

Preliminary Sketch Plan for Fort Hunter Park



Public Presentation
November 19, 2009



DAUPHIN COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA

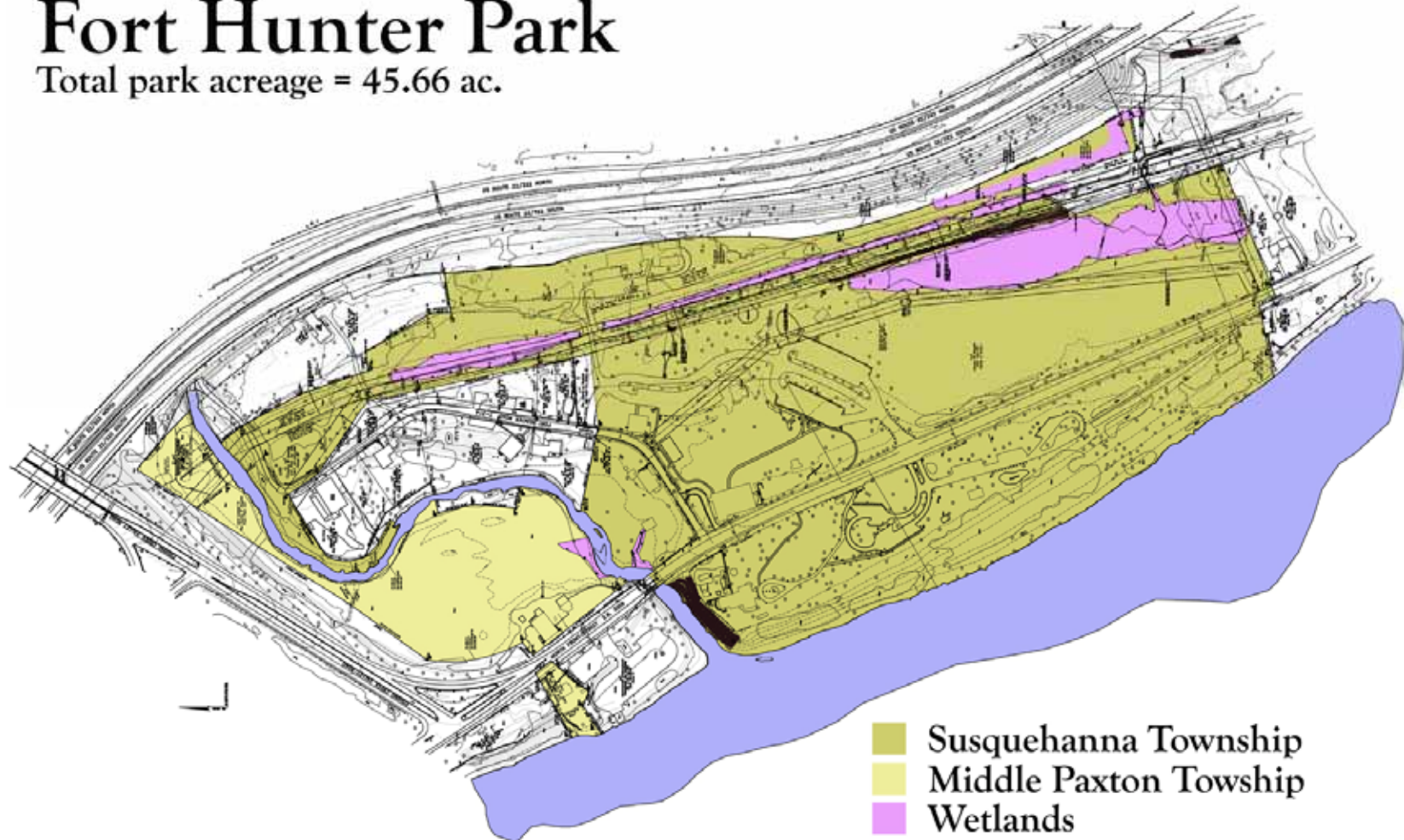
Dauphin County Parks and Recreation
100 Fort Hunter Road
Harrisburg, PA 17110
(717) 599-5188
www.dauphinc.org



THOMAS COMMITTA ASSOCIATES, INC.
Town Planners & Landscape Architects

Fort Hunter Park

Total park acreage = 45.66 ac.

