



# Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

September 19, 2017

Mr. Robert L. Schroeder, President  
The Tucquan Club  
P.O. Box 7434  
Lancaster, PA  
17604

Re: Tucquan Club, Lower Chanceford Twp., York County,  
Key# 099019

Dear Mr. Schroeder,

Thank you for submitting a Historic Resource Survey Form for this resource. It is our staff opinion that the resource is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. This decision is conditional based on the information available to date. During future review of the nomination drafts or receipt of new details about the property, our office may find that the resource does not meet National Register criteria and the eligibility status will be changed. An eligibility evaluation is enclosed.

The next step in the nomination process, if listing is a goal, is the submission of a complete National Register nomination to our office. The latest versions of the nomination forms, instructions, and guidance are now available at the National Park Service's website:

<https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/index.htm>.

An evaluation that provides basic guidance in preparing your nomination is enclosed. The research, writing, and typing of the form are responsibilities of the applicant. It is essential that the information is accurate and includes all required material discussed in the enclosed instructions. Once an acceptable National Register nomination form has been submitted, reviewed, and finalized, we will schedule the property for review by the Historic Preservation Board, a committee of professionals and citizens-at-large from across the Commonwealth. If approved, the nomination will be sent to the National Park Service for approval and listing in the National Register.

Please note that the State Historic Preservation Office's priorities for nomination processing may affect the order in which we review nominations and schedule them for review by the Historic Preservation Board. If you have any questions about the nomination process or preparing the National Register form, please contact David Maher at [damaher@pa.gov](mailto:damaher@pa.gov) or 717-783-9918.

Sincerely,

Andrea L. MacDonald  
Director & Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
PHMC - State Historic Preservation Office

Enclosure

CC: Randolph Harris

## Evaluation

Name: Tucquan Club

Location: Lower Chanceford Township, York County

Applicable National Register Criteria:

☒ A. Events

Area(s) of Significance: **Social History; Science**

Comment: Based on the new information submitted since our May 19, 2017 determination of eligibility, made in conjunction with the review of a federally funded project under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the Tucquan Club appears to be eligible for the National Register for its significance as an influential nature-focused social club that strived to study and promote the natural and cultural history of the lower Susquehanna River valley.

☐ B. Individual

Area(s) of Significance:

Comment:

☐ C. Design/Construction

Area(s) of Significance:

Comment:

☐ D. Information Potential

Area(s) of Significance:

Comment:

Criteria Consideration:

Apparent Period of Significance: 1909 – 1967

Other SHPO Comments: We agree that the eligible boundary should include both the Clubhouse and the Caretaker Residence.

Just a few thoughts to consider for possible nomination:

Any connections to scientific discoveries or significant publications that stem from, or were heavily influenced by work or activities done by members of the Tucquan Club should be highlighted.

Is there any connection between the Tucquan Club and the nearby Indian Steps Museum? The submitted Historic Resource Survey Form appears to indicate that some of the members had experience or knowledge of archaeology (ex. petroglyphs).

How might the Tucquan Club story fit into or compare with similar movements or organizations of the era, such as the Chautauqua Movement of the late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries?

PA Historical and Museum Commission  
State Historic Preservation Office

**Target Dates for Submitting National Register Nominations  
Second Submissions**

The target date for ***final, edited*** submissions to be considered for inclusion on the Board agenda is four months before the meeting. Submissions that do not meet this date for full nomination packages—paper and electronic materials—may not be considered for inclusion in the agenda.

Meeting the target date does not necessarily guarantee a nomination will be scheduled. High numbers of nominations may require that the staff invoke our nomination priorities and defer scheduling nominations to a later meeting.

PA SHPO staff review National Register nominations for completeness and quality within 60 days of receipt.

In most cases, first submissions require corrections and revisions and are returned to preparers with detailed and specific guidance.

PA SHPO reviews resubmitted nominations with the goal of scheduling them for the next available Board meeting, if possible. If needed, nominations not meeting PA SHPO's Priorities for National Register processing may be deferred to a later meeting.

The following target dates apply ***only*** to final submissions. These dates do not apply to first drafts. These dates should provide the time needed for P SHPO staff review of the final submission, notifying CLGs, owners and elected officials, and distributing copies to Board members.

*Meeting dates for 2018 will be determined at the Historic Preservation Board meeting in October, 2017.  
The following are approximate timelines for submissions:*

**Board Meeting date**

**Final Submission date**

1<sup>st</sup> week of February

1<sup>st</sup> week of October

2<sup>nd</sup> week of June

1<sup>st</sup> week of February

1<sup>st</sup> week of October

1<sup>st</sup> week of June

# Historic Resource Survey Form

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION  
Bureau for Historic Preservation

Key # \_\_\_\_\_

ER# \_\_\_\_\_

Date Prepared \_\_\_\_\_

## Name, Location and Ownership *(Items 1-6; see Instructions, page 4)*

HISTORIC NAME Village of York Furnace Springs

CURRENT/Common NAME Tucquan Club

OWNER NAME/ADDRESS Tucquan Club c/o Calvin Levis, P.O. Box 7434, Lancaster, Pennsylvania

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESOURCES 2

COUNTY York County

MUNICIPALITY Lower Chanceford Township

USGS QUAD Airville and McCall's Ferry

LOCATION East and west sides of Furnace Road (S.R. 0425); north and south of Sawmill Run

STREET ADDRESS Indian Steps Road, Airville, Pennsylvania

ZIP 17302

CATEGORY OF PROPERTY ☒ Building ☐ District ☐ Object ☐ Site ☐ Structure

OWNERSHIP ☒ Private ☐ Corporate

☐ Public/Local ☐ Public/County ☐ Public/State ☐ Public/Federal

TAX PARCEL #/YEAR 343000FO0021A000000; and 34000FO004300R0028 (2017)

## Function *(Items 7-8; see Instructions, pages 4-6)*

### Historic Function

1. Commerce/Trade

Social

2. Domestic

### Subcategory

Warehouse

Club House

Caretaker Residence -Single Dwelling

### Particular Type

River Canal Shipping

Men's Fraternal

### Current Function

1. Social

2. Domestic

### Subcategory

Club house

Caretaker Residence -Single Dwelling

### Particular

## Property Features *(Items 15-17; see Instructions, pages 7-8)*

Setting Rural Highway/Waterfront

### Ancillary Features

In-filled Canal

Bridge ruins

Natural spring serving properties

Acreage (round to nearest tenth) 6.9 Acres



## ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION

Clubhouse	Vernacular - commercial/industrial
Caretaker's Residence	Vernacular - domestic

Foundation	Stone	Concrete
Walls	Stone	Wood
Roof	Slate	
Other		
Structural System	Timber frame – post and beam	

**WIDTH** 54' (feet) or (# bays)      **DEPTH** 64' (feet) or (# rooms)      **STORIES/HEIGHT** 3

Year Construction Began 1850   X   Circa      Year Completed 1972   X   Circa

Date of Major Additions, Alterations      1912   X   Circa      1914   X   Circa      1938   X   Circa

Basis for Dating    ☒ Documentary    ☒ Physical

Explain Dates of construction & alterations based on deeds, historic photos, atlas maps, research and physical features  
 Cultural/Ethnic Affiliation(s) Tucquan Scientific and Piscatorial Association, est. 1869. Commonly: The Tucquan Club  
 Associated Individual(s) John Bair (owner/builder of York Furnace Company), Simon Snyder Rathvon, Club founder  
 Associated Event(s) Institution of the Linnean Society of Lancaster, PA. Warehouse re-purposed; originally part of  
Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal. community meeting house, associated with York Furnace, early manufacturing village.  
 Builder(s) John Bair (warehouse/clubhouse) and Tucquan Club members (Construction of Caretaker's Residence, 1938)

**Previous Survey/Determinations** N/A

**Threats** ☐ None ☐ Neglect ☐ Public Development ☐ Private Development ☒ Other

Explain Public utility company property transfer and disposition with intention to demolish ancillary domestic building

**This submission is related to a** ☐ non-profit grant application ☐ business tax incentive  
☐ NHPA/PA History Code Project Review ☒ other

**Name & Title** Randolph Harris, consulting historian & Richard Levengood, Architects, Lancaster, PA

Date Surveyed March 15, 2016 Project Name Tucquan Club  
 Organization/Company Lead - Randolph Harris, Independent Consulting Historian  
 Mailing Address 314 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, PA 17602  
 Phone (717) 808-2941 Email rjharris441792@gmail.com

Key # \_\_\_\_\_

ER# \_\_\_\_\_

**National Register Evaluation** *(Item 31; see Instructions, page 9)*  
**(To be completed by Survey Director, Agency Consultant, or for Project Reviews ONLY.)**

☐ Not Eligible (due to ☐ lack of significance and/or ☐ lack of integrity)

☐ Eligible Area(s) of Significance \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria Considerations \_\_\_\_\_ Period of Significance \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Contributes to Potential or Eligible District District Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Bibliography:**

**First Person Accounts:**

Interview: Paul H. Ripple, M.D. born 1924, Club archivist, artist and community historian. Conversation with the preparer on November 11, 2016 at his home, Lancaster, PA.

Interview: Geraldine Bacon Kilgore, born 1927, daughter of Carl and Mary Kathryn Keeports Bacon, caretakers of Tucquan Club, 1928-1954. Personal meeting with the preparer, October 28, 2016 at the Kilgore home, Cherry Hill Road, Paradise, Lancaster County, PA.

Interview: Gerald Dunkle, Tucquan Club Property Committee Chairman since 1991 and Club member since 1969 conducted on September 29, 2016 at Columbia Diner, Columbia Avenue, Lancaster, PA.

Interview: Barry Acker, Real Estate Specialist, Pennsylvania Power & Light (PPL), whose territorial duties included York County among other counties in PA, and Tucquan Club member since 2013, conducted on September 29, 2016 at Columbia Diner, Columbia Avenue, Lancaster, PA.

**See Continuation Sheet**

**Additional Information**

The following must be submitted with form. Check the appropriate box as each piece is completed and attach to form with paperclip.

- ☒ Narrative Sheets—Description/Integrity and History/Significance
- ☒ Current Photos
- ☒ Photo List
- ☒ Site Map (sketch site map on 8.5x11 page; include North arrow, approximate scale; label all resources, street names, and geographic features; show exterior photo locations.
- ☒ Floor Plan (sketch main building plans on 8.5x11 page; include North arrow, scale bar or length/ Dimensions; label rooms, etc.
- ☒ USGS Map

**Send Completed Form and Additional Information to:**

National Register Program  
 Bureau for Historic Preservation/PHMC  
 Keystone Bldg., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 400 North St.  
 Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

Key # _____
ER# _____

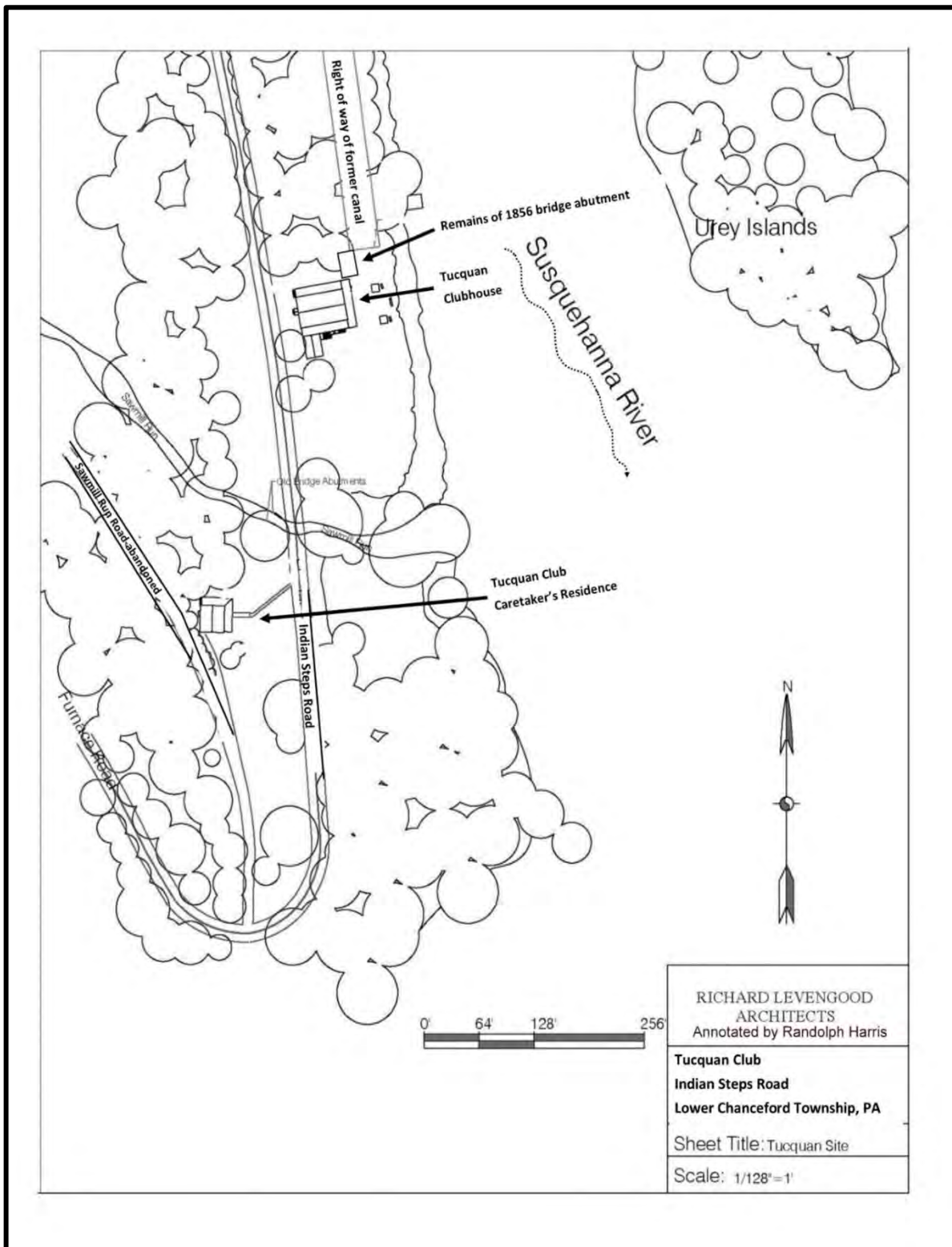
# **Photo List** (Item 33)

