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Upper Delaware

Past and present
in the river valley

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From the editor: Past and present in the river valley

We were drawn here, by the river and the land surrounding it.

Are your roots deep? Our ancestors came because of the mighty Delaware and the land. They came to farm, to fish or dig up stone or harvest trees. To make a small living on their own terms.

Are you new, still feeling your way? Perhaps you came here because it's beautiful and it's not the city. Perhaps something called you here. Don't feel badly

because your roots are only surface-deep; that will change. Give it time.

This issue of Upper Delaware Magazine looks at the river and the land around it. What will happen when the Delaware Aqueduct closes, as it must, when repairs are made? Liam Mayo explains what's going on, and why it matters.

Summer heat might be enervating, but there's a way around that: take a walk through our beautiful forests. Jane Anderson will show you how and where to explore.

For many, life was and is the job, the work. Work meant connection as well as money. It was definition and purpose. What happens when that work goes away?

Thanks to the Boy Scouts, the land in the Ten Mile River region has lain undisturbed for nearly a century. There, somewhere, are the remains of Tusten Village and of the people who lived here. A small archaeological dig found traces of their presence. Perhaps more could be learned.

Enjoy this chance to learn a little more about the river valley.

Annemarie Schuetz
Section editor



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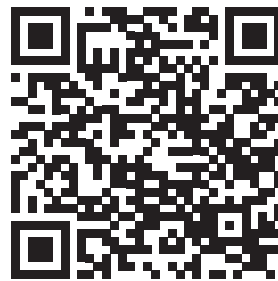
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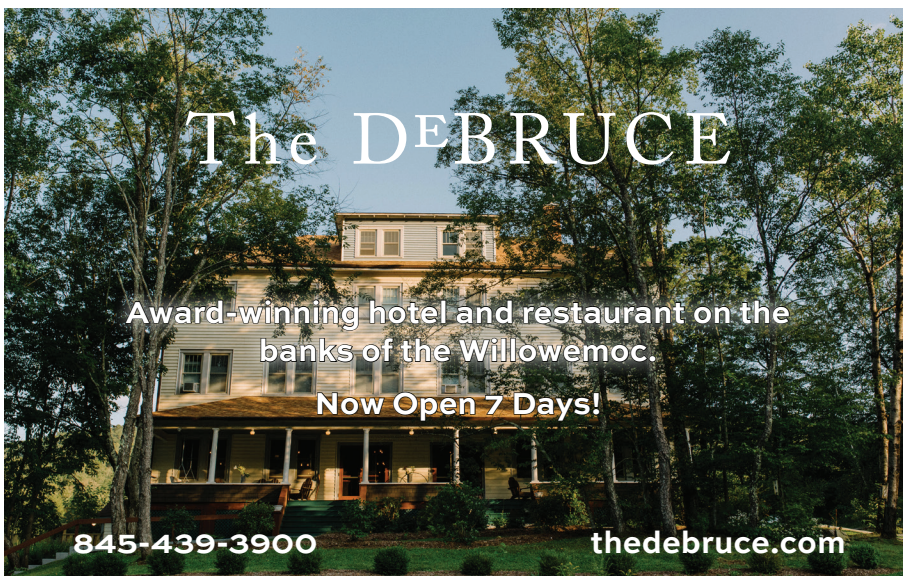
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RR photo by Amanda Reed

The Upper Delaware

By LIAM MAYO

UPPER DELAWARE REGION—The Delaware River has a broad reach.

It's the largest undammed river east of the Mississippi, and over 13 million people rely on its water for drinking. Tourists and fishers flock to it when the weather is good, injecting life into the region's economy and culture. Those who live along its banks face flooding that damages homes and infrastructure when storms visit the region.

The regional ecosystem attached to the river was bracing for a major impact in the fall, preparing itself in anticipation of a major repair project on the Delaware Aqueduct. That ecosystem is now breathing a sigh of relief, since the project has been pushed back to October 2023.

The Delaware Aqueduct runs underground from the upper Delaware to the Hillview Reservoir on the outskirts of the Bronx. It's the longest continuous tunnel in the world, measuring 87 miles in length.

The water that goes through it impacts communities at its destination and at its source. New York City and its environs consume around a billion gallons of water daily, and water from the aqueduct makes up about half that total.

It serves a different purpose for the communities along the Upper Delaware River. The 600 million gallons a day that the aqueduct takes to New York City come from four reservoirs at the head of the Delaware River: the Cannonsville, the Pepacton, the Neversink and the Rondout. By drawing water from those reservoirs, the Delaware Aqueduct

helps keep them from overflowing and causing flooding further downriver.

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) needs to shut down the aqueduct for five to eight months to repair a set of leaks near Newburgh and Wawarsing. This shutdown was originally planned to start in October of this year.

But closing the aqueduct has the potential to make flooding more likely along the Delaware River.

There's always a management challenge with the reservoirs on the Upper Delaware River, said Jeff Skelding, executive director of the Friends of the Upper Delaware River (FUDR). Keeping the reservoirs fuller lets the DEP keep more water in reserve for the city. Keeping them emptier gives them more capacity to absorb stormwater before they start flooding.

To safely close the aqueduct, the DEP will need to draw down the reservoirs by enough that five to eight months' worth of rainwater won't cause them to overflow.