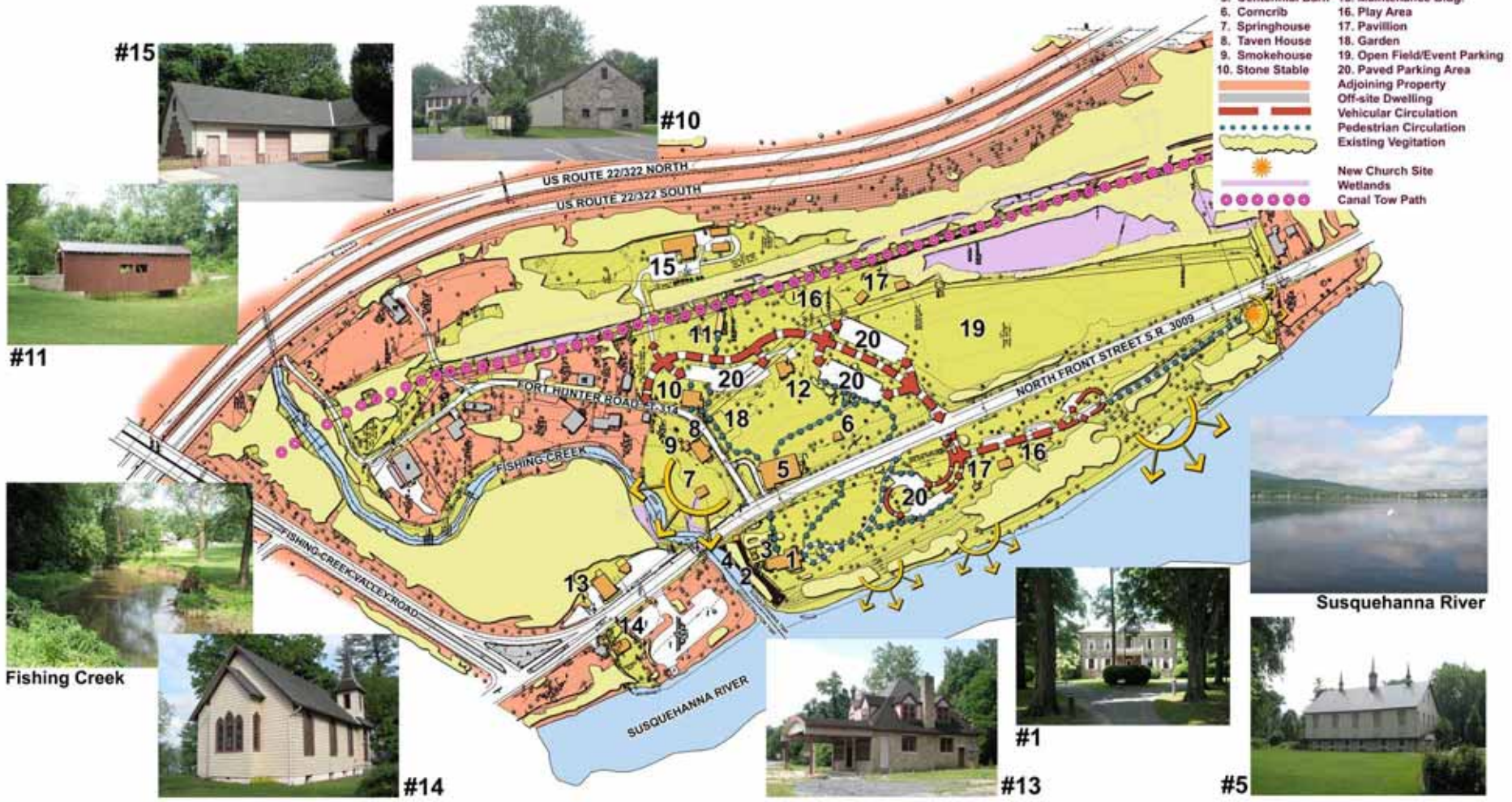


Site Survey and Wetland Delineation



KEY MAP

- 1. Mansion House
 - 2. Privy
 - 3. Icehouse
 - 4. Dairy
 - 5. Centennial Barn
 - 6. Corncrib
 - 7. Springhouse
 - 8. Taven House
 - 9. Smokehouse
 - 10. Stone Stable
 - 11. Covered Bridge
 - 12. Farmhouse
 - 13. Service Station
 - 14. Heckton Church
 - 15. Maintenance Bldg.
 - 16. Play Area
 - 17. Pavilion
 - 18. Garden
 - 19. Open Field/Event Parking
 - 20. Paved Parking Area
- Adjoining Property
 - Off-site Dwelling
 - Vehicular Circulation
 - Pedestrian Circulation
 - Existing Vegetation
 - New Church Site
 - Wetlands
 - Canal Tow Path



Site Analysis Plan



1. What are Fort Hunter's best **attributes**?
2. What makes Fort Hunter **distinctive and unique** when compared to other nearby parks?
3. What, if anything, would you like to **change** about Fort Hunter?
4. What **concerns**, if any do you have regarding:
 - Vehicular Traffic, Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Availability?
 - Lighting and Accessibility of Public Gathering Spaces?
 - Perceptions of Park Safety and Security?
 - Conveyance of Historical and Environmental Messages?
5. Are some desirable **amenities** presently missing from your park?
6. What **traffic-calming measures**, if any, would be appropriate for Front Street?
7. If you were to re-visit Fort Hunter in ten years, what **other improvements** would you hope to see?
8. If you were to tell Dauphin County representatives how best to improve your park with public funding, what **prioritized improvements** would you recommend?

July 8, 2009



August 18, 2009



Study Committee Input





Overall Preliminary Sketch Plan







Fort Hunter Station Redevelopment





 Complete a Market Study and Architectural Analysis to determine the best adaptive re-use strategies (e.g. welcome center, restaurant, café, produce stand, canoe/kayak rental facility).