Photographer name RANDOLPH HARRIS

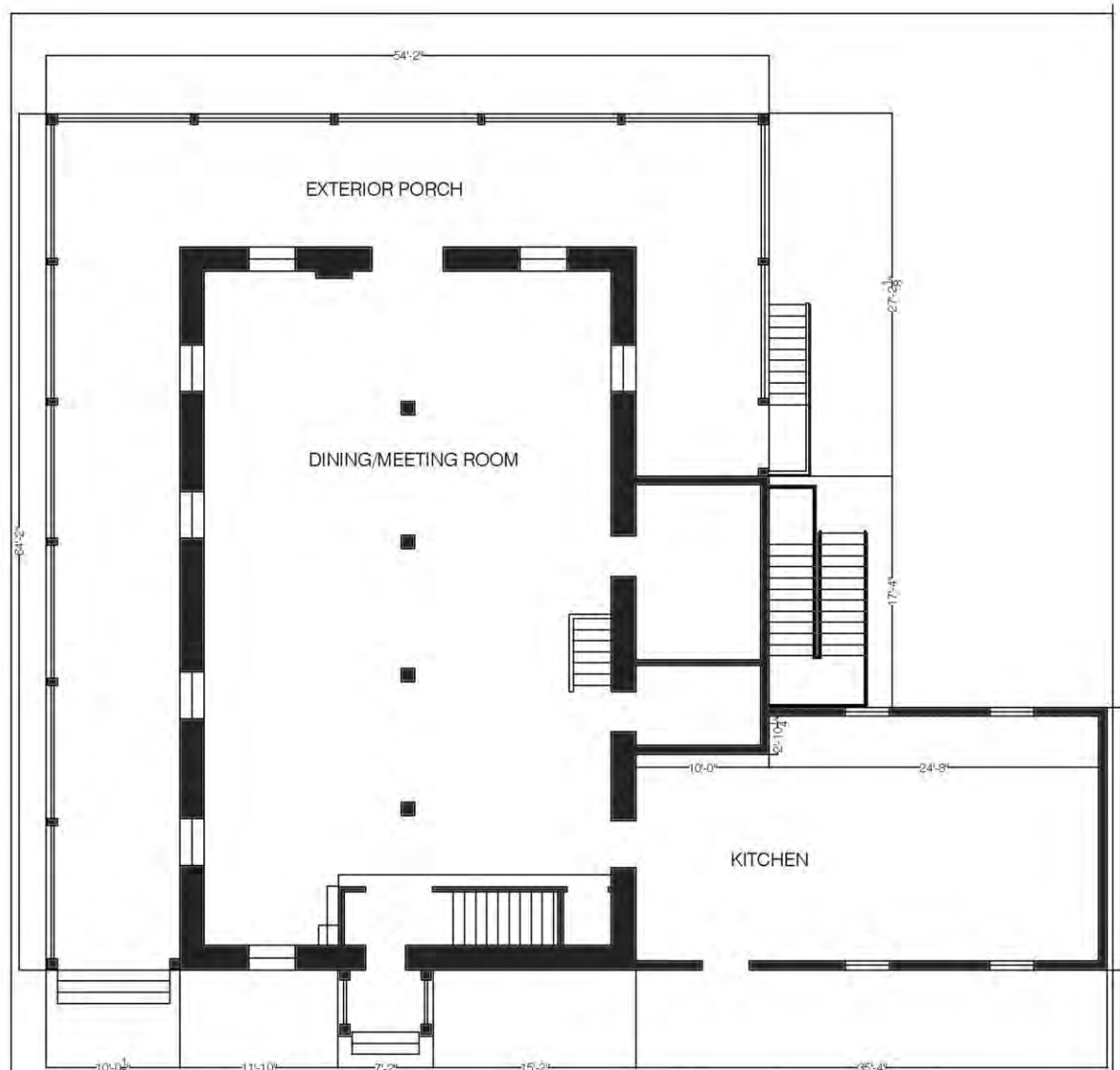
Date 3-15-2017

Location Negatives/Electronic Images Stored Compact Disk – Tucquan Club Archives, 323 Miller Ave., Strasburg, PA

Photo #	Photo Subject/Description	Camera Facing
1	Clubhouse - East elevation	W SW
2	Clubhouse - South and east elevations	NW
3	Clubhouse - East and north elevation, shows remains of York Furnace Bridge	SW
4	Clubhouse - Bridge abutment remains, detail	W
5	Clubhouse - Susquehanna River from Club/Warehouse first floor rear porch	N NE
6	Clubhouse - First floor rear porch	S
7	Clubhouse - Front facade, north elevation porches & one story kitchen wing	E SE
8	Clubhouse - Front facade, south elevation porches & one story kitchen wing	NE
9	Clubhouse - Basement/ground level	W
10	Clubhouse - Double door entry to basement / ground level	E
11	Clubhouse –Window - South elevation	S SW
12	Clubhouse - Basement / ground level - Post & beam central floor supports	S SW
13	Clubhouse - First floor dining room & meeting area	E SE
14	Clubhouse - First floor dining room & meeting area	SE
15	Clubhouse - Exhibit wall, first floor dining room & meeting area	S
16	Clubhouse - First floor dining room & meeting area – Pot belly stove	NW
17	Clubhouse – Bar - First floor dining room & meeting area	N NE
18	Clubhouse – Kitchen - First floor	E
19	Clubhouse - Dormitory Room - Second floor	NE
20	Clubhouse - Dormitory Room - Second floor	SW
21	Clubhouse - Sleeping porch - Second floor	E
22	Clubhouse - Bed in dormitory room - Second floor	N
23	Caretaker's Residence - Front facade—East elevation	W
24	Caretaker's Residence - East and north elevations	SW
25	Caretaker's Residence - North and West elevations	E SE
26	Caretaker's Residence - South elevation	N
27	Caretaker's Residence - South elevation, with Clubhouse & River at right	N
28	Caretaker's Residence - South and east elevations	NW
29	Caretaker's Residence - Porch, south elevation: view to Caretaker's	S SW
30	Caretaker's Residence - Porch on east elevation. View to Club/Warehouse	N NE
31	Caretaker's Residence – Basement - Post & beam floor support	N NW
32	Caretaker's Residence - Basement - Entry and foundation	N NE
33	Caretaker's Residence – Basement - Oil tank and foundation	S SW
34	Caretaker's Residence – First floor - Dining room & living room	SE
35	Caretaker's Residence - First floor - Kitchen	SW
36	Caretaker's Residence - First floor - Living room and dining room	NW
37	Caretaker's Residence - First floor - Stairs—Living room	W
38	Caretaker's Residence - Master Bedroom 1 - second floor	NW
39	Caretaker's Residence - Bedroom 2, second floor	E SE
40	Caretaker's Residence - Attic-storage, third floor	S



SEE DETAILED SITE PLANS WITH PHOTO KEYS ON CONTINUATION SHEETS



RICHARD LEVENGOOD  
ARCHITECTS

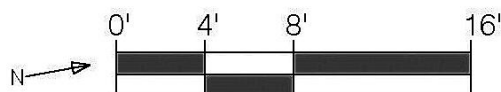
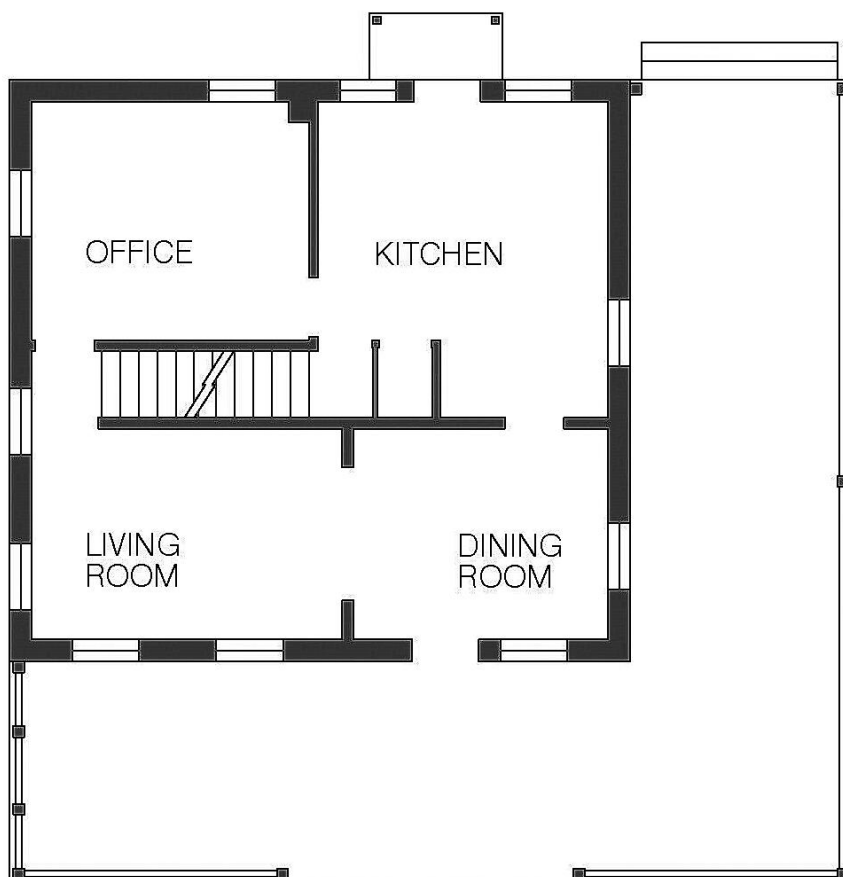
Sheet Title: Club House Overview

Scale: 3/32" = 1'

**See Continuation Sheets**



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RICHARD LEVENGOOD  
ARCHITECTS

Added annotations by Randolph Harris

**Tucquan Club**

**Indian Steps Road**

**Lower Chanceford Township, PA**

**Caretaker's—First Floor**

Sheet Title: Caretaker First Floor

Scale: 1/8" = 1'

**Secondary Source Documents:****Newspapers**

*The Intelligencer Journal*, Lancaster, PA

*The Inquirer*, Lancaster, PA

*The Herald & Examiner*, Lancaster, PA

*The New Era*, Lancaster, PA

**Newspaper articles:**

Brown, William L., club member, letter to the editor, *The Examiner*, Lancaster, PA, "The Tucquan Club, 20th anniversary: Life at York Furnace," July 16, 1889.

Brubaker, Jack, correspondent, *The New Era*, Lancaster, PA "Tucquan Club celebrates 145 years with oysters," November 25, 2014.

Cochran, Thomas B., Special Correspondent. *The New Era*, Lancaster, PA. "A Historical Sketch of the Club to 1882," July 20, 1882.

York Daily Record and York Dispatch, York, PA, Obituary, Grace I. Smith Runkle Brouge, published April 30 to May 1, 2010.

**Journal articles:**

Ripple, Paul H., *The Tucquan Club of Lancaster*, Journal of Lancaster County Historical Society, Lancaster, PA. Volume 103, Number 1, Spring 2003.

Shirk, Willis, *Our Documentary Heritage-Holtwood Hydroelectric Power Plant*, Pennsylvania Heritage Magazine, Volume XXXV, Number 3 - 2009.

**Books, county histories, magazines, commemorative books, collections, scrapbooks:**

Bair, Robert C., personal photo collection (1906-1928). Album 1: 1900-1911. Repository: Call No. 974.841/B163. The York County Heritage Trust reference library, York, PA.

Ellis, Franklin and Samuel Evans. *History of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania with Biographical Sketches of Many of its Pioneers and Prominent Men*. Philadelphia: Everts & Peck, 1883.

Gibson, John, ed. *A Biographical History of York County, Pennsylvania*. Originally published as Part II of *History of York County, Pennsylvania*, Baltimore, MD, 1886 : Reprinted for Clearfield Company, Inc. by Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1996.

Gibson, John, *History of York County, Pennsylvania*. Chicago, IL, F.A. Battey Publishing Co., 1886.

Harris, Alexander, *A Biographical History of Lancaster County [Pennsylvania]: Being a History of Early Settlers and Eminent Men of the County*; Lancaster, PA: E. Barr & Co., 1872.

Prowell, George Reeser. *History of York County, Pennsylvania*. Vol. 1. Chicago, IL, J.H. Beers, 1907.

Rathvon, Simon Snyder, compiler. *Scrapbook of the Linnaean Society, Tucquan Club and Lancaster County Agricultural Society*, June 1851-October 1888. Repository: LancasterHistory.org (Lancaster, PA).

Ripple, Paul H., Paul M. Hess and others, *The 125 Anniversary Booklet of the Tucquan Club of Lancaster, 1869—1994*. Self – published for Club members, Lancaster, PA, 1994.

