giant ground sloth remains have been found by commercial fishermen offshore. Almost all of the giant mammals disappeared at the end of the Pleistocene and the start of the Holocene which began 11,700 years ago and continues to the present.

Ted Pellis and Richard Dalton
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Water Resource Management
New Jersey Geological Survey



Simple Explanation

Fossils turned into Marl and Sand.

Marl and Sand Exploited by Man

Industrialization transformed the area around Cast Away

Island from farming to industrial mining of clay and sand.

Navigation and commerce are the foundation of Hainesport's, Lumberton and other Rancocas Creek Communities heritage

♥ Dinosaurs, Mosasaurs and Ocean Lizards



Mosasaurus Teeth
Collected Lumberton, NJ
December 8, 1877
Academy of Natural Sciences

144 million years ago - Early Cretaceous Period



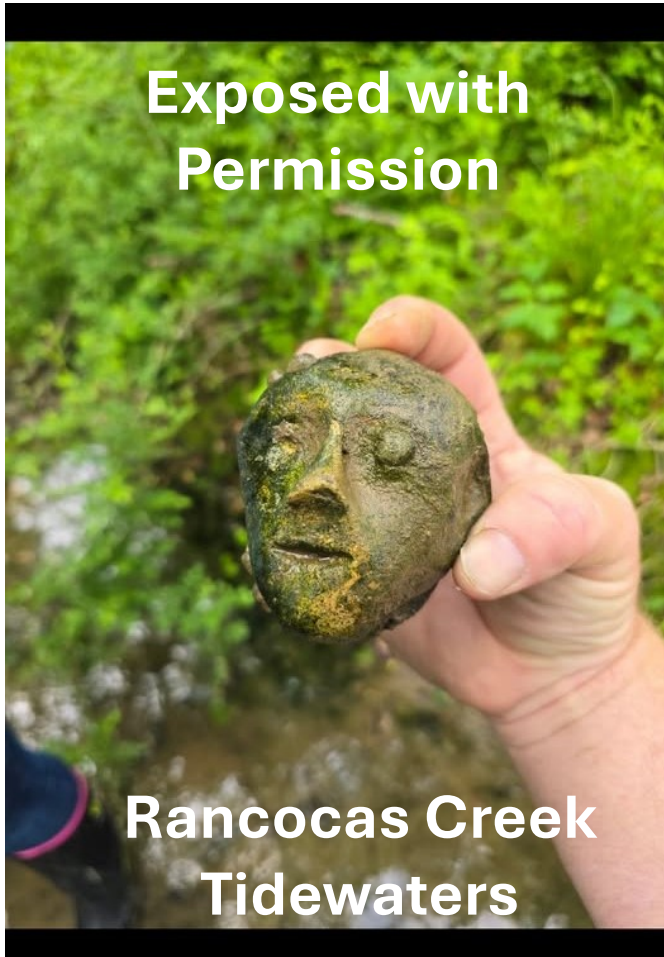
Rancocas Creek Back in the Day

Their Past Speaks to the Present and Our Future

4/23/2026

101

Before navigation, colonization, and industrialization, came Native Americans



**Exposed with
Permission**

**Rancocas Creek
Tidewaters**

**Native Americans Lived off the Natural Resources
in and around Cast Away Island.**

**Fishing, fishing weirs, hunting, trapping, shell fish gathering
etc....**

Ref: [Indian Fishing, early methods on the Northwest Coast, 1977](#) (one of the only references on Native American fishing weirs)



Courtesy R.F. Early Rancocas Creek Watershed
Argillite Knife. Argillite easily worked into tools
and weapons. ca 6,000 – 8,000 years old



Courtesy M.A. Notched biface tool or weapon. Most likely a
variety of cryptocrystalline chert or chalcedony in the tidal
regime ca 6,000 – 8,000 years old

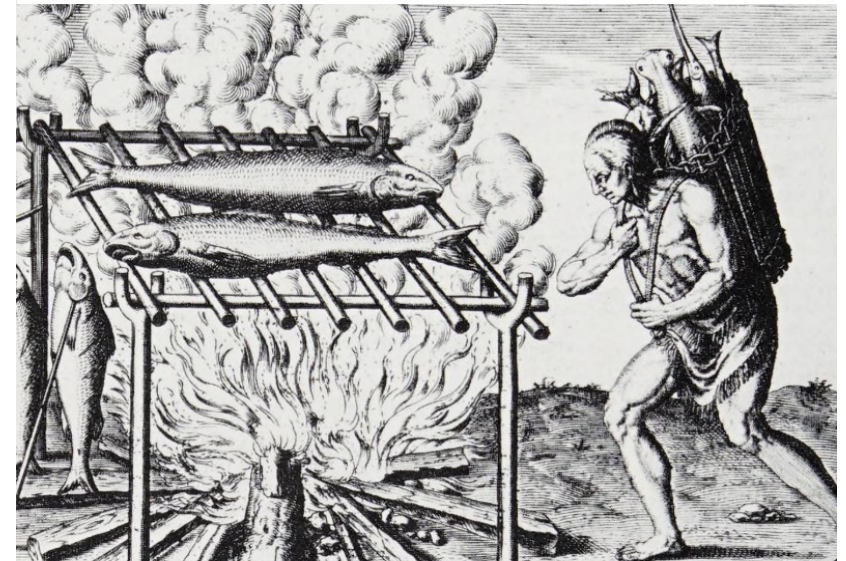


Publishers engraving note: ...woman and one of the fish in the canoe may be identified as a gar, The creatures in the water are more numerous, and include string rays, a hammerhead shark, a loggerhead turtle, land crab, snake.

Native American Fish Weirs and Fish Traps



Note different fish weirs, methods of spearing fish at low tide shallows, variety of tidewater wildlife, capacity of canowes



ern North America. Though the pack-basket is similar to the type known throughout eastern America, the wicker-work technique appears to be European rather than Indian. A gar and hammerhead shark can be made out among the fish in the basket.



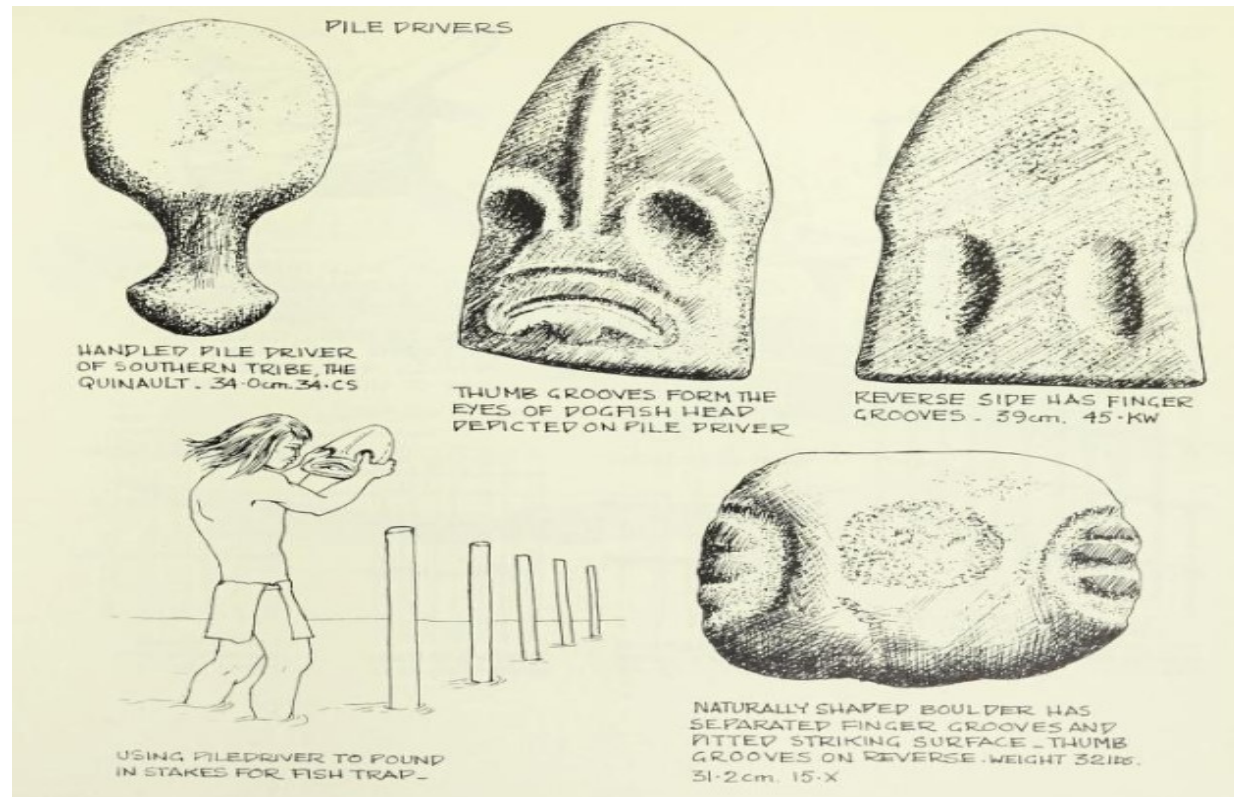
STONE DAM AT MOUTH OF SLOUGH
TRAPS FISH AT LOW TIDE .

ADAPTED FROM EARLY PHOTO, 27-KW



Canoe runway, to give canoes safe access to beach, still shows up clearly at Deep Bay, Vancouver Island. Nearby are remains of stone fish traps. 60-CS

FISH SWIM INTO CREEK
MOUTH WITH INCOMING TIDE .
WHEN TIDE TURNS, ENTRY WAY
IS BLOCKED WITH BRANCHES,
FISH ARE TRAPPED BEHIND DAM .



PILE DRIVERS

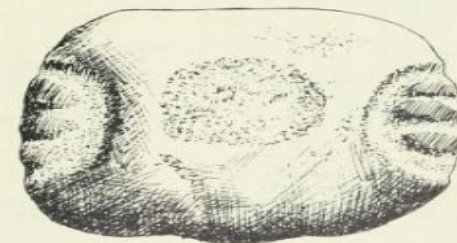
HANDLED PILE DRIVER OF SOUTHERN TRIBE, THE QUINAUTL . 34.0cm. 34-CS

THUMB GROOVES FORM THE EYES OF DOGFISH HEAD DEPICTED ON PILE DRIVER

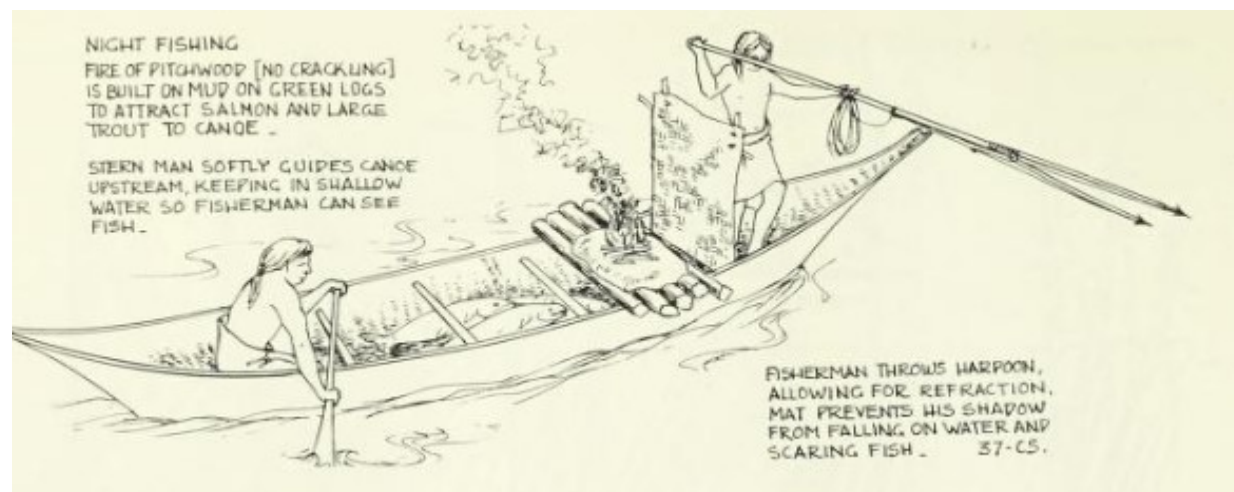
REVERSE SIDE HAS FINGER GROOVES . 39cm. 45-KW



USING PILEDRIVER TO POUND IN STAKES FOR FISH TRAP .



NATURALLY SHAPED BOULDER HAS SEPARATED FINGER GROOVES AND FITTED STRIKING SURFACE - THUMB GROOVES ON REVERSE . WEIGHT 32lbs. 51.2cm. 15-X



NIGHT FISHING
FIRE OF PITCHWOOD [NO CRACKLING]
IS BUILT ON MUD ON GREEN LOGS
TO ATTRACT SALMON AND LARGE
TROUT TO CANOE .

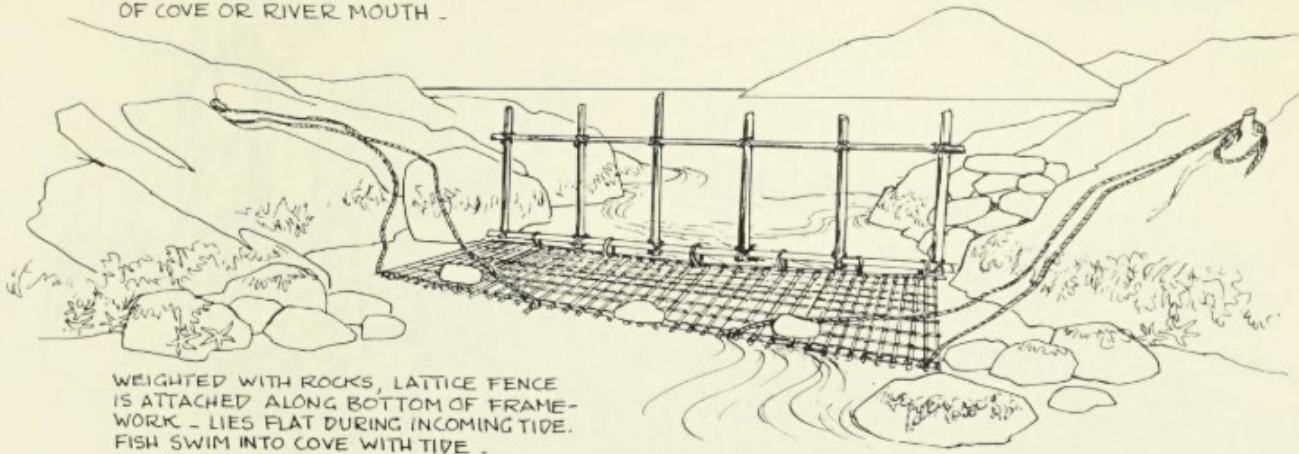
STERN MAN SOFTLY GUIDES CANOE
UPSTREAM, KEEPING IN SHALLOW
WATER SO FISHERMAN CAN SEE
FISH .

FISHERMAN THROWS HARPOON,
ALLOWING FOR REFRACTION,
MAT PREVENTS HIS SHADOW
FROM FALLING ON WATER AND
SCARING FISH . 37-CS.

Variations in fishing weirs and fish traps depended on fish, location, type of waterway, building material available, background of tribes. Fishing weirs underline Native American's keen observations about the natural world. Fish drift shoreward on an incoming tide, and recede to deep water on the ebb tide (p. 99)

TIDAL FENCE TRAP

TIDAL FENCE TRAP
USED ACROSS NARROW NECK
OF COVE OR RIVER MOUTH -



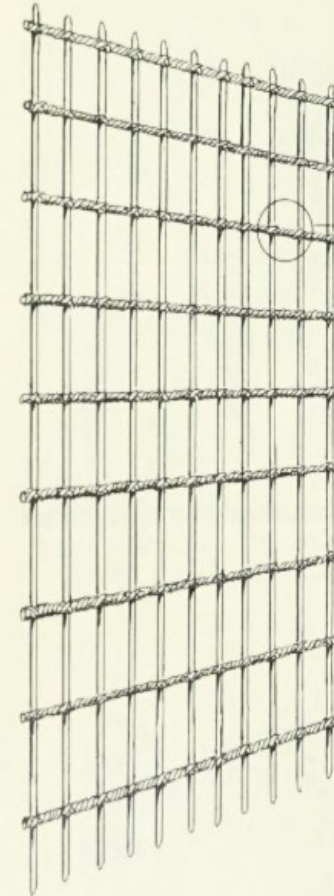
WEIGHTED WITH ROCKS, LATTICE FENCE
IS ATTACHED ALONG BOTTOM OF FRAME-
WORK - LIES FLAT DURING INCOMING TIDE.
FISH SWIM INTO COVE WITH TIDE -



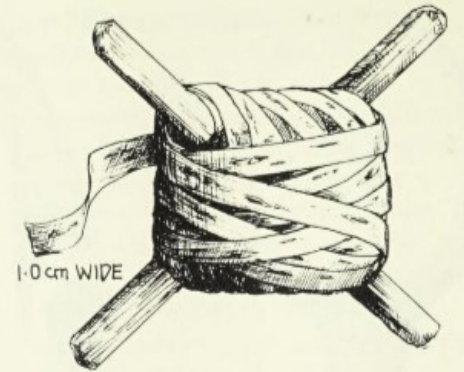
AT HIGH TIDE FENCE IS RAISED
WITH ROPES AND SECURED -
RECEDING TIDE LEAVES FISH
TRAPPED.

32·CS

LATTICE FENCING

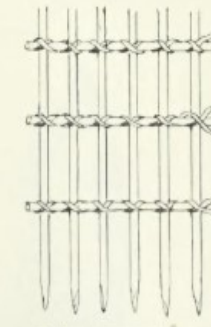


ONE TYPE OF LATTICE
FOR MAKING FENCE WEIRS
POINTED ENDS DUG INTO RIVER
BED. 1·40m. 11·CS

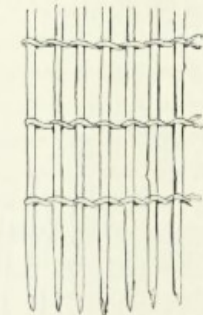


REEL OF WILD CHERRY BARK
[PRUNUS EMARGINATA] -
OUTER BARK IS FLAT, TOUGH
AND RESISTS ROTTING - AN
IDEAL MATERIAL FOR LASHING
ON SPEAR AND HARPOON
PRONGS, FOR ATTACHING
HOOP OF DIPNET TO SHAFT.

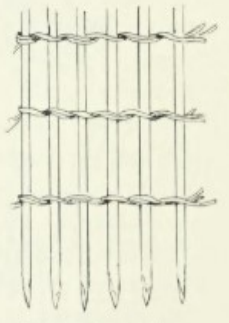
THREE OTHER TYPES OF LATTICE FENCING FOR WEIRS -



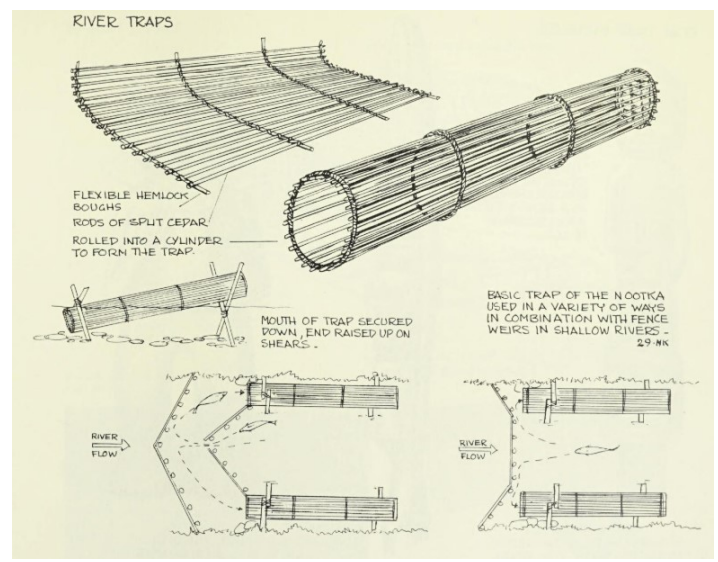
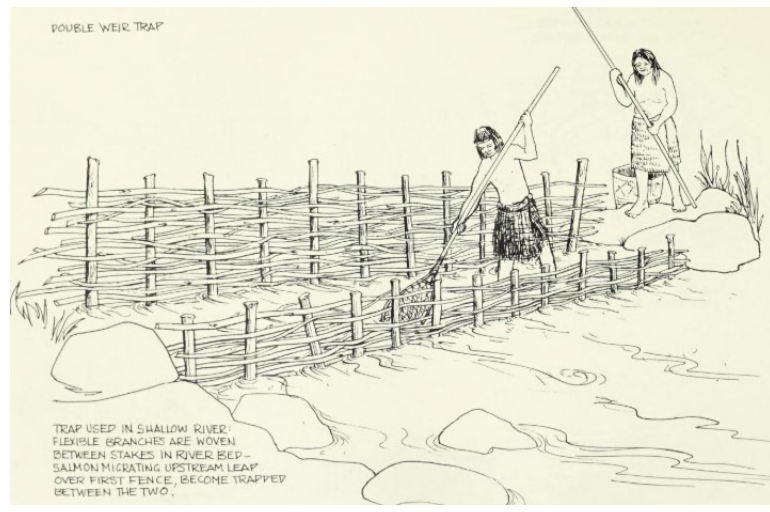
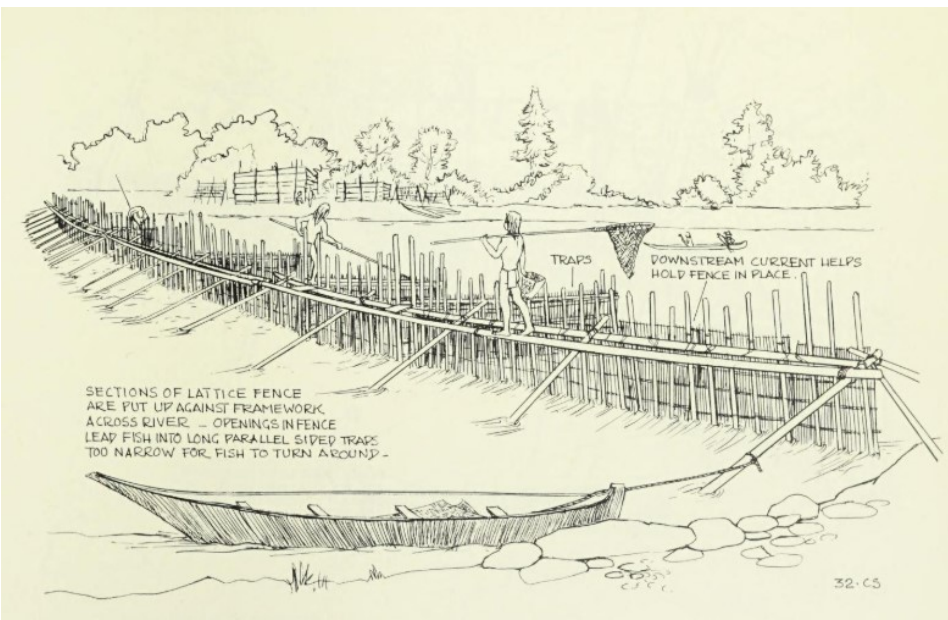
SPLIT CEDAR STICKS
LASHED WITH CEDAR
WITHES. 32·CS