The DEP planned to draw down the Pepacton Reservoir to around 1255 feet, the Cannonsville Reservoir to around 1125 feet and the Neversink Reservoir to around 1415 feet prior to the shutdown. Water starts to spill over at each of the reservoirs at around 1280 feet, 1150 feet and 1440 feet respectively.

The plan didn't fully assuage the fears of groups like FUDR, Trout Unlimited and the Upper Delaware Council (UDC).

Trout Unlimited and FUDR did their own independent analysis regarding the past 10 years of inflows. That analysis indicated that the DEP's planned drawdown still ran the risk of flooding further along the river.

"Our analysis [showed] that even a 30 percent void might not inhibit the threat of problematic flooding in the communities below the dams," said Skelding.

Answering this analysis wouldn't be simple for the DEP. The Delaware River is a broad ecosystem, and a complex set of treaties and rules governs its management.

The Supreme Court issued a decree in 1954 allowing New York City to withdraw up to 800 million gallons a day from the Delaware River, on the condition that it release enough water from its Delaware River services to maintain 1750 cubic feet per second of river flow at Montague, NJ.

The 1954 decree still holds today, and is administered through a set of rules called the Flexible Flow Management Plan [FFMP].

The releases the DEP would have to make to address the risk of flooding would break the rules of the FFMP. Trout Unlimited and FUDR have called upon the DEP to request an exemption from the FFMP for this reason, giving it a freer hand to manage flood risk along the Delaware River.

The DEP has requested exemptions from other treaties in the process of planning for the Delaware Aqueduct shutdown, but didn't see it as necessary in case of the FFMP. The office of the Delaware River Master, the body that administers the 1954 decree and the FFMP, doesn't see it as necessary either.

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DELAYED - Page 5

“NYC DEP has done analysis of scenarios relating to the shutdown, including a range of rain possibility and the subsequent impacts,” says Delaware River Master Kendra Russell. “The River Master’s office doesn’t foresee difficulty in meeting the requirements of the 1954 decree, especially given they will be operating within the Flexible Flow Management Program.”

Even operating within the FFMP, the DEP’s shutdown plan will impact the region’s fish and those who catch them.

The reservoir releases will operate at their maximum capacity in the months before the shutdown to empty the reservoirs and prepare for what is to come.

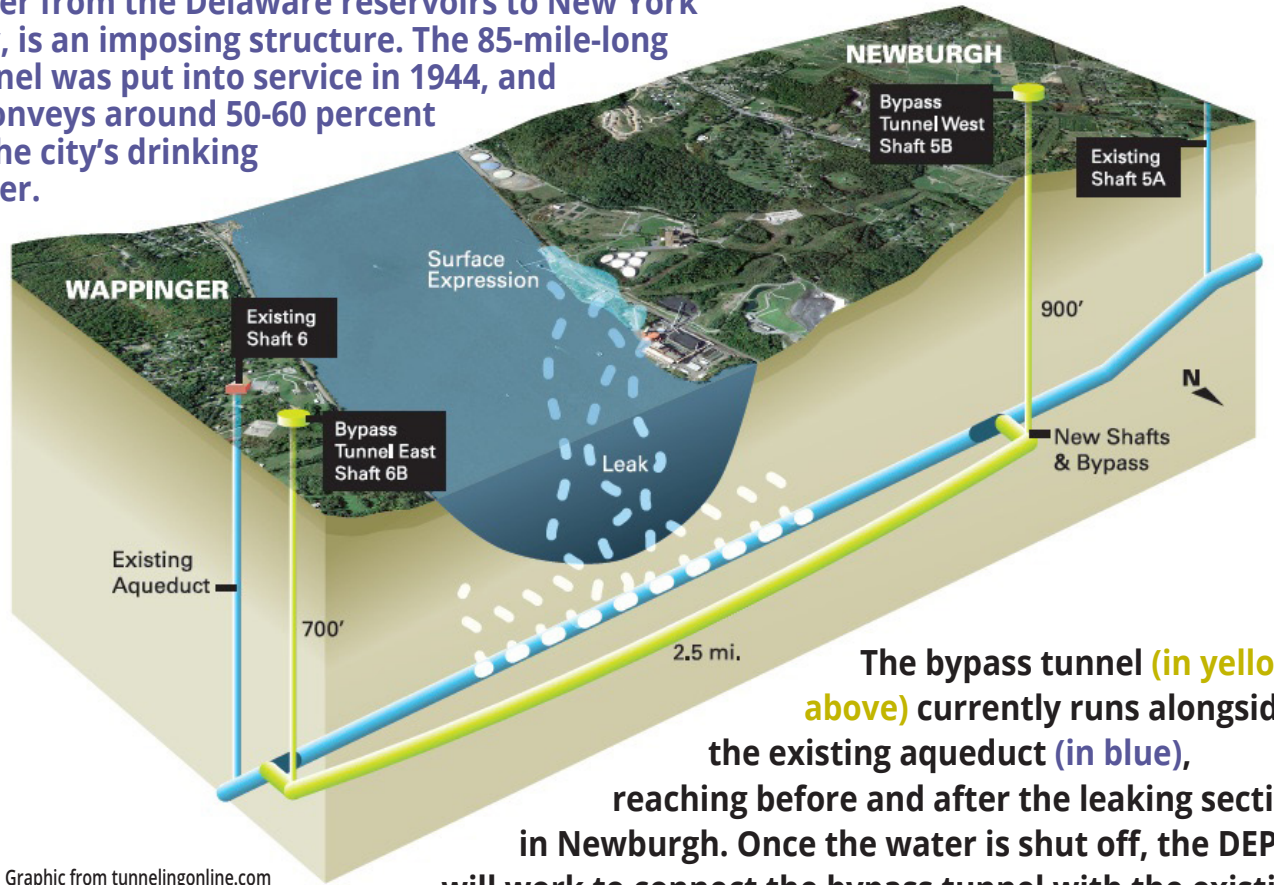
For Evan Padua, a river guide who runs Sweetwater Guide Service with his father, flooding changes patterns of behavior for both fishers and fish. Fishers consolidate in the places on the river that are still suitable for fishing; fish start to avoid those areas.