Tucquan Club, general subject folder. Repository: The York County Heritage Trust reference library, York, PA.

Winpenny, Thomas R., "The Triumphs and Anquish of a Self-Made Man: 19th Century Naturalist S.S. Rathvon," *Pennsylvania History*, Volume 57, Number 2. April 1990.

**Atlases & Maps:**

Aukamp, George R., Holtwood Village, Property No. W-21, Property Index Map No. 6, "Portion of York Furnace Farm, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA." Pennsylvania Power & Light Co., April 1, 1957.

Nichols, Beach 1876 *Atlas of York County, Pennsylvania*. Pomeroy, Whitman, & Co., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

*Continued*

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**Tucquan Club, Indian Steps Road, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA**

**Prepared by Randolph Harris, consulting historian, Lancaster, PA—March 2017**

*Continued from previous page.*

Map of York County, Pennsylvania, 1860, W. O. Shearer & D. J. Lake, Publishers, 517, 519, & 521 Minor Street, Philadelphia, 1860.

USGS 1:62500 Topographic Map, McCall's Ferry, Pennsylvania. Prepared by State of Pennsylvania, Department of Internal Affairs, 1912.

USGS 1:62500 Topographic Map, McCall's Ferry, Pennsylvania. Prepared by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/War Department, 1943.

USGS 7.5 Minute Series (1:24,000 ) Topographic Map, Airville Quadrangle, Pennsylvania, 1999.

**Utility Company Records:**

Aukamp, George R., Holtwood Village, Property No. W-21, Property Index Map No. 6, "Portion of York Furnace Farm, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA, Pennsylvania Power & Light Co., April 1, 1957.

Property Survey Drawing 110-C-50407 by Pennsylvania Water and Power Company (Baltimore, MD.) for Holtwood Hydro-Electric Development, 1936, Based on Deed Number: Lower Chanceford 136, York County, PA, dated August 5, 1912.

**Websites:**

American Canal Society, Canal Index. 1980. Shank, William H. "Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal." Available online at <http://www.americancanals.org/DataSheets/Pennsylvania/Susquehanna%20Tidewater%20Canal.pdf>, accessed February 2017.

Google Earth 2017 Aerial imagery. Available online at <http://www.google.com/earth/index.html>. accessed February 2017.

LancasterHistory.org 2015, "Building Bridges." Available online at <http://www.lancasterhistory.org/along-the-susquehanna-bow-the-river-shapes-a-region/getting-up-down-and-across/building-bridges>, accessed January 2017.

LancasterHistory.org, "The Fraternal River." Available online at [http://www.lancasterhistory.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2315&Itemid=394](http://www.lancasterhistory.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2315&Itemid=394), accessed November 2016.

Franklin & Marshall College website, accessed online at <https://www.fandm.edu/about/mission-and-history>, accessed February 15, 2017.

National Park Service (NPS) 1997 National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

North Museum of Nature and Science (North Museum) Available online at <https://northmuseum.org/about>, accessed November 2016 and February 15, 2017.

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission/Pennsylvania Heritage Magazine. Shirk, Willis, "Our Documentary Heritage-Holtwood Hydroelectric Power Plant," Volume XXXV, Number 3 - 2009. Available online at <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/pa-heritage/holtwood-hydroelectric-power-plant.html>. Accessed 12-12-16

Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (PA Historical and Museum Commission "York County." Available online at <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/rg/di/IncorporationDatesForMunicipalities/pdfs/york.pdf?catid=67>, accessed November 2017.

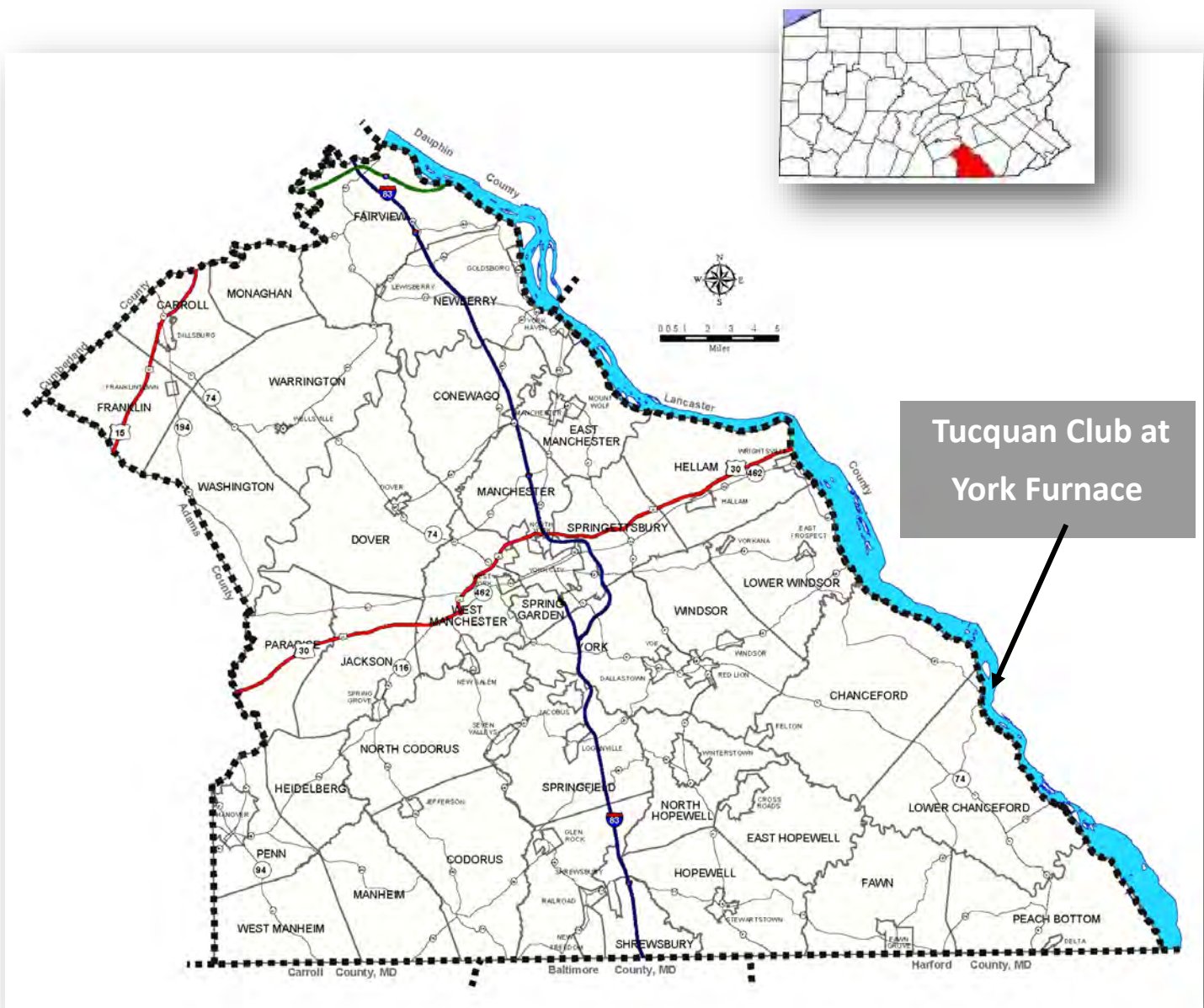
**U.S. Bureau of the Census**

1850 Federal Population Census Records for Lower Chanceford Township, York County, Pennsylvania. U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. Available online at <http://ancestry.com>, accessed November, 2016.

1860 Federal Population Census Records for Lower Chanceford Township, York County, Pennsylvania. U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. Available online at <http://ancestry.com>, accessed November, 2016.

1870 Federal Population Census Records for Lower Chanceford Township, York County, Pennsylvania. U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. Available online at <http://ancestry.com>, accessed November, 2016.

End



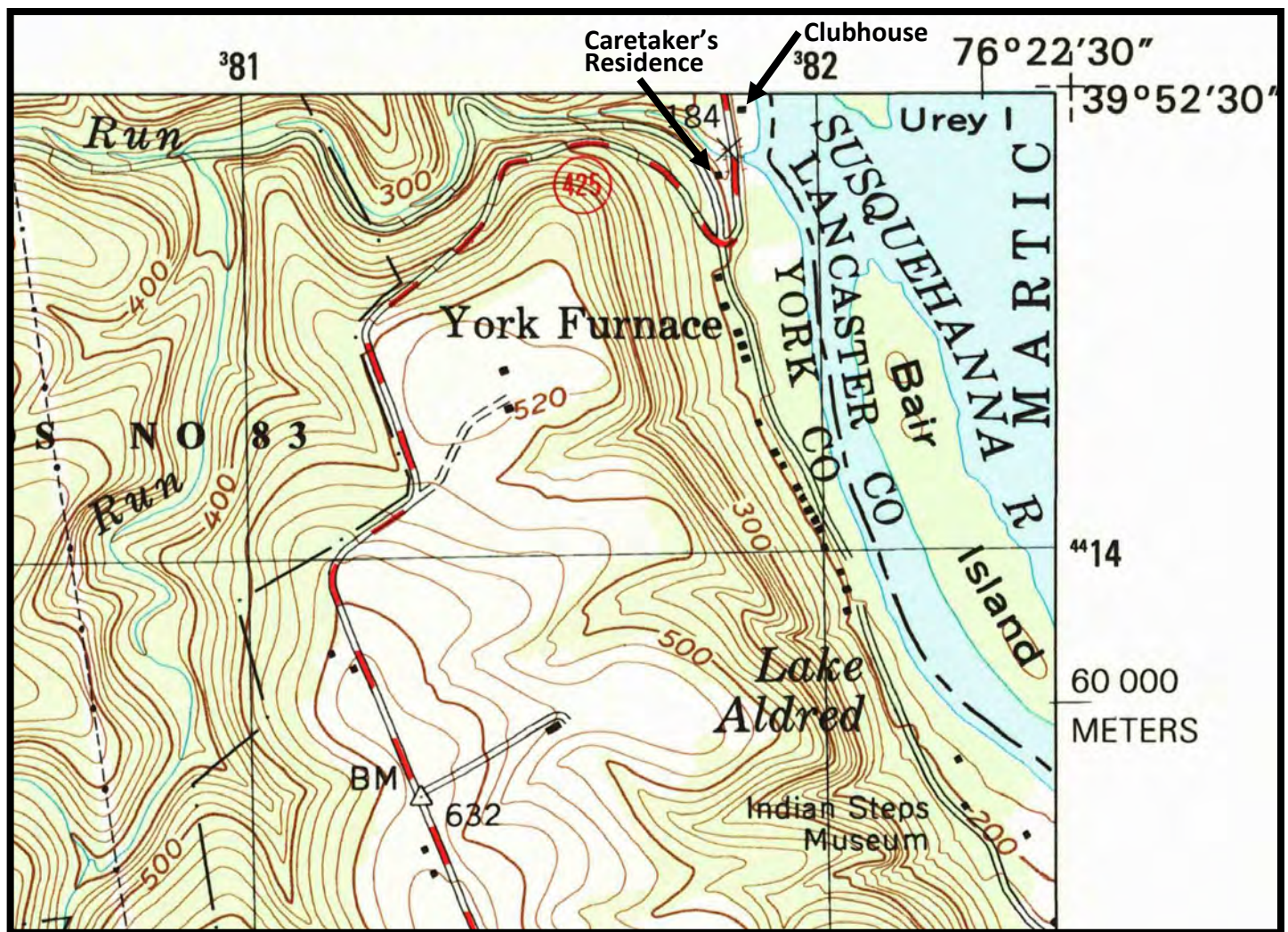
Highway and Municipal Boundary Map of York County, Pennsylvania

York County Planning Commission, 2014

Tucquan Club, Indian Steps Road, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA

Prepared by Randolph Harris, consulting historian, Lancaster, PA — June 2017





Detail, 1999 USGS 7.5 Minute Series (1:24,000 ) Topographic Map, Airville Quadrangle, Pennsylvania.