 Provide terraced parking in response to steep topography, and respond to sub-surface environmental constraints inherent to the former service station use.



Fort Hunter Station Redevelopment





Fishing Creek Restoration





- 🏰 **Complete an Ecological Study/ Floodplain Restoration Analysis to determine feasibility of sediment removal for improved water quality and restored habitat.**
- 🏰 **Provide educational signage to convey environmental/historic transportation messages to park visitors.**



Fishing Creek Restoration





Outdoor Amphitheater





- 🏰 Design the amphitheater in response to existing topography, solar orientation and programming needs for small or medium-sized events.
- 🏰 Locate it where accessible from nearby parking and where planted sound barriers can be established.



Outdoor Amphitheater





- Relocate corn crib and stage a bit further north to increase lawn area seating opportunities with desirable views toward outdoor performances.
- Explore the use of geothermal wells in lawn area to heat and cool some park facilities.



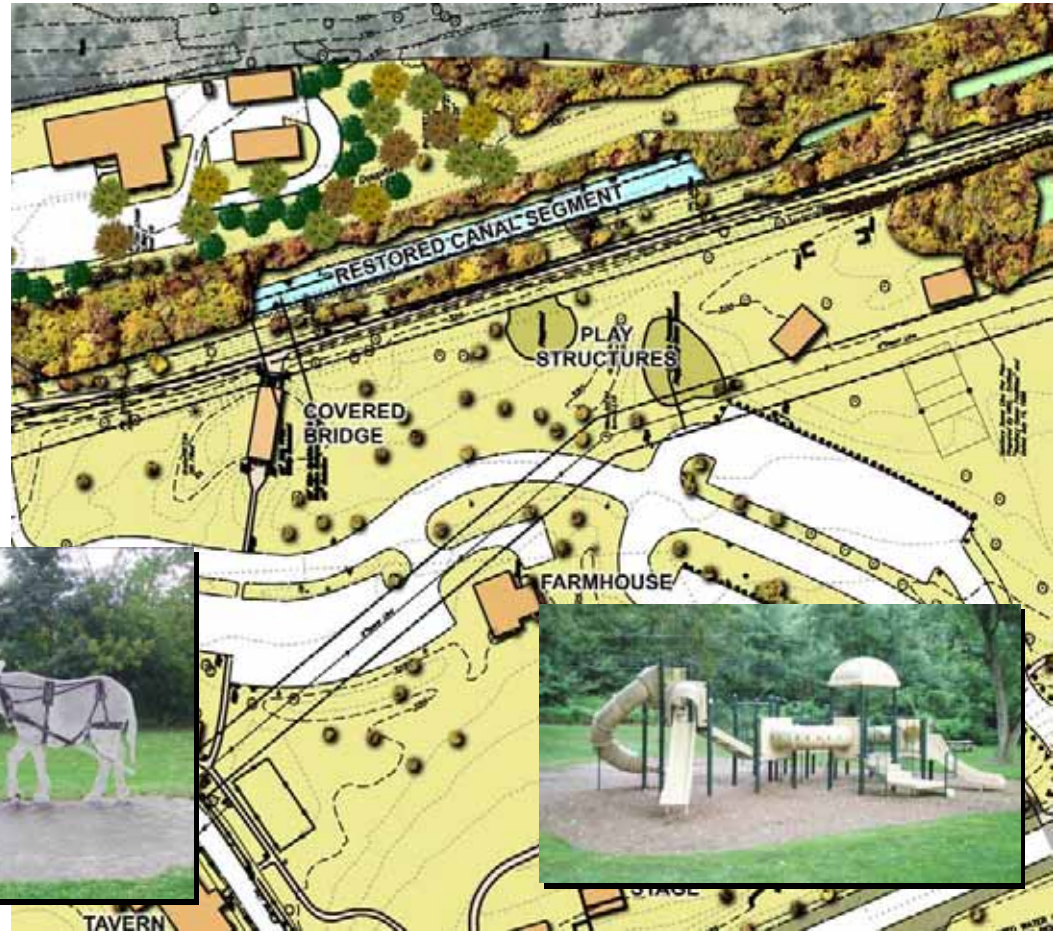
Centennial Barn





Pennsylvania Canal Segment Restoration





🏰 Clear a segment of the canal's waterway, and link a paved towpath to the parks trail system.

🏰 Incorporate canal-themed play equipment and public art nearby.