And with different patterns of releases impacting what fish are in the river, that impact gets passed along to the fishers and the river guides who are making a living out on the river.

The DEP isn’t delaying the aqueduct project in consideration of its Delaware River impacts. It plans to go ahead in the fall of 2023, according to DEP spokesperson Edward Williams. “There are a few remaining projects that, while they are close to being completed, engineers want them to be completed, tested and staff fully trained well in advance of the shutdown.”

Those concerned about fishing and flooding along the Delaware River can breathe a sigh of relief until then. Come next summer, that sigh of relief will turn back into a breath of anticipation, as the ecosystem of the Delaware River prepares itself once again for impact.

The Delaware Aqueduct, a tunnel that conveys water from the Delaware reservoirs to New York City, is an imposing structure. The 85-mile-long tunnel was put into service in 1944, and it conveys around 50-60 percent of the city’s drinking water.



Graphic from tunnelingonline.com

The bypass tunnel (in yellow, above) currently runs alongside the existing aqueduct (in blue), reaching before and after the leaking section in Newburgh. Once the water is shut off, the DEP will work to connect the bypass tunnel with the existing aqueduct.

A pair of leaks have been identified in the Delaware aqueduct in the fairly-recent past, one in late 1990 in Roseton, near Newburgh, and the second 1992 in the Ulster County town of Wawarsing. The total leakage data is estimated at around 20 million gallons per day (MGD)—for reference, the aqueduct currently delivers between 500 and 600 MGD—with 95 percent coming from the Newburgh portion.

The repair of these leaks is a task as imposing as the aqueduct itself. It requires the tunnel to be shut down for months at a time, while a bypass tunnel is connected before and after the leaks.

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

has dug that bypass tunnel already; the planning for the project has been ongoing for decades, and it completed its SEQR process and public hearings in 2016. Now, the DEP is preparing to take the next step, to shut down the aqueduct and to connect the bypass tunnel.

The DEP plans to withdraw more water than usual from the Delaware system reservoirs, allowing reservoirs in the Catskill and Croton systems to stay relatively full. Once the aqueduct shuts down, the DEP will use more water than usual from the Catskill and Croton reservoirs, to make up for the missing water from the Delaware.

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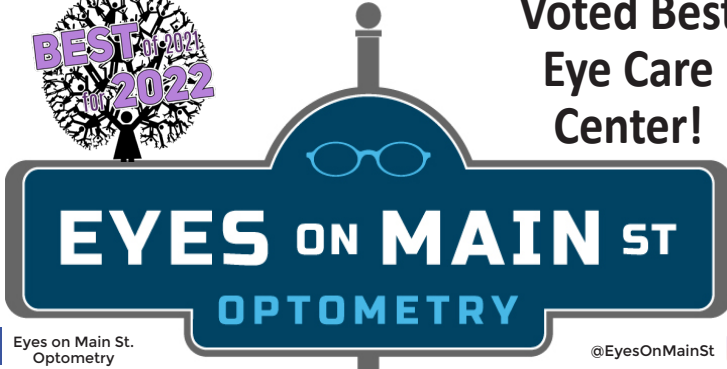
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Bathe in the beauty of a forested trail



By JANE ANDERSON

You're traipsing down a trail this summer. Sunlight is dappled through the swaying leaves overhead, and shadows dance among the mosses and rocks underfoot. Somewhere, you hear water burbling, and chipmunks scamper to the side. You're in a forest, and you can almost hear the trees breathe.

There's nothing quite like a forested trail, and luckily we have an abundance of them in the Upper Delaware region.

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BATHE IN BEAUTY -Page 9

What is it about the cool greenness of a forest that lifts our spirits? It's a mix of science and spirituality, with some mystery mixed in. Referred to as "forest bathing," the action of walking mindfully among the trees, "clears the mind of thoughts and opens your senses, allowing you to unplug in a deep and healing way," said Nina Smiley, Ph.D, director of mindfulness programming at Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, NY, and co-author of the 2017 book "Mindfulness in Nature" with David Harp.

The name is a translation from *shinrin-yoku* in Japanese, and the practice came about in Japan in the 1980s. "Forest bathing is not a walk to get in the miles for exercise," Smiley said. "It's an experience that invites you to refresh and renew, to see both outer and inner worlds with new eyes. I like to say it's an outdoor experience that creates inner space."