Tucquan Club, Indian Steps Road, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA

Prepared by Randolph Harris, consulting historian, Lancaster, PA — June 2017





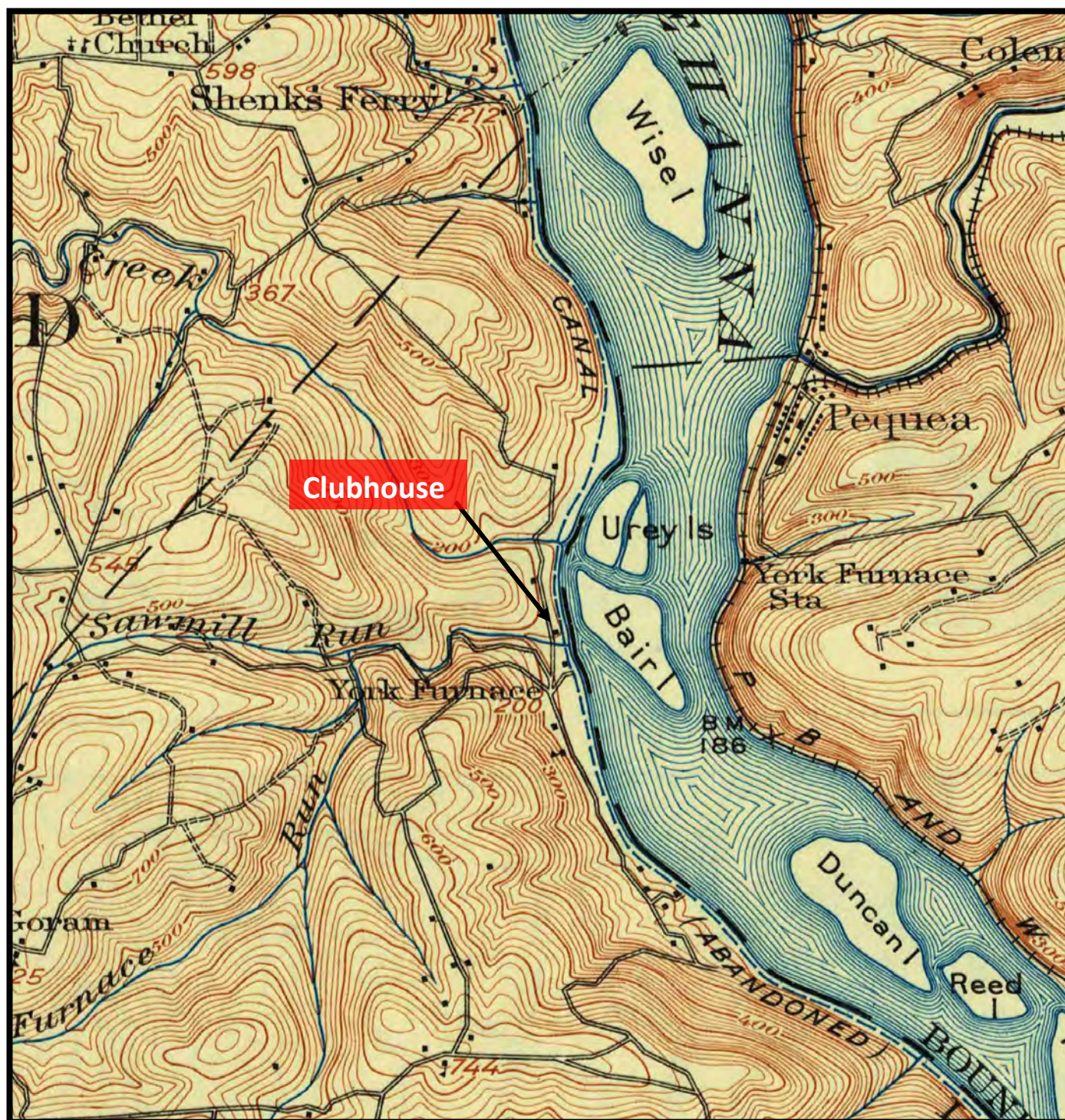
Detail of 1943 USGS 1:62500 Topographic Map, McCall's Ferry, Pennsylvania.

Prepared by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/War Dept.

Tucquan Club, Indian Steps Road, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA

Prepared by Randolph Harris, consulting historian, Lancaster, PA — June 2017





Detail of 1912 USGS 1:62500 Topographic Map, McCall's Ferry, Pennsylvania.

Prepared by State of Pennsylvania, Department of Internal Affairs

Tucquan Club, Indian Steps Road, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA

Prepared by Randolph Harris, consulting historian, Lancaster, PA — June 2017

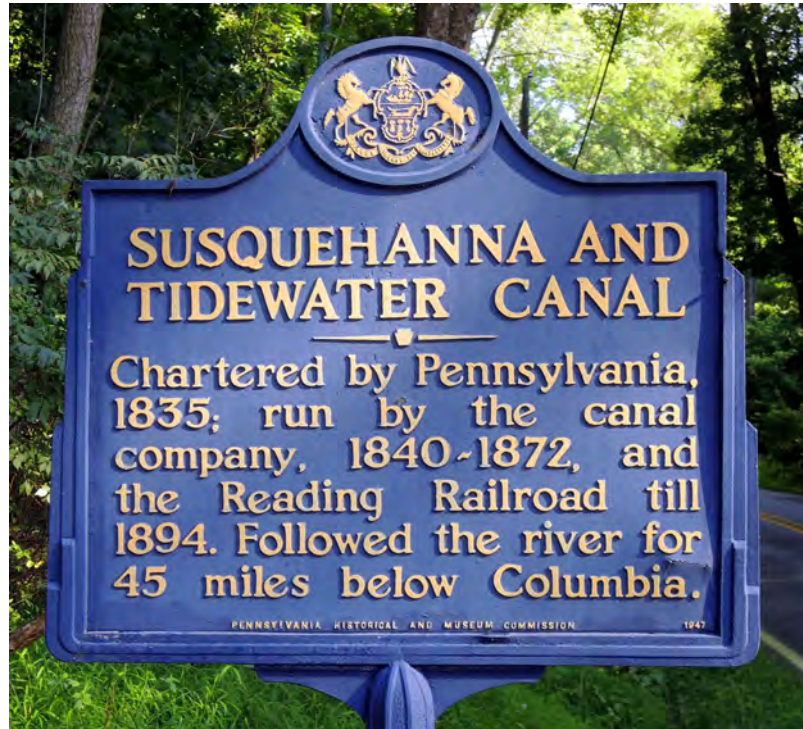




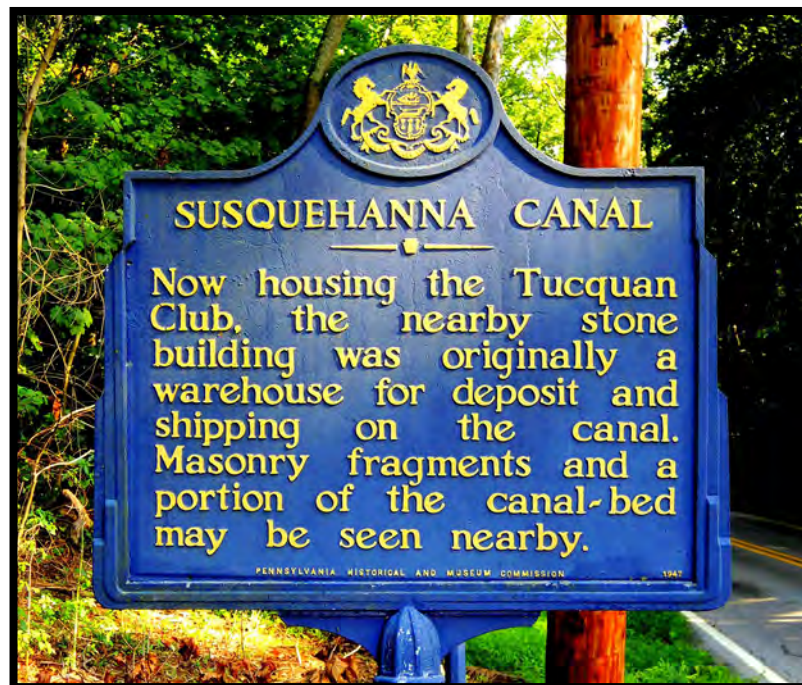
Imagery Date 8/27/16 from Google Earth 2017

Tucquan Club, Indian Steps Road, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA

Prepared by Randolph Harris, consulting historian, Lancaster, PA — June 2017



Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission markers installed near the Tucquan Club, on the west side of Route 124. Dedicate in 1947.



Tucquan Club, Indian Steps Road, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA

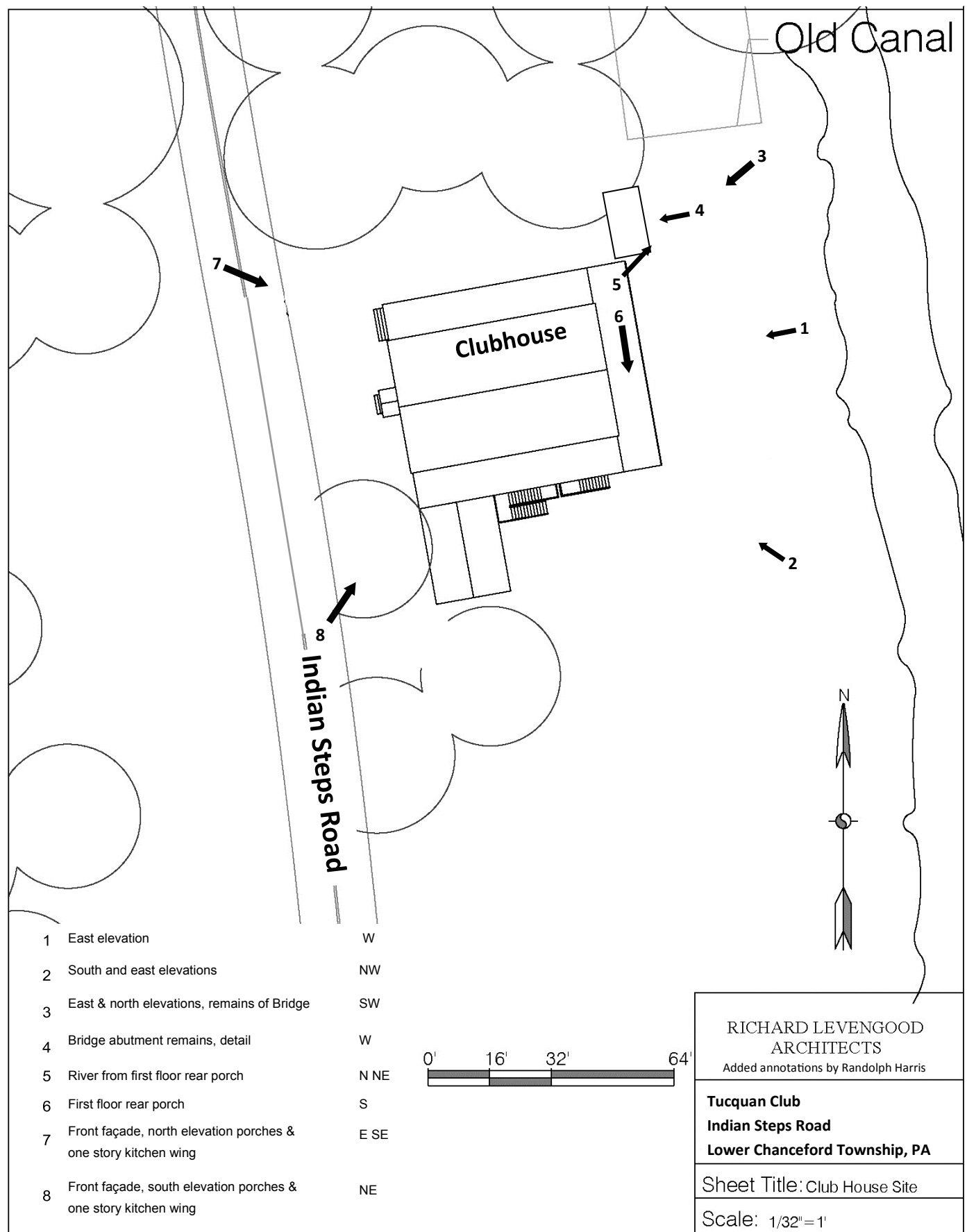
Prepared by Randolph Harris, consulting historian, Lancaster, PA — June 2017