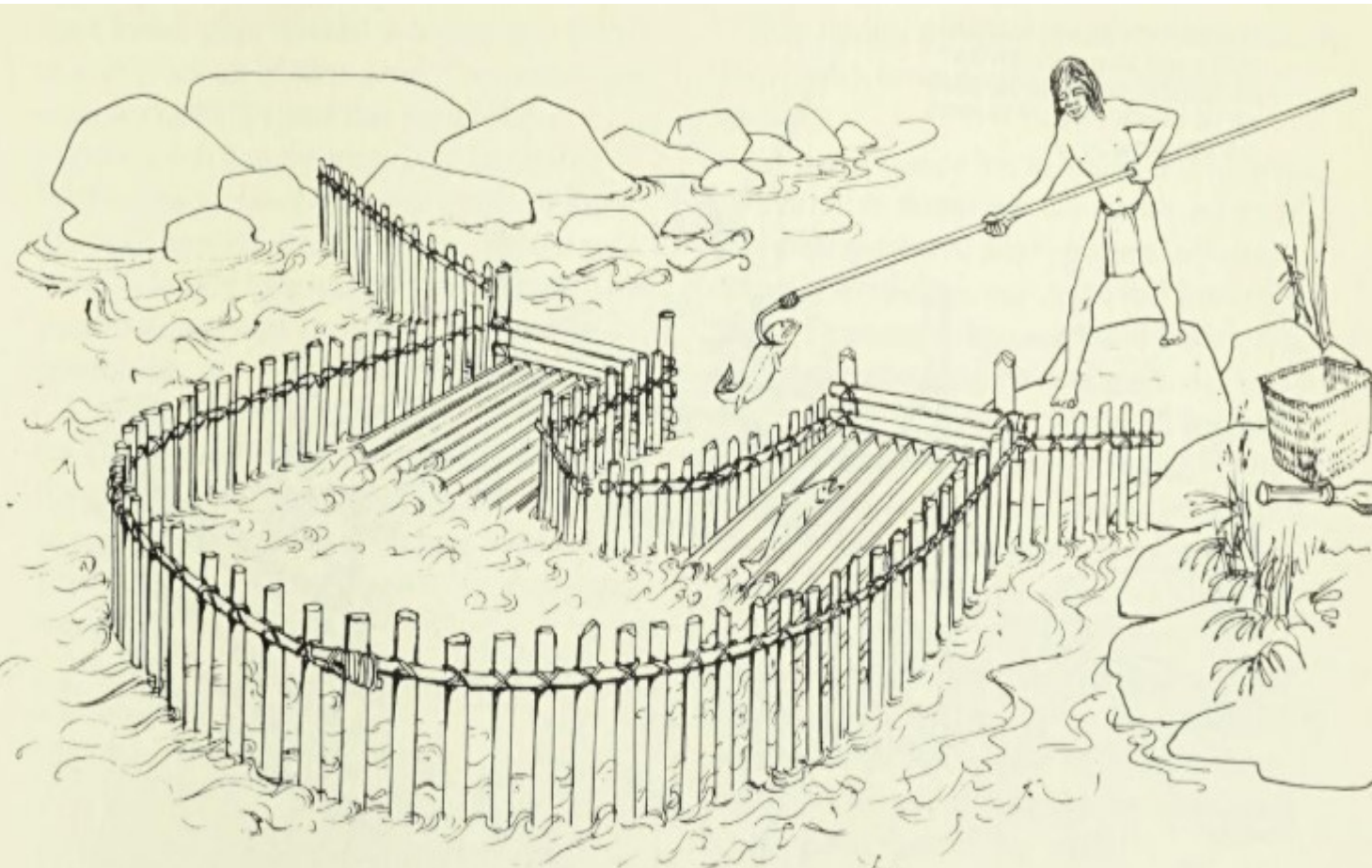
VERTICALS OF MAPLE
OR HEMLOCK 42·CS



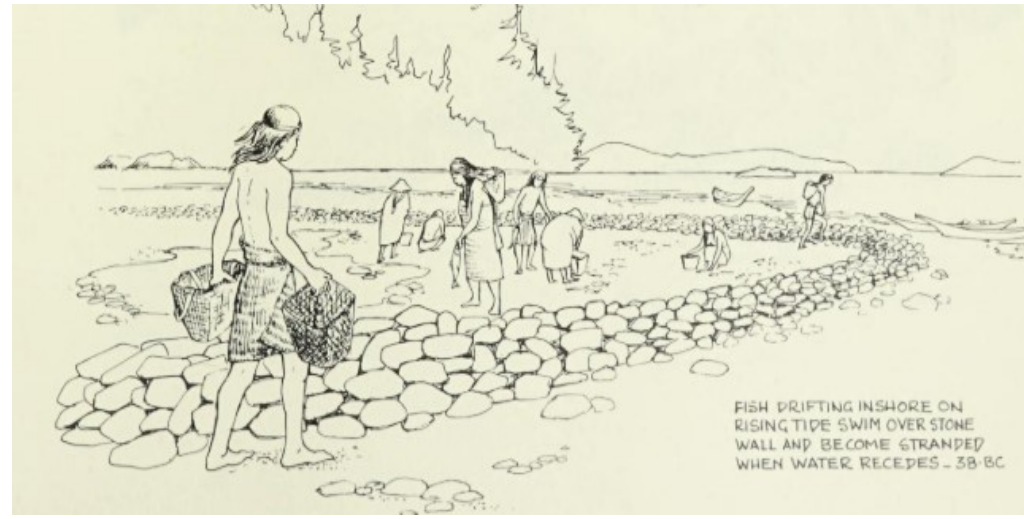
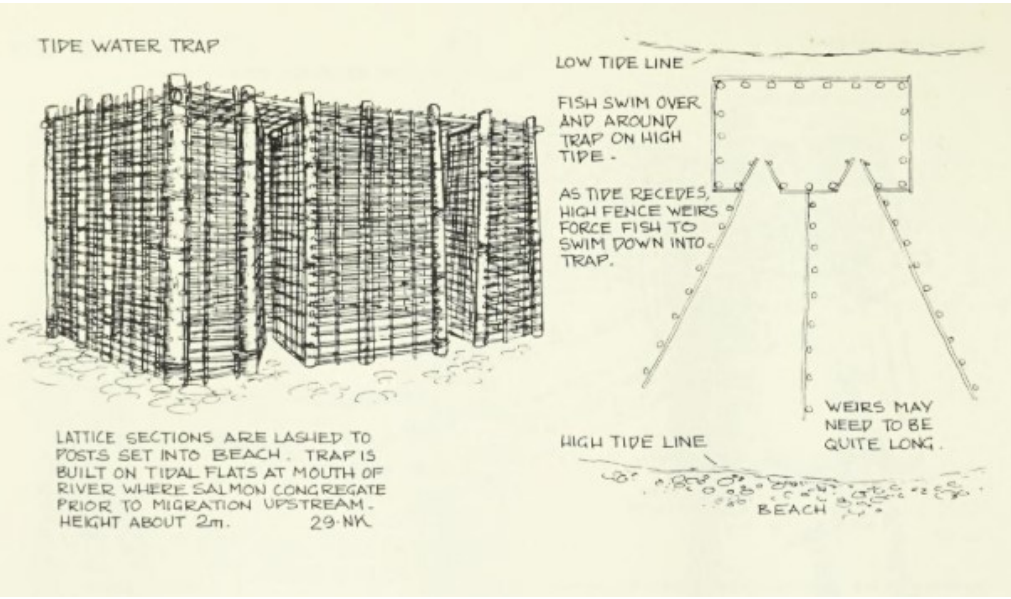
1 AND 2 STRAND
TWINING WITH CEDAR
WITHES. 81·CS



Native American Fish Weirs and Fish Traps

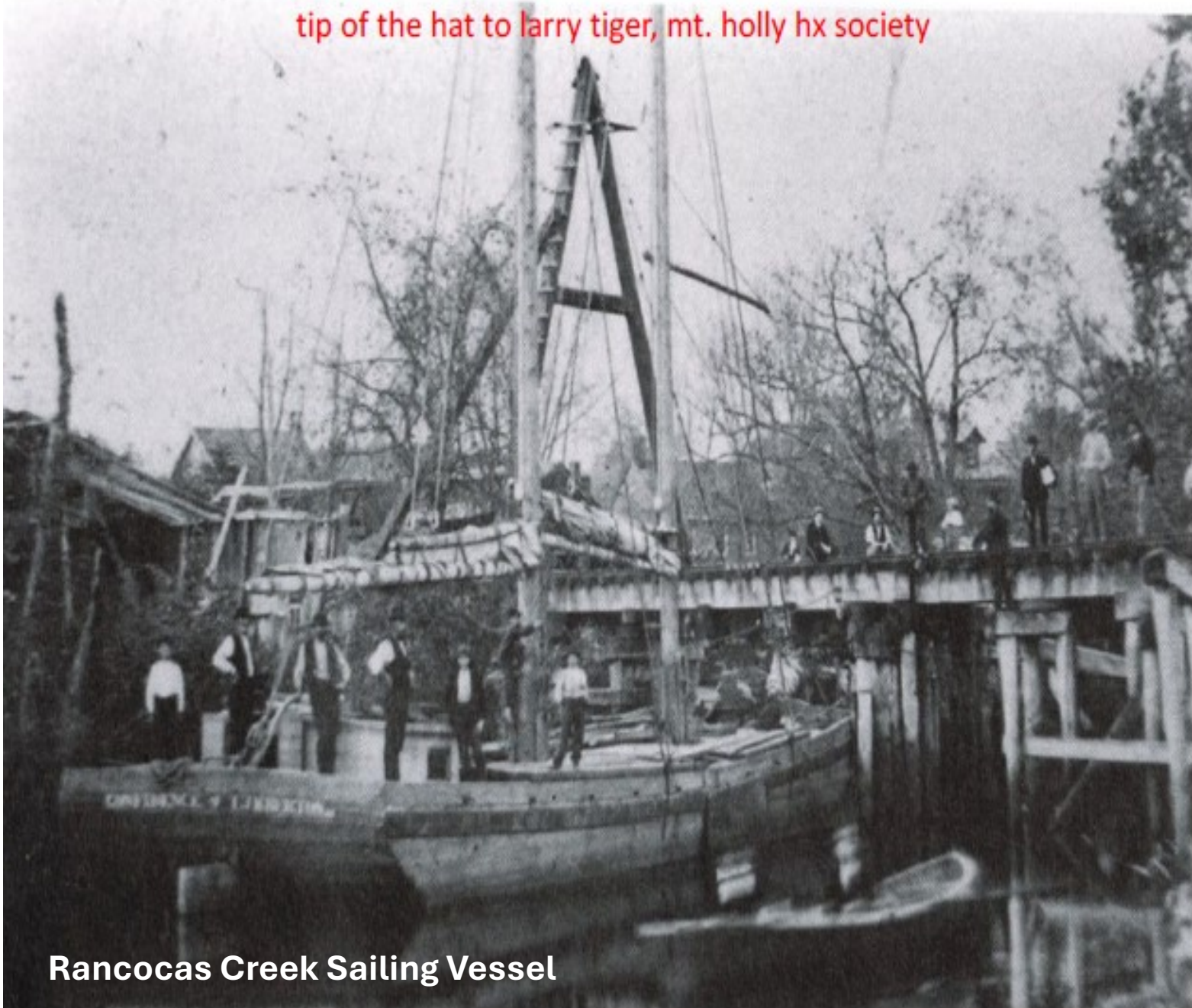


IN SWIFTLY FLOWING STREAM, SALMON ENTER THROUGH FENCE OPENING. UNABLE TO PROCEED, THEY TURN BACK TO SEEK ALTERNATE ROUTE AND ARE SWEEPED UP ONTO GRID, CAUGHT BETWEEN SLATS. 32-CS



FISH DRIFTING INSHORE ON RISING TIDE SWIM OVER STONE WALL AND BECOME STRANDED WHEN WATER RECEDES. 38-BC

tip of the hat to larry tiger, mt. holly hx society



Rancocas Creek Sailing Vessel

Section Four:

**Foundation of Rancocas
Creek's tidewater ecology,
natural history and heritage**

Aids to Navigation

Maritime Cultural Landscape

Cast Away Island

North Branch Rancocas Creek



Remains of mid to late 1800's Cast Away Island Wing Dams

Found throughout the Rancocas Creek are piles of stone and brush in the Creek, known as wing dams.

They focus the flow of the Creek to develop a deeper, narrower main channel to aid commercial navigation.

The wing dams comprised the first large scale efforts to improve navigation on the Rancocas Creek as early as the 1700's, along with dredging and removal of tree's shoals and snags. Low flows, shallow areas, and fast moving currents provided obstacles to commercial navigation on the Rancocas Creek.

Wing dams are long narrow berms of alternate layers of rock and brush extending radially into the river from each bank. The brush, usually willow, was tied in bundles and then fastened into mats.



N. Branch Wing Dam
Approach to Cast Away Island



General Reference: United State Army Corp of Engineers

Site C.



Cast Away Island relics



Site D.



Sites A. B. C. D.



Site C.

Rancocas State Park

Timbuctoo

Turning Basin

Horsehead Point



State of NJ

Rancocas Natural Area

Burl County
Long Bridge Park

Cast Away Island

Remains of barge and vessels / clay holes / sand mines / tide gates wing-dams, piers and wharfs

Rodgers Mill

Canal

Canal

Canal

Tide Gates

Tide Gates

Landing

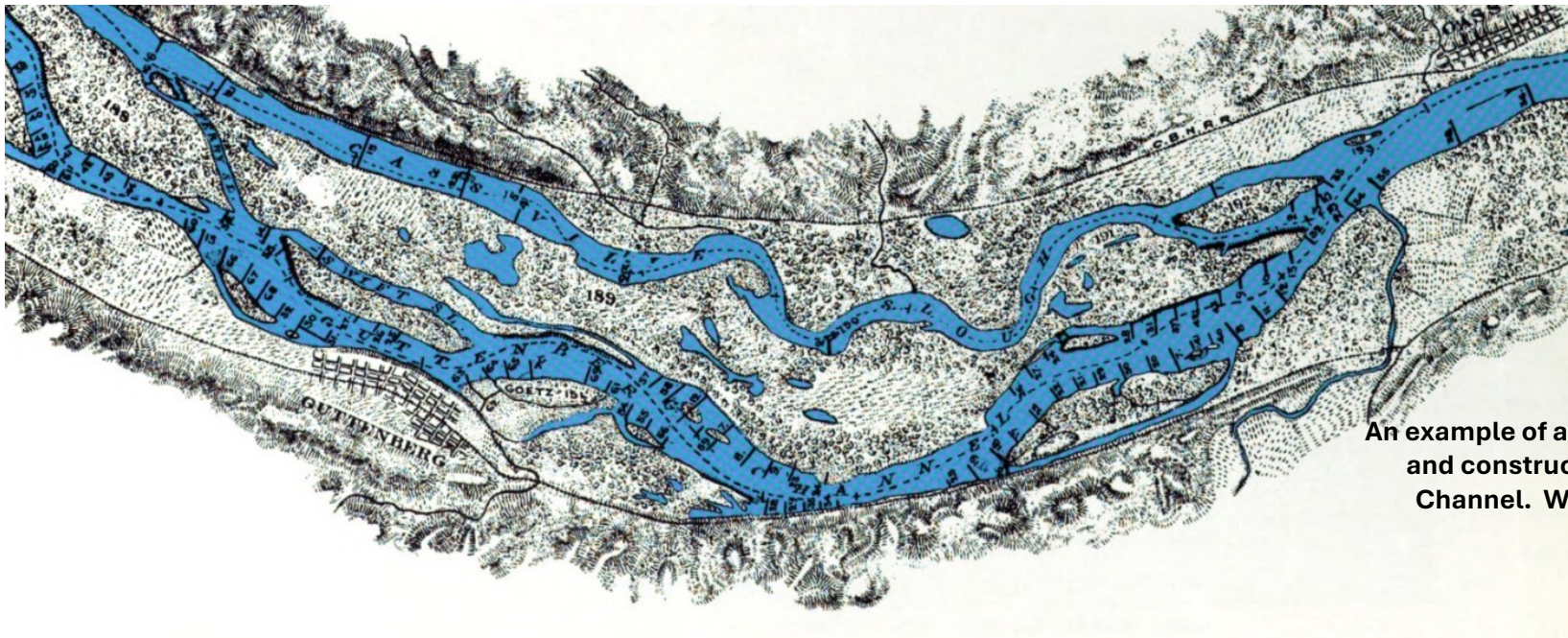
Jetty

Tide Mill

Private residences

Navigation enhancements and improvements to the North Branch Rancocas Creek, on and around Cast Away Island

In the mid to late 1800's Congress authorized navigation improvements and enhancements to the North Branch of the Rancocas Creek., This was done to meet local and regional demands for inexpensive and reliable transportation between Burlington County and Delaware River Ports. Snags, sandbars, shallows and fast currents delayed and at times stranding and at times sinking Creek steamers, tugboats and barges. Wing dams narrowed the Rancocas, increased its speed and cut through sand-bars and debris.



An example of an early 1900's navigation chart showing wing dams and constructing a wing dam on the Upper Mississippi River Channel. Wing dams are constructed of stones and brush.

1902 a Report to Congress

IMPROVEMENT OF RIVERS AND HARBORS IN SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY, OF CERTAIN RIVERS AND HARBORS IN DELAWARE, AND OF INLAND WATERWAY FROM CHINCOTEAGUE BAY TO DELAWARE BAY, VIRGINIA, MARYLAND, AND DELAWARE.

This district was in the charge of Capt. C. A. F. Flagler, Corps of Engineers. Division engineer, Col. Amos Stickney, Corps of Engineers.

1. Rancocas River, New Jersey.—The Rancocas River is a tributary of the Delaware River, its mouth being about 11 miles above the Pennsylvania Railroad terminal and ferry at Camden, N. J.

In the original condition the minimum depth was 4½ feet at mean low water from the junction of the forks near Centerton to its mouth, a distance of 7½ miles. Above Centerton the depth on the Mount Holly Branch, a distance of 5½ miles, was generally about 2½ feet. From the forks to Moores Landing, the head of navigation on the Lumberton Branch, a distance of 3.6 miles, the low-water depth over shoal places was 3 feet. The mean range of tides at Centerton is about 5 feet.

The original project of 1881 proposed the formation, by a dike at Coates bar and dredging elsewhere, of a channel from 150 to 200 feet wide and 6 feet deep at mean low water from the mouth to Centerton and thence to Mount Holly a channel 5 feet deep. Operations under this project were carried on from 1881 to 1895, and were directed to the formation of a low-water channel 100 feet wide and 6 feet deep from the mouth to Centerton and 50 feet wide and 5 feet deep for a distance of about 1½ miles above Centerton. The unexpended balance, \$399.70, has been returned to the surplus fund of the Treasury.

An appropriation of \$2,000 for this river, made in the act of June 3, 1896, was required by the act to be expended in the improvement of the Lumberton Branch and was applied in the fiscal year 1898 to dredging through the shoals at Pattersons Landing, below Paxsons Landing, and partly through the shoal above Paxsons Landing, the channel having a width of 30 feet and a mean low-water depth of 6 feet, and an appropriation of \$2,000, made in the river and harbor act of March 3, 1899, was likewise required to be expended in the Lumberton Branch and was applied to dredging a channel with a depth of from 6 to 7 feet at mean low water and a width of 30 feet through the shoal below Moores Landing.

The river and harbor act of June 13, 1902, appropriated \$3,000 for continuing the improvement of the Lumberton Branch, and for its expenditure a project was approved providing for the construction of contraction works, consisting of low wing dams, to be located at places where the channel had been dredged and had refilled. The work was completed on July 24, 1903. In all, 18 wing dams were built. Of these, 11 were placed on the north side and 7 on the south side, covering the stretch from the forks up to the highway bridge at Hainesport, a distance of about 2½ miles.

The expenditure during the year was for contingent expenses.

The amount expended on this improvement to June 30, 1905, is \$44,479.45, of which \$6,979.24 was on the Lumberton Branch.

The maximum draft that could be carried June 30, 1905, at mean low water, over the shoalest part of the river between the mouth and the forks and Centerton was 7 feet, and above, to Moores, about 6 feet.

A wing dam is an underwater wall of piling and rock extending from the bank of a waterway into the waterway. Its purpose is to control currents, deepen water over shallows, stop erosion. Wing dams are placed at right angles to a channel. Generally visible at low tide. Boatmen avoid wing dams following the channel. They are indicated by eddies or swirls.

There are two known wing dams on and near Cast Away island

Construction of low wing dams where North Branch Rancocas Creek Channel was dredged. 11 wing dams were placed on the North Branch and 7 on the South Branch

Work on the wing dams commonly began in the winter with the dumping of rock and brush mats on the ice. Wing dams constrict the flow of the channel.

These remains are niches for food for fish and wildlife.

Over the years sediment and sand has filled in the spaces between Rancocas Creek wing dams, providing areas for trees and brush to grow, thus forming fine wildlife habitats. Having a navigation channel consisting of constructing wing dams, digging cutoffs, closing side channels, dredging, and shoreline protection up until the last Congressional funding in the early 1902.

Navigation locks and dams are found on the non-tidal sections of the Rancocas.

Wing dams can be spotted by those on the water and walking along the Rancocas Creek as ripples in the water.

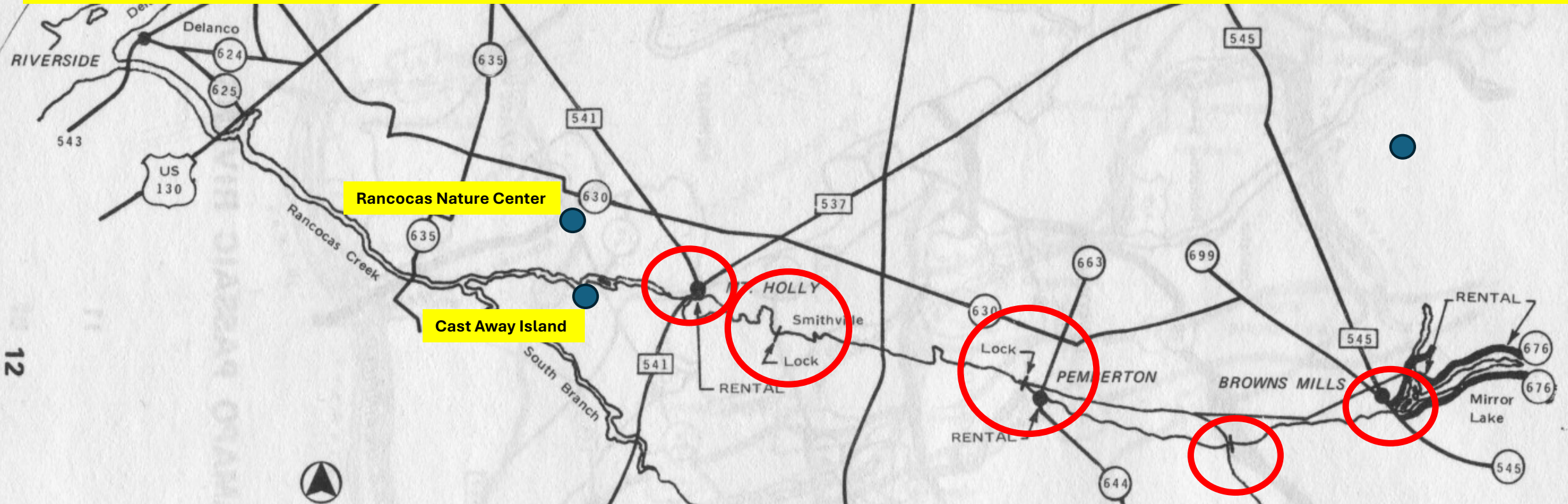


Cast Away Island Wing Dam



General Reference: United State Army Corp of Engineers

Ref: NJ DEP map (1970) that show location of Non-Tidal North Branch of the Rancocas Creek Locks and Dams



This is not a complete list.

See Whitesbog and other Rancocas Creek Cranberry farming bogs for micro-locks and scaled to sites dams.

RANCOCAS CREEK

RANCOCAS, OR ANCOCAS CREEK.

1783.	To build and sustain mill-dam across the north branch of Ancocas creek at Fork Bridge.....	7	ses.	2	sit.,	"
1788.	Act for the improvement of the navigation of the southwest branch of Ancocas creek, amended	13	"	1	"	"
1792.	Act for the improvement of the navigation of the southwest branch of Ancocas creek, of November 28, 1788, amended.....	17	"	1	"	"
1791.	Biddle, Stacy, to authorize, to erect a dam across the north branch of Rancocas creek at Slab bridge.....	16	"	1	"	"
1792.	Jones, Benjamin, junior, to erect a dam across the north branch of Rancocas creek at Slab bridge	16	"	2	"	"
1792.	President, Managers and Company of Rancocas Toll Bridge, incorporated	17	"	1	"	"
1798.	President, Managers and Company of Rancocas Toll Bridge, act amended, part of act of November 28, 1792, repealed.....	22	"	2	"	"
1807.	President, Managers and Company of Rancocas Toll Bridge, amended.....	32	"	1	"	"
1793.	Parker, Jacob, for dam on main branch of Ancocas creek.....	17	"	2	"	"
1795.	The President, Managers and Company for the improvement of the navigation of the north branch of Rancocas creek.....	19	"	2	"	"
1796.	The President, Managers and Company for the improvement of the navigation of the north branch of Rancocas creek, act of November					

RANCOCAS, OR ANCOCAS CREEK—*Continued.*

1819.	To clear out and improve the navigation of the north main branch of Rancocas creek, between the town of Mount Holly and the south main branch of Rancocas creek, act of January 21, 1817, amended.....
1817.	Eayre, Asa, to erect a dam and lock across the main south branch of Rancocas creek.....
1817.	Act to clear out and improve the navigation of the north main branch of Rancocas creek...
1818.	Davis, Benjamin, and Hezekiah Stokes, to erect and maintain dam and flood-gates across the south branch of Rancocas creek, near the Union bridge, in the township of Evesham.
1818.	Act relative to the toll bridge over Rancocas creek
1819.	Act relative to the toll bridge over Rancocas creek, of January 23, 1818, amended.....
1819.	Act concerning the draw in the bridge over Rancocas creek, on the road leading from Burlington to Cooper's ferry, in the county of Burlington
1823.	To authorize the board of chosen freeholders of the county of Burlington to build a bridge over Rancocas creek.....
1835.	To erect dam and flood-gates across the main north branch of Rancocas creek.....
1845.	Rancocas Steamboat Company, incorporated....
1846.	Act relative to fishing in Rancocas creek.....
1853.	Act to authorize a draw or swing bridge over Rancocas creek.....