Studies have been done on how being outdoors affects blood pressure, stress, mood and the immune system, Smiley said, and how "antimicrobial oils emitted by trees and plants appear to bolster immunity."

Where else can you unplug around here? There are tons of places. The New York Department of Environmental Conservation has a comprehensive website (www.dec.ny.gov) with an interactive DECinfo Locator map to peruse. The National Park Service (www.nps.gov/upde/planyourvisit/take-a-hike.htm) is another good resource.

Here are just a few trails that will refresh you and renew your spirit:

Bouchoux Trail, Jensen's Ledges, Hancock, NY—A two-mile hike with a steep climb at the start. But the exertion is worth it: Oaks, hickories and evergreens shade the trail until you reach the summit, where a stunning view of the Delaware River will greet you. Take advantage of the handmade rock chairs to relax before heading back down. Plus, a waterfall is just off the main trail.

Damascus Forest Trail, Beach Lake, PA—An easy, level, two-mile ramble, this loop trail takes you through old-growth hemlocks.

Tusten Mountain Trail, Narrowsburg, NY—A moderately difficult, three-mile hike is a history lesson, too, as you loop through the ruins of the Tusten Settlement. A climb to the summit earns you a beautiful Upper Delaware river valley view.

Minisink Battleground Park Trails, Barryville, NY—Another history hike, this super-easy half-mile walk lets you follow the footsteps of Revolutionary War soldiers. Tip: Read up on the battle before setting out, to fully appreciate where you are.

Wherever you amble, remember to breathe deeply and take note of the scents, the sights and the steps you take. Your body—and mind—will benefit.



RR photo by Amanda Reed

Though not as forested as the trails on the list, the Towpath Trail along the Delaware River makes for a nice hike any time of year.



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Paul Wolgemuth makes a net for fishing.

RR photo by Joe Cooke

Newsboys, fire-spotters, net-makers.

Over time, work vanishes or changes. What happens then?

By ANNEMARIE SCHUETZ

REGION — “Number, please?”

You only see her in old movies now: a woman, headset on and a massive switchboard in front of her, plugging in cords to patch calls to the right person.

Phone companies employed 235,000 women as operators by 1930, according to history.com. In an era when women’s work opportunities were limited, that made a big difference.

And now operators are mostly gone. By 1940, direct dialing meant they lost their jobs, although the rollout was slower in rural America. If you ask around, you might still find a former operator here.

Shift change

When did you last see a newsboy? Makers of shirt collars? A milkman?

Jobs are altered. News isn’t announced by homeless boys anymore. Shirt collars are attached to the shirt. And while there may still be home milk delivery, it’s a lot less common.

Available work depends on a lot of factors: what is needed, what is wanted, what people can afford. On who is willing to start a business, who is willing to work there.

And all that has changed over time.

The old, new again

At Fort Delaware, you can meet people who still practice the trades of the past. The living history museum in

Many of those jobs have been, if not lost entirely, moved into the realm of the artist or hobbyist.

Narrowsburg shows what homes and work were like in the 18th century.

Many of those jobs have been, if not lost entirely, moved into the realm of the artist or hobbyist.

Or the historical interpreter.

Just using the materials changes the way you think about possessions, said interpreter Arden Showers, working in the wood shop at Fort Delaware in May. “They prioritized caring for things, using and maintaining them.”

Depending on where you lived and how much money you had, 18th-century people produced what they needed, rather than just buying it off the shelf.

Residents at Cushetunk—the settlement that Fort Delaware represents—would have traveled to cities to “shop,” Showers said. Items purchased by the wealthy “would have been much more focused on quality and all handcrafted.”

Reusing and recycling

People’s things were, fundamentally, just metal, wood or fabric; were there to be reused.

Raw materials often cost more and things were harder to get. Turning something into something else was just part of a material’s lifespan.

Blacksmith Ward Oles, also at Fort Delaware that day,

pointed out that his job is fundamentally recycling. “You can get enough material from half a horseshoe to make stock for two sets of tines,” he said, indicating a wrought-iron fishing spear.

Blacksmiths made nails, hinges, axes, candleholders—basically everything made of metal. The job was crucially important, especially in an up-and-coming community that was building new homes and work areas.

In addition to making the metal parts of the tools, blacksmiths “fixed and repaired tools,” Oles said. Smiths sometimes also did farrier work, shoeing horses.

But the world moved on. When factories began churning out metal items fast and cheaply, there was less need for smiths.

When cars became the transport of choice, the blacksmiths often became auto mechanics, Oles said.

“It was a foundational trade,” he said. For centuries, everything metal “was touched by a smith.” Eventually, even car parts.

What those jobs meant

At Fort Delaware now—but doubtless also in the past—“there’s a sense of community,” said Showers (they/them).

They were using a draw shave to make a tool handle. They were also making a point.

“The experiential side of recreating a handcrafting community, even on such a small scale, parallels and highlights that kind of inherent community interconnectedness,” they said later in an email. It “quickly becomes **— Page 15**

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LOST JOBS - Page 13

impossible to avoid in a more organic, human-based and autonomous community.”

It's a chance to work with materials, to craft them into something *needed* by humans. “It innately brings humans back into being part of the larger ecosystem,” Showers said. “It's cyclical and connected in an organic way.”