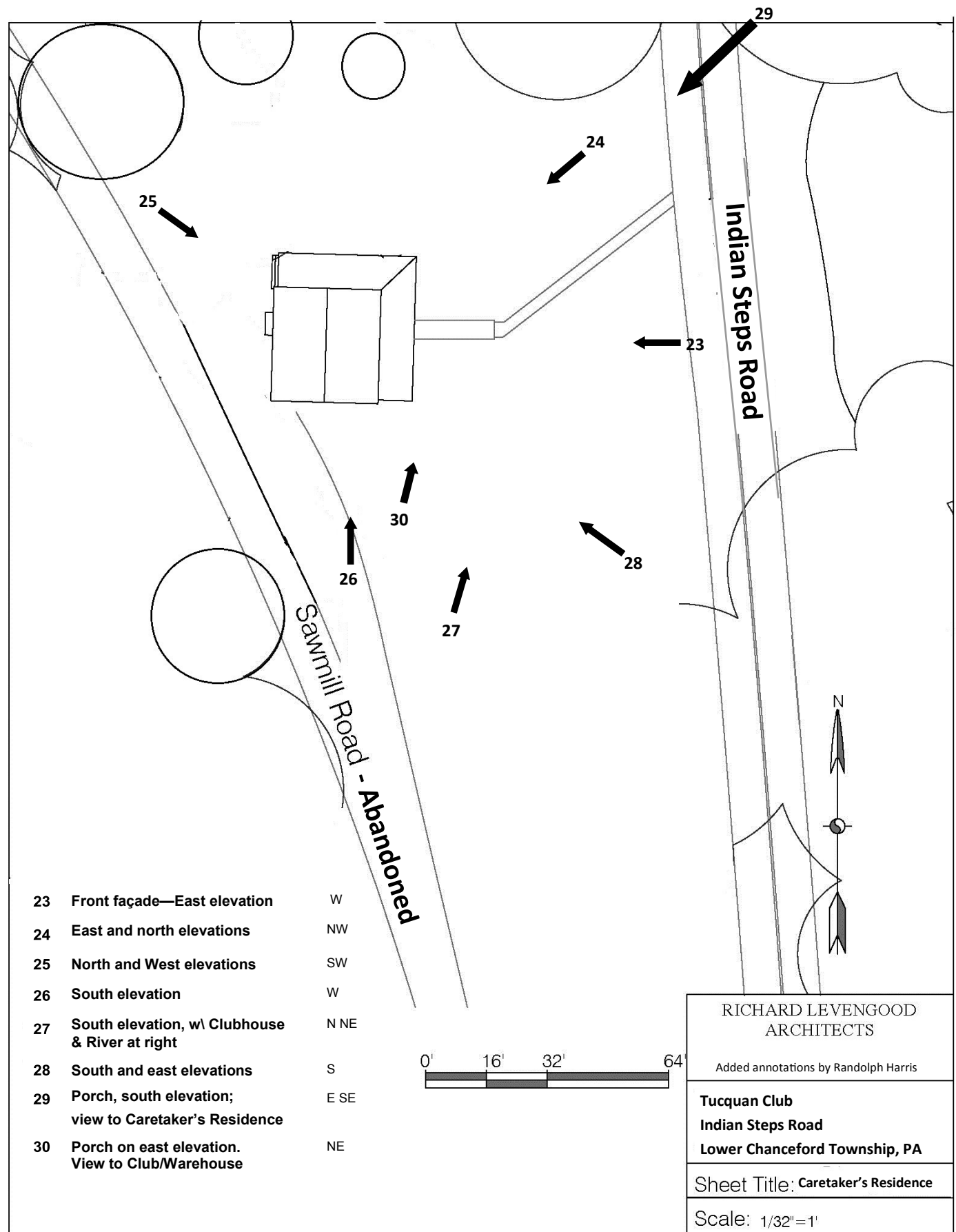


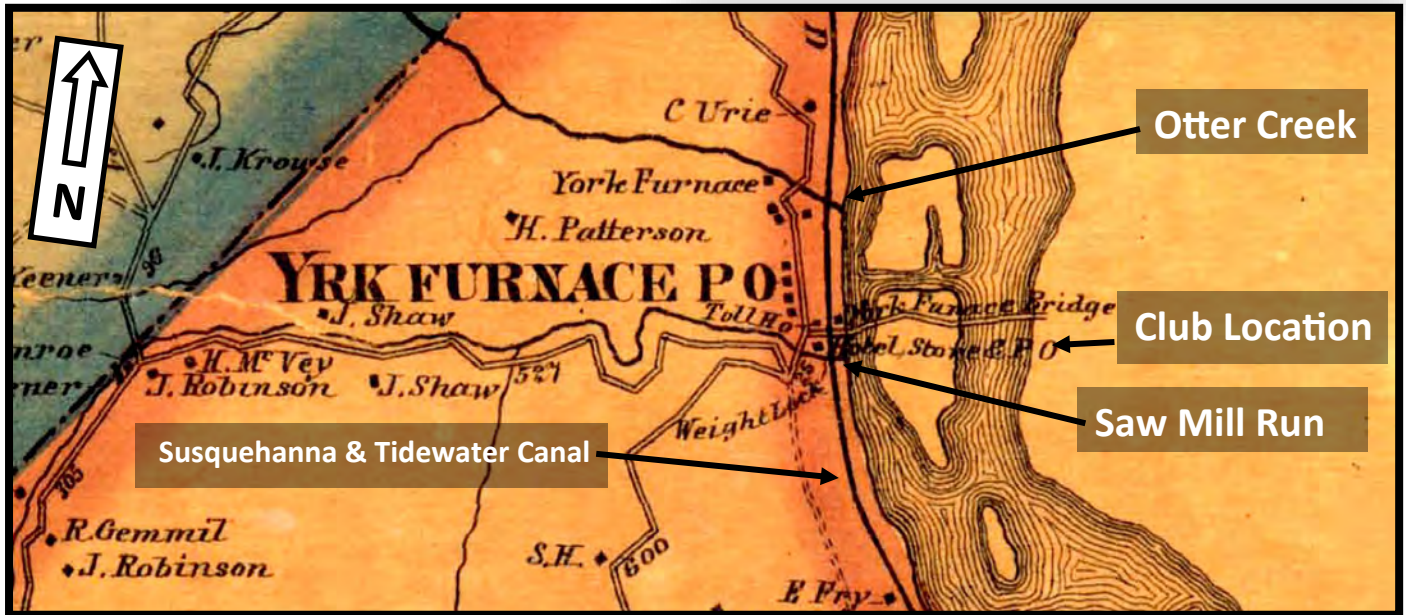


Pennsylvania Power & Water Co. Marker, commemorating the last of the wooden bridges that spanned the Susquehanna River. Located near the driveway to the Tucquan Club and in alignment with the bridge's former right of way.









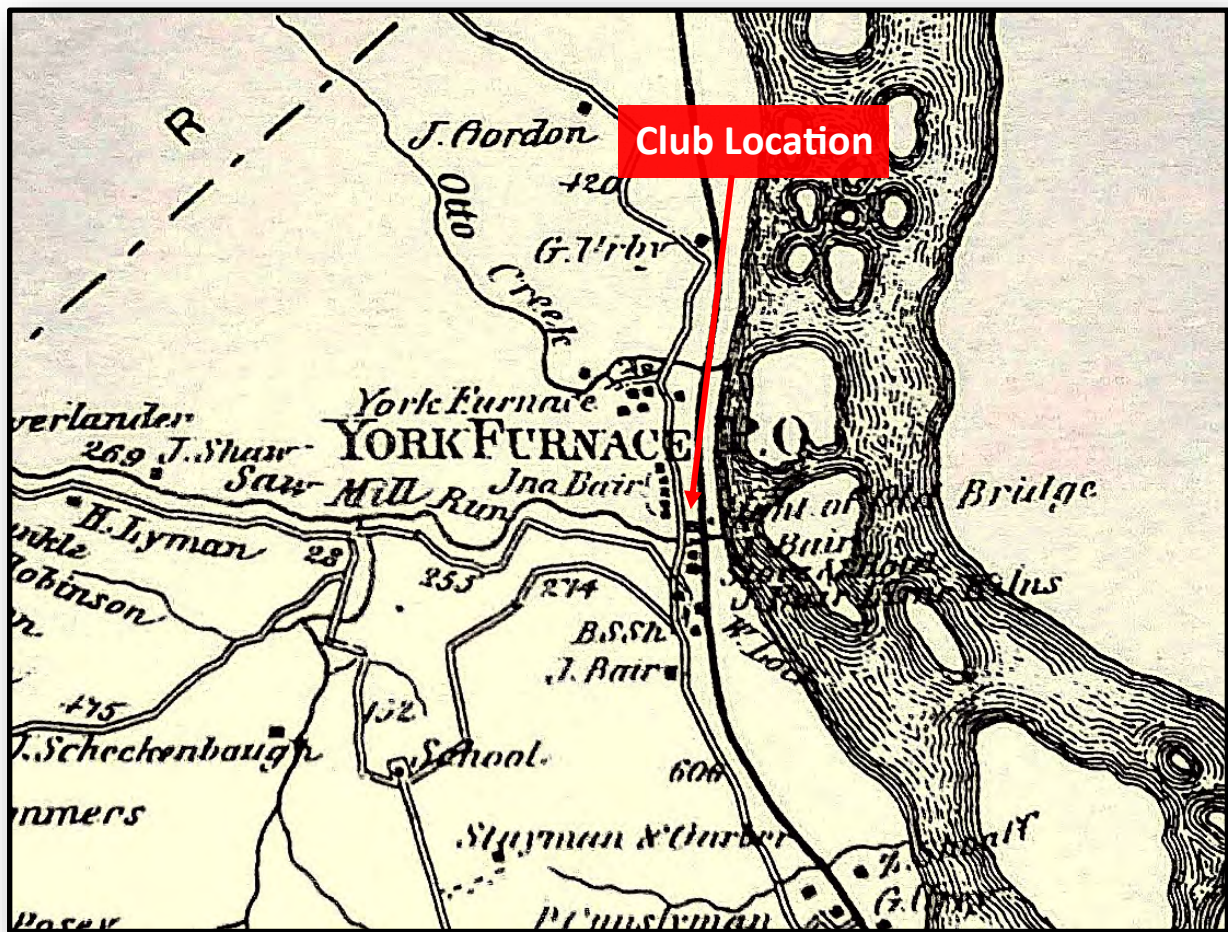
Detail, Map of York County, Pennsylvania, 1860. W. O. Shearer & D. J. Lake, Publishers, Philadelphia, 1860.

This 1860 atlas map shows the “York Furnace Bridge,” despite the span’s destruction by an ice jam in 1857. Features depicted on maps of this period often reflect resources documented by field observations years before a publication date, especially in relatively remote areas such as York Furnace. The bridge landing on the west bank of Susquehanna River is located immediately north of a building labeled “Hotel, Store and P.O.” This map square indicates the approximate location of the existing clubhouse of The Tucquan Club, formerly a privately-owned warehouse that served shipping operations on the Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal. Built by Robert Bair, either circa 1850 [Prowell, 1907] or 1879 [date stone on building (above) and Hess-Ripple: Club 125th Anniversary Booklet, 1994, p. 25], the warehouse was repurposed as the Clubhouse in 1912. No evidence has been found through research to indicate that the subject building ever served as a post office or hotel. As an indication of alternate uses through the years, however, the upper floor of the Warehouse is recorded as being used for community “religious services, dances and other social gatherings” [Hess-Ripple: Club 125th Anniversary Book, P. 25] after 1894 when canal operations ceased, and until about 1911 when lease arrangements were made between the Tucquan Club and Pennsylvania Water & Power Co.

Tucquan Club, Indian Steps Road, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA

Prepared by Randolph Harris, consulting historian, Lancaster, PA — June 2017





Detail of atlas map of Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA - 1876

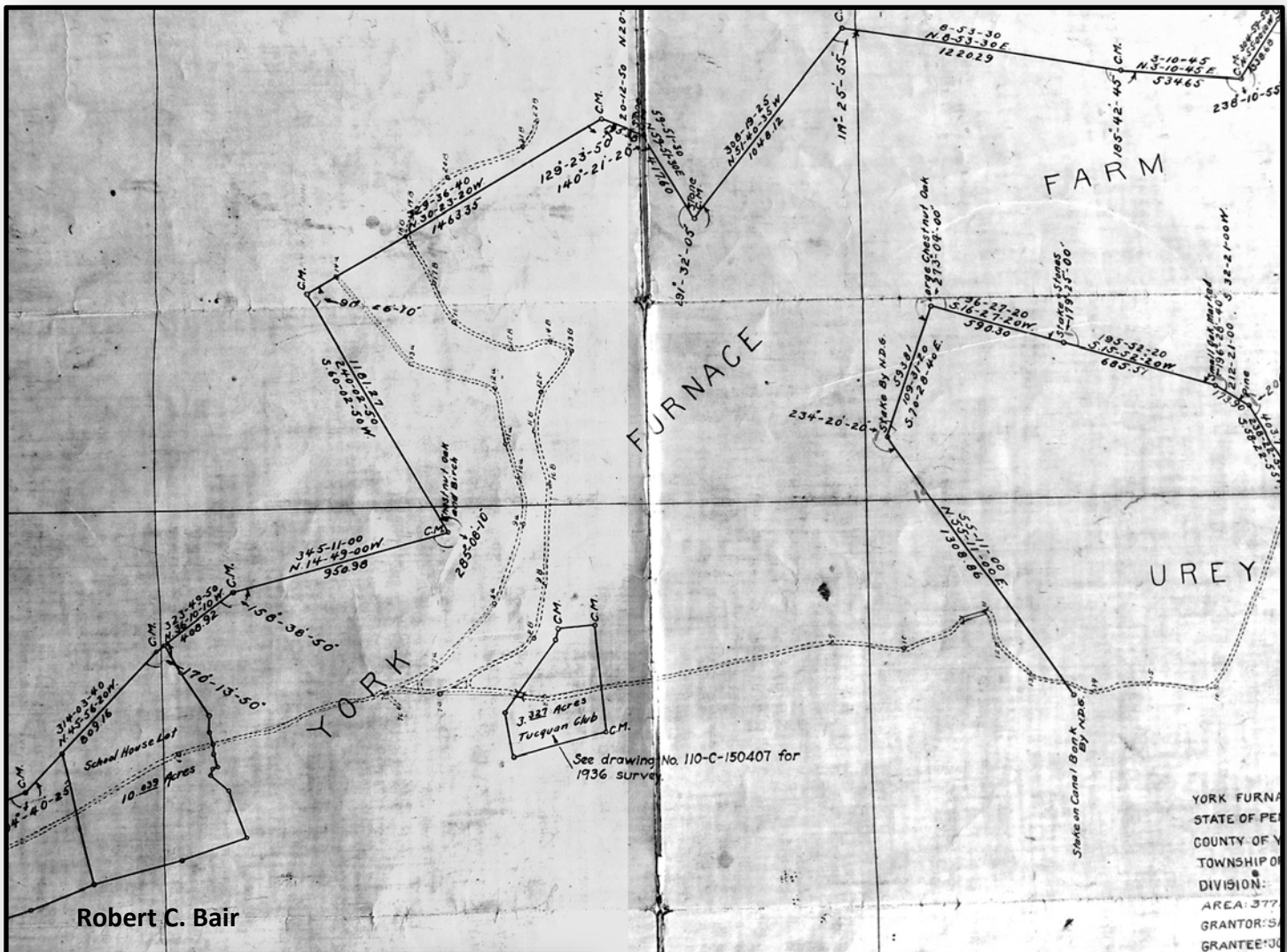
Published by Pomeroy, Whitman & Co., Philadelphia, PA. Copy courtesy of York History Center, York, PA



This map does not present sufficient evidence to support a determination of a date and location of the subject Warehouse/Clubhouse. There is a black square at the approximate location of the subject building, north of Saw Mill Run and between the road and the canal. There are words shown for this square that relate to the "Old Bridge" (destroyed in 1857), while buildings and structures south of the Run that are shown are consistent in names and location with information found on other maps, and text references, i.e. John Bair's Store and Hotel, his lime kilns and the Weight Lock.