1787 NJ Copper Penny – Recovered Approximate Cast Away Island



Trading out of the Rancocas

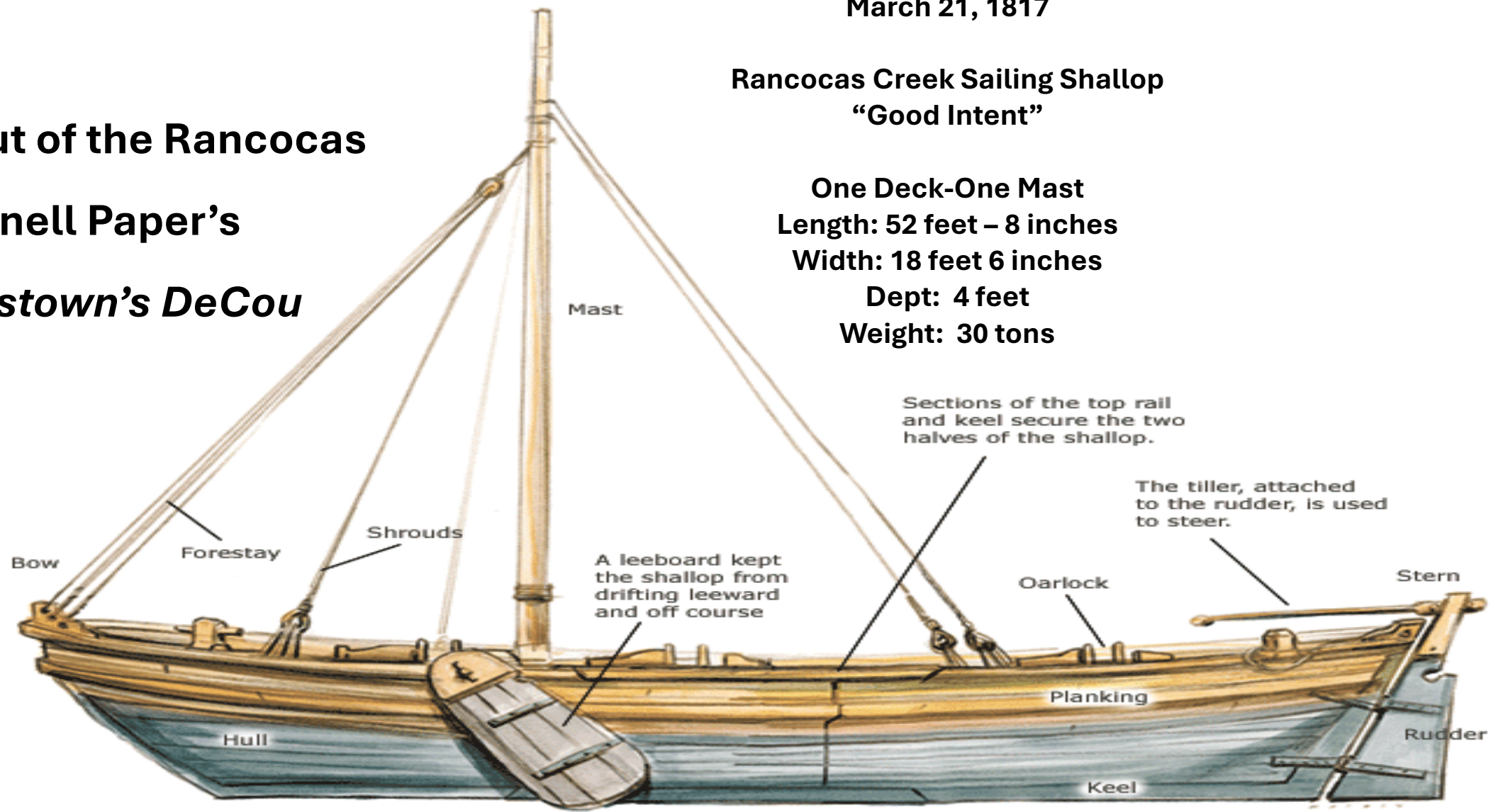
Darnell Paper's

Moorestown's DeCou

March 21, 1817

Rancocas Creek Sailing Shallop
"Good Intent"

One Deck-One Mast
Length: 52 feet - 8 inches
Width: 18 feet 6 inches
Dept: 4 feet
Weight: 30 tons



Mostly Produce (Jersey Fresh)-Lumber-Charcoal to the Philadelphia Port Market

1823

Steam Navigation begins (dates approximate) on the Rancocas

Norristown, Capt. John Gardner

1849

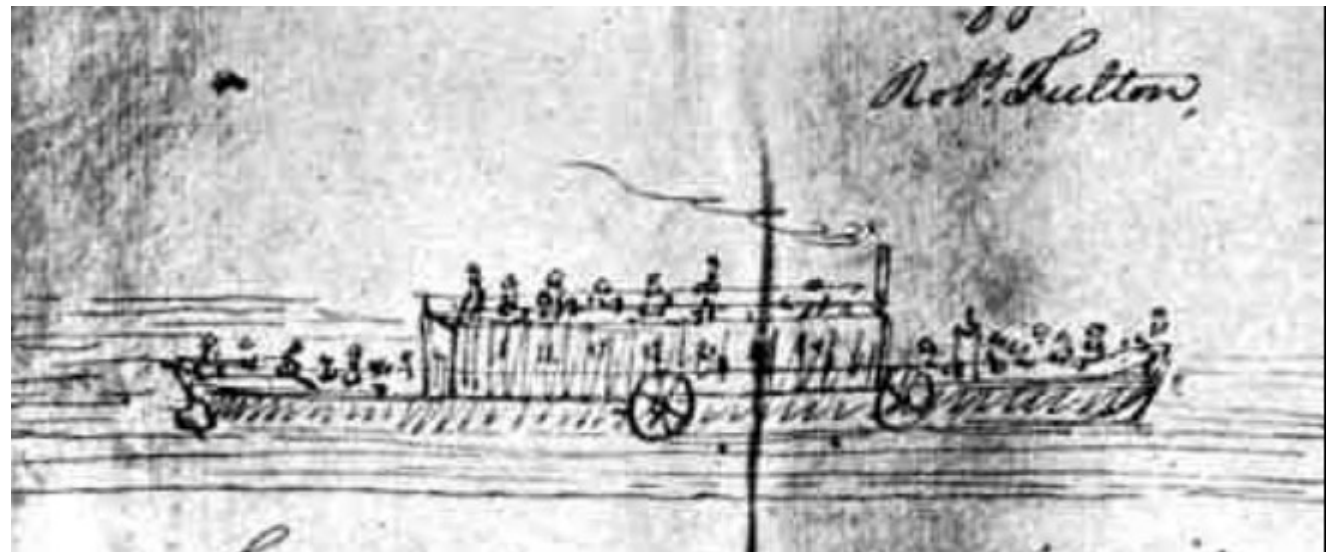
Mt. Holly and Rancocas Steamboat Company

Barclay

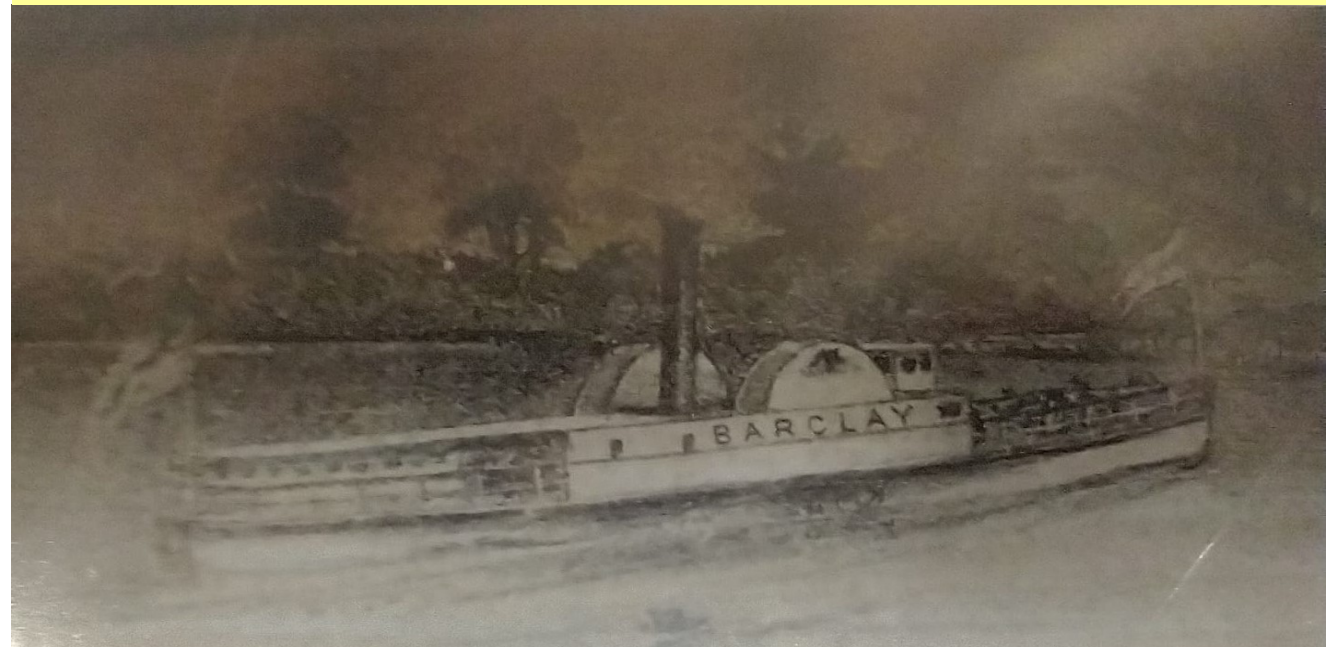
(Built at Lumberton's "Navy Yard")

120 feet long. 24 feet wide.

Lafayette, Band-Box, Mayflower, Barclay



Maritime Heritage Incubator

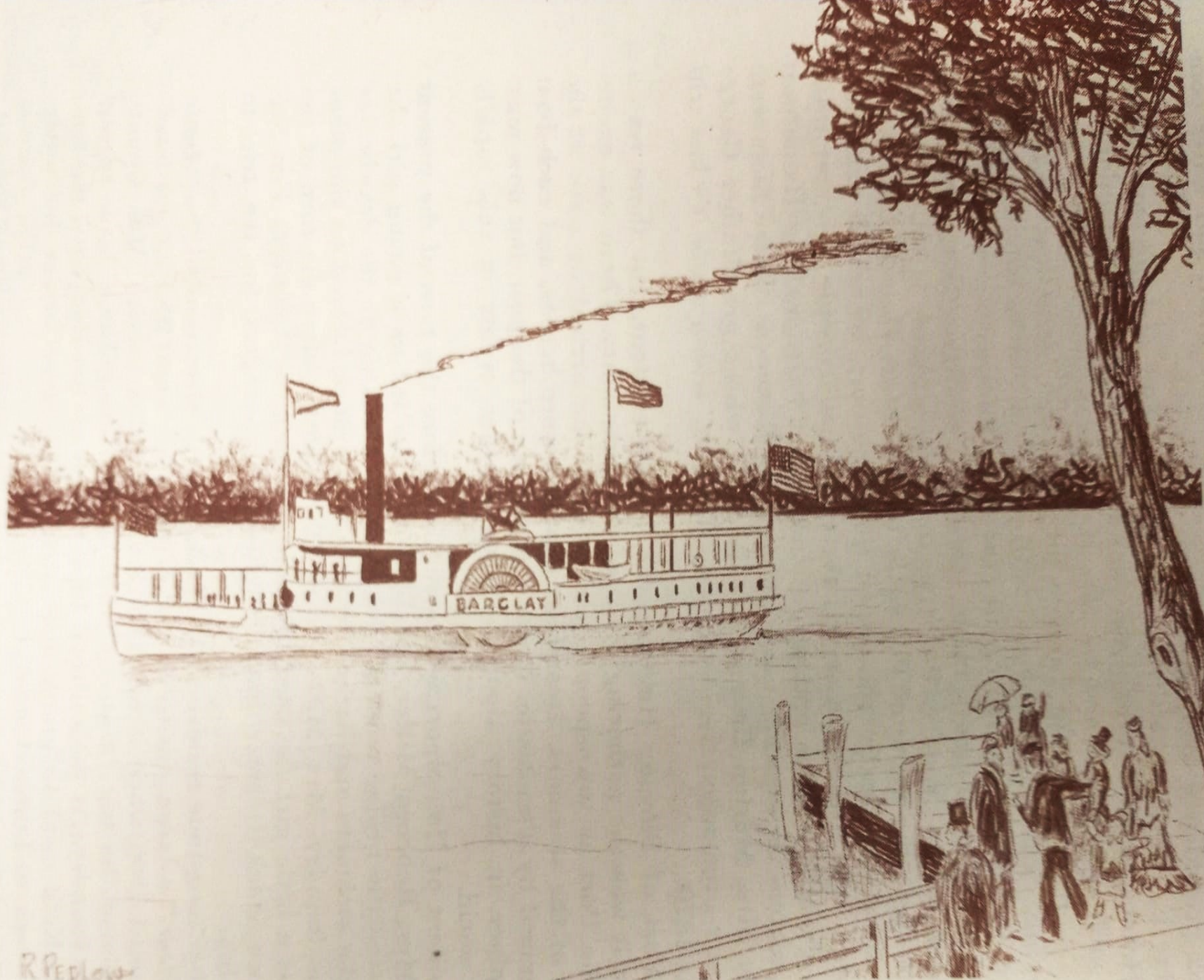


1860

**Steamer Barclay
Leaves Arch Street
Wharf, daily at 2 ½
p.m.. Progress,
Delanco,
Bridgeboro,
Centretown,
Hainesport.**

**Leaves Hainesport
Daily at 7 a.m.**

**Stages meet boat for
Mt. Holly and
Lumberton**



Charles Longstreth Mather

1816 - 1902

5-420. Samuel, b. Nov. 6, 1854. *Coffroth.*

4-127. CHARLES LONGSTRETH MATHER, b. Jan. 30, 1816, at Little Miami Mills, O.; d. July 17, 1902, buried at Mt. Holly, N. J.; m. May 1, 1845, *Naomi P. McIlvain*, daughter of Hugh and Hannah (Hunt) McIlvain, of West Philadelphia, (see 4-202).

Charles L. Mather was born in the log cabin built as the first shelter in the pioneer days of his parents in Ohio. He came east, and lived many years at Mt. Holly, where his widow still resides at the old farm.

Six children :

MATHER.

5-421. Eliz. Longstreth, b. Feb. 14, 1846; d. Sept. 29, 1863.

5-422. Lydia McIlvain, b. May 18, 1848. *MATHER.*

5-423. Charles Sidney, b. Apr. 19, 1850. *Mitchell.*

5-424. Susan Longstreth, b. May 7, 1853; living at Mt. Holly. *Unm.*

5-425. Naomi, b. Apr. 9, 1857. *Loveland.*

5-426. Hugh McIlvain, b. June 1, 1859; d. Aug. 30, 1861.

Built and resided in what is today's

Rancocas Nature Center

in

1846/1856.

Timber/Lumber Dealer

Note McIlvain Daughter Marriage

Charles Mather early proponent Rancocas Creek Commercial Navigation

Great interest in improving the Rancocas Creek for Commercial Navigation

Straighten Rancocas Creek for commercial navigation having canals cut-throughs, cut-offs and channel improvements to shorten distance from Delaware River to Mt. Holly.

Early pioneer bringing a steam tug up the Rancocas. Faced tremendous opposition and ridicule. He secured steam-boat and tug. Opened on the first commercial tugboat trips into Mt. Holly.

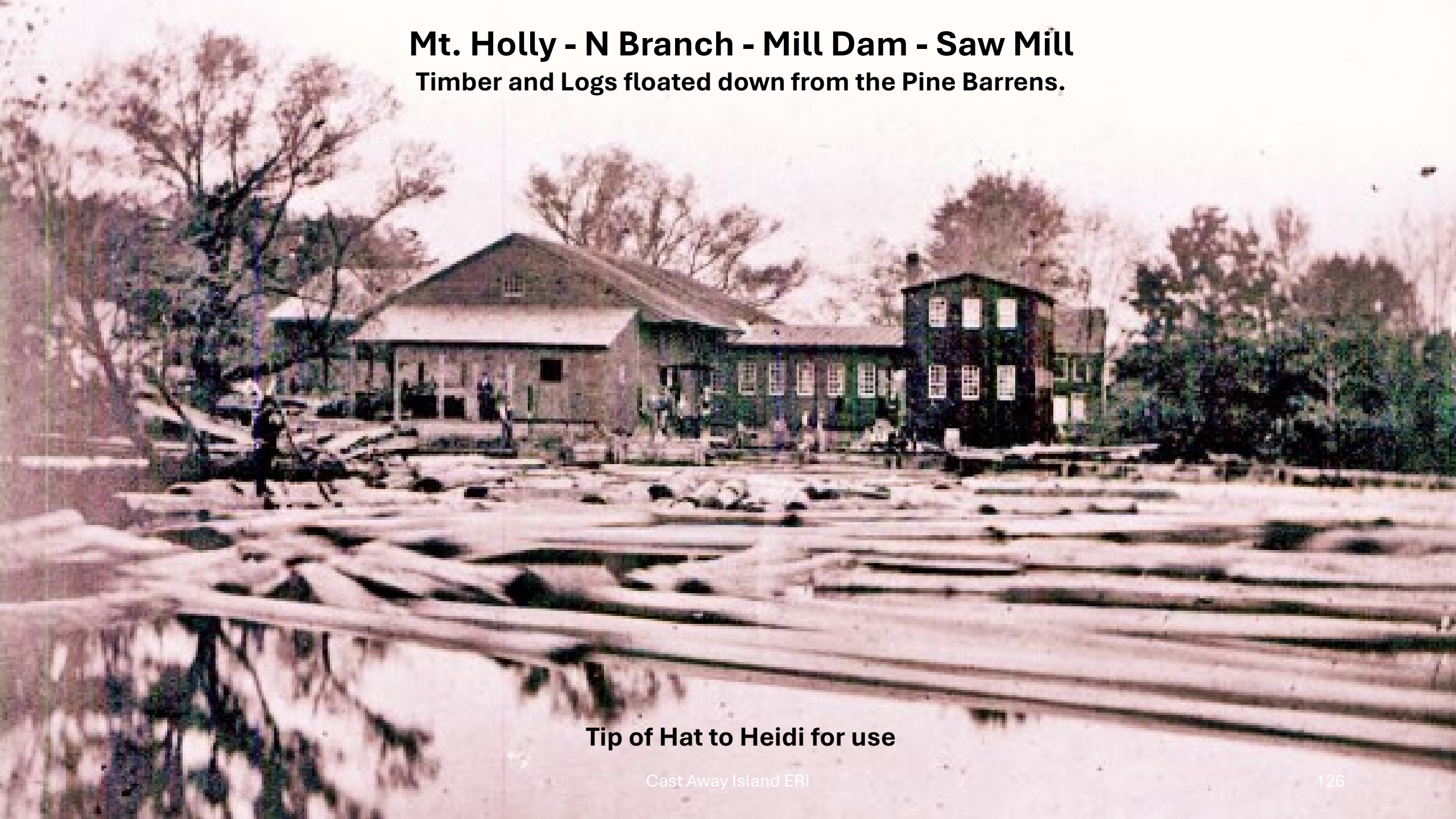
Opened up Rancocas Creek to larger volumes of maritime traffic to Delaware River Ports: Trenton, Philadelphia & Camden; greater regional, national and world markets.

Ref: McIlvaine Dairy (son-in-law Mather Farm Site) 03 Jan 1894



Hainesport
Tug *Minevra* with sand barge. In
background (sand) train.
Tied off Haines Landing

Mt. Holly - N Branch - Mill Dam - Saw Mill
Timber and Logs floated down from the Pine Barrens.



Tip of Hat to Heidi for use



Figure 10 Four images of the dig site at Timbuctoo. Indicating potential evidence of clay and brick mining and features associated with pilings and dock or piers. Images from top left to bottom right: wood support pile, meter stick describing height of creek bank cut by currents and evidence of clay throughout, early concrete support (high rock particle content) and grey brick of apparent hand-struck formation. All items left in-situ on-site. The area today sits between housing developments.

Timbuctoo

**Indicating potential evidence of
clay and brick mining and
features associated with pilings
and docks and piers
(April/2019)**



I-53

RANCOCAS RIVER, N. J.

APPROPRIATIONS.

1881,	\$10,000,	81, 795.
1882,	10,000,	82, 778.
1890,	10,000,	91, 1085.
1892,	5,000,	92, 936.
1894,	3,000,	95, 1068.
1896,	2,000,	96, 927.
1899,	2,000,	99, 1356.
1902,	3,000,	02, 1047.

Total, 45,000

COMMERCE.

Description of, 95, 1064, 1087.
1901, 321,135 t., 02, 1048.

CONTRACTS.

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1882. American Dredging Co., dr., 32¢ c. y., 83, 635.
1891. F. C. Somers, dr., 22¢ c. y., and removal of 3 wrecks, at a total of \$800, 91, 1085.
1892. F. C. Somers, dr., 14¢ c. y., 92, 936.
J. P. Randerson, dr., 20¢ c. y. (\$4,000), 93, 1175.
1894. F. L. Somers, dr., 17¢ c. y. (\$2,125), 95, 1068.
1897. F. C. Somers, dr., \$1,767.59, 98, 1097.
1899. J. L. Mills, dr., 25¢ c. y. (\$1,700), 99, 1357.
1903. F. K. Wills Construction Co., contraction works (wing dams) on Lumberton Branch, 03, 984.

ENGINEERS.

Chief of Engineers. R., 80, 98; 81, 126; 82, 123; 83, 124; 84, 133; 85, 123; 86, 120; 87, 82; 88, 82; 91, 116; 92, 117; 93, 126; 94, 115; 95, 129, 132; 96, 118; 97, 150; 98, 153; 99, 174; 00, 198; 01, 238; 02, 179; 03, 166; 04, 157; 05, 164; 06, 177; 07, 185; 08, 194; 10, 256.

In charge:

Col. J. N. Macomb, 1880-82. R., 81, 795.
Capt. W. Ludlow, 1882-83. R., 82, 777.
Lt. Col. G. Weitzel, 1883-84. R., 83, 635.
Maj. W. H. Heuer, 1884-85. R., 84, 833.
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Maps.¹

Improvements and enhancements to the North Branch Rancocas Creek Navigation.

Dredging, Wing Dams, Landings

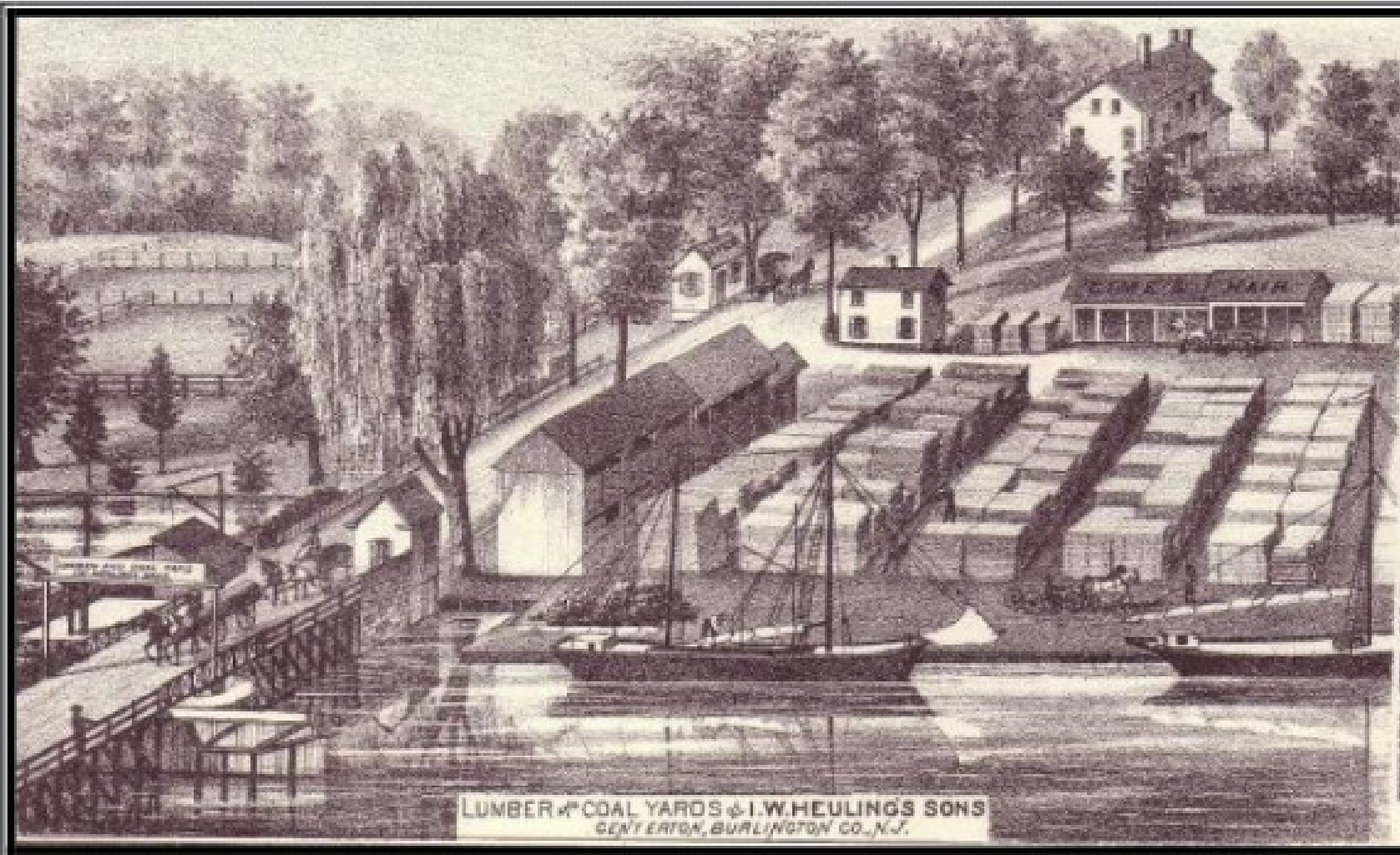


Rancocas Creek Steamer
1890's

Rancocas Creek Timber and Lumber Connections



Creek Vessels Remains



Connection to McIlvaine and others in Mt.Holly

What is the connection between Stephen Smith, timber broker and (Mather/McIlvaine) lumber business ?