They cautioned that thinking about work, thinking about jobs lost or otherwise, carries baggage. It is colored by our perspectives now. Work was different in the 18th century; it was different in the 19th. Do not forget that some jobs were only available to certain people. Do not forget that power underpinned it all, that backbreaking labor made others comfortable.

The lost jobs and the complex, sometimes pain-filled community of which they were a key part, will not be back.

The question remains: what will happen when jobs disappear now? Will people find new work and new connections? Can we keep others from vanishing into history's black hole, forgotten?

Maybe practicing the work, even as a hobbyist or at Fort Delaware, helps us remember both the lost world of the past and what could happen.

“What we're doing here,” said Showers, “is so important.”



Blacksmiths take a break from forging on a hot day at Fort Delaware.

RR photos by Joe Cooke



The weaver's workshop at Fort Delaware. Weaving is still a popular hobby, but machinery has sped up the process.

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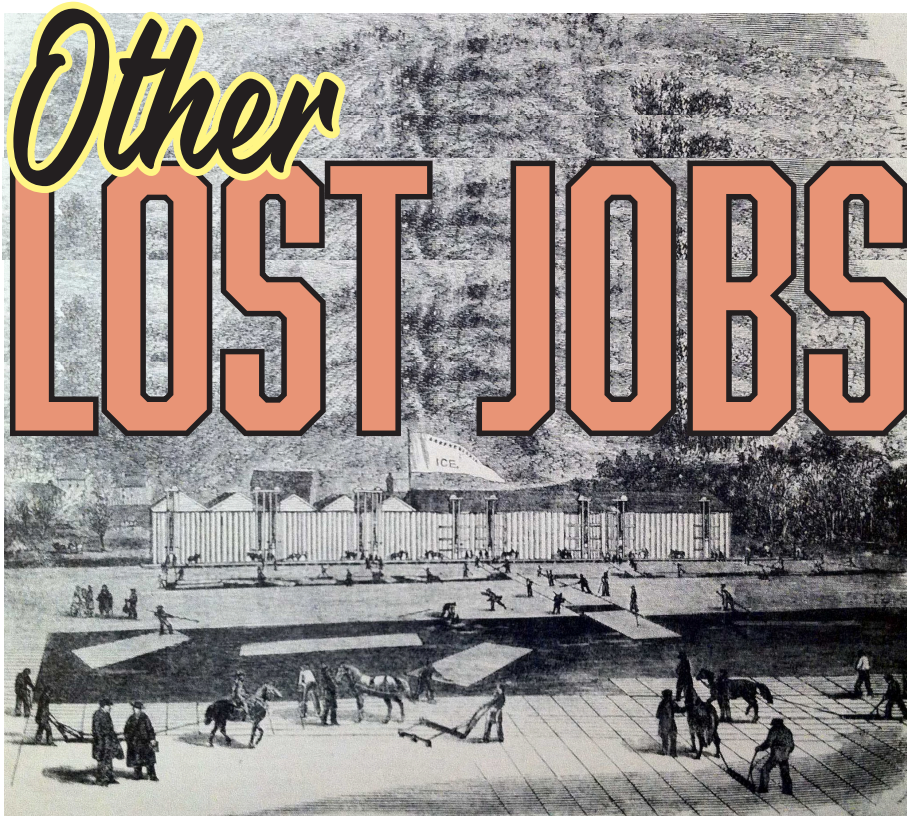
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That absolutely cut the ice in New York.

Ice cutter. Back before mechanical refrigerators, people kept their food cold with ice. During the winter here, ice was cut from the Delaware River and local lakes. It was then stored in icehouses under sawdust to preserve it through the summer.



Public domain image from the New York Public Library digital collections. 1895 - 1917 Be a fashionable man with the right shirt collar.

Shirt collar manufacturer. Troy, NY was “Collar City.” This was back in the day, when collars were removable—so they could be washed and starched—and you could replace them easily if need be. The collars were attached with collar studs. By the 20th century, 15,000 people worked in the shirt-collar industry just in Troy.



Photo contributed by the Basket Historical Society The Red Hill fire tower in Denning, NY, near Claryville. Once, spotters watched for forest fires from towers like this. (During wartime, spotters watched for enemy planes, too.) The Red Hill tower is 60 feet tall and was built in 1921. As with all the Catskills fire towers, it was used less over time; fire-spotting from the air was more efficient. The tower finally closed in 1990.

Fire tower fire spotter. Red Hill, near Claryville, employed the last tower spotter in the Catskills until 1990.

Film developer. Once upon a time we took our little rolls of film to a developer, and then picked up our photos a day to a week later.

Typewriter repairman. When the keys stuck, it was time to take the typewriter to the shop. “The keys never stick now,” said one former owner of a typewriter. “It is never time to go to the typewriter repairman.”