Tucquan Club, Indian Steps Road, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA

Prepared by Randolph Harris, consulting historian, Lancaster, PA — June 2017



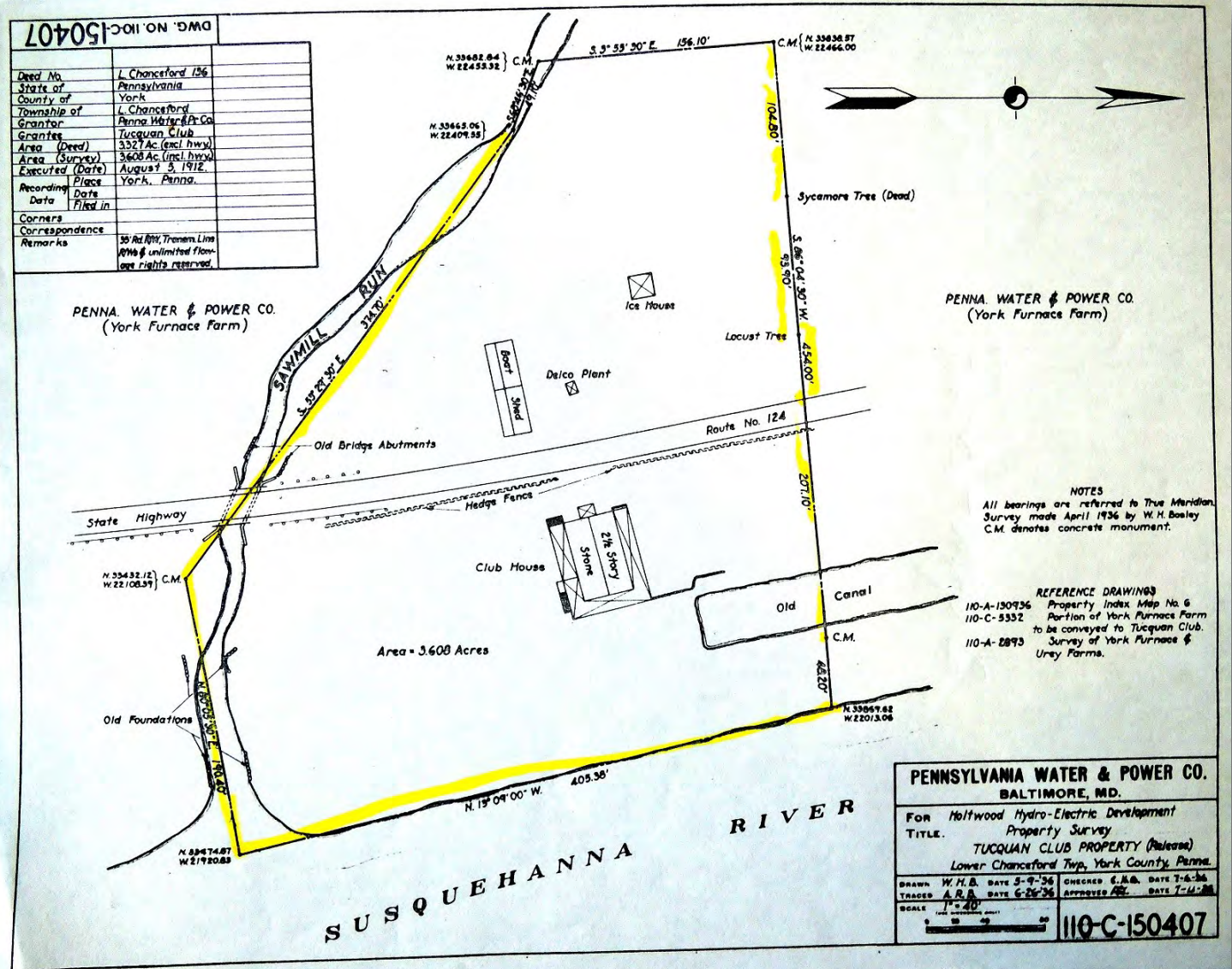
YORK FURNACE FARM  
 STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA  
 COUNTY OF YORK  
 TOWNSHIP OF LOWER CHANCEFORD  
 DIVISION:  
 AREA: 377A. 122.2P. (AREA TAKEN FROM DEED)  
 GRANTOR: SAMUEL M. FULTON, ASSIGNEE OF JOHN BLAIR  
 GRANTEE: JOHN W. HOLMAN (NOW PENN. A. WATER & POWER CO.)  
 DEED EXECUTED: FEB. 27, 1902.  
 DEED REGISTERED: MAY 16, 1902 - BOOK 12Y PAGE 370.  
 MEASURES IN: FEET  
 DESCRIPTION DATED: IN LETTER FILE #  
 CORNERS: AS NOTED  
 SURVEY MADE BY: N.D. GILLESPIE IN 1911.  
 NOTES COMPUTED AND PLOTTED BY R.H. HOSMER IN 1912.  
 DEED INDEXED AS LOWER CHANCEFORD TOWNSHIP INDEX MAP #26  
 FOR OLD SURVEY SEE DRAWINGS 110-A-2804 & 2805.

Tucquan Club parcel location shown within the larger tract of 377-acres once owned by Robert C. Bair, formerly known as York Furnace Farm. This survey was executed in 1911, possibly in connection with the lease or acquisition of the Club parcel by the Club from the utility company at this approximate time period. From the archives of Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.

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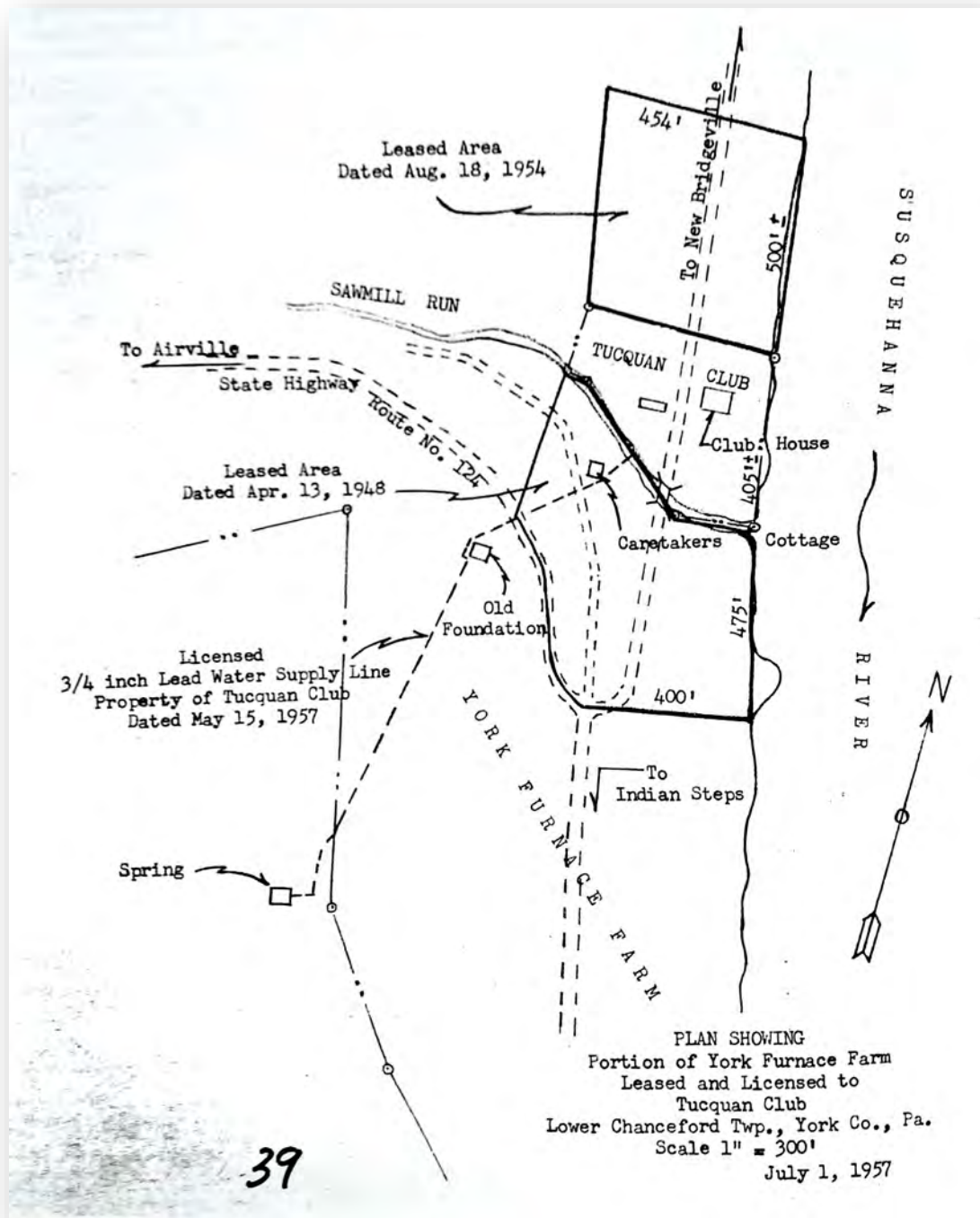




Survey documenting the release to the Tucquan Club from Pennsylvania Water & Power Co., of 3.608 acres of property, part of a 377-acre tract owned by Robert C. Bair, formerly known as York Furnace Farm. This conveyance approved 7-11-1936. Survey shows not only the Warehouse/Clubhouse but also the right of way of the former canal adjacent to the subject building, and the Boat Shed, Delco Plant and Ice House located across Route 124 and used by the Club. From the archives of Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.

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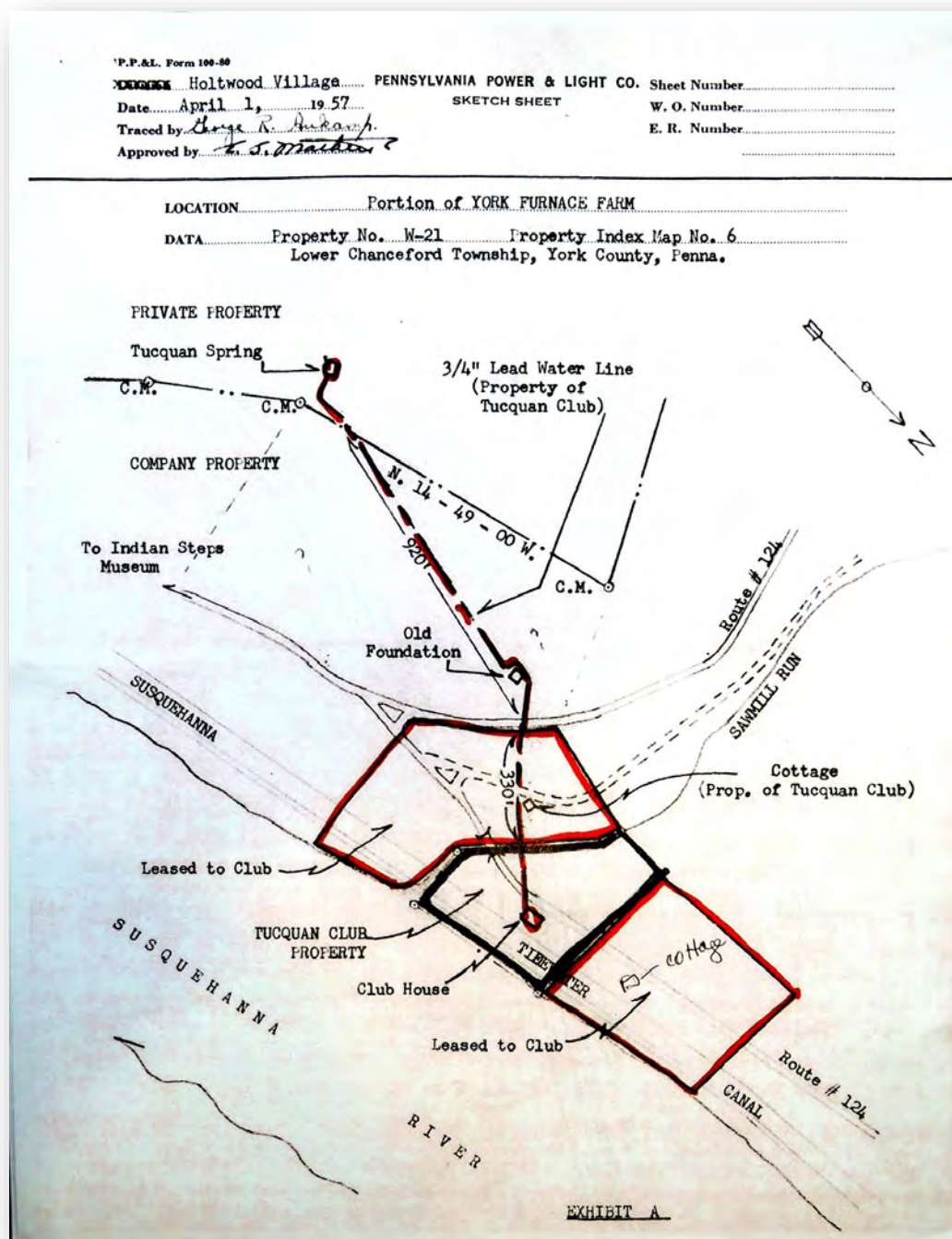


"Map of the Tucquan Club area showing outright ownership of land and leases on adjacent properties including the water supply pipe line crossing Pennsylvania Power & Light Co. property." July 1, 1957. Text as shown on page 39, Ripple, et. al., *The 125 Anniversary Booklet of the Tucquan Club of Lancaster*, 1994.