After purchasing his freedom, Smith planned and opened his Lumber business in Columbia, Pennsylvania. Smith would be very successful and looking for partners to grow his business even bigger. In the early 1830s, Smith formed a partnership with William Whipper. Smith and Whipper would have huge success in Lumber, coal, Philadelphia real estate, railroad cars, and investments in the stock market. The two made a fortune and put it to good use, becoming true leaders of the black community in their fight against slavery. In 1830, Smith was the chairman of the African American Abolitionist Organization in Columbia, Pennsylvania. Smith was also ordained in the Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church on South Fifth Street, Columbia, in 1831.

Stephen **Smith**, Pennsylvania. Lumber. "Sept 16 53. **Smith** was formerly a slave to old 'Ben Boude'. . . Good as the best, worth \$100m. July 18 57. King of the Dark-ies—w[orth] \$100m. . . Apr 1 65. **Smith** wor[th] \$500m."
—R. G. Dun & Company Mercantile Agency Credit Reports

Partial list of vsls launched Cape May

- 1705 Adventure
- 1706 Necessity
- 1708 Dolphin
- 1816 Baker
- 1834 Trimmer
- 1836 Brandywine
- 1836 Texas
- 1838 W. E. Bird
- 1840 Vesta
- 1841 Log Cabin
- 1845 Boston
- 1846 Bascom
- 1846 Thos. B. C
- 1846 Jabez L. W
- 1848 Isabelle Tho
- 1849 Allen H. Bro
- 1850 Eva
- 1850 George H. Brown
- 1850 North Pacific
- 1851 Henry P. Simmons
- 1852 Emily and Rebecca
- 1853 Adelaide
- 1854 Revenue
- 1855 James S. Hewitt
- 1857 William L. Dayton
- 1859 Belle
- 1859 L. F. Peterson
- 1862 Lydia Budd

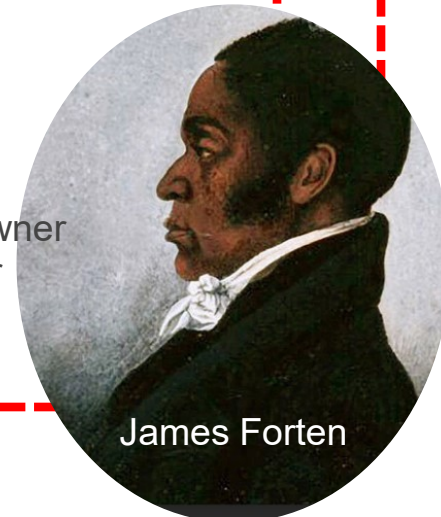


Smith, Whipper & Co.

CONNECTIONS ?

1840

Sail Loft Owner
Mariner



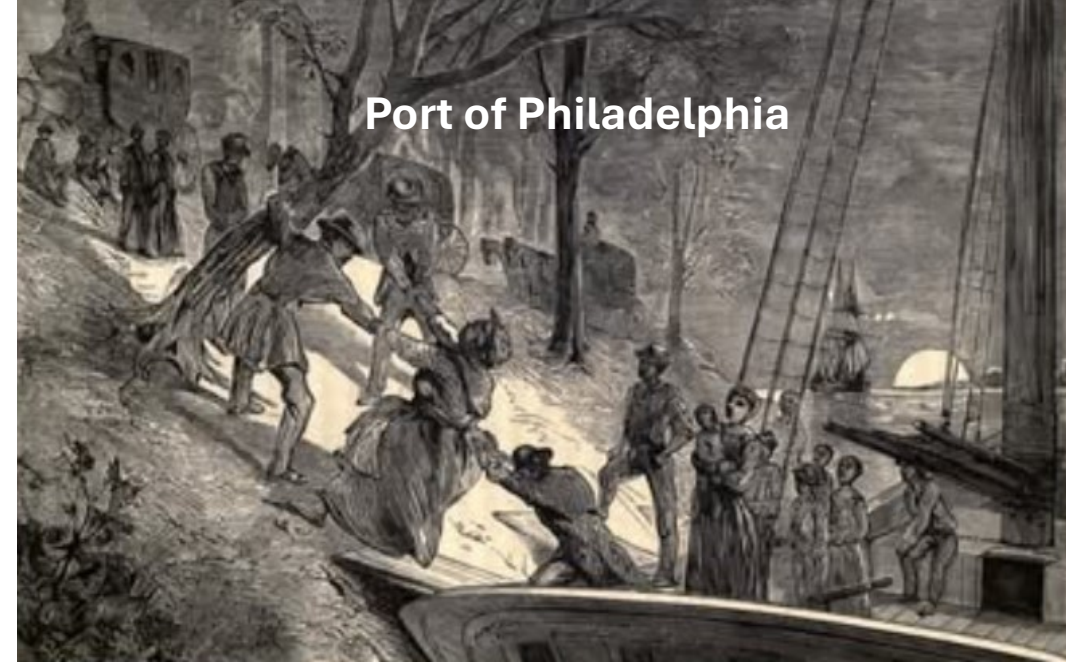
James Forten

Stephen Smith Founder of the Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Society. Banneker House a first-class hotel summer resorts for free Black people in the country. Developed by James Harding, a friend of Stephen Smith. At the white Babtist Church Joseph Leach frequently preached there.

Timbuctoo & Underground Railroad 1823



William Still
1875



Steamer Burlington Rail Camden and Amboy

RESCUE OF JANE JOHNSON AND HER CHILDREN.



Timbuctoo

**Indicating potential evidence of
clay and brick mining and
features associated with pilings
and docks and piers
(April/2019)**



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We are fortunate to know anything at all about the maritime passage to freedom.

Ref: Ceclinski



THE WATERMAN'S SONG

**SLAVERY AND FREEDOM IN
MARITIME NORTH CAROLINA**
DAVID S. CECELSKI



Timbuctoo, NJ

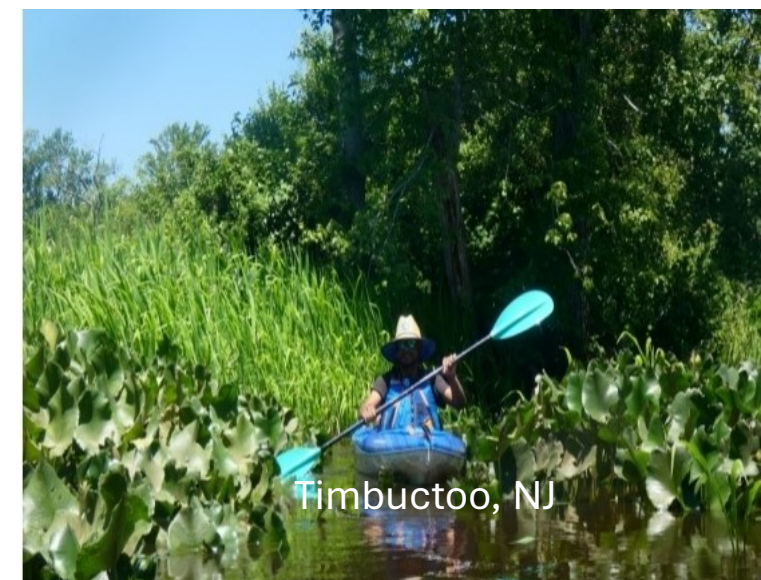


Timbuctoo, NJ



1861

*"Geo. Washington's Ditch,"
Great Dismal Swamp, NC*



Timbuctoo, NJ

I-53

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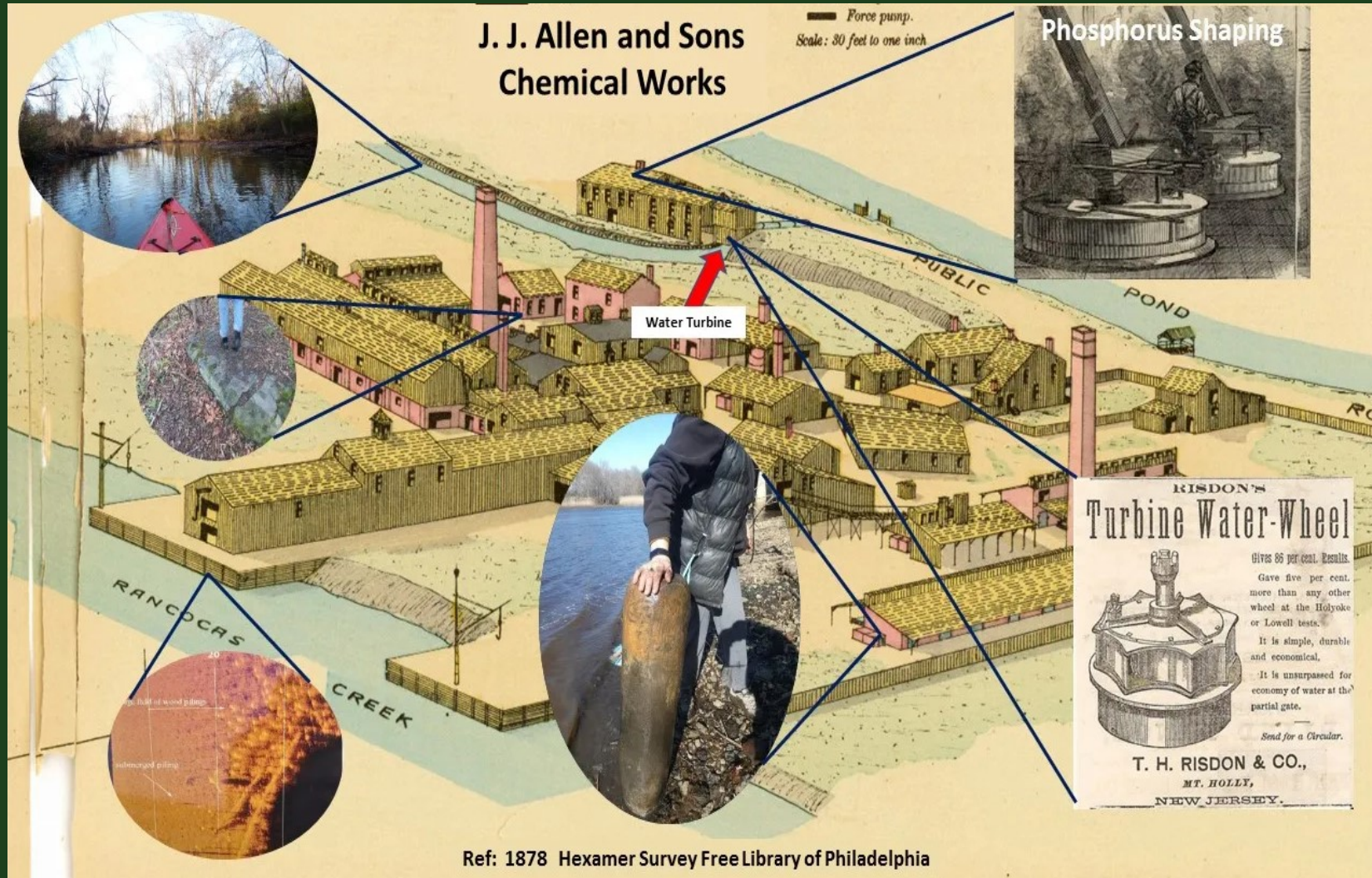
Dredging, Wing Dams, Landings



Rancocas Creek Steamer
1890's

Lumberton
Sand
Company

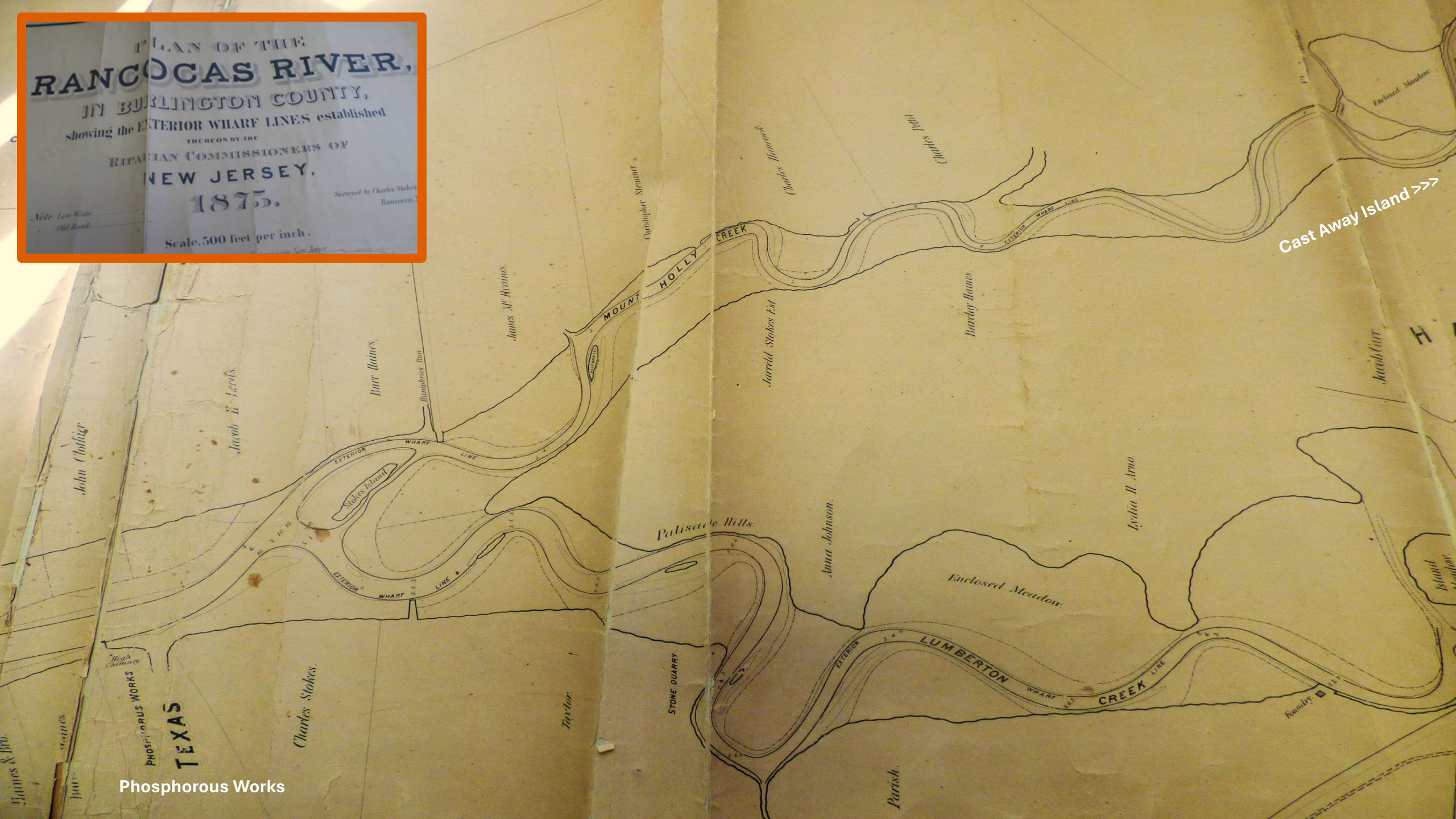
Rancocas
Creek
Phosphorus
Works



Mount Holly. It is a fine animal.
The **Lumberton Sand Company** has purchased the old phosphorus works, near Centreton, for \$5,000.
14 January 1901

The **Lumberton Sand Company** has purchased the wharf, coal and lumber yard property at Centreton, belonging to Harry L. Heulings, for \$5,700.
04 June 1904

PLAN OF THE RANCOCAS RIVER,
 IN BURLINGTON COUNTY,
 showing the EXTERIOR WHARF LINES established
 THEREON BY THE
 RIPARIAN COMMISSIONERS OF
NEW JERSEY,
 1875.
 Scale, 500 feet per inch.
 Surveyed by Charles Stokes
 Rancocas, N. J.



Cast Away Island >>>

Phosphorous Works

PHOSPHOROUS WORKS
TEXAS

1898

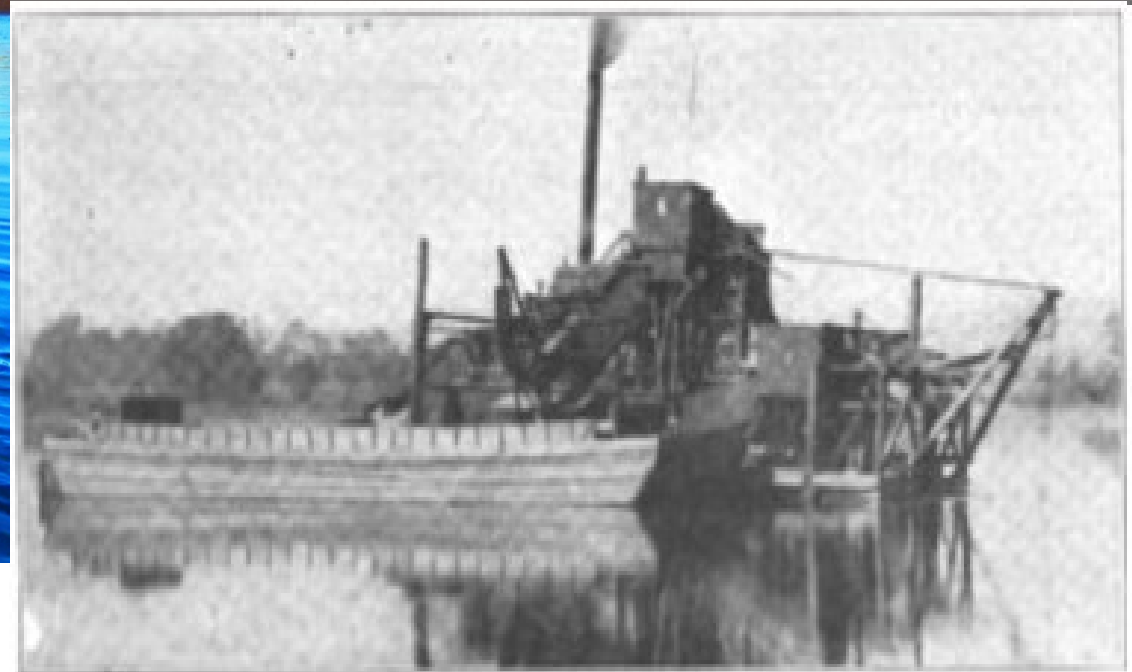
**Channel Stabilization Piling and Wing Dam
N Branch Rancocas State Park**



PROTECT HERITAGE

Rancocas Creek (1915)

Hainesport Mining and Transport Co.
75 foot radius, 5 cubic yard grab bucket w
manganese lip. 4,000 cy in a 10 hr day. Hoisting
speed of 150 p/m. Cars loaded beneath
receiving hopper than dumped into scows for
delivery Phila and Camden Ports



Sand Dredge "Independence" Hainesport Mining Co. (1915)

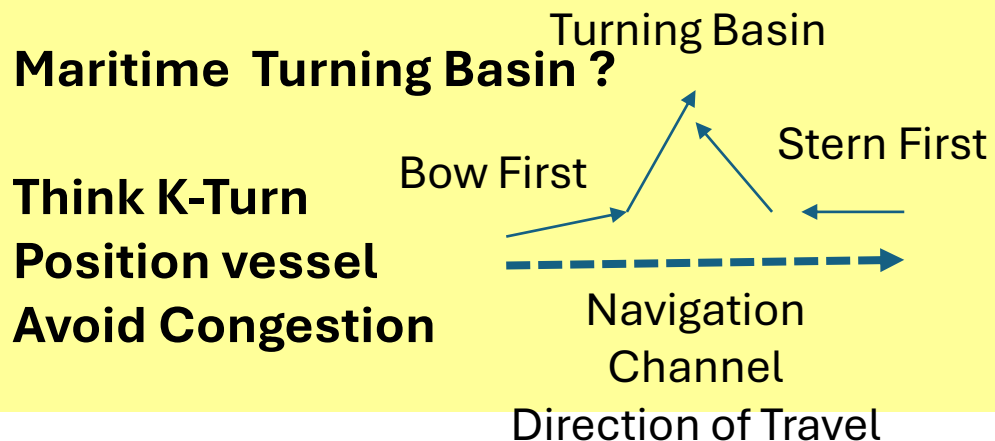
Delaware Bay and River Maritime Heritage Digital Incubator

Risdon Alcott Landing

Mount Holly, Head of Tide.

148 miles from Delaware Capes

N Branch, Rancocas



A Report to the Secretary of War 1909

2

RANCOCAS RIVER, NEW JERSEY.

This river has been improved by the General Government by the formation of a low-water channel 100 feet wide and 6 feet deep from the mouth to Centerton (now called Bougher), near the forks; 50 feet wide and 5 feet deep for a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles farther upstream on the Mount Holly branch; and thence 25 feet wide and 4 feet deep to Mount Holly. No work has been done on this project since 1895, operations after that year being confined to Lumberton branch.

The district officer submits a plan for further improvement by dredging a channel 10 feet deep and 200 feet wide over the bar at the mouth; 8 feet deep and 100 feet wide to Paxsons wharf at Centerton; thence to Leeds wharf, tapering to 5 feet deep and 40 feet wide; 5 feet deep and 40 feet wide, including several cut-offs between Leeds wharf and King street, and a turning basin near Mount Holly; and 5 feet deep and 30 feet wide between King and Washington streets, Mount Holly, all at an estimated cost of \$83,700, and \$9,300 for maintenance.

Turning basin near Mount Holly

Centerton Landing - Rancocas Creek - Main Stem



Courtesy Mt. Laurel Historical Society

Phila. Rancocas and Mt. Holly Transportation Co.
 (Passengers and Freight.)

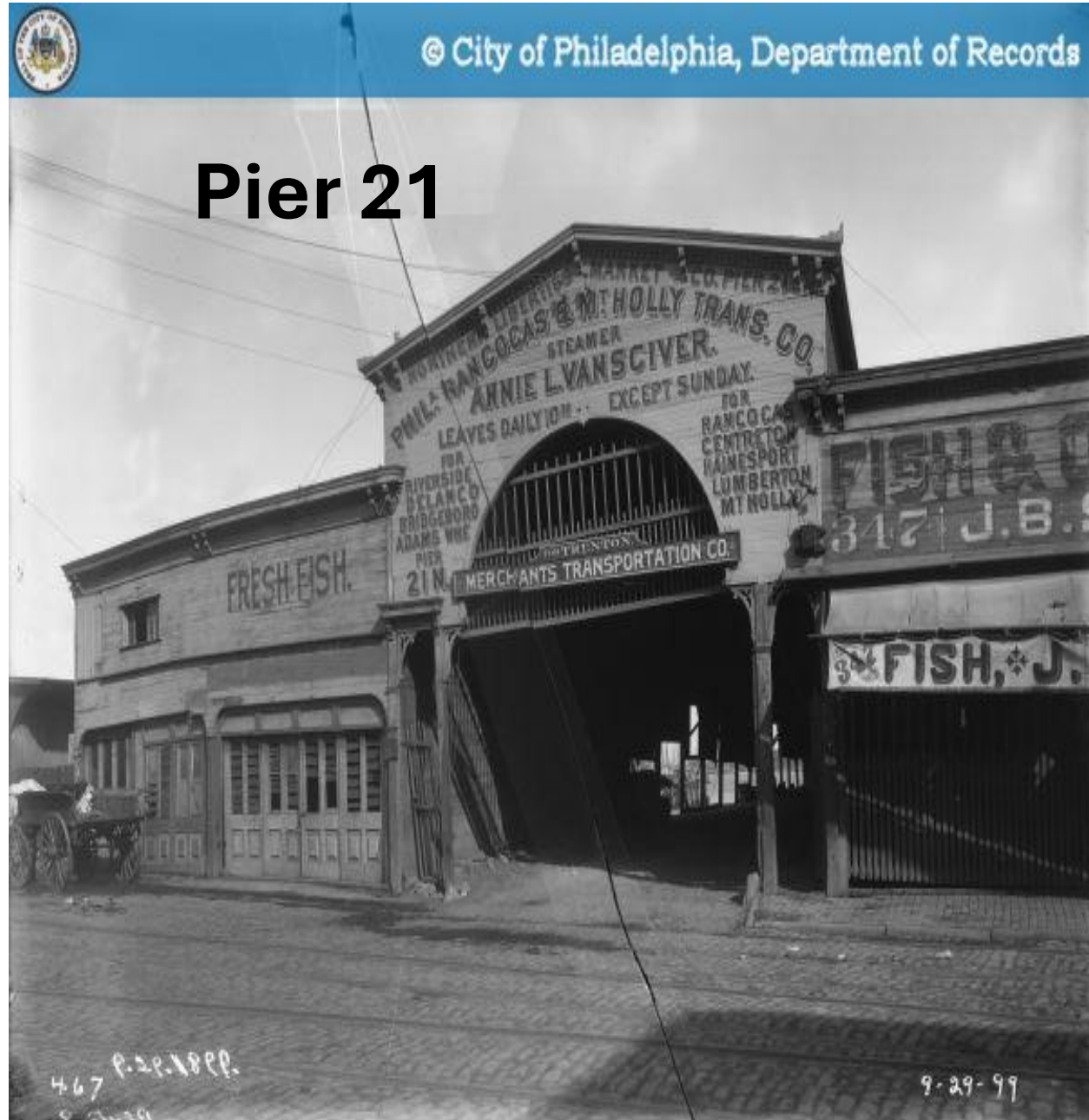
STEAMER ANNIE L. VAN SCIVER
 leaves 10.30 a. m. daily at Arch Street Wharf, for Riverside, Delanco, Bridgeboro, Moorestown, Stanwick, Adams' Wharf, **Rancocas**, Centretown, Masonville, Hainesport, **Lumberton** and Mt. Holly. Connection made at Riverside for Trenton and points on the Camden and Trenton Trolley line.