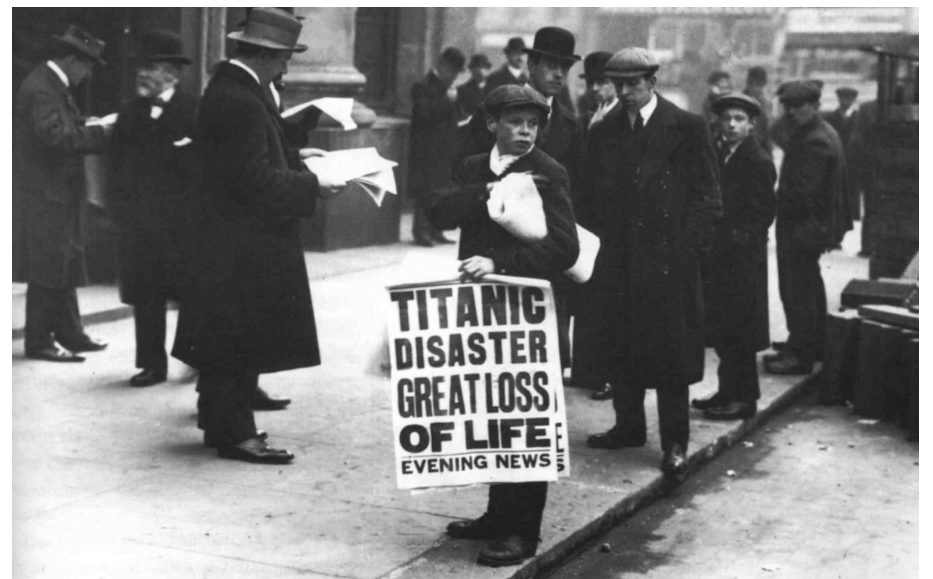
What was lost when these jobs, this work, went away?

Was it beneficial for humankind or not?

Milkman. In the days before reliable refrigerators, milk was delivered once a day or so. “Daily milk delivery was necessary to prevent the milk from spoiling before people could drink it,” writes the Dairy Alliance. “It was the safest and most cost-effective way to get milk and other perishables to customers.”



Keystone View Co. public domain, via Wikimedia Commons Before reliable refrigeration, milk came to you once a day or so.



A newsboy spreads the word.

Unknown author, public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Newsboys. According to the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, they were often homeless boys trying to make a little money. Newspapers began using them in the mid-19th century, as mass-circulation newspapers took off. The newsboys went on strike in 1899, and conditions started to improve after that.



Abandoned telegraph poles in the Ten Mile River area.

RR photo by Joe Cooke

Telegraph employees. The telegraph was the only method of long-distance communication from the 1840s to the 20th century. By 1940, notes history.com, there were 40 telegraph lines across the Atlantic. Telegrams were the messages you sent over a telegraph, word-tight to save money. They’d be delivered to the recipient by a telegram service.



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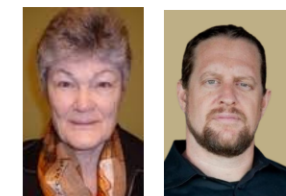
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The view from the Stone Arch Bridge at Ten Mile River.

RR photo by Joe Cooke

Unearthing history and the stories here

By ANNEMARIE SCHUETZ

TEN MILE RIVER, NY — “Sometimes, the content for these exhibits comes out of nowhere,” said David Malatzky, associate curator at the Ten Mile River Scout Museum.

“Last summer, I found in the museum a banker’s box filled with artifacts from the dig. It just dropped into my lap.”

The dig in question was a few test holes dug because of a federal project, the Geologic Resources Inventory.

And the artifacts ranged from pieces of pottery to glass to a few stone tools. The history of the area, in what’s basically a series of trash piles.

Brought to the surface

The land holds secrets; it holds history. For those who look, it tells the stories of people who didn’t leave written records, couldn’t leave records or “who may have left records, but they weren’t deemed important,” said archaeologist Dr. April Beisaw. So those records—diaries, maybe; receipts; photos—disappeared.

An associate professor and chair of anthropology at Vassar College, Beisaw studies cultural change and resilience in the relatively recent past. At the moment, her

work is focused on the New York City water system.

The relatively modern—say, from the 14th century on— is just as compelling as ancient history.

The stories would include those of the Indigenous people who lived here or passed on through. The museum has artifacts from three rock shelters located on the property; Indigenous people did not live there year-round.

Archaeology tells the story of the settlers who arrived in the 18th and 19th centuries, and left pieces of pottery and glass behind. It tells the stories of people within our lifetimes.

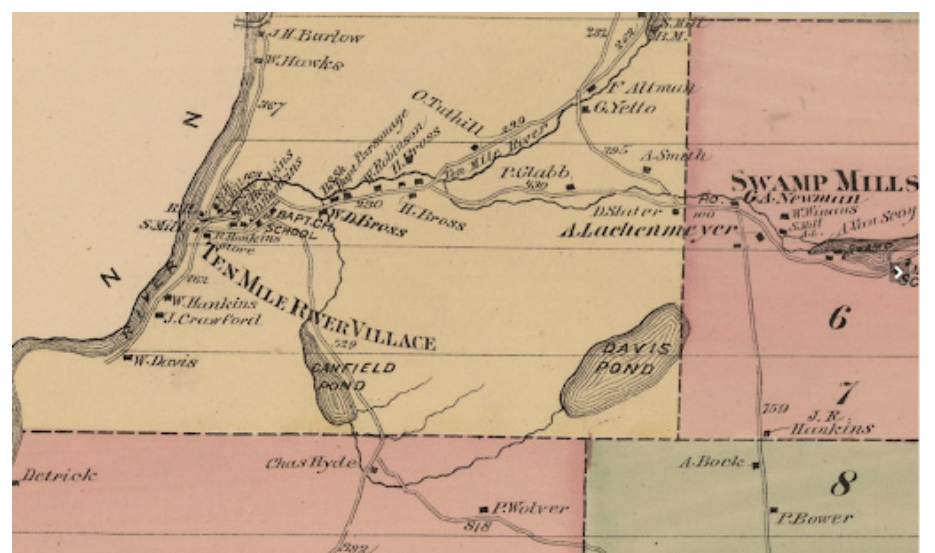
The way the artifacts lie in the ground, the way buildings grow and spread out over time, it all matters.