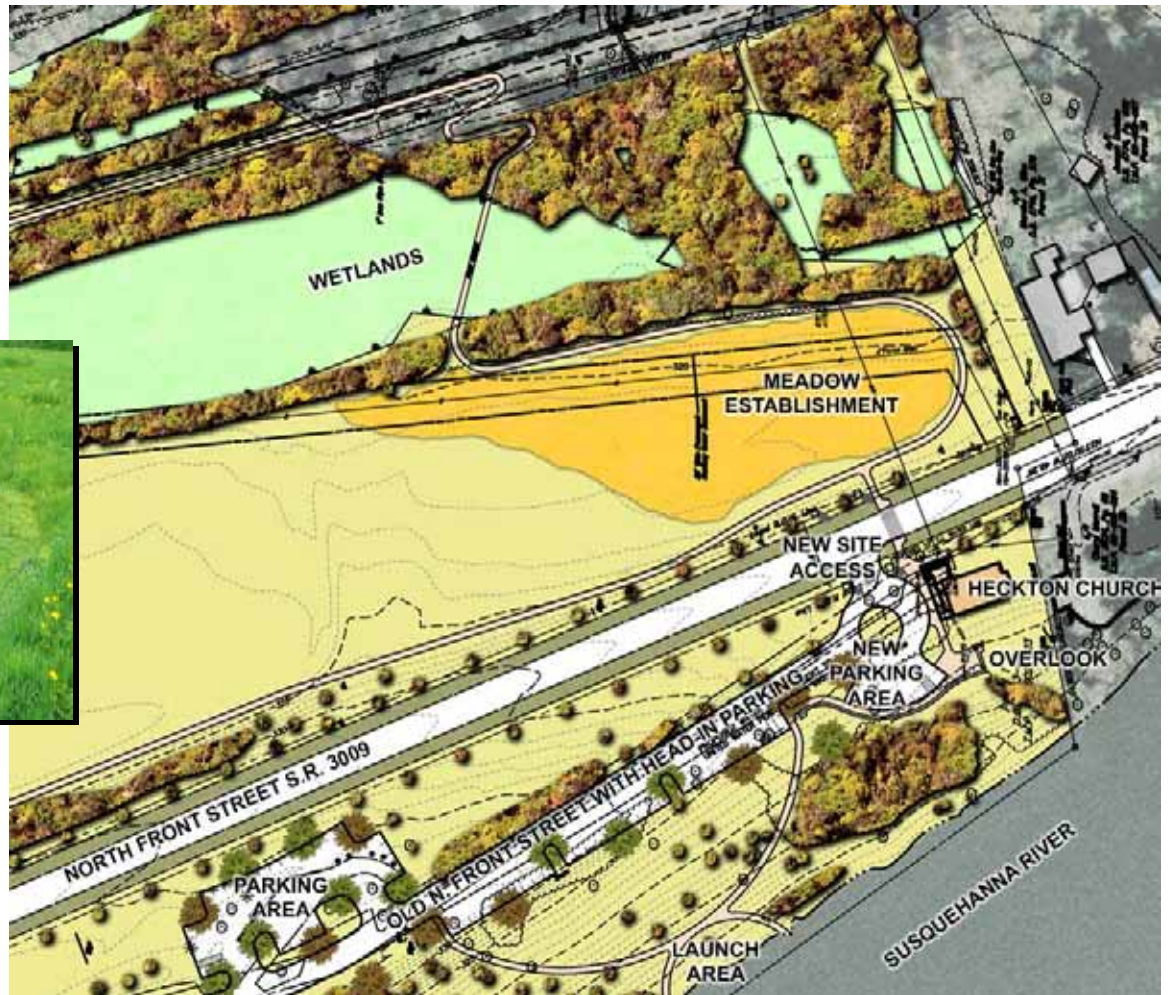
Pennsylvania Canal Segment Restoration





Meadow Establishment





Without displacing active recreational areas, replace a portion of the park's manicured lawn with a lower maintenance meadow.

Educate trail users on the value of such habitat restoration and the use of native plantings.



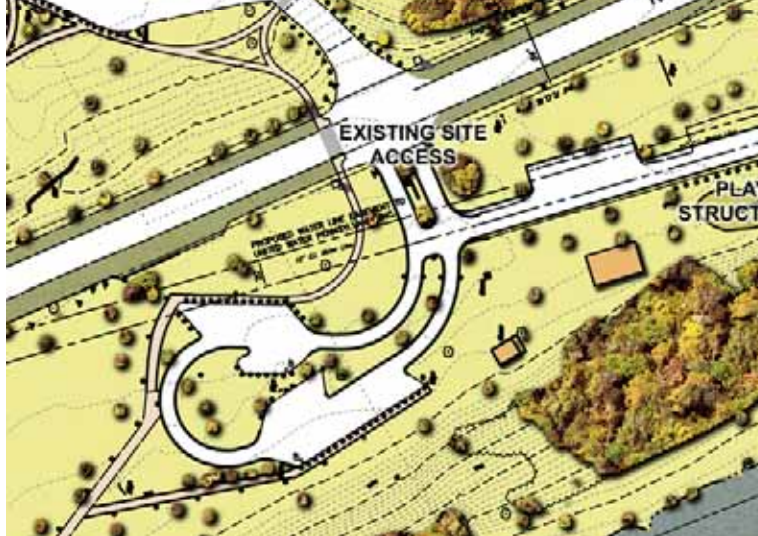
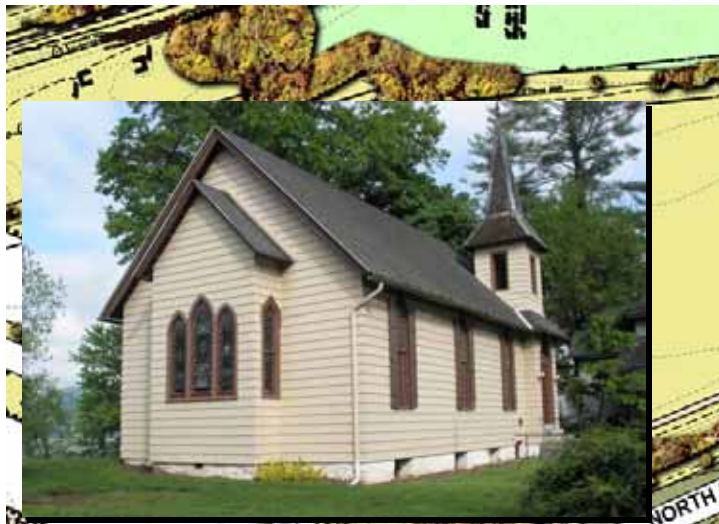
Meadow Establishment