Pier 21



1907



467 P. 28. 1899.

9-29-99

June 1909

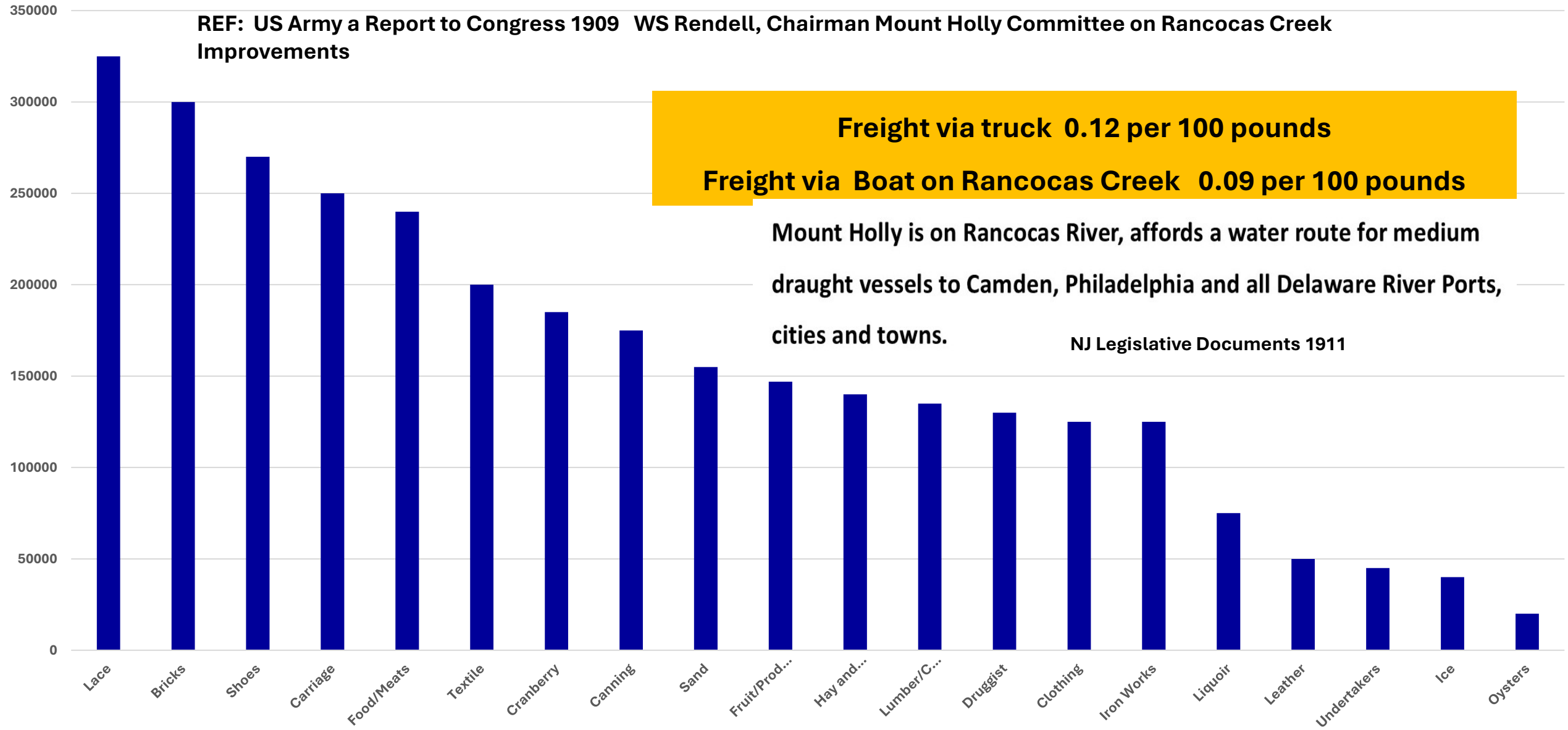
Value of Exports/Imports from Mount Holly Via Freight Rancocas Creek

REF: US Army a Report to Congress 1909 WS Rendell, Chairman Mount Holly Committee on Rancocas Creek Improvements

Freight via truck 0.12 per 100 pounds
Freight via Boat on Rancocas Creek 0.09 per 100 pounds

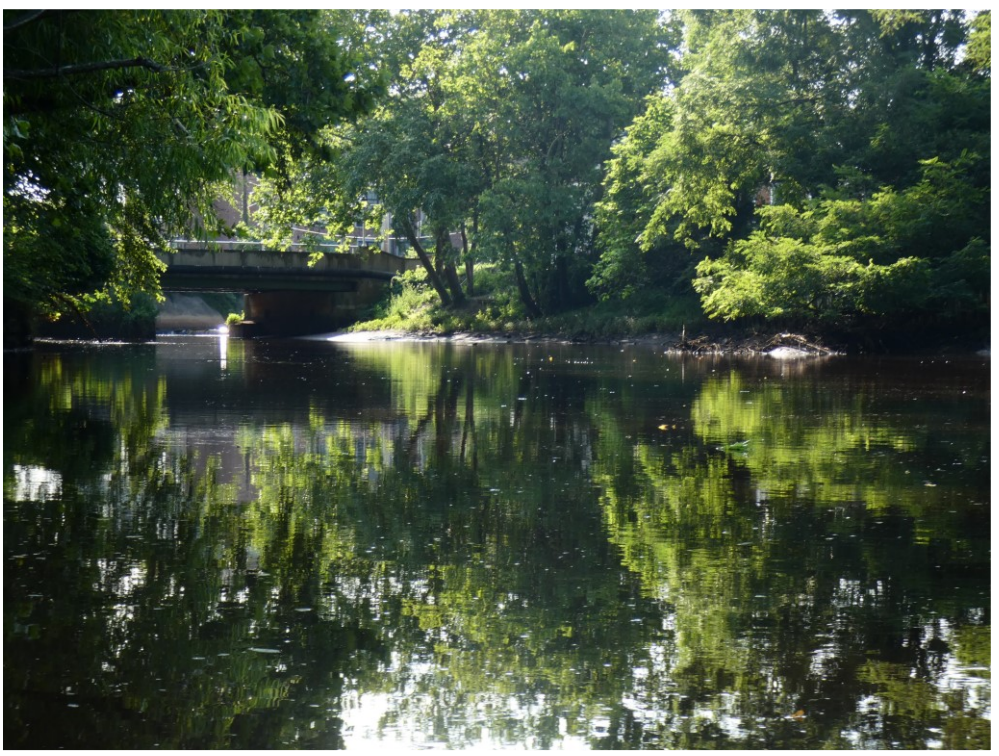
Mount Holly is on Rancocas River, affords a water route for medium draught vessels to Camden, Philadelphia and all Delaware River Ports, cities and towns.

NJ Legislative Documents 1911

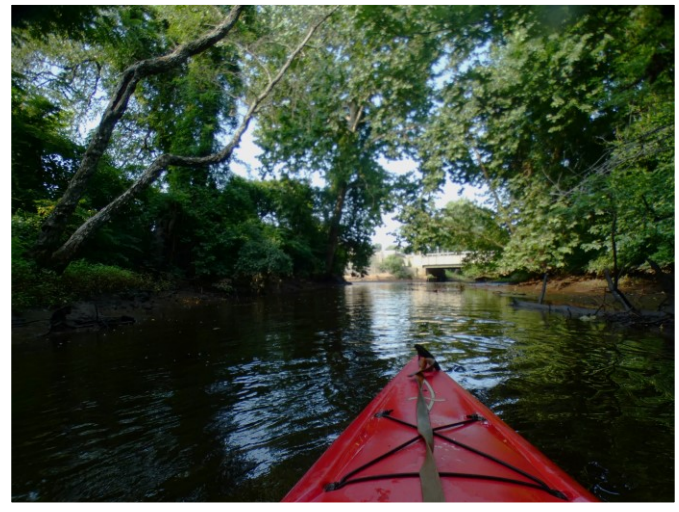


**Mount Holly
1849 - 2025**

Semple's Landing



**Risdon Alcott
Landing**



N Branch - Narrow Tidal Waterway – Vessel Precedence

Timbuctoo

Turning Basin

**“K” Turn
Reverse Direction
Rest Area**

Turning Basin

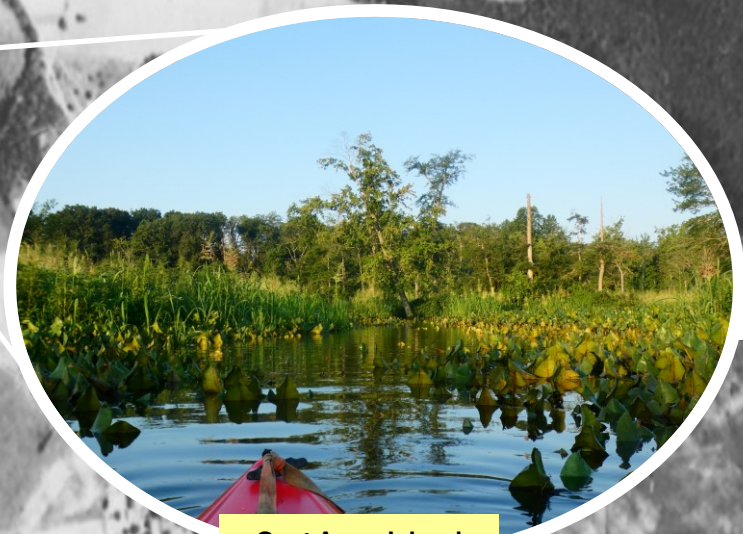
**Vessels Back into
Mt. Holly, Stern First
Port Side Too**

**Risdon
Alcott**

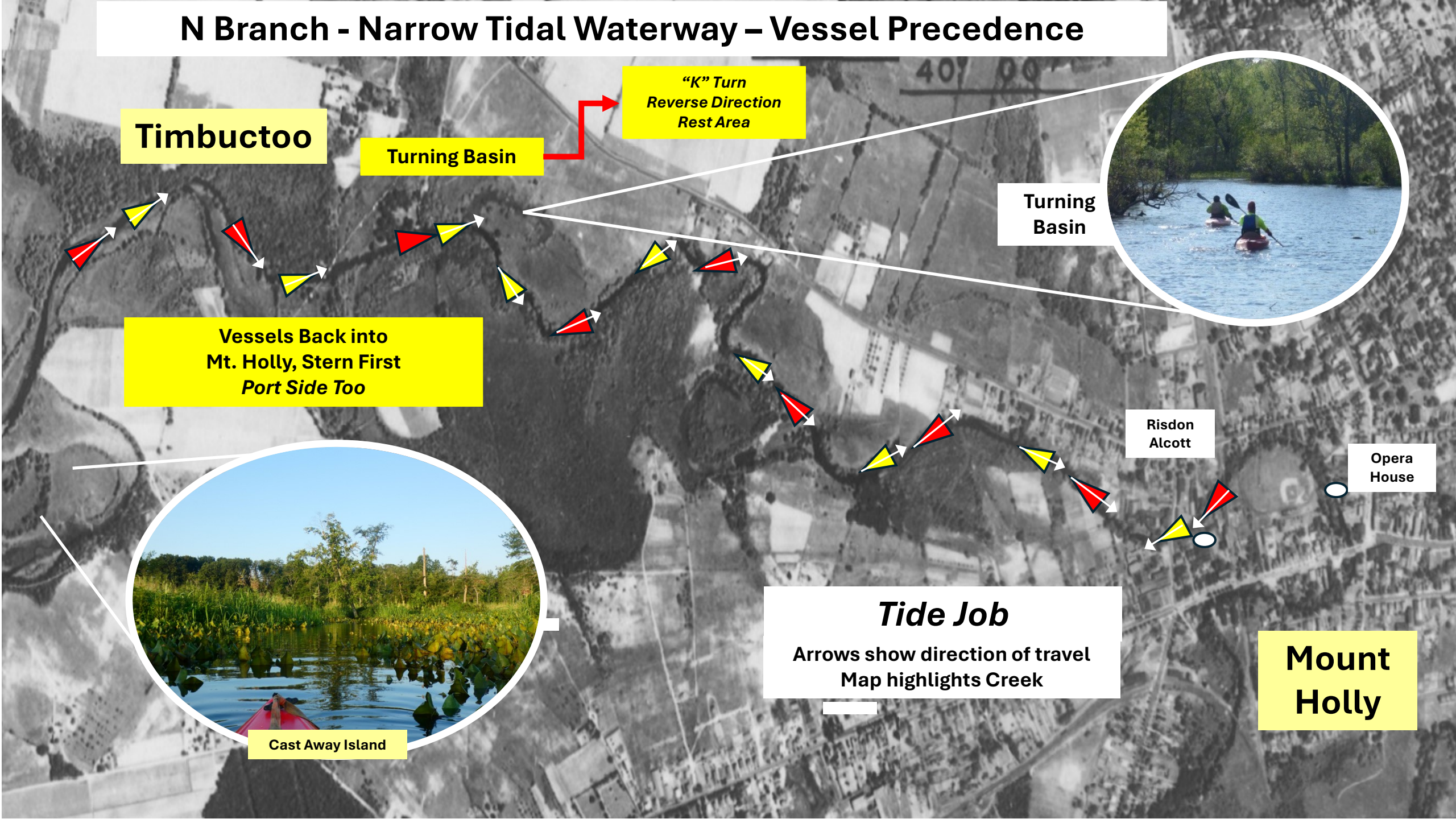
Opera House

Tide Job
Arrows show direction of travel
Map highlights Creek

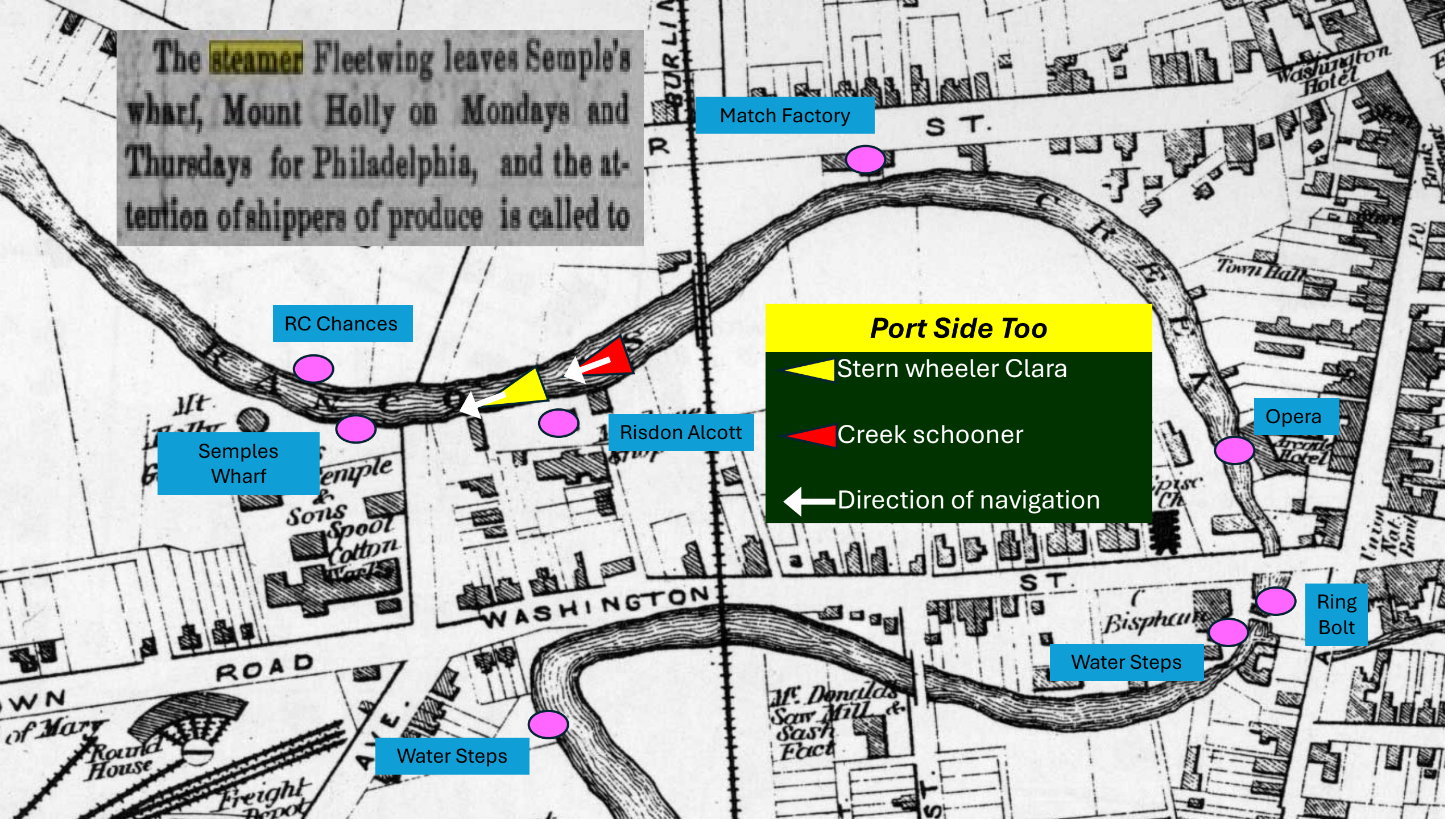
**Mount
Holly**



Cast Away Island



The **steamer** Fleetwing leaves Semple's wharf, Mount Holly on Mondays and Thuredays for Philadelphia, and the attention of shippers of produce is called to



Match Factory

RC Chances

Port Side Too

◀ Stern wheeler Clara

◀ Creek schooner

◀ Direction of navigation

Semples Wharf

Risdon Alcott

Opera

Water Steps

Water Steps

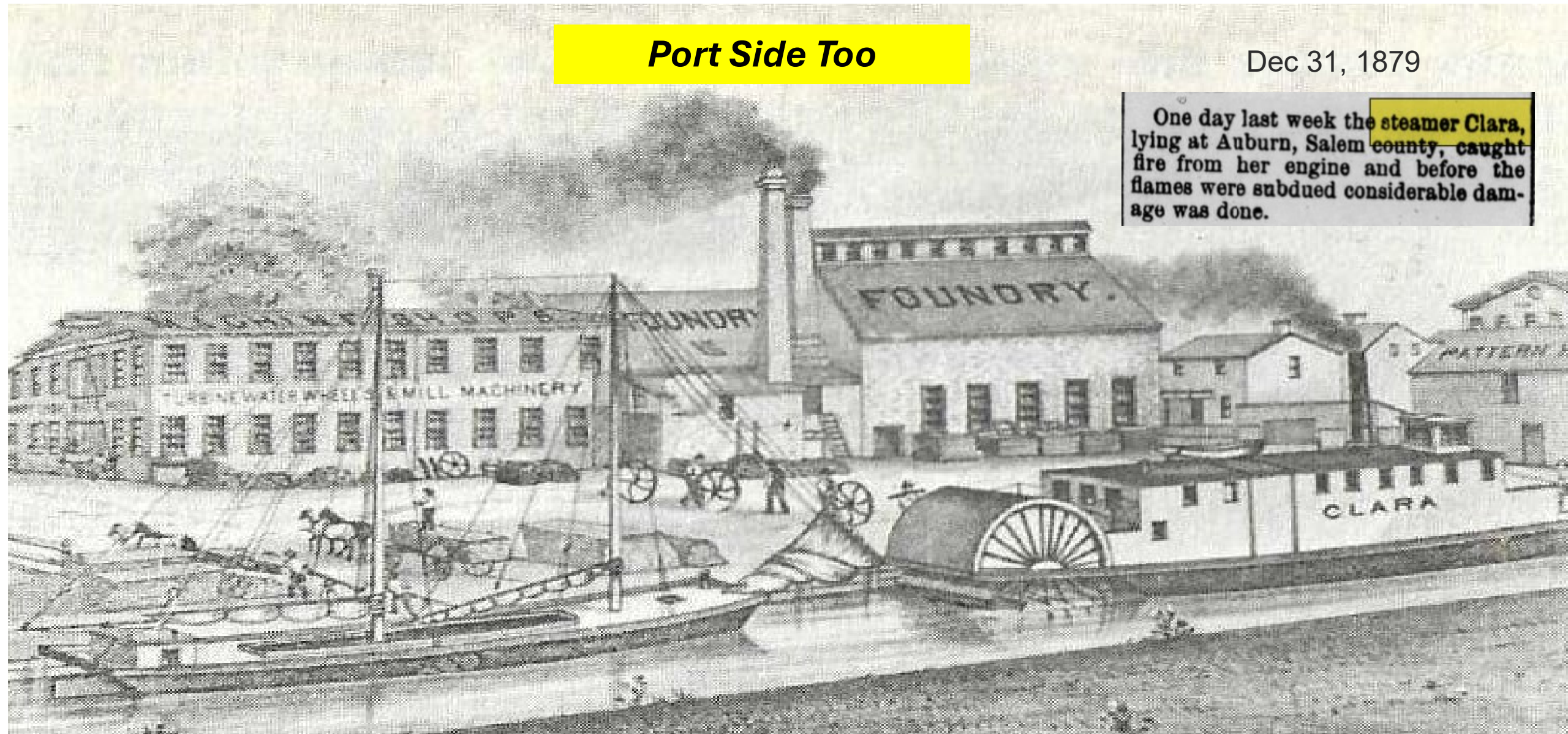
Ring Bolt

Risdon Alcott Landing - Vessel Precedence - Tide Job

Port Side Too

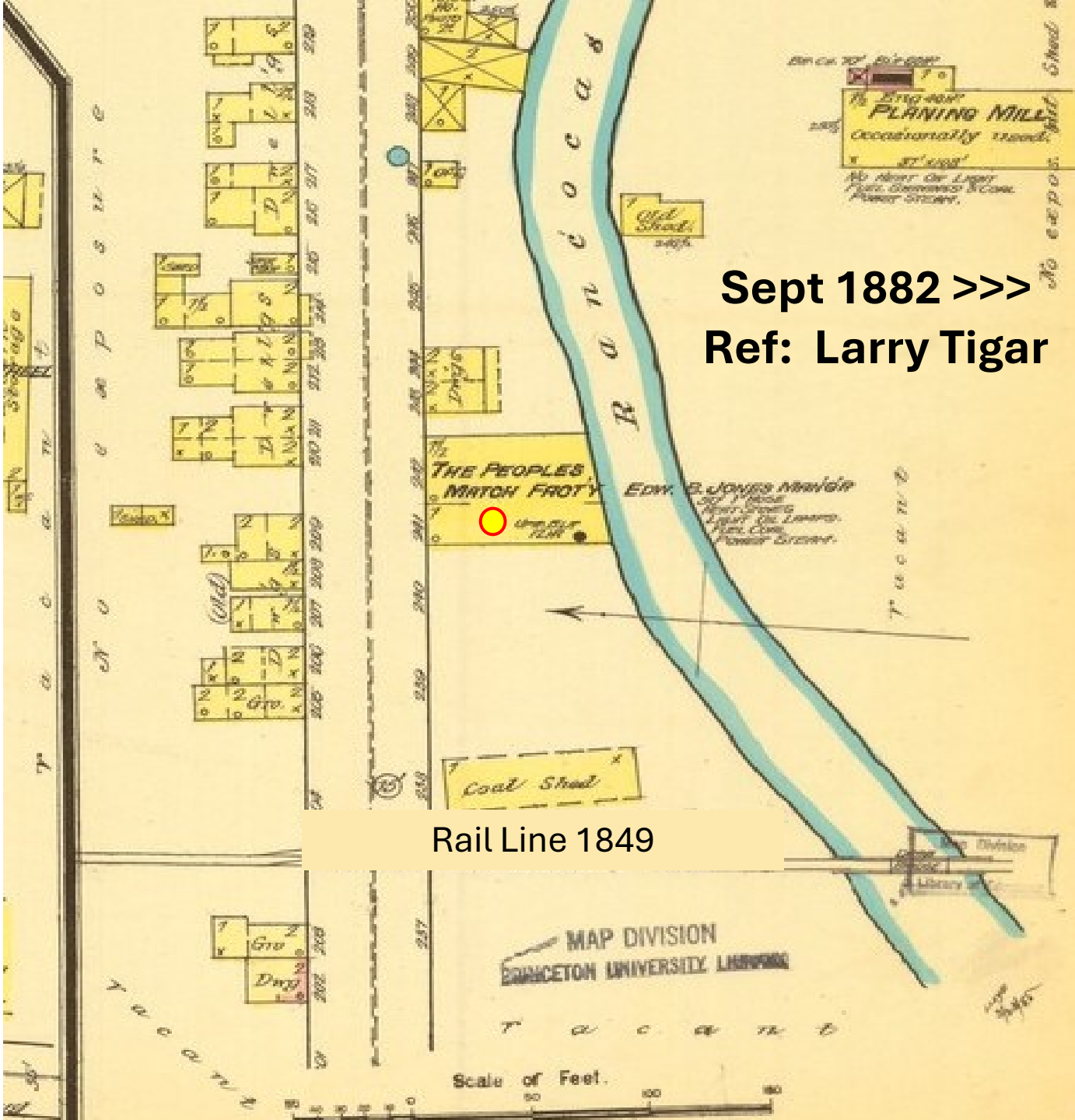
Dec 31, 1879

One day last week the steamer Clara, lying at Auburn, Salem county, caught fire from her engine and before the flames were subdued considerable damage was done.