“Documents usually tell only one side of how things were, and are often biased towards the goals of those who wrote or received the report,” Beisaw said in an email, and added later, “Small finds can contradict a story” and reveal truth.

Who lived at Ten Mile River?

Nowadays, many think of Ten Mile River as the sprawling Boy Scout camp, built in 1927, and the 12,000 acres that [- Page 20](#)

The land holds secrets; it holds history. For those who look, it tells the stories of people who didn’t leave written records, couldn’t leave records or “who may have left records, but they weren’t deemed important.”



Walker and Jewett atlas of 1875, public domain image

This segment of an 1875 map of the Ten Mile River area shows a centrally located Baptist church and a school. There was a store, sawmill, gristmill and blacksmith shops. There wasn’t a plan; possibly people just built their houses where it seemed best.



RR photos by Joe Cooke

Some say there are Indigenous burial sites in the area

FINDING TUSTEN - Page 19

comprise it, but Ten Mile is also a small river that empties into the Delaware—and the now-vanished settlements alongside it.

“I always look at the historical record,” Beisaw said. “Satellite images can find farms, hill forts—you look at the landscape and see that something is different.”

Art Hawker, Town of Tusten historian, recently stood on the stone arch bridge spanning Ten Mile River and gestured sweepingly. “There was a sawmill where Ten Mile hits the Delaware. Quinlan [of the “History of Sullivan County”] said it was owned by Elijah Reeve.”

At about the same time, there was “a settlement of 22 people, founded by the Delaware Company” under the authority of the state of Connecticut.

According to sources ranging from Sipe’s “Indian Wars of Pennsylvania,” to Miner’s “History of Wyoming” and Egle’s “History of Pennsylvania” and the “Frontier Forts of PA,” an Indigenous group in 1763 attacked the community and killed the settlers, incited by the murder of their king. This was later known by white people as the Ten Mile River Massacre.

There’s evidence of settlement later. Hawker mentioned a tavern and store dating back to 1803; the historical society has a ledger from the store that lists transactions in pounds and pence.

But it wasn’t until 1853 that there was a serious effort to resettle the area. The Erie Railroad was laying track in the region; maybe someone thought there was money to be made. The site was renamed the Town of Tusten, in honor of Col. Benjamin Tusten, who had died at the Battle of Minisink decades prior.

Houses were built, businesses sprang up; not far away, the Erie track cruised past. There was a general store, a blacksmith’s shop and a post office, according to a report

on the dig by the scout museum. There were bluestone quarries on Tusten Mountain.

From the bridge, there is little to be seen. “There’s really not a lot left,” Hawker said. He points to one side. “There was logging... The Erie used tremendous amounts of wood.” Tracks needed wood; the trains burned wood for a while before they switched to coal.

That settlement too disappeared, but this time, it was a victim of economic change. Bluestone was abandoned in favor of concrete, he said; the trees had all been cut down.

In 1911, the Minisink Company, from New York City, wanted to develop acreage in the Town of Tusten area. A company brochure lauds the beauty of the lakes and the availability of lots for housing, a hotel, a club, even farming.

The project was abandoned.

By the 1920s, the Crawfords, who owned much of the property near the village at the time—this is the family behind the original building for the Ethelbert B. Crawford library in Monticello—must have been delighted when the Boy Scouts came calling.

The Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York was looking for a permanent campsite, large enough to accommodate the surge of interest in Scouting in New York City. A goal of \$1 million was set to be raised and 12,000 acres were eventually purchased, said museum co-director Ira Nagel.

The buildings on the new Scout camp property were eventually demolished, said Malatzky. “Where Tusten was, there’s nothing now, except for the bridge and the church.” The Scouts just erected a few lean-tos. “But everything below ground should still be there.”

Digging deep

Several years ago, a shovel test pit survey was performed (see “Local digs”), digging at three sites to check for relics from those old settlements.

A range of cast-offs was found. A chert flake from the Indigenous people who once lived here; pottery, broken and tossed. A hat or hairpin, a slate roof tile. And lots of coal, which wasn’t collected.

These pieces reveal a great deal about the lives of the people who owned them. What they liked, how their homes were built, what they ate from. How they stayed warm.

“It’s the debris of life,” Beisaw said.

Malatzky began putting the exhibit together, doing the research required.

An exhibit is now open at the Ten Mile River Scout Museum, highlighting the artifacts from the box he found last summer.

To help people translate pieces of broken pottery to actual items, when possible Malatzky added examples of the unbroken items, not from the site. “It gives more perspective. What do those items actually represent?”