Heckton Church





- ✚ Incorporate parking for 52 additional vehicles, limo-sized turn-around and a guest drop-off area.
- ✚ Link a new scenic overlook, and church restroom facilities to the parks trail system.



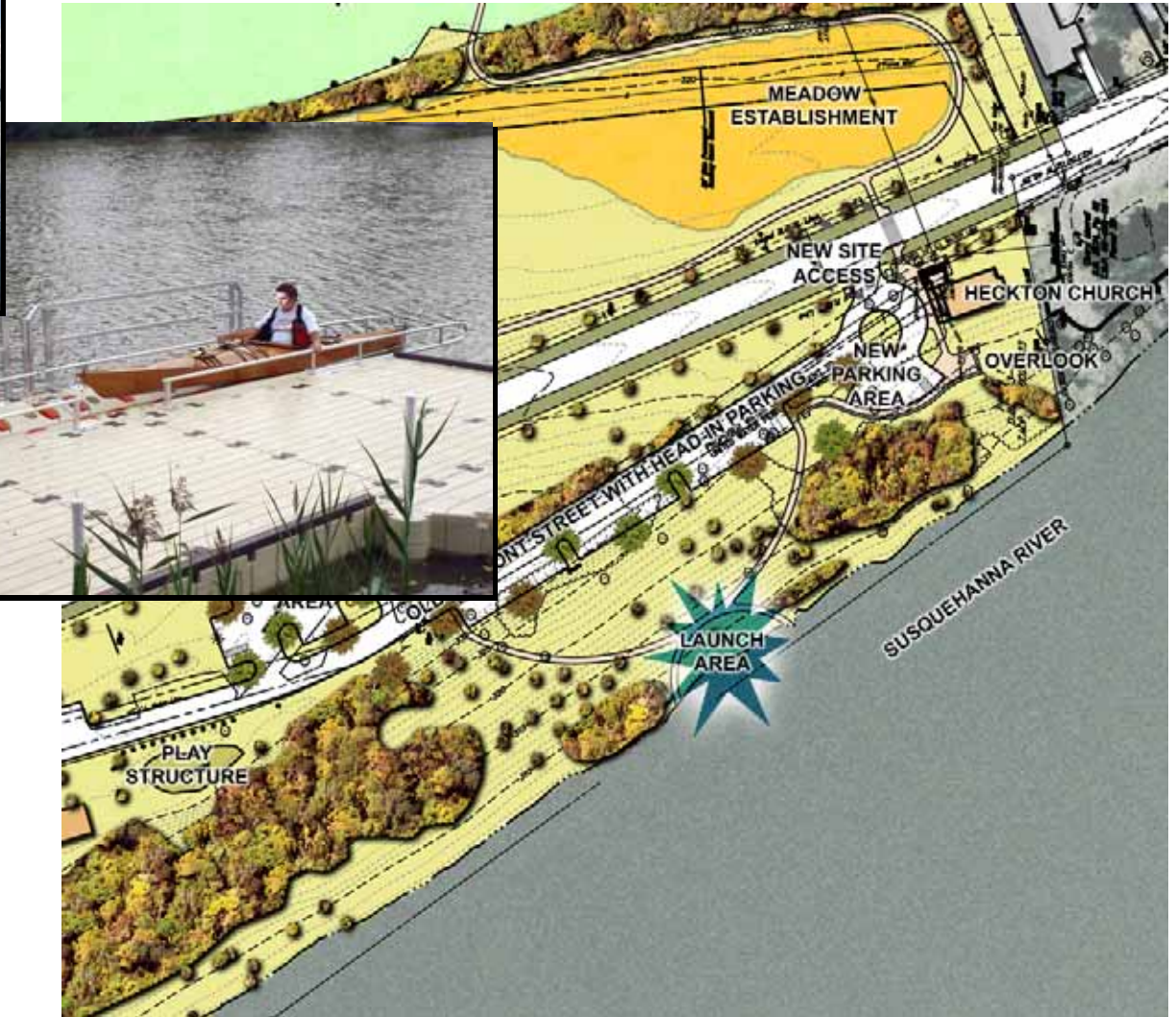
Heckton Church





Alternative Non-motorized Boat Launch Sites





Seasonal Non-motorized Boat Launch Site

- Direct River Access Alternative

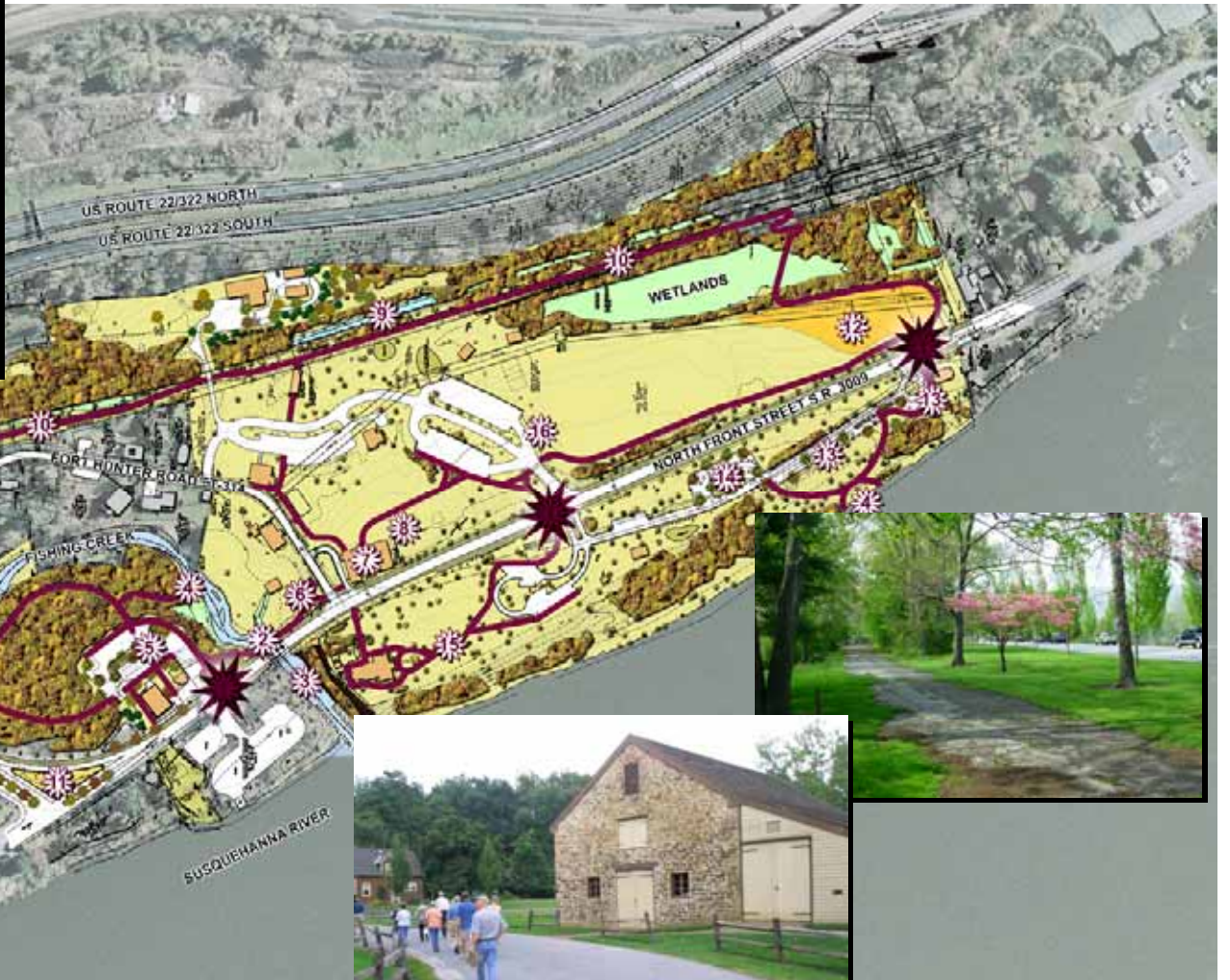




Seasonal Non-motorized Boat Launch Site

- Indirect River Access Alternative





Vehicular Circulation





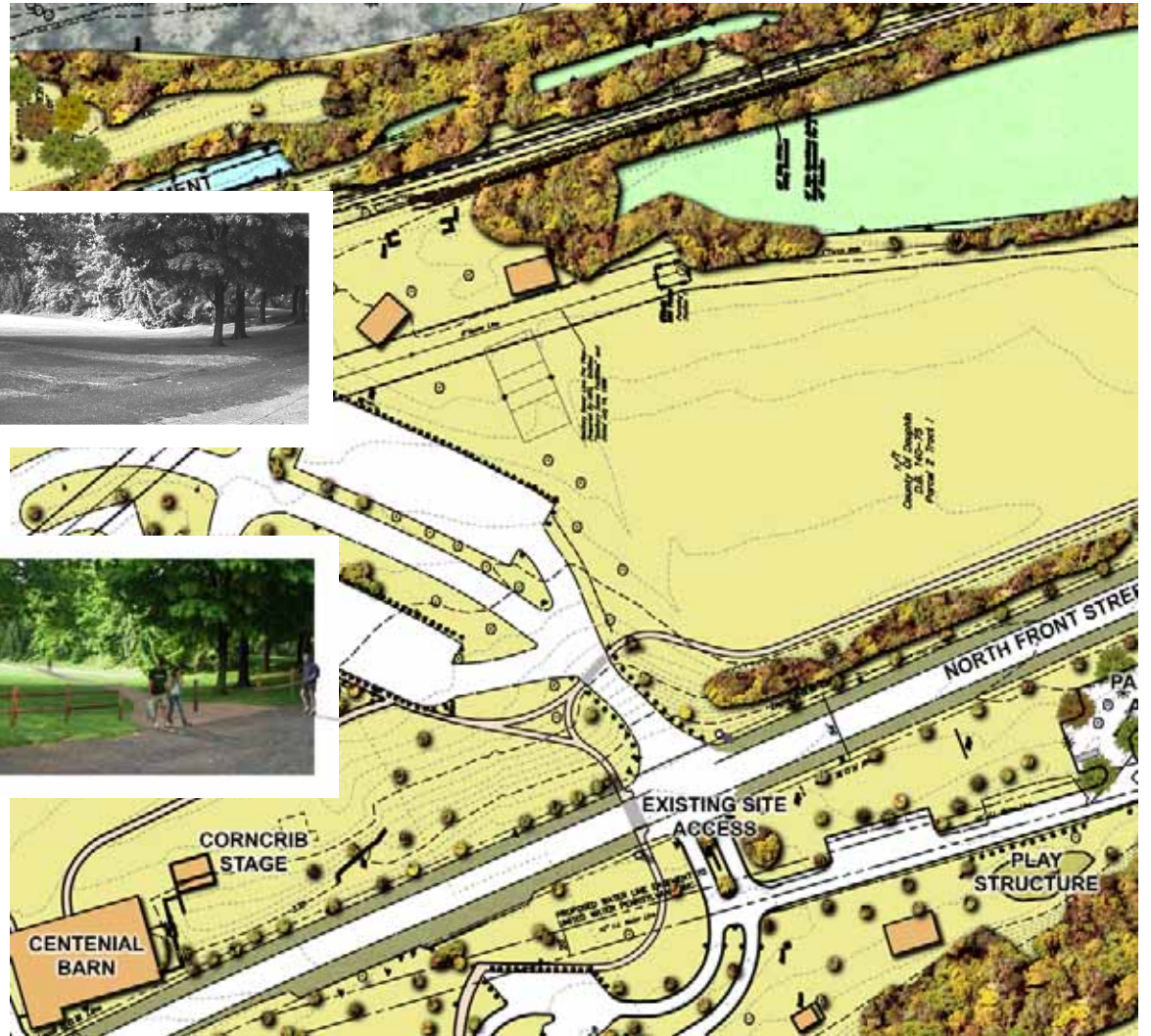
Replace N. Front Street's paved shoulders with stabilized turf to narrow the roadway corridor, lower vehicular speeds and encourage 'traffic calming'.

Incorporate a 'rain garden' within the N. Front Street / Fishing Creek median to improve storm water quality.



Vehicular Circulation






Before



After


Add a split rail fence to delineate vehicular access to special event parking (lawn area), and utilize paved trail/access drive to reduce lawn damage during special events.



Vehicular Circulation





Pedestrian Circulation





- Resurface the Mansion's carriage drive and other walkways with gravel adhered to an asphalt paving base.
- Replace worn turf areas with paved pathways.
- Accommodate ADA accessibility throughout the park.



Pedestrian Circulation





Install two pedestrian bridges over Fishing Creek to effectively link north and south park areas



Pedestrian Circulation



🏰 If additional light is needed for enhanced safety and security perceptions, utilize contemporary fixtures which mimic architectural features (louvers, standing-seam metal roof) without creating a false sense of history.

🏰 Consider illumination of specimen trees and building facades with fixtures set flush with the surrounding terrain making fixtures nearly invisible during daylight hours.



Site Lighting





- Remove all invasive plants (e.g. Euonymus, Bittersweet, Norway Maples) throughout park.
- Open key views toward the Susquehanna River from trail and overlook areas via selective vegetation removal.
- Restore period-appropriate or native plantings.
- Add bird blinds in several diverse park ecosystem areas.