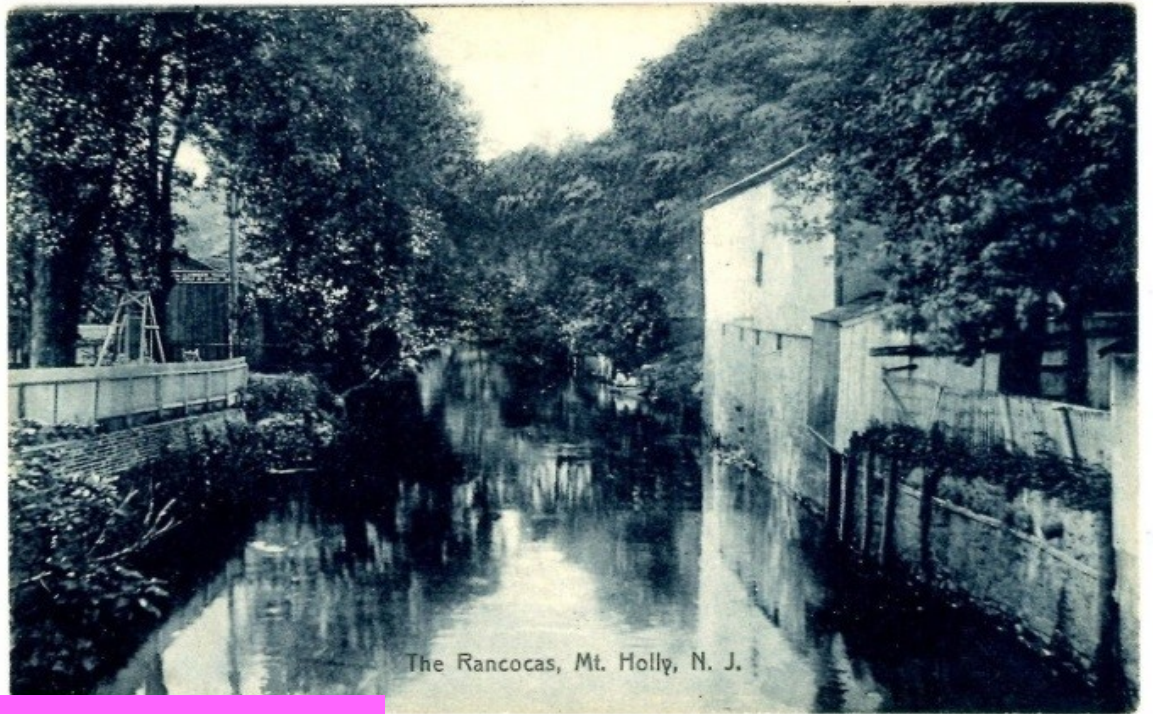
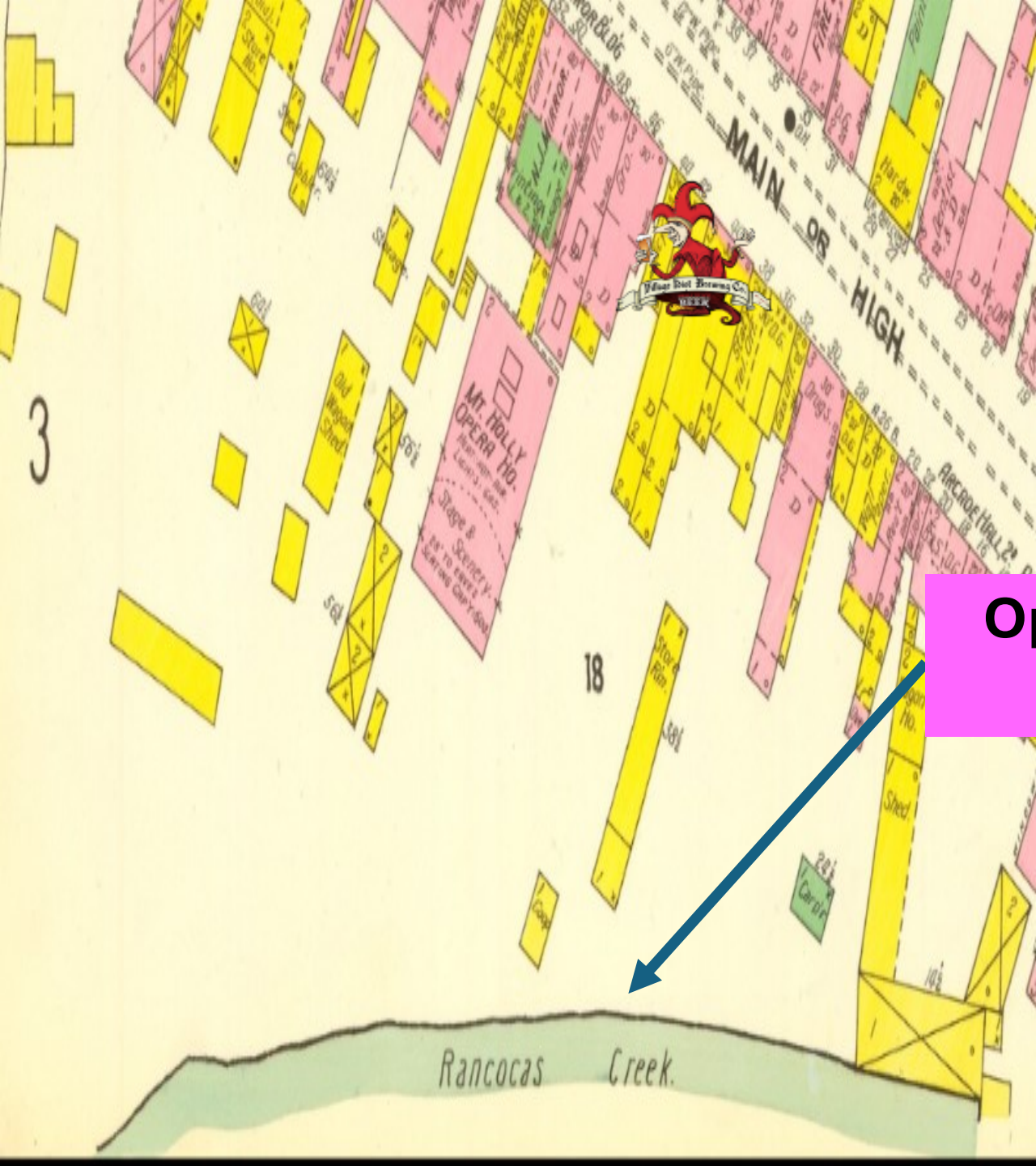
◀ Sternwheeler Clara arrives second, sails first

◀ Schooner arrives first, sails second



THE NEW INDUSTRY.—Allen's Match Factory started yesterday morning in the building on Water Street formerly used as a Creamery. The business will all be transferred from the Centreton Works, where matches have been made a month or two past. When in full operation about 50 hands will be employed, a number of women and girls being included.





The Rancocas, Mt. Holly, N. J.

**Opera House
Landing**





Art by Luke

Section Five:

NJDEP Listing Rancocas Creek

Canoe Trail

Rancocas Nature Center

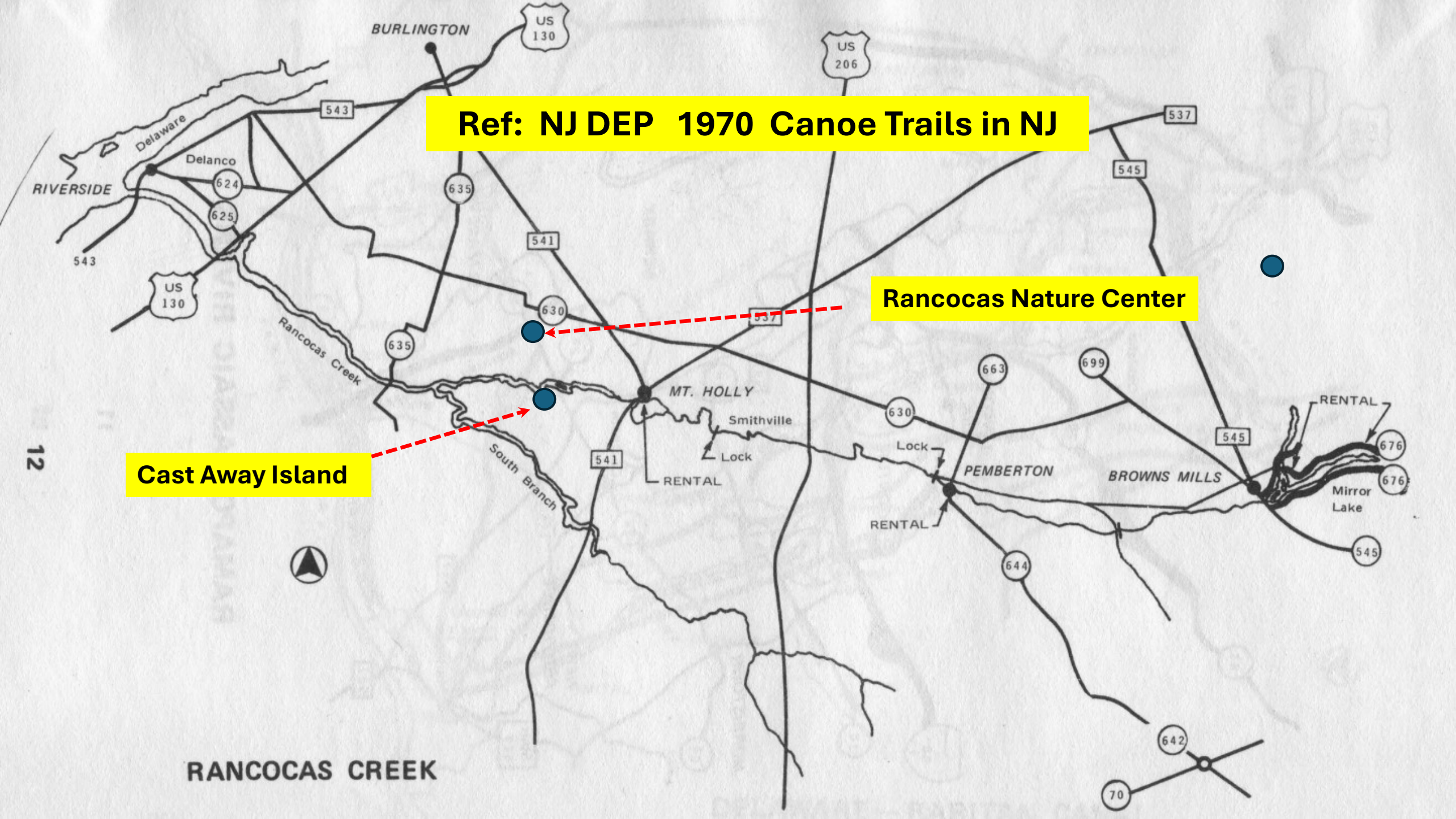
Ref: NJ DEP 1970 Canoe Trails in NJ

Rancocas Nature Center

Cast Away Island

12

RANCOCAS CREEK





**Mather Farm, Today's Rancocas Nature Center
Artist - Hugh Cambell**



Section Six:

People, Place, Community

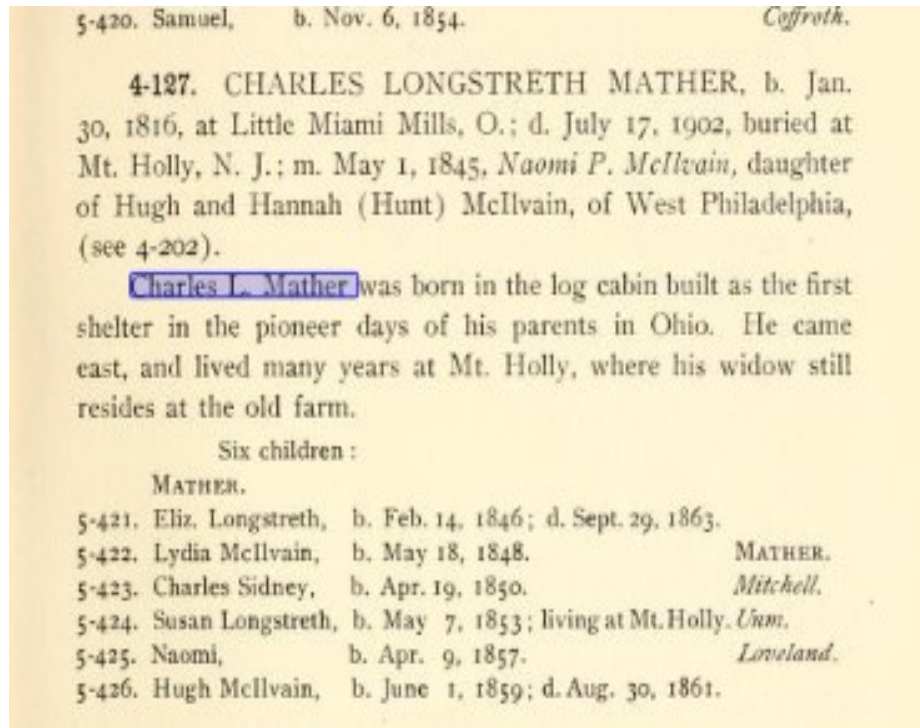


Sears 1911/1912 Moto buggy
Mount Holly

American Canoe
Association,
Wilmington Canoe
Club and other
groups paddles
passed by Cast
Away Island from
the late 1800's to
the 1970's.

Charles Longstreth Mather

1816 - 1902



Constructed and resided in what is today's Rancocas Nature Center in 1846/1856.

He farmed the tidewater meadows of Rancocas Creek.

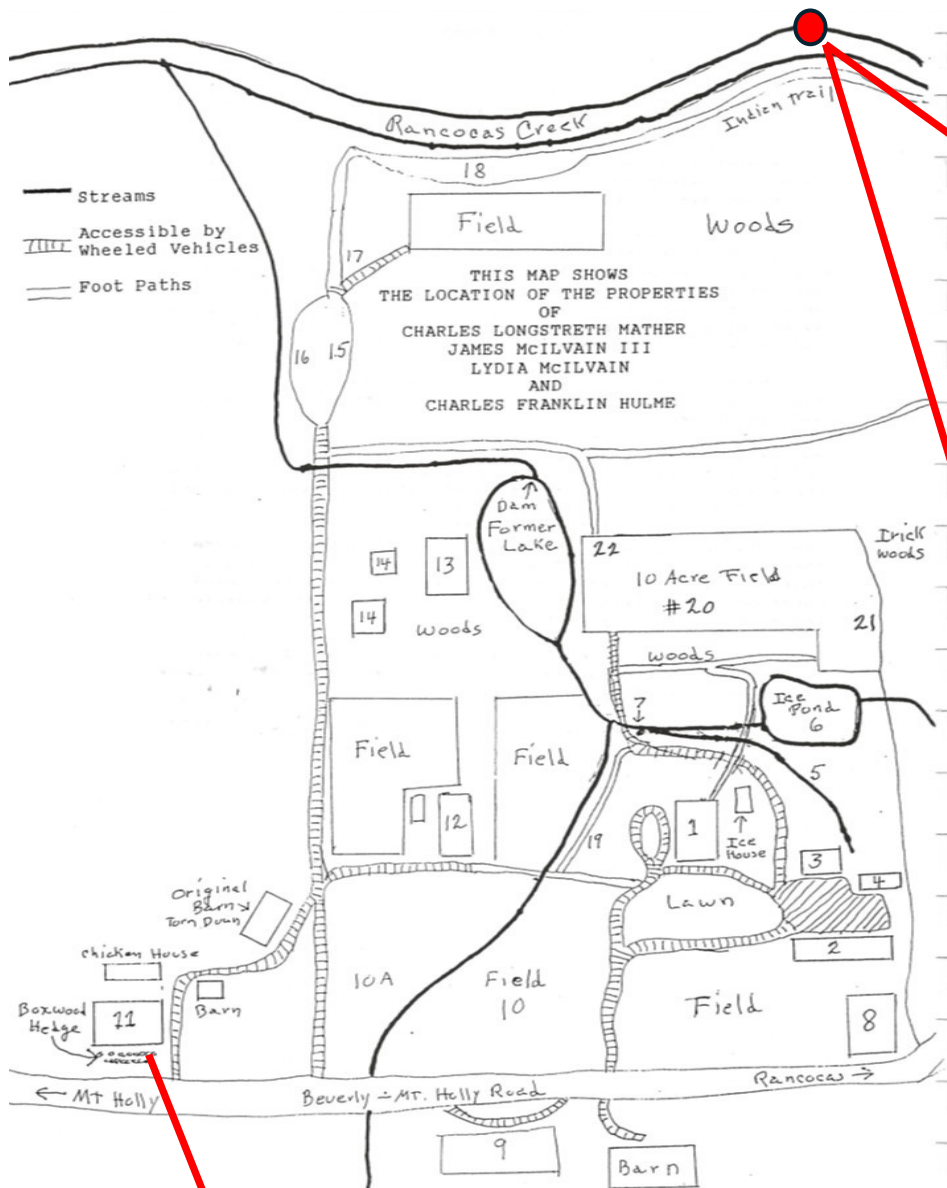
These tide gates are visible at low tide, looking North from Cast Away Island.

Athens Shipyard, Albany

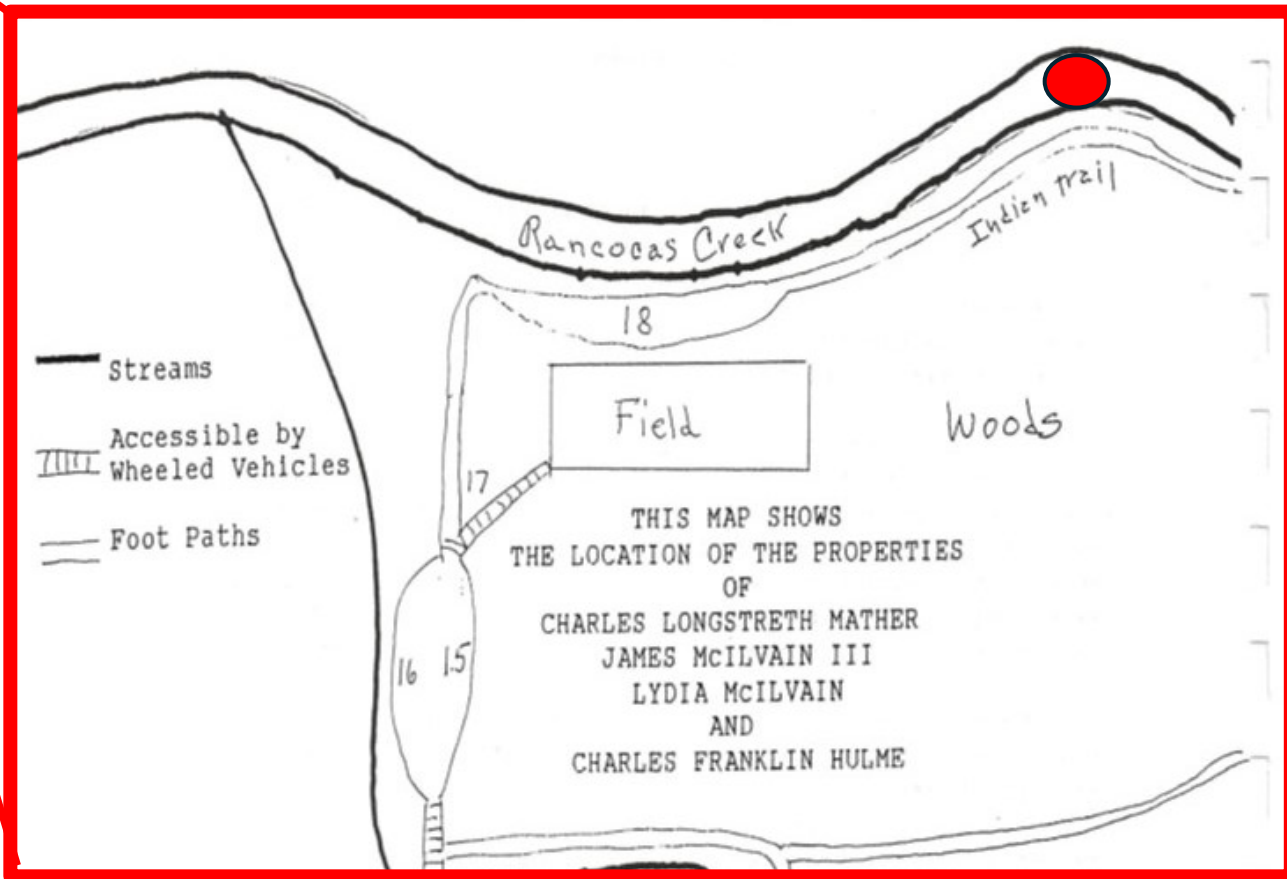


Charles Longstreth Mather Hudson River Chapter 1871

Cast Away Island



Rancocas Nature Center



Ref: McIlvaine Dairy (son-in-law Mather Farm Site) 03 Jan 1894

Leave Nothing But Still Waters Behind



Tide Gates Cast Away Island

Cast Away Island ERI

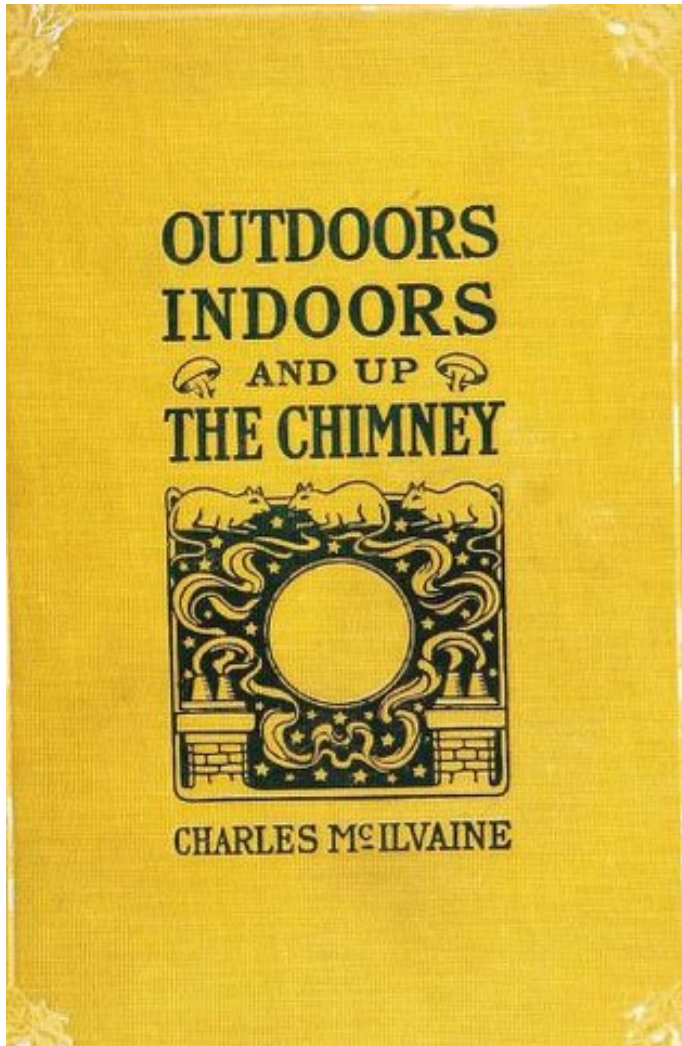


Old Pier - Timbuctoo



Vsl Remains Cast Away Island

Charles McIlvaine Author



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v

AMERICAN FUNGI

HOW TO SELECT AND COOK THE EDIBLE; HOW TO
DISTINGUISH AND AVOID THE POISONOUS

WITH FULL BOTANIC DESCRIPTIONS

By CHARLES McILVAINE

PRESIDENT PHILADELPHIA MYCOLOGICAL CENTER, HONORARY MEMBER SALEM COUNTY AND
GLOUCESTER COUNTY, N. J., MEDICAL SOCIETIES

AND

ROBERT K. MACADAM

New Edition

Revised Throughout by CHARLES FREDERIC MILLSPAUGH, Curator
of Botany, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, with
Supplementary Chapter and Many
New Illustrations

INDIANAPOLIS
THE BOBBS-MERRILL COMPANY
PUBLISHERS

Rancocas Crick

By the way, you will hear a great many persons say "crick" instead of "**creek**." But you



Water-Boatman.

will remember that **creek** should no more be called crick than Greek should be called Grick or cheek be called chick.

Crawfish can be caught with a small dip net or with the fingers. When catching them with the fingers it is best to get the first hold. They have ten legs, four small ones on each side, for walking, and two large ones forward, having immense powerful claws for holding their prey. When a crawfish catches a finger it does not let go when asked.



Tip of the Hat to Margo for photo of Rancocas Crick crawfish

Ref: McIlvaine p 89

State of New Jersey - Crayfish Species Checklist.

www.rcnwt.com

Species	
1.	<i>Cambarus bartonii bartonii</i>
2.	<i>Cambarus diogenes</i> ▣
3.	<i>Orconectes limosus</i>
4.	<i>Orconectes rusticus</i>
5.	<i>Orconectes virilis</i>
6.	<i>Procambarus acutus acutus</i> ▣



Fall - N Branch Crayfish

Ref: http://iz.carnegiemnh.org/crayfish/country_pages/state_pages/newjersey.htm

Charles Mather

Rancocas Creek Coal Wars

- 1866 - the “coal ring” at that time, was so strong in Mt. Holly and vicinity that the most extortionate prices were demanded and obtained. Mather was determined to break this.