What are his goals? “To recognize this as an important historic site. To see what’s there, buried... it’s a significant site,” he said. “This was the center of the local bluestone and lumbering industries in the early 1800s. It’s not altered much since the late 1800s”—nobody’s dug it up for development, in other words.

And it’s about memory. About honoring people who worked hard, lived and died here, leaving few records, just bits of their time abandoned for us to find. “Everyone forgets that Tusten Village existed. But these are the original settlers. Their families live here today... and this sheds light on the larger historical story.”

Why’d they dig?

When an area is going to be affected by something spearheaded by the federal government, the law requires that an archaeologist be hired to make sure nothing cultural will be damaged. And that’s done through a shovel test pit survey. It’s a “systemic series of test holes, usually dug with a shovel,” the Park Service wrote. “As the soil is removed from the hole, it is screened for artifacts. The walls of the hole are also looked at to see if stratigraphy can be identified or if any features are located within the hole.”

The vast majority of archaeology projects today are related to such directives, the agency wrote.



Contributed photo

Borings from three test holes dug in Tusten.

Local digs

Archaeology isn’t unheard of in the region. April Beisaw and her students have been working near the Ashokan Reservoir, studying the archaeology of the New York water system and the way New York City has continued to take land.

“There are communities that are still being demolished,” she said.

Beisaw uses maps and the landscape itself to find ruins and the traces of the people left behind. Not those whose homes are under the water, but those who stayed,

Her work will soon cover the impact on the Rondout and Neversink reservoirs as well.

Learn more about the area and see the results of the Tusten Village dig at the Ten Mile River Scout Museum. For hours, visit tmrmuseum.org.



The old Baptist church, dating from 1856, near Narrowsburg. Ministers cared for the souls of the people in the Tusten Settlement.



RR photos by Joe Cooke
Stonework piers supporting
the Erie train tracks at Ten Mile
River.



What was this? There's
speculation it was an
old stone dock.

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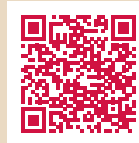


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RR photos by Jeffrey Sidle

These bees decided that they didn't need any protection from the elements, and drew out their nest comb, so it is exposed directly under the eaves of the house

What to do when a swarm moves in

By JEFF SIDLE

NARROWSBURG, NY — Having been a hobby beekeeper for 10-plus years, I have amassed my share of bee stories. On July 9, I traveled from my home in Hawley, PA to Narrowsburg, to photograph a honeybee oddity in our part of the country.

The property owner had noticed bees gathered under the eaves by the chimney about a week before. It's anyone's guess how long they may have been there. But here's the unusual part—instead of heading off into some protected place like a hollow in a tree, these bees decided that they didn't need any protection from the elements and drew out their nest comb, so it was now directly under the eaves of the house.

This may be acceptable in other areas, where the winters are much warmer, but in our neck of the woods this hive would be doomed and the bees would perish.

Honeybees do not hibernate and remain active throughout the winter, gathering into a cluster in the hive and moving in unison about the combs, consuming honey and vibrating their bodies. This produces heat at the center of the cluster in the range of 90 to 100 degree Fahrenheit.

As the bees on the outside of the cluster

get colder, they rotate with those bees on the inside.

When bees swarm

Honeybees swarming are part of the normal life cycle of *Apis mellifera*. I have seen, photographed and caught numerous swarms. They do this to ensure the continuation of the species, but what triggers the instinct has been studied and hypothesized about since man first started keeping bees.

One of the things beekeepers do is try to manage this swarming behavior. When a hive swarms, the queen bee—there is only one in the hive—and about one half of the remaining bees leave the hive en masse. It is quite the spectacle to see the sky black with bees, hear the incredible buzzing and then to see them all congregate together in a cluster as large as a basketball containing upwards of 20,000 bees!

The bees remaining in the hive have already prepared for the swarming event by creating special cells within the hive in which they have begun the process of creating a new queen. They put an egg in this cell, and when the egg hatches into a larvae it is fed with a substance known as royal jelly, which will cause the larvae to develop into a queen. She will settle into her reign

and begin laying eggs to ensure the hive's survival.

The trouble for the beekeeper is that this process takes time and sets back honey production of the hive about a month or more. For the hobby beekeeper a swarm can also be a good thing if they are lucky enough to witness the swarm or get notifications from neighbors that their bees landed in a bush in their yard. If the swarm can be captured and returned to the beekeeper's apiary, it is highly likely that they will welcome their new home in boxes provided by the beekeeper. They'll be back under the watchful eye of the beekeeper adding to the number of hives producing honey.

Bees in the house

The homeowner told me that he purchased the house, originally built in 1928, five years ago; he is working on restoring it for use as a bed and breakfast. Early in the restoration project, he found bees in one of the walls and had a beekeeper remove them.

A closer inspection of the chimney, about eight feet below the newly discovered hive, revealed a space that honeybees are using as an entrance/exit. This suggests that there is another hive inside the structure. My



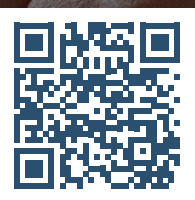
A closeup of a new hive at a home in Narrowsburg. theory is that the hive inside the building decided to swarm, and that swarm settled on the eaves.

Several members of the Wayne County (PA) Beekeepers Association were making arrangements to retrieve the exposed hive and provide a solution for the bees within the structure.



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