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## How Acreage

## Was Estimated

With area of the central parcel recorded as 3.3 acres, and using the scale distance of 330 feet shown on this site plan as the length of the water line across the southern parcel, the following estimates of acreage per parcel that the Tucquan owns or leases was calculated as follows:

"Leased to Club"

5.6 acres.

"Tucquan Club Property"

3.3 acres

"Leased to Club"

5.3 acres

**TOTAL**

**14.2 acres**

Northern most parcel not currently leased to Club, according to Club officers, as of 2017

Holtwood Village, Property No. W-21, Property Index Map No. 6, "Portion of York Furnace Farm, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA." Drawn by George R. Aukamp for Pennsylvania Power & Light Co., April 1, 1957. From the archives of Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.

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1867 news article and a related accompanying account from a local history book, 1869, illustrates the Club's founding members' early interest in scientific pursuits blended with outdoor camping and fishing experiences in the Susquehanna River

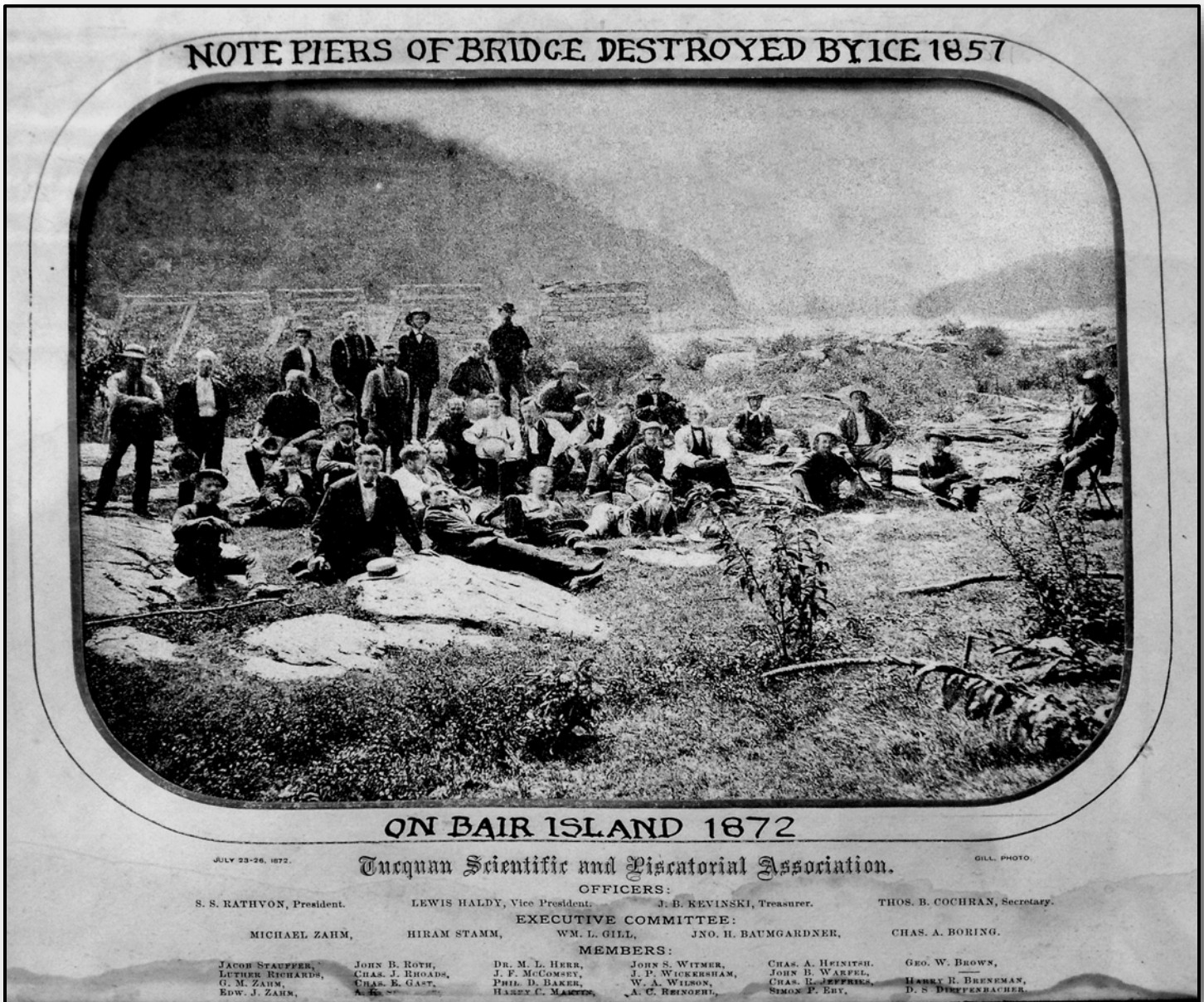


Club seal adopted in 1882, (Ripple & Hess, 1994, page 14). Photographed at the Tucquan Club, March, 2017.

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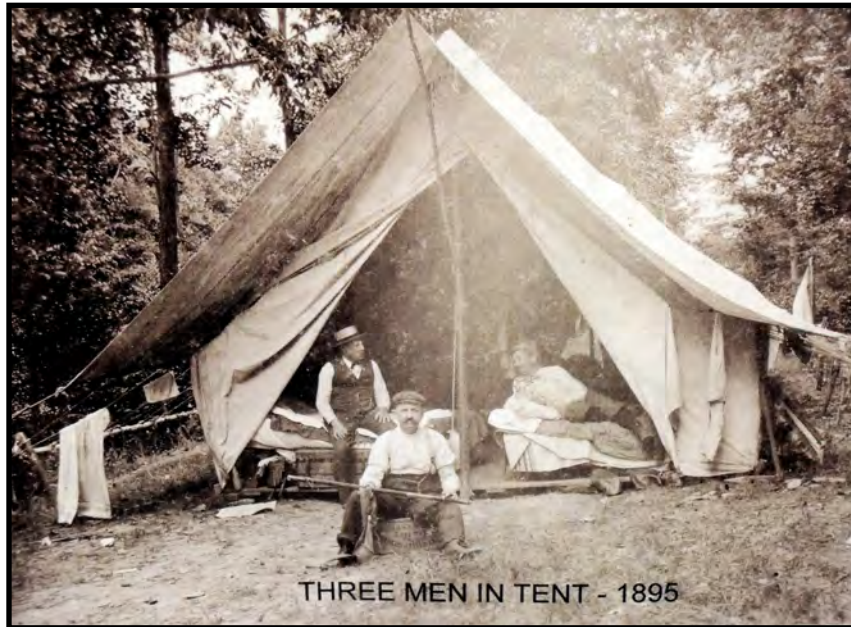


View southeast from the shore of the Susquehanna River, near the Clubhouse. From the Tucquan Club archives, photographed at the Club, March, 2017.

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Club members camping in the area, 1895 and gathering at the Club-house, 1969. From the Tucquan Club archives, photographed at the Club, March, 2017.





View north of south elevation of the Tucquan Club, 1892, from "Souvenir of York Furnace, 1892. York Furnace Hotel, destroyed by fire in 1911 is shown at left. Between the two buildings are the remains of the Weigh Lock and footbridge that spanned the canal at the Warehouse, now the Clubhouse. Courtesy of York County Historical Society, reproduced here from Ripple & Hess, 1994.



Earlier view, but similar in perspective to the view shown above. Weigh Lock appears here. Subject, year and photographer unknown. Courtesy of the J. C. Thorbahn Collection, Lancaster, PA.

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Tucquan Club, Indian Steps Road, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, PA

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“Edward Hefner cultivating potatoes for Tucquan Club in York Furnace Garden, June 16, 1909. ”

This photograph indicates that Hefner was an early employee or contractor with either The Tucquan Club and/or Pennsylvania Water & Power Company, since the property being cultivated for fresh produce was at this time owned by the utility company, and it remains in ownership by the current firm descendant from PWP Co. Hefner is standing in the approximate area of the current location of the Caretaker's Residence.

From the Robert C. Bair personal photo collection (1906-1928). From Album 1: 1900-1911. Repository: The York County Heritage Trust reference library, York, PA. Call No. 974.841/B163.



Titled “Ice Jam of 1918,” this is a view northeast showing of the Club’s west and south elevations. This photo determines the approximate construction period of the porches and the enclosure on the south elevation of the first and second floors as having occurred soon after acquisition in 1912. From the Tucquan Club archives, photographed at the Club, March, 2017.



From the Tucquan Club archives, photographed at the Club, March, 2017.



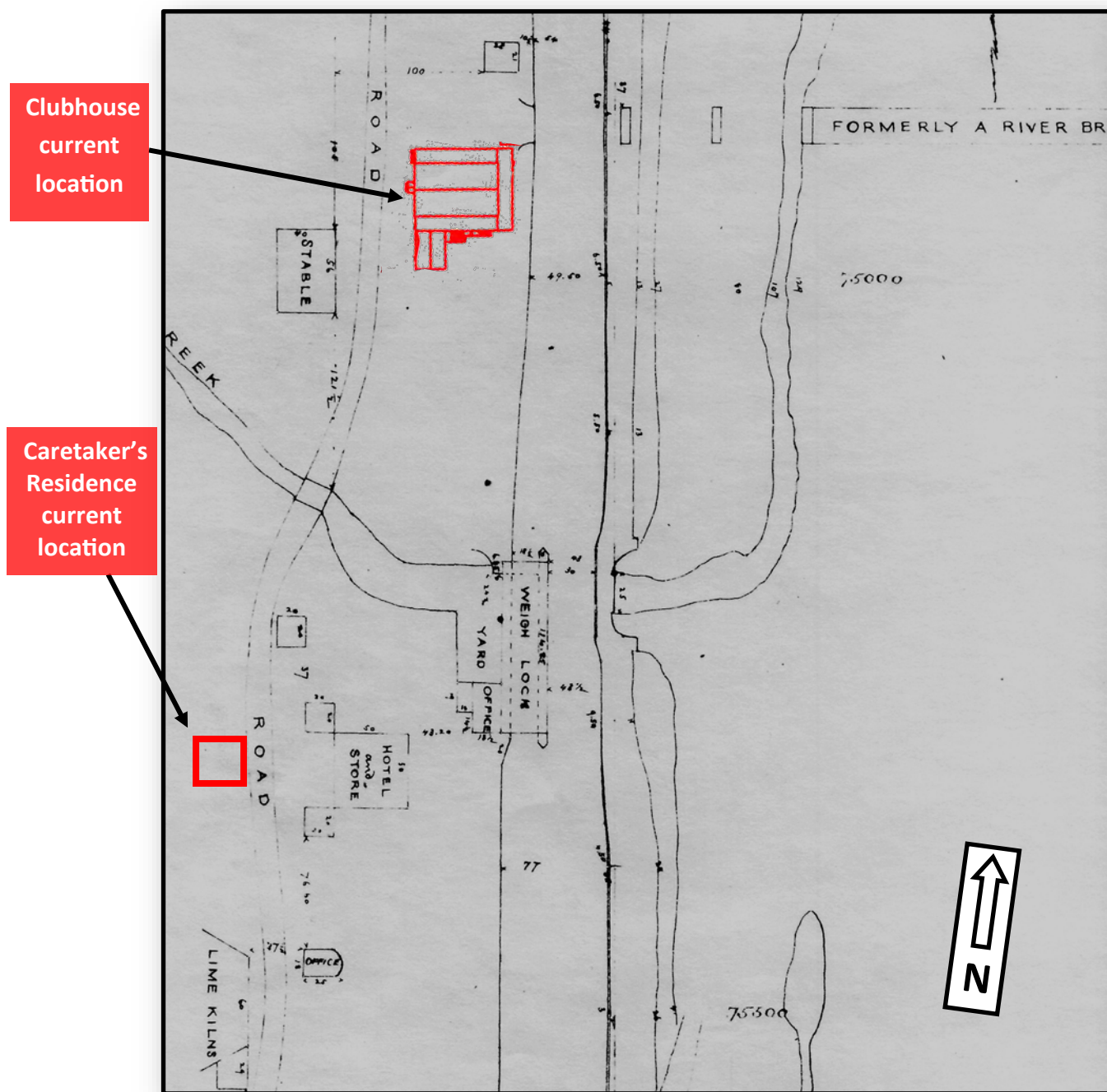


Reproduced and digitally reversed from original blueprints, "Plan of proposed Caretaker's Residence for the Tucquan Club, November 30, 1937 by Clyde M. Faver, Elizabethtown, PA." From Tucquan Club archives, 323 Miller Ave., Strasburg, PA. Originals maintained by Gerald Dunkle, Club House Committee Chair.

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Current location and approximate size of Warehouse/Clubhouse and Caretaker's Residence, shown as overlays on a detail of Plate 23, a 2' X 3' site plan, from a series of 67 plates documenting the entire canal right of way, undated, and titled:

"Plan and Profile of the Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal - Wrightsville to Havre de Grace.

Copy Presented to Millersville State College by Safe Harbor Water Power Corp., R. D. 2, Conestoga, PA."