About the year 1866, thinking there might be a profit in the coal business he entered into it quite extensively, buying in large quantities from the mines and shipping the coal in canal boats from Port Richmond, Pa. to Mt. Holly, N.J. by way of the Rancocas River. The coal ring, at that time, was so strong in Mt. Holly and vicinity that most extortionate prices were demanded and obtained. This he determined to break, if possible, and commenced work to that effect. He secured large orders for coal from the residents of the town at much reduced rates and promised to deliver at certain times. The coal ring was up in arms at once and combined in its efforts to defeat his good aims and plans. Coal at once dropped in price, the dealers even putting coal in cellars and giving long periods of credit to those, who before they would not trust. They did all in their power to shut him out. Still he steadily and boldly pushed his plans to completion, and boat load after boat load was pushed by poles up the narrow and winding Rancocas which was filled with sunken logs, sand bars, and other obstructions. Some boats got to their destination in safety and delivered cargo. Others were snagged and sunk with their cargo on board being a complete loss. Although everything seemed to conspire against him and thwart his plans, he still was not discouraged. Securing more boats and more coal he boldly started out again in his undertaking but luck seemed to be against him. More boats were sunk, more coal lost and, at last despairing of ever accomplishing his desire, he abandoned the enterprise and lent all his energies to the raising of crops and tilling the soil for many years until his health was permanently shattered. He also tried the business of shipping moulding sand from his farm to Philadelphia, but finding there was no profit in it soon discontinued it.

Ref: McIlvaine Dairy 03 Jan 1894

Corresponding Market - Pentucket Company

Ship-yard of Colby & Lunt (Newbury Port)

Side Wheel Tug “*Charles L. Mather*” built in Athens, NY. Hudson River November, 1876

Excursion parties to the seashore, Cape Cod

**98 feet long, two locomotive boilers (Baldwin?).
16 by 30 cylinder engine, 120 HP**

***Startled Fawn*, launched Philadelphia 1875
(1875 Centennial ferry)**

Ref: Progress of Navigation on the Merrimack. Lowell Mass Historical Society

Steamer *E.P Shaw* built at Petty’s Island (Black Rock’s steamer service)

***Evangeline* 42 feet by 8 feet carry 100
passengers (Vox Populi, 10/31/1877)**

**Steamer 85 feet long, 19 wide, draw 18 inches
light 3 feet with 500 passengers.**

**Water powered windless. 4 fully loaded coal
barges and other vessels and tugs against Lowell
(Hunt Falls) rapids.**

**(Boyton carry trade above the tide/Merrimac
(River Navigation Company) . Scow *Columbia*
carrying 25 tons of coal. (125 HP Twin steamer)**

**Lowell Coal From: Philadelphia Reading Coal
Company Terminals on the Delaware River,
without breaking bulk.**

Ref: Essex Deed Books /Lowell Historical Society

NO COAL CLUB IN LOWELL.

Dealers Testify They Formerly Had a Sort of a Social Organization.

Mr. Moore thought a profit of 25 per cent. should be made. Mr. Moore denied the existence of a Lowell coal club. He said that since July 9, 1902, no recommendation relative to prices had been made to the Lowell Coal company by other dealers. The company made its own prices. Mr. Moore admitted that there had been a club formed in 1897 in Lowell, but that it was more of a social organization than anything else. He did not remember the names of any of the committees of this club, nor did he remember when the club had its last meeting. The club is now disbanded, he said. He thought that there had been no meeting since July, 1902.

Other coal dealers who testified denied the existence of a coal club in Lowell.

The Anthracite Coal Trade of Pennsylvania.

Written by the Hon. CALEB CUSHING, Member of Congress from Massachusetts, for the North American Review, for January, 1836.

for his active and intelligent usefulness, it is Mr. John White, the founder and controlling spirit of the Delaware Coal Company. The consequence of all this has been the rapid growth of a flourishing population, of which Pottsville is the centre, strongly reminding the beholder of the similar results of well applied and well combined capital and industry, as exhibited in the correspondent case of Lowell in Massachusetts.

The immense business of the Schuylkill Valley, it is also interesting to observe, has been growing up simultaneously with that of Lowell, in about the

Corresponding Market - Pentucket Company
Ship-yard of Colby & Lunt (Newbury Port)

at Coal War

Pentucket Company

Ship-yard of Colby & Lunt (Newbury Port)

Merrimack River Towing Company

Luke Hoyt 1880 (Philadelphia)
Farnsworth 1877 (Bordentown)
Clara E. Uhler 1881 (Philadelphia)

THE EXACT FACTS OF THE TRIAL AS FOLLOWS.—
“Trial of speed of the Steamer “Bangor” on the Delaware, from the Navy Yard, Philadelphia, to Fort Mifflin, and back to the Navy Yard. During the trial the tide was against the boat when going from Philadelphia to the Fort and in her favor returning.

	H.	M.	Sec.	M.	Sec.
“Left Navy Yard Shears,	5	27	30		
“Arrived at Fort Mifflin,	6	22	15	54	45
“Left Fort Mifflin,	6	28	15		
“Arrived at Navy Yard,	7	2	22	34	7

“Distance run, 16 miles per government survey. Average speed per hour, 10.61 miles. The first five miles run with low steam, making 44 revolutions. Pressure of steam was under 46 pounds during the whole trip. Trip up, the speed per hour was 14.07 miles. Deduct 2 1-2

Bangor. Harlan, Wilmington 1843
231 tons burden, 120 feet long, 23 feet wide, 9 foot depth, 11

Corresponding Market - Pentucket Company
Ship-yard of Colby & Lunt (Newbury Port)

49 55 100 acres, at an average price of \$3.66 per acre. The total amount of land sold since the organization of the department was 1,082,893 36-100 acres, at an average price of \$4.47 per acre, amounting to \$5,336,044.02. The total amount of land grant bonds issued and sold by the company was \$10,400,000; amount retired and canceled to date, \$2,768,000; remaining outstanding, \$7,637,000.

Strike of Workmen.

BOSTON, March 8.—Owing to a reduction from twenty to fifteen cents per ton, the coal shovelers employed on the wharves of the Lowell Railroad Company, at Chelsea, refused to work, and their places were supplied by other men. This noon about four hundred strikers visited the wharf, and for a time a riot was imminent. The police were called and the rioters dispersed. The men at work will be protected by the police. It is claimed that the men can make at the reduced rate \$5 and \$6 per diem.

Corresponding Market - Pentucket Company
Ship-yard of Colby & Lunt (Newbury Port)

men, Caribou Bay-
362, Bass Harbor,

AT COMPETITION

the International Vehicle Society to bring a practical for its national r at Milwaukee. I greater interest in vehicles not de- sole purpose of land vehicles de- al use at the Ore- summer confirmed me while the 5 or speed indicated interest in that competition level the display and boats designed for on for recreation- tract some of the novative amateur er/builders whose ove about on the ily as possible at ntially less than

cal boat competi- strate those attri- to recreational ad carrying capa- lity, range, traf- safety, and effi- power. The rules innovation in de-

Commentary

MERRIMAC RIVER STEAM TUGS

I am writing a biography of one Eben Moody Boynton of West Newbury, Massachusetts, who, amongst other of his enterprises, lost a fortune on the Merrimac River shipping between Newburyport and Lowell. I am in need of old photos (copy photos are okay) of the 1880 vintage steam tugs "Startled Fawn", "Kitty Boynton" and "Charles L. Mather" and the coal barges "City of Lawrence", "City of Lowell", "Success", and "Defeat". Any leads to any of these would be very helpful.

Richard Albert, 554 Lafayette Ave., W. Trenton, NJ 08628.

SUMMER IDYLL

I was away for three months paddling my inflatable kayak 600 miles along the Canadian and Alaskan coasts from Port Hardy on Vancouver Island to Ketchikan and then to Dall Island. My copies of "Boats" piled up here while I was away. I always enjoy "Boats", as I learn more and experience more, I go back to old copies and find "new" items.

Audrey Sutherland, Haleiwa, HI.

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The Coal Strikes.

The coal strike is assuming more formidable dimensions daily. Yesterday an immense mass-meeting was held in Wilkesbarre with representatives from all the adjacent districts. At the conclusion of the meeting a large number of men entered their names upon the roll of the new union amid considerable excitement. A Plymouth miner presented a resolution to the effect that if the wages due the miners employed by the Wilkesbarre Coal and Iron Company for the past month's work, were not paid by Saturday, the men proceed to the company's office and make a determined request for it, which resolution was carried unanimously. It is rumored that by the end of the week there will be an uprising of 25,000 men who have been and are now employed in the collieries in the entire Wyoming and Lackawanna Valleys.

The coal companies were nearly all represented at a meeting held in New York yesterday. Among those present were the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre, the Philadelphia and Reading, the Delaware and Lackawanna, and the Delaware and Hudson. After an informal discussion it was decided to conduct the business on the same general plan as in 1873, making the average increase in price of 10 cents per ton per month. A schedule of prices substantially the same as last year's was adopted for the month of March, considered the opening month of the year in the trade. The Philadelphia Coal Company had no representative present at the meeting. According to the views of prominent dealers no immediate advance in the price of coal need be expected on account of the price, though the April price will probably be higher than last year. The dealers predict a compromise will

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bration of Washington's birthday. The general results are that eight of the most prominent leaders in the affair have been suspended and required to leave the town, and the others have absented themselves from all college exercises. The dispute will be submitted to Bishop Williams, Dean of the Faculty.

The United States steamer "Samuel Dexter," Baker, reports that schooner "John S. Detwiler," of Philadelphia, coal laden, went ashore at Robinson's Hole on the evening of February 22d, during a snow squall, having mistaken it for Tarpaulin Cove. The "Dexter" made an unsuccessful attempt to haul her off.

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add the following list:

WRECK NO. 1.

The schooner *J. B. Clement*, Captain Pearce, came ashore on Deal Beach at 1 o'clock on Friday morning. The vessel was loaded with oysters from Chesapeake Bay, bound for Fairhaven, Conn. She was driven so far on shore that the crew saved themselves by jumping overboard and wading to *terra firma*.

WRECK NO. 2.

The schooner *G. L. Bradley*, from Philadelphia, with coal for Norwich, Conn., grounded at Ocean Beach about 2 o'clock the same morning. It being high water, the vessel came so near the beach, all on board landed unaided and without getting wet. The crew was composed of Captain Chipman and four men.

WRECK NO. 3.

The three-masted schooner *Maggie McDonald*, from Virginia, with coal, powder and staves, was driven ashore at Spring Lake at half-past 1 o'clock the same morning. The sea was very rough and rolled furiously over the vessel—every wave making havoc on her deck. She soon yielded to the severe pounding and was strewn along the shore. The crew including the captain, L. S. Steelman, had to take refuge in the rigging, from which they were rescued by the crew of Station No. 9.

This makes a list of one brig and four schooners wrecked since Jan. 31st, between Deal Beach and Sea Girt, without any loss of life in either case.

Corresponding Market - Pentucket Company
Ship-yard of Colby & Lunt (Newbury Port)

MERCHANT STEAM VESSELS OF THE UNITED STATES—Continued.

Official No.	Signal letters.	Rig.	Name of vessel.	Gross tonnage.	Net tonnage.	Length.	Breadth.	Depth.	Service.	Crew.	Indicated horsepower.	When built.	Where built.	Home port (where permanent document issues).
						<i>Feet.</i>	<i>Feet.</i>	<i>Feet.</i>						
111109	St. s.	Radnor.....	122	83	80.2	22.7	10.8	I. t.	5	400	1896	South Amboy, N. J.	New York, N. Y.
111286	St. s.	Ragnhild.....	73	49	81.3	18.2	8.6	I. t.	6	.....	1900	Ballard, Wash.	Sitka, Alaska.
111064	St. s.	Rainbow.....	15	7	46.9	12.5	4.6	Fsh.	8	.....	1894	Erie, Pa.	Erie, Pa.
110748	St. s.	Rainier.....	179	109	81.4	20.9	9.7	Fsh.	7	.....	1887	Seattle, Wash.	Pt. Townsend, Wash.
111268	K. P. R. S.	St. s.	Rainier.....	800	519	204.9	38.0	13.6	O. p.	28	1,000	1900	Hoquiam, Wash.	San Francisco, Cal.
110081	St. s.	Raleigh.....	260	205	119.1	23.2	8.2	I. f.	10	335	1872	Portsmouth, Va.	New York, N. Y.
110154	St. s.	Raleigh.....	1,205	1,104	227.3	34.0	15.0	I. f.	16	750	1871	Cleveland, Ohio.	Detroit, Mich.
135075	St. s.	¹ Ralph.....	42	21	60.0	15.2	7.6	I. t.	1	.....	1874	East Saginaw, Mich.	Port Huron, Mich.
111265	*St. p.	RALPH BARKER.....	229	114	85.6	20.6	4.0	Msc.	6	.....	1900	Port Inglis, Fla.	Cedar Keys, Fla.
21971	St. s.	Ralph Ross.....	93	82	97.0	24.0	8.5	I. t.	6	.....	1870	Philadelphia, Pa.	Bangor, Me.
111085	Na. s.	Ralph W.....	9	8	36.9	8.9	3.8	I. f.	2	.....	1895	Millville, N. J.	Bridgeton, N. J.
111038	St. s.	Ralph M. Cooper.....	27	17	58.8	14.9	6.2	Fsh.	7	.....	1893	Manitowoc, Wis.	Milwaukee, Wis.
110514	St. s.	Ramapo.....	69	34	80.0	18.5	9.0	I. t.	5	.....	1882	Brooklyn, N. Y.	New York, N. Y.
111123	St. s.	RAMAPO.....	3,314	2,490	319.5	44.0	27.8	I. f.	21	1,500	1896	Buffalo, N. Y.	Buffalo, N. Y.
110508	St. s.	Rambler.....	53	26	75.3	17.7	6.4	I. t.	4	.....	1882	Tottenville, N. Y.	New Haven, Conn.
110568	St. s.	Rambler.....	15	7	40.0	12.9	5.5	I. t.	2	.....	1883	Baltimore, Md.	Philadelphia, Pa.
110946	St. s.	Rambler.....	34	17	53.0	16.0	7.5	I. t.	4	.....	1891	Tottenville, N. Y.	New York, N. Y.
110692	Ga. s.	Rambler.....	13	9	37.0	12.6	2.6	I. t.	1	.....	1886	Chinook, Wash.	Astoria, Oreg.
111324	Ga. p.	Rambler.....	10	10	52.3	10.6	2.3	I. p.	.....	.....	1900	Grayville, Ill.	Evansville, Ind.
111473	*Ga. p.	Rambler.....	10	10	35.0	10.0	3.0	.....	.....	.....	1905	Moline, Ill.	Rock Island, Ill.
157557	K. P. M. R.	St. y.	² RAMBLER.....	288	196	155.3	23.5	12.5	Yet.	25	1,100	1899	Elizabeth, N. J.	New York, N. Y.
110738	St. s.	RAMONA.....	57	28	95.0	13.5	7.4	I. p.	6	382	1886	Newburgh, N. Y.	Cape Vincent, N. Y.
111425	K. R. W. P.	St. s.	Ramona.....	1,061	671	195.0	32.0	15.7	.....	46	900	1902	Alameda, Cal.	New York, N. Y.
111427	*St. p.	Ramona.....	12	12	62.5	15.9	2.3	I. p.	.....	.....	1902	Higginsport, Ohio.	Cincinnati, Ohio.
111474	K. S. N. L.	St. p.	Ramona.....	575	362	118.0	29.0	12.2	Fer.	.....	700	1903	Alameda, Cal.	San Diego, Cal.
111461	Ga. y.	Rampant.....	38	36	65.0	13.6	6.0	Yet.	.....	.....	1903	Bridgeport, Conn.	Bridgeport, Conn.
111326	Ga. s.	Ramsden.....	13	11	39.5	14.0	4.0	Oys.	2	.....	1901	Ocean Side, N. Y.	Patchogue, N. Y.
110718	St. bge.	Rancocas.....	150	122	95.8	22.5	8.3	O. f.	5	.....	1886	Wilmington, Del.	New York, N. Y.
111369	Na. y.	<u>Rancocas</u>	151	132	116.8	17.7	4.9	Yet.	8	150	1901	Nyack, N. Y.	Philadelphia, Pa.
110693	St. s.	Rand.....	191	147	119.1	25.7	9.4	I. f.	9	460	1886	Manitowoc, Wis.	Port Huron, Mich.
111338	St. s.	RANDOLPH S. WARNER.....	3,062	2,128	332.0	42.0	22.7	I. p.	21	1,220	1901	West Superior, Wis.	Cleveland, Ohio.
77077	*St. p.	³ Ranger.....	107	107	135.0	25.0	4.5	I. t.	15	.....	1892	Pittsburg, Pa.	Pittsburg, Pa.
110534	St. s.	Ranger.....	160	88	121.0	20.2	10.2	Fsh.	26	.....	1882	Mystic, Conn.	Greenport, N. Y.
110746	St. s.	Ranger.....	144	72	106.4	22.9	11.2	I. p.	3	338	1887	North Bend, Oreg.	Eureka, Cal.

**1890's Tug Boat
Clara E. Uhler
Tied off**



files, as well as to compartment ships and railways. In 1867 he purchased the side-wheel, 120-horse power steam tug, the "Charles L. Mather," of New York, and ran it to Newburyport, and began experimenting to open the Merrimack River for navigation to Lawrence, Mass. He sent to Lowell the first scow-load of coal ever received by water at the harbor of Newburyport, from the Philadelphia & Reading coal steamers; towed it to Lawrence, and passed it through the canal, to Gen. B. F. Butler, at Lowell, Mass. Mr. Boynton has since expended over \$50,000 from the revenues of his saw business in opening up the navigation of the Merrimack, with a view to giving cheaper coal and lumber freights and water transportation to the large manufacturing cities on its banks, where about 500,000 tons of coal are used annually, and manufactures aggregating \$100,000,000 annually are produced. The improvements of the channel, and the delivery of \$80,000 worth of coal by water, caused the railways to reduce their freights in carrying coal to one-half the former charge, on the plea of competition. An opposition so formidable has thus far prevented sufficient capital being embarked to complete an enterprise fraught with so much benefit to the 300,000 people engaged in manufacturing near the summer home of Mr. Boynton; thoughtful men predict that the measure must ultimately prove a great success. The transportation of coal by steam upon the Merrimack, as far as Haverhill, Mass., was first begun by Mr. Boynton and associates in 1864, and has been a constant success ever since, all the coal to Haverhill and the lower towns being now received by water, an indication of the result which enlarged channels and facilities will give to the great manufacturing cities above Haverhill in the near future. In order to admit the deeper draft coal steamers, and open the port for foreign commerce, Mr. Boynton first pro-

observations, undaunted by the prospect that on account of these objections the work would be delayed for years, and the refusal of the War Department to accept his offer to pay for preliminary surveys, Mr. Boynton next procured copies of the surveys of the United States Navy of 1851 and of 1878, and on February 16th, 1879, he forwarded copies of the same, showing the changes of sand at the harbor bar, and giving the data necessary for appropriations. Ten days later the Secretary of War forwarded to Mr. Boynton the approval of General Thom and of the War Department, of his project for constructing jetties at Newburyport, at the mouth of the Merrimack, estimating the cost of granite work as not to exceed \$600,000, and an appropriation was secured, after one rejection, by the committee, of \$50,000 to begin the work. The adoption of Mr. Boynton's plan was complete, and over \$100,000 has since been expended, and granite jetties extend respectively five hundred feet from the southern shore and fourteen hundred feet from the northern shore, and are to be extended four thousand and twenty-five hundred feet respectively, thus compressing the immense waters of the Merrimack and tidal currents by a harbor in the ocean, with an entrance one thousand feet wide. This is the first work of the kind in the section, and its completion will be a monument of granite, as enduring as the continent, to Mr. Boynton's labors in behalf of the Merrimack valley and the ancient historic city of Newburyport.

In 1877, Mr. Boynton was selected by Messrs. George Opdyke, William Orton, Peter Cooper, Wallace P. Groom, John Williams, and other members of the Executive Committee of the New York Board of Trade, to represent the city of New York, at the meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of Great Britain, at Westminster

" OFFICE OF E. M. BOYNTON,)
NEW YORK, Nov. 18th, 1879.)

" Hon. GEORGE W. McCRARY, *Secretary of War*,
Washington, D. C.

" Dear sir:—I want a preliminary survey of the mouth of the Merrimack River, near Newburyport. It is desired to extend the narrow channel between Plum Island and Salisbury, continuing it in the same width out to twenty-five feet depth in the sea. By driving double rows of piles and forming jetties, the shifting sands that obstruct the harbor will be prevented, and the confined channel instead of spreading like a fan as it now does, and changing in every storm, will be rendered as deep as it is between Plum Island and Salisbury, where for half a mile it averages thirty-five feet in depth.

Coal steamers of one thousand tons arrive and depart twice each week at great peril, bringing about one hundred thousand tons of anthracite coal this year. About five hundred thousand tons are used in the valley, the population of which is nearly half a million people. About one hundred millions of dollars' worth of products are sent away annually, and it is desirable that the coal and lumber, corn and cotton, in which the entire country is interested, shall have free access. The government has already accomplished much in river improvements, which goes for naught unless the harbor be rendered accessible. I will furnish steamers and men, and pay all the expense, if you will request General Thom to meet me and make the preliminary survey. The coast survey furnishes the principal data needed. I have consulted General Thom, who is alive to the vast importance of the interests involved and the pressing need of immediate action. With great respect, I remain

" Yours, very truly,

(Signed)

" E. M. BOYNTON."

Although this plan was at first objected to on behalf of the government by General George Thorn, Colonel of Engineers U. S. A., on the ground of the magnitude of the cost of the necessary boring, sounding, surveys and current

**Corresponding Market - Pentucket Company
Ship-yard of Colby & Lunt (Newbury Port)**



All Art by Luke

Section Seven:

Year-Round Multi-Use Public Access

naturally on a quintessential

**New Jersey
Natural Resource**



Cast Away Island
Leave No Trace



Wood Duck get the jump, Cast Away Island

Year-Round Multi-Use Public Access

Rancocas State Park
State of NJ Rancocas Natural Area

Long Bridge BurlCo Park

Cast Away Island

Portal
Rancocas Creek Water Trail



Passing down creek

Cast Away Island Channel



Leave No Trace

Cast Away Island – High Tide



Rancocas State Park – Rancocas State Natural Area – Long Bridge Park

***Multi-Use
Each unto their own, Ride the Tide***



Leave No Trace

At the Portal



*Multi-Use at the Portal
Each unto their own, Ride the Tide*



Leave No Trace

Penultimate synopsis

Greater awareness fosters a spirit of conservation and activity, naturally. Cast Away Island ERI promotes the fragility of nature and our place in it.

Cast Away Island ERI serves many purposes that enhances multi-use public access. The ERI does not smother the reader with details. We talk about Cast Away Island, we write about Cast Away Island and the ERI shows through maps, charts and pictures: Rancocas Creek's North Branch Cast Away Island.

We encourage questions and involvement. The contents of the ERI puts a face to a unique spot here on NJ's exemplary, quintessential natural resource, the Rancocas Creek tidewaters, naturally.



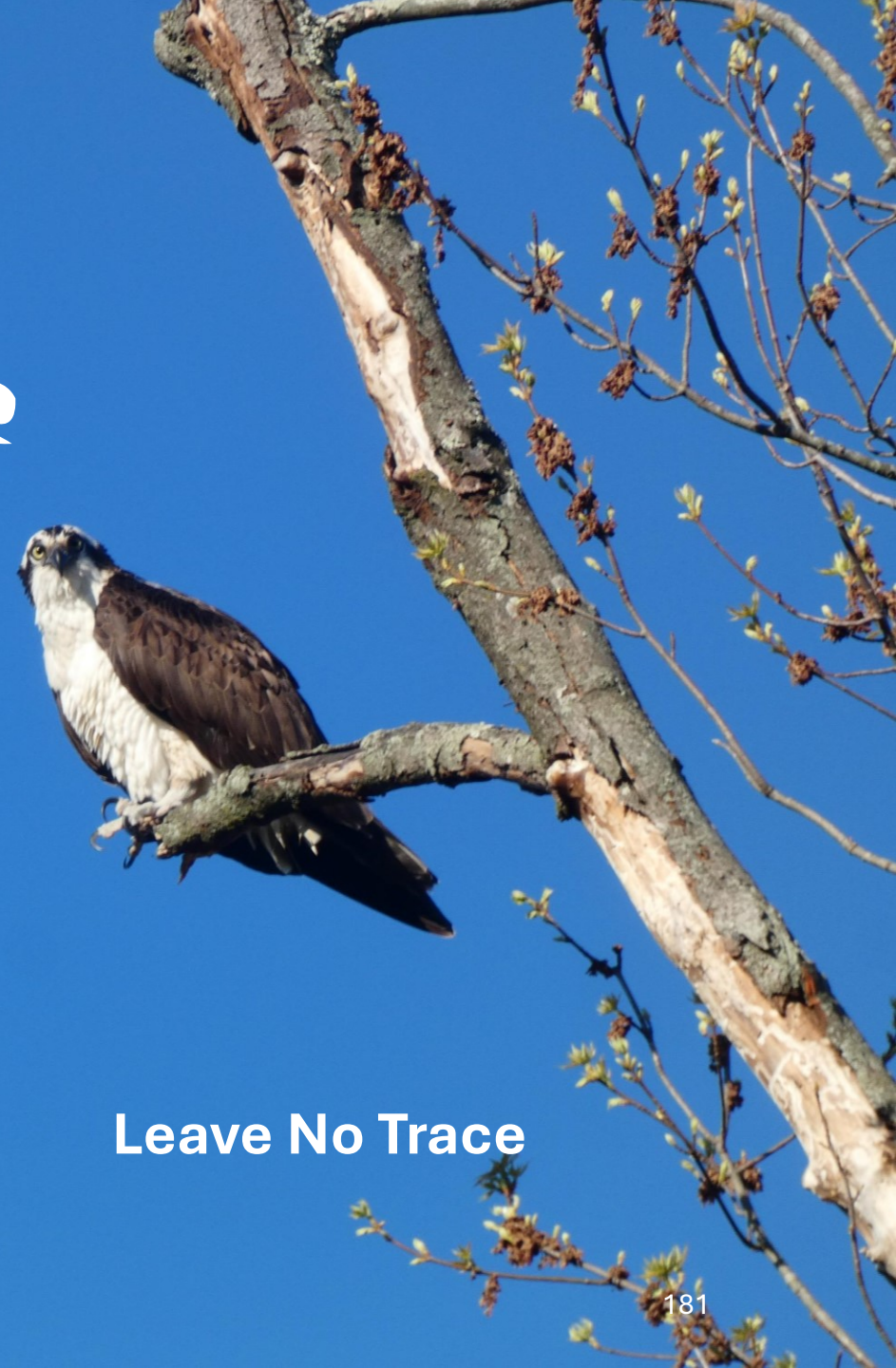
Conclusion

Thank-you. Here in New Jersey’s “open-space-race” actions speak louder than words. Cast Away Island is an outstanding New Jersey natural, scenic, and heritage natural resource.