Other Suggested Site Enhancements



ITEM	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST
A DEMOLITION					
1	CLEARING AND GRUBBING	AC	3	\$5,500.00	\$16,500.00
B WALKS/ROADWAYS/PARKING					
1	BITUMINOUS ROADWAY/PARKING	SF	63,000	\$2.50	\$157,500.00
2	BITUMINOUS PATHWAYS W/ GRAVEL OVERLAY	SF	37,800	\$6.00	\$226,800.00
3	CONCRETE PATHWAYS	SF	6,500	\$7.00	\$45,500.00
4	TEXTURED PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALKS	EA	8	\$3,000.00	\$24,000.00
5	STOP SIGNS	EA	2	\$200.00	\$400.00
6	STABILIZED TURF SHOULDERS	SF	66,000	\$12.00	\$792,000.00
C OTHER SITE ELEMENTS					
1	8' METAL FRAME BENCH	EA	12	\$1,000.00	\$12,000.00
2	FLOATING DOCK AND ANCHORING SYSTEM	EA	2	\$45,000.00	\$90,000.00
3	PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE	EA	2	\$100,000.00	\$200,000.00
4	AMPHITHEATER	LS	1	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00
5	SCENIC OVERLOOK	LS	1	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
6	RELOCATED CORN CRIB & ENLARGED STAGE	LS	1	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
7	STREAM RESTORATION	LF	2,000	\$305.00	\$610,000.00
8	SPLIT-RAIL FENCE	LF	2,200	\$20.00	\$44,000.00
9	STONE PIERS AT PARK ENTRANCES	EA	12	\$10,000.00	\$120,000.00
10	REMOVEABLE BOLLARD	EA	1	\$500.00	\$500.00
D PLANTINGS					
1	TREES	EA	100	\$300.00	\$30,000.00
2	LAWN SEEDING	SF	90,000	\$0.08	\$7,200.00
3	MEADOW SEED/PLUG MIX	SF	90,000	\$0.15	\$13,500.00

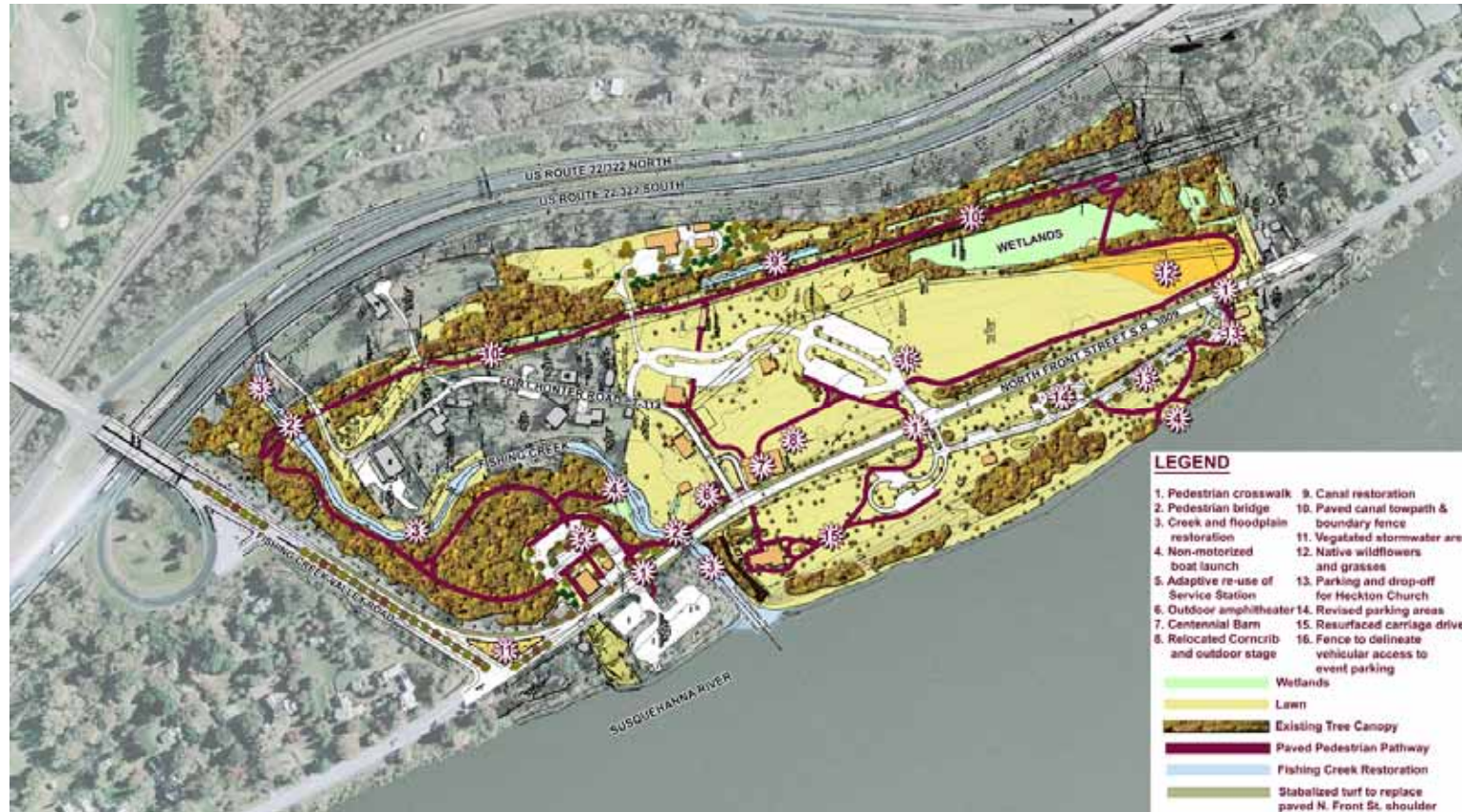
Subtotal	\$2,629,900.00
Contingency (10%)	\$262,990.00
TOTAL	\$2,892,890.00



Preliminary Estimate of Probable Cost



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