Free-market conservation’s approach to Cast Away Island is sensitive to fiscal, environmental, bureaucratic and community interests, naturally.

Cast Away Island cultivates an ethos of year-round, multi-use access here in a quiet, tucked away corner of New Jersey’s 360 square mile Rancocas Creek Watershed.

We welcome others to explore South Jersey’s Rancocas Creek Water Trail. We invite others to visit tidewater natural areas, parks and the Rancocas Creek greenway here in Burlington County.



Leave No Trace

Appendix

Statistics on Rancocas Creek Sand Mines and Clay Pits. Hainesport, 1926

Examples of Rancocas Creek Tidewater, Hainesport, Sand Dredges and Industry

ref: NJ Geologic Survey, 1926

LIST OF ACTIVE SAND AND GRAVEL PRODUCERS

<i>Operator</i>	<i>Products reported in 1926</i>	<i>Office address</i>	<i>Location of pits</i>
Acme Silica Co.	1	Flanders	Flanders, Morris Co.
R. S. Beatty Clay and Sand Co. ^a	1, 2, 7, 9,	Toms River	Whitings, Ocean Co.
Bethlehem Mines Corporation ^b	1	Bethlehem, Pa.	Harmony and Delaware, Warren Co.
Bloomfield Clay Co.	7	Metuchen	Bonhampton, Middlesex Co.
Brennan Sand Co.	1	Tullytown, Pa.	Atlantic County; Lumberton, Burlington Co.; Muskee, Cape May County.
Bridgeton Sand Co.	1, 2, 11	Bridgeton	Williamstown Junction, Camden Co.
William Brimfield	1	Waterford Works ..	Winslow, Camden Co.
Cape May Sand Co.	1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13	Cape May	Cape May Point, Cape May Co.
Cedar Grove Sand and Gravel Co.	3, 12	Paterson	Cedar Grove, Essex Co.
Champion Sand and Gravel Co.	13, 14	Ocean City	Palermo, Cape May Co.
Conard and Buzby	3	Burlington	Burlington
Crossman Company	1, 3, 4, 7, 8 & filler	South Amboy	Sayreville, Middlesex Co.
Crystal Sand Co.	1, 2	Bridgeton	Millville, Cedarville and South Vineland, Cumberland Co.
Joe Cugliotta	1, 3	Burlington	Burlington
Henry D. Culin	1	Mount Holly	Hainesport, Burlington Co.
Dallenbach Sand Co. ^a	3, 4	Milltown	Milltown, Middlesex Co.
Delaware River Sand Dredging Co.	3	Bordentown	Bordentown, Burlington Co.
S. W. Downer	1, 3, 7	Downer	Downer, Gloucester Co.
J. B. Drinker & Co.	1, 3, 5, 7	Philadelphia, Pa.	Sea Isle Jct., Cape May Co., and South Vineland, Cumberland Co.
Robert R. Erato	1, 3, 12	Margate City	Delair, Camden Co.
Edward Galiers, Jr.	11, 12	Swedesboro	Swedesboro, Gloucester Co.
Glacial Sand and Gravel Co.	3, 12	Hackettstown	East of Hackettstown, Warren Co.
Edward Goehler ^a	3, 4	Pleasantville	Port Republic, Atlantic Co.
Daniel Goff Co.	1, 15	Philadelphia, Pa.	Mays Landing, Atlantic Co. and Millville, Cumberland Co.
Charles Hahn	3	West Easton, Pa.	Lower Harmony, Warren Co.
Hainesport Mining and Transportation Co.	3, 4, 12, 13	Philadelphia, Pa.	Bridgeboro, Burlington Co.

LIST OF ACTIVE SAND AND GRAVEL PRODUCERS—Continued

<i>Operator</i>	<i>Products reported in 1926</i>	<i>Office address</i>	<i>Location of pits</i>
F. A. Hillman	1, 7		Lumberton, Burlington Co. and South Amboy, Middlesex Co.
George F. Hillman	1, 3	Lakewood	Lakewood, Monmouth Co.
Hodgson Sand and Gravel Co.	3, 4, 8, 12, 13	Stanhope	Netcong, Morris Co.
Lakewood Sand Co.	3	Somerville	South Lakewood, Ocean Co.
Lemuel Leach	3, 4	Sussex	Sussex
Lehigh and Hudson River R'y Co.	12, 13, 14	Warwick, N. Y.	Woodruff's Gap, Sussex Co.
Little Falls Sand and Gravel Co.	3, 4, 12	Upper Montclair ...	Cedar Grove, Essex Co.
Menantico Sand and Gravel Co.	1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14	Millville	Clark's Mill, Cumberland Co.
A. C. Million ^a	3, 4, 12	Cedar Grove	Cedar Grove, Essex Co.
William G. Moore	13	Philadelphia, Pa.	Tuckahoe, Atlantic Co.
Morris County Crushed Stone Co.	4, 13	Morristown	Morristown
Mount Pleasant Silica Sand Co. ^a	1, 4, 6, 9	Cape May	Woodbine, Cape May Co.
L. H. McHose, Inc.	1 and fire brick	Perth Amboy	Perth Amboy
Natural Products Co. ^c	1	Reading, Pa.	Blenheim, Camden Co.
New Jersey Sand and Gravel Co. ^d	3, 4, 6, 12, 13	Spring Lake	Farmingdale and Wayside, Monmouth Co.
New York, Susquehanna and Western R. R., Norcross and Edmunds	10	New York City	Sussex County
Ostrander Fire Brick Co.	3, 4, 8, 11	Philadelphia, Pa.	Birmingham & S. Pemberton, Burlington Co.
Paxson-Taggart, Inc.	7	Keasbey	Fords, Middlesex Co.
	1, 4, 15	Philadelphia, Pa.	Hayville, Camden Co.; Cedar Lake, Atlantic Co.; Masonville and Lumberton, Burling- ton Co.; Millville, Cumberland Co.
Charles E. Pettinos	1, 4	New York City ...	Folsom, Atlantic Co.; Ewansville, Burlington Co.; Dorchester, Cumberland Co.
George F. Pettinos	1, 4	Philadelphia, Pa.	Mt. Holly and Hainesport, Burlington Co.; Albion, Camden Co.; Cedarville, Millville and Manumuskin, Cumberland Co.
Pinehurst Development Co.	3, 4, 12, 13	Williamstown, Jct. Williamstown Jct., Camden Co.	
Pompton Sand and Gravel Co.	3, 4, 13	Passaic	Pompton Plains, Morris Co.
Progressive Sand and Gravel Co. ^a	3, 12	Woodbridge	Fairtown, Bergen Co.
Raritan River Sand Co.	3, 6, 7, 12	New Brunswick ...	Nixon, Middlesex Co.

Reading Sand Co.	2	Bridgeton	Penbryn, Camden Co.
Ridner Bros.	3	Succasunna	Kenvil, Morris Co.
Sayre & Fisher Co.	1, 3, 7	Sayreville	Sayreville, Middlesex Co.
Seguine-Bogert Co.	3, 4, 13	Kenvil	Kenvil and Succasunna, Morris Co.
Harold R. Sherman	3	Burlington	Burlington
South Jersey Sand Co.	2, 3, 4	Newport Sta.	Dividing Creek, Cumberland Co.
South River Sand Co.	Asphalt sand	South River	Old Bridge, Middlesex Co.
South Seaville Sand and Gravel Co.	3 and golf	Bridgeton	South Seaville, Cape May Co.
Staffordville Gravel Co.	13	West Creek	Staffordville, Ocean Co.
Steckel Sand Co.	3, 5, 12	Easton, Pa.	Phillipsburg and Harmony, Warren Co.; Holland, Hunterdon Co.
J. M. Stokes	4 and asphalt	Rancocas	Rancocas, Burlington Co.
Such Clay Co.	7	Perth Amboy	South Amboy, Middlesex Co.
Tavern Rock Sand Co.	1, 2	St. Louis, Mo.	Millville, Cumberland Co.
Charles Trench	4, 13	North Hackensack	North Hackensack, Bergen Co.
Trimmer Sand and Gravel Co.	3, 12	Middle Valley	Springtown, Warren Co.
M. D. Valentine & Bro. Co.	1, 3, 12	Woodbridge	Woodbridge and Perth Amboy, Middlesex Co.
The Van Brunt Co.	3	Philadelphia, Pa.	Beverly, Burlington Co.
William Van Kruiningen	3	Wallington	Hackensack, Bergen Co.
Wall Road Gravel Co.	3, 4, 12, 13	Avon-by-the-Sea	Belmar, Monmouth Co.
Warren Sand and Gravel Co., Inc.	4, 13	Easton, Pa.	Carpenterville, Warren Co.
Whitall-Tatum Company	2	Millville	South Vineland, Cumberland Co.
Whitehead Bros. Co.	1	New York City	Mount Holly, Masonville and Smithville, Burlington Co.; Clayville, Cumberland Co.; South River and Old Bridge, Middle- sex, Co.
Samuel Wortheim ^a	3	South River	Hackettstown, Warren Co.
Marcus S. Wright	1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 12	Ocean City	Tuckahoe, Cape May Co.
Young Sand and Gravel Corp.	3, 4, 8, 12, 13		

1—Molding sand
2—Glass sand
3—Building sand
4—Paving sand

5—Cutting and grinding sand
6—Blast sand
7—Fire or furance sand
8—Engine sand

9—Filter sand
10—Railroad ballast sand
11—Unspecified sand
12—Building gravel

13—Paving gravel
14—Railroad ballast gravel
15—Unspecified gravel

^a No production reported prior to 1927.
^b Successor to Delaware Sand Co.
^c Successor to Cumming Bros.

^d Consolidation of Bennett Sand and Gravel Co. and
Hausse Washed Sand and Gravel Corporation.
^e Successor to James Mount.

LIST OF OPERATORS REPORTING SALES OF RAW CLAY IN 1926, OR LATER, BY COUNTIES

<i>Operator</i>	<i>Kind of clay</i>	<i>Office address</i>	<i>Location of pits</i>
Julius Einseidel & Son ^a	4	Egg Harbor City.....Atlantic County.	
William G. Moore	4	Philadelphia, Pa..... " "	
Charles H. Bliss	1	Chatsworth .....Burlington Co., southeast of Chatsworth.	
Enterprise White Clay Co.	4	Philadelphia, Pa..... " " near Woodmansie.	
Hampshire Clays, Inc.	1, 4	Bridgeboro " " Bridgeboro.	
J. M. Stokes	4	Rancocas " " Rancocas.	
Robert E. Erato	1	Margate City .....Camden Co., near Delair.	
Hatch Land Improvement Co.	4	Camden " " near Delair.	
Hydraulic-Press Brick Co.	1	Philadelphia, Pa..... " " near Winslow Jct..	
Daniel Goff Co.	1	Philadelphia, Pa.....Cumberland, near Millville & Clayville.	
Moon Clay and Kaolin Co.	1	Trenton .....Mercer Co., near Trenton.	
Anness Hollow Tile Corp	1	Woodbridge .....Middlesex Co., near Woodbridge.	
Atlantic Terra Cotta Co.	4	New York City " " " Woodbridge.	
Bloomfield Clay Co.	1	Woodbridge " " " Metuchen.	
S. G. Brinkman	1, 2, 3, 4	Fords " " " Fords.	
The Crossman Co.	1, 4	South Amboy " " " Sayreville.	
Hampton Cutter	1, 3	Woodbridge " " " Woodbridge.	
W. G. Demarest	1	New York City " " " Keasbey.	
William Dinwiddie	4	Metuchen " " " Metuchen.	
Edgar Bros. Co.	1, 2	Metuchen " " " Milltown.	
F. A. Hillman .....	.....	South Amboy " " " South Amboy.	
Henry Maurer & Son	1	New York City " " " Maurer.	
Mutton Hollow Fire Brick Co.	1	Woodbridge " " " Woodbridge.	
L. H. McHose, Inc.,	1, 3	Perth Amboy " " " Perth Amboy.	
National Fire Proofing Co.	1	Pittsburgh, Pa. " " " Keasbey.	
New Jersey Ceramic Products Corp.	1	Old Bridge " " " Old Bridge.	
Ostrander Fire Brick Co.	1	Woodbridge " " " Fords.	
H. C. Perrine & Son	3	South Amboy " " " Old Bridge.	
Raritan River Sand Co.	1	New Brunswick " " " Nixon.	
R. U. Rue Co.,	1	South Amboy " " " Sayreville.	
P. L. Ryan, Estate of	1, 2, 3, 4	Woodbridge " " " Woodbridge.	
Sayre and Fisher Co.	1, 4	Sayreville " " "	

Ref: NJ Geological Survey , 1926



Sand pit near Manumuskin, Cumberland County. Well-bonded molding sand is dug from above the steep bank and carried in the cars shown to a railroad loading station. "Sharp" sand for foundry use is dug from the lower bank by a dredge operating in the pond shown.

James Stokes, Centeron Sand Mine



Reference: P. Uhland Collection...Thanks and Obliged

Lumberton and Albany Sand and Millville Core Gravel.

Now is the time to write us.

© ATLANTIC CITY



MOLDING SANDS

LUMBERTON SAND
CENTRETON SAND
ALBANY SAND
OO CRESCENT SAND
BURLINGTON ISLAND SAND
TULLYTOWN SAND
NO. 1-STOVE PLATE SAND
DANVILLE SAND
PHILADELPHIA FINE SAND
FRENCH SAND (FONENAY)
WINDSOR LOCKS SAND
SILICA MOLD WASH

MILLVILLE CORE SAND
BLUE ANCHOR GRAVEL
JERSEY GRAVEL
WHITE SILICA CORE SAND
FIRE SAND FOR CORES
WASHED BAR SAND
CHICOPPE CORE SAND
YELLOW SILICA SAND
STRONG YELLOW SILICA SAND
WELSH MOUNTAIN SILICA ROCK
WELSH MOUNTAIN SILICA CLAY
FIRE BRICK MOLDING SAND, Etc



PENNA.

PHILADELPHIA

J.W. Paxson Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.



STONE AND SAND DREDGE "NEPTUNE" OF THE HAINESPORT MINING & TRANSPORTATION CO., RECENTLY DESTROYED BY FIRE.

GEO. F. PETTINOS
FOUNDRY SUPPLIES
PHILADELPHIA

MICA SCHIST FIRE STONE

for lining Bessemer Converters and Cupolas.

Also
Mica Schist Sand and Grits
Furnace Bottom Sand and Steel Molding Sand.
Albany — North River — Jersey — Lumberton — Millville
Molding Sands

Our facilities for making prompt delivery on any of the above material are unexcelled.

Foundry Facings, Blackings and Foundry Supplies in stock.

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WALNUT 390.
BOSTON OFFICE
236 Old South Building

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CLEVELAND OFFICE
563 American Trust Building

**ALBANY SAND
NORTH RIVER SAND
FIRE SAND
JERSEY MOLDING SAND**

**LUMBERTON SAND
MILLVILLE SILICA SAND
MILLVILLE GRAVEL
SAND BLAST SAND**



Loading Pettino's Sand Barge
Down Creek Hainesport Cast Away Island
Ref: 1926

J. B. Van Sciver, Sr. born in Hainesport, May 14, 1861, with his brother George, developed the Hainesport Mining & Transportation Company, and the De Frain Sand Company.

These companies eventually consolidated into the Van Sciver Corporation. Mr. Van Sciver was also director of the Knickerbocker Lime Company.

By the 1920's these businesses were the premier manufacturers and distributors of building materials in the southern New Jersey/eastern Pennsylvania area.

During World War I, Van Sciver Corporation supplied sand, gravel and concrete to build the Emergency Fleet Corporation's shipyard on Hog Island in the Delaware River. The Van Sciver Corporation was sold to the Warner Company in 1929.



VanSciver Sand Mine and Barge Ops

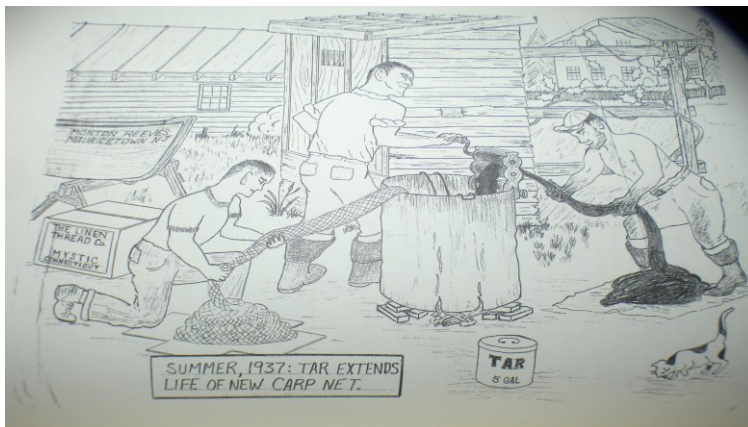
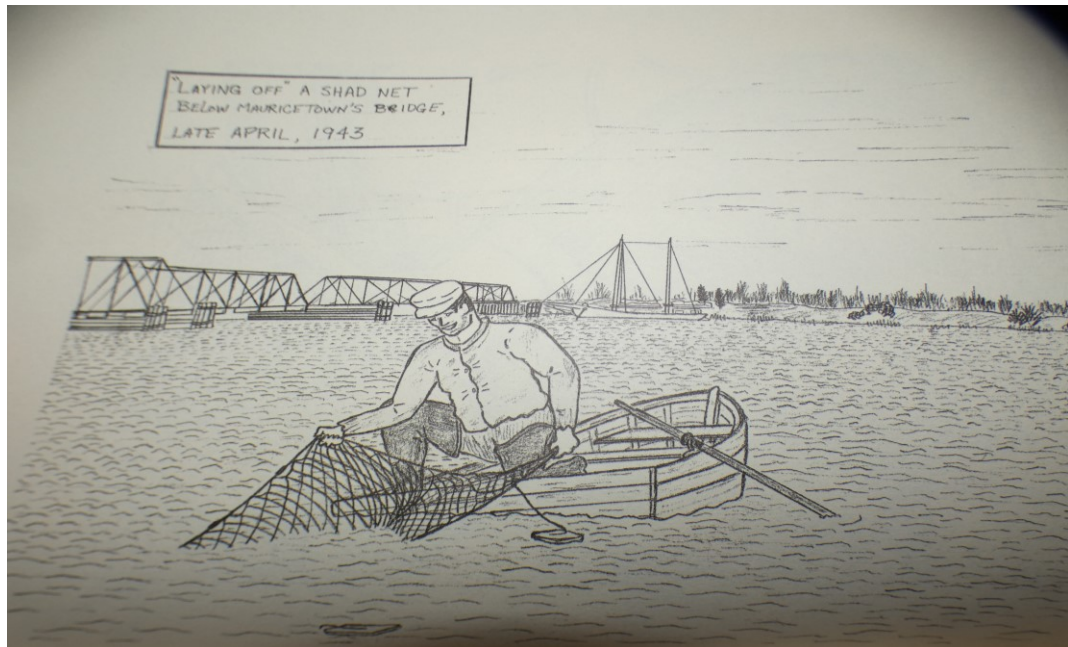
Philadelphia - Pier 67

Reference: Hagley Library



supplies. Unquestionably the factor of greatest importance in boosting production was the operation of the large river dredge, Independence No. 2, by the Warner Company of Philadelphia, at a point on the east bank of Delaware River about a mile and a quarter south of the mouth of Rancocas Creek. By means of a long boom and an endless chain of steel buckets this dredge can dig material from a depth of 40 feet below the surface of the river. As the bank of the river is 5 to 10 feet above water level, that means that for every square yard of property the company has bought, the dredge can dig 45 to 50 cubic yards of sand and gravel—unquestionably an important consideration in the economical operation of the dredge. Moreover, operating on the edge of the river, it has an inexhaustible supply of clean water with which to wash the dredged material—another tremendous asset. A third advantage enjoyed by this operation is that the washed material can be loaded directly into barges and transported to unloading terminals in Philadelphia at very low cost. In view of these advantages and the fact that the material produced is of excellent quality, the continued operation of the dredge seems assured.

(b) River dredge operated by the Warner Company in Delaware River below Riverside, Burlington County.



As example of South Jersey
tidewaters resource.

Carp and Shad Fishing

Delaware Bay & River

Tidewater

River/Creek Fishery

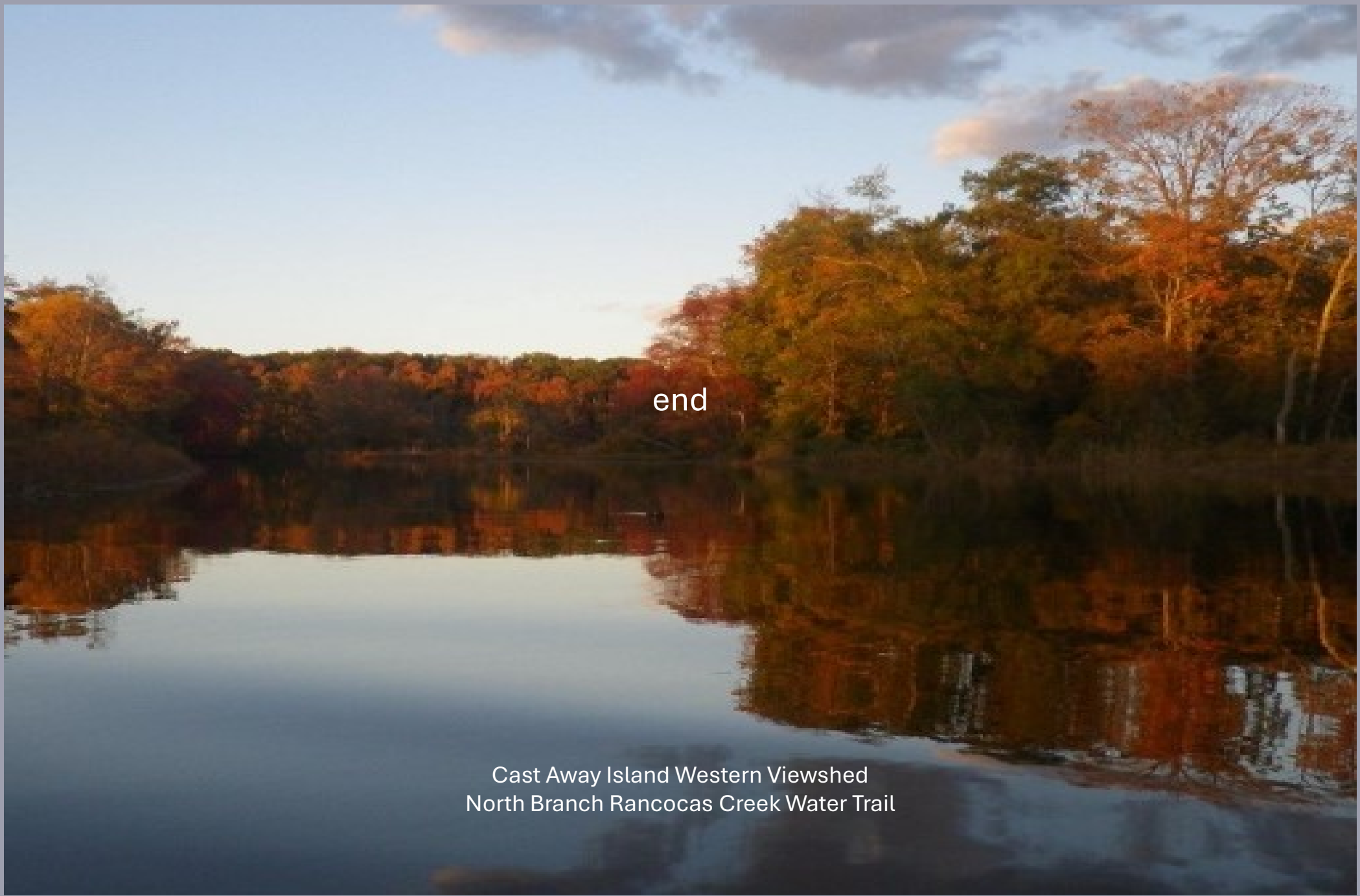
Artwork Courtesy

Bivalve Center

Maurice River Memories

1937-1945

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end

Cast Away Island Western Viewshed
North Branch Rancocas Creek Water Trail