The base drawing appears to show resources in the subject area approximately 1870. This date is based on: 1) the bridge span right of way is shown as "formerly a..." (destroyed in 1857) , and 2) since the canal property was leased to the Reading Railroad in 1872, a detailed survey such as this would have been needed. The subject Canal Warehouse/Club House is not shown, indicating that it may have been built sometime after 1872, giving some credence to the primitive date stone on the west elevation of the Clubhouse showing 1879.

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## Physical Description and Integrity (Item 38)

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### Physical description and integrity of Tucquan Club complex - two parcels and two principal buildings

The subject property consists of two contiguous parcels of approximately 8.9 acres combined in York County, PA, located on Indian Steps Road (sometimes referred to as Furnace Road or PA State Route 425). The two parcels extend along the western shoreline of Susquehanna River for approximately 900 feet. The parcels rise from the shoreline in stepped fashion, leveling off, and then extending in a moderate grade in a westerly direction up the hillside, terminating along an irregular western border that range in distance from the river from approximately 600 to 400 feet.

Native trees, grasses and small shrubs are prevalent on the site, which also includes a small tributary of the river. The immediately surrounding hills of the river valley rise between 200 to 300 feet above the river level, according to USGS topographical maps.

The principal parcel is approximately 3.3 acres.<sup>1</sup> Located on this parcel is a three and one-half-story former stone warehouse, built by John Bair, a native of Lancaster County who conducted his extensive industrial scale businesses at York Furnace Village.<sup>2</sup> Determining the exact date of construction remain elusive; deed records, other public records and site plans available show no specific date of construction for this building. A widely known county history indicates the date may be 1850, while the Club most recent commemorative history book and a crude date stone indicate 1879 as the year of construction.<sup>3</sup>

This building has been adapted from its original use as a canal company warehouse and currently houses the Tucquan Club, a private organization that has owned and used this building as its meeting and activity facility since 1912.<sup>4</sup> With roots in this general area dating to 1862, the Club began as an amateur scientific organization of businessmen and educators from the City and County of Lancaster, PA and later became a camping/fishing organization for outdoors enthusiasts and a social club.<sup>5</sup> The clubhouse had been constructed as a warehouse as part of the Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal system that was in operation from 1840 to 1894 (*Figure 6*).

Immediately south of this parcel and separated by a stream (Saw Mill Run) is a separate Club-related property. It is a triangular parcel, bounded on two sides by public roads (Indian Steps and Furnace Roads) and by the referenced stream on the other side. This property of approximately 5.6 acres is part of a large parcel of several hundred acres owned by BIF III Holtwood LLC, formerly known as the PPL Corporation, formerly PP&L or

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<sup>1</sup> Lot area is 3.3 acres excluding road right of way and 3.6 acres including road, per Property Survey Drawing 110-C-50407 by Pennsylvania Water and Power Company (Baltimore, MD.) for Holtwood Hydro-Electric Development, 1936; based on Deed Number: Lower Chanceford 136, York County, PA, dated August 5, 1912.

<sup>2</sup> Prowell, *History of York County, Pennsylvania*. 1907, page 1005.

<sup>3</sup> York County maps and atlases, 1860 & 1876; Ripple & Hess, *Tucquan Club 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Booklet*, 1994, date stone on west elevation of the former warehouse.

<sup>4</sup> Ripple, Paul H., *The Tucquan Club of Lancaster*, Journal of Lancaster County Historical Society, Lancaster, PA Volume 103, Number 1, Spring 2003.

<sup>5</sup> Rathvon, Simon Snyder, compiler. *Scrapbook of the Linnaean Society, Tucquan Club and Lancaster County Agricultural Society*, June 1851-October 1888. Repository: LancasterHistory.org (Lancaster, Pa.).

Key # _____
ER# _____

Pennsylvania Power and Light and originally as Pennsylvania Power & Water Company. This small portion of the large parcel has been leased by the Club on a long-term basis (*Historic Map 5*). Situated here is a single-family dwelling that has served as the residence of Club's property caretakers. An earlier dwelling on the same building foundation served first as the residence of caretaker employees of Pennsylvania Water & Power Co. since approximately 1910 (*Figure 4 – Dwelling does not appear on this 1912 map*). Since 1936 the club has owned the dwelling which sits on this leased land. (*Historic Map 5 and Historic Photograph Sheet 7*).

The dwellings on this site have been permanently occupied by three successive families who have been employed by the Club as property caretakers, stewards and cooks.<sup>6</sup> Following a fire in the fall of 1936, the current Caretaker's Residence was re-built in 1937 on the foundation of that earlier dwelling, which was constructed by the predecessor utility company, circa 1910.<sup>7</sup> This date of construction coincides with the massive nearby construction immediately downstream of the Holtwood Hydroelectric Power Plant over the period 1905-1910.<sup>8</sup>

Other site features of the parcel that includes the Clubhouse are: an in-filled canal right of way that once ran parallel between the Clubhouse and river (*Historic Map 5*); the remains of a bridge abutment of the York Furnace Bridge, built in 1856 and destroyed by an ice jam in 1857.

*See Site Plan, Photographs 3 and 4 (Page 2 of 19) and Figures 6 and 7.*

The location allows for sweeping panoramic views to the east of the Susquehanna River, with its many wooded islands, surrounding forests and hillsides.

The Tucquan Club converted the canal company warehouse into its permanent meeting and activity center with the purchase of the property in 1912.<sup>9</sup> The building features storage and utility space on the lower, ground level accessible at grade on the river-facing/east elevation; a dining hall, bar and kitchen wing at grade of the public road as the second level, and; an open space for dormitory style sleeping arrangements on the third or upper level. There is an attic crawl space above the ceiling of the third floor.

The former warehouse is a rectangular stone building, the core of which measures approximately 34 wide feet by 54 feet in depth (east to west). The building is wrapped on three sides by wooden porches. The walls are constructed of rubble sandstone with large granite quoins (*Photos 1,2,3,4,7 & 8*). The roofing material is slate, and there are two brick chimneys internal to the stone walls. They pierce the roof at the ridge line at the gable ends. The slope of the roof and the broad overhang creates an implied pedimented character.

The building is not equipped with central heating system since it is not permanently occupied, nor rarely used from approximately November through March of every year. A coal burning potbellied stove located on the second level dining and gathering area provides heat as necessary. Water for domestic use of both the

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<sup>6</sup> Interview, October 28, 2016 with Geraldine Bacon Kilgore, born 1927, daughter of Carl and Mary Kathryn Keeports Bacon, caretakers, 1928-1954.

<sup>7</sup> Interview, September 29, 2016 with Gerald Dunkle, Tucquan Club archivist, Lancaster, PA. U.S.G.S. Map, 1912.

<sup>8</sup> Shirk, Willis, *Our Documentary Heritage-Holtwood Hydroelectric Power Plant*, Pennsylvania Heritage Magazine, 2009.

<sup>9</sup> Dunkle interview, September 29, 2016 and Ripple, *Tucquan Club 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary booklet*, 1994, page 20. York County deed, 18 K, Page 510, August 5, 1912. grantor Pennsylvania Water & Power Company and Knickerbocker Trust Company to The Tucquan Club.

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Caretaker's Residence and the Clubhouse comes from a spring whose source is located off the property (*Historic Maps 5 & 6*).

The porch decks that wrap around the second level (the floor at grade with the public road) are open air, while the porches above appended to the third level are enclosed. The third level porches provide additional, separate sleeping areas as part of the dormitory arrangements on this level; the porch attached to the north elevation is screened while the living/sleeping area on the south elevation is fully enclosed in a frame structure, clad in white aluminum siding, with double hung windows. This addition to the original warehouse dates to at least 1918, based on a photograph from that year showing the building's south elevation in a Club publication.<sup>10</sup>

Fenestration of the stone Clubhouse includes large double hung, six over six sash set at regular 7'-6" intervals on the two upper floor levels. The windows are constructed with heavy granite lintels and wooden sills. Each window is flanked with a pair of wooden two panel shutters. The gable end facades (east and west) are identical in terms of symmetrical door and window arrangements: three bays on each level with centrally located doors with transoms on the second level; one large centrally located window on the third-floor levels with 16 (round top) over 12 lights in double hung sash. These windows on the third level are further accented with granite stones set vertically into the stone wall in the form of a round arch, providing the warehouse structure with its most pronounced feature. On both elevations, there are 2, six over six lite, double hung windows that provide air and illumination into attic crawl space. Between these windows on both the east and west elevation are curved metal wall ties. Directly above the wall ties near the roof peak of both elevations, square granite stones are set into the stone walls, giving the impression of a date stone. However, no inscription is visible on the west elevation. On the opposite elevation, there are four stones set in the form of a cross.

A frame kitchen wing, also aluminum clad, measures approximately 20 feet wide by 25 feet long and is attached to the first floor of the south elevation of the stone building nearest to the west elevation and the public road. This wing, built in 1972<sup>11</sup> is set on a concrete block foundation. There are two jalousie style windows on the east and west elevations of the kitchen wing and a similar single window on the south elevation. Access is gained by a single door on the west elevation and internally through an entry from the main dining area of the Clubhouse.

The interior of the Clubhouse building consists of two singular open spaces with small lavatory support rooms. The large first floor (second level) room serves as the Club's dining & meeting room, lounge area and bar. The plaster walls, trim, paneled doors, and wooden floors are original to the building. The building's structural system is exposed on this level with heavy timber columns and beams 12-feet in height that run down the center of the room and repeat in the basement, or first level below this room. The room is decorated with Club memorabilia and various artifacts.

The third-floor level serves as dormitory space and mirrors the floor below in size, shape, original finished materials, but this sleeping area lacks the heavy structural system that bisects the lower space. This third-floor level has a vaulted ceiling. A wooden winder stair connects the dormitory area to the second level dining area (*Photographs 19, 20, 21 & 22*).

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<sup>10</sup> Ripple, Paul H., *Tucquan Club 125th Anniversary booklet*, 1994, page 26.

<sup>11</sup> Blueprints by Toews, Ayres & Huber, Inc., Engineers, Lancaster, PA, in possession of Tucquan Club Archivist.



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ER# _____

The basement at ground level serves as a storage area, with access to the outside (east elevation) via wooden double doors. A plain wooden staircase along the interior of the south foundation wall connects to the floor above. The basement floor is mostly concrete. Four post and beams floor supports align east to west through the center of this space, are boxed with light-weight wood and set on concrete footings (*Photographs 9, 10, 11 & 12*).

### **Caretaker's Residence**

In addition to the Clubhouse building, the Tucquan Club also includes a Caretaker's Residence, sometimes referred to as the Caretaker's Cottage, and was designed by Clyde M. Faver of Elizabethtown, PA in 1937 (*Historic Photograph Sheet 7*). Caretakers in residence are families employed by the Club.

This residence is located approximately 225 feet southwest of the Clubhouse, across Saw Mill Run and situated on land leased by the Tucquan Club from the above-mentioned utility company. (*Site Plan, Photographs 23-40*).

This four-bay, two-and one-half story frame, dwelling, clad in vinyl siding, was constructed in a vernacular style. The building's stone foundation is original to the site but the original structure from the ground up was destroyed in an accidental fire in 1936.<sup>12</sup> A new residence was constructed on the original foundation, and retained the floor layout of the original Caretaker residence. The building is sited on the square foundation that measures approximately 27 feet on each side. The ground floor includes a wraparound porch on two sides: east and north elevations.

Roof material is asphalt shingle. A brick chimney rises against the north elevation and pierces the roof eave. Windows are contemporary double hung with three over one lite sash.

The dwelling includes three levels of living space: four first floor rooms; three bedrooms and two baths on the second floor and two rooms in the attic. Interior finishes include wooden floors, mostly carpeted, simple painted period trim and painted plaster walls.

The basement is accessed by stairs that descend from the middle of the first-floor living space. The dwelling's post and beam structural system is exposed in the basement and is aligned south to north. The basement floor is concrete. There are no entries below grade.

### **Integrity**

**The converted Warehouse to Social Club:** With physical remains of the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal within the area of the subject limited to outcroppings of the 1855 bridge ruins, and portions of foundations believed to have been part of a canal Weigh Lock, the Tucquan Club Complex does not retain historic integrity of its original use as a warehouse built for storing materials shipped on the canal sometime between circa 1850 and 1894 when canal operations ceased.

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<sup>12</sup> Ripple & Hess, 1994, page 31.

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The canal right of way has been filled in and the old weigh lock and toll house were demolished about the time shipping operations ceased as evidenced by photographs (*Historic Photograph Sheet 4*). In addition, there is virtually no readily visible buildings from the era of John Bair's private investment in the Village of York Furnace which are reflected in late 19<sup>th</sup> century atlas maps and other narrative records: the post office, furnace, saw mills, hotel, pavilions, livery stables, iron furnace, limekilns, worker housing, etc.

However, on-site observations and research of the photographic and written record of the Tucquan Club indicates that the re-purposed warehouse possesses integrity in the context of its use as a social hall for this private organization since it was acquired by the Club in 1912.

The Clubhouse has maintained its location immediately north of Sawmill Run, between the Susquehanna River and Indian Steps Road, while the Caretaker's Residence is in its original local to the southwest. Therefore, the Club complex has maintained integrity of location.

The Tucquan Club has maintained its integrity of setting, despite the loss of some ancillary buildings and structures: a frame boat shed, ice house and the self-contained battery powered electric plant which brought powery to the Club from about 1920 to 1944 before the supply of electric power from the nearby utility.

While alterations to the original warehouse building have affected the integrity of its original design, materials and workmanship, the building retains integrity of the physical changes in design, materials, and workmanship that were begun in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and which have continued in the ensuing years, in connection with the building's conversion into a social club. Shortly after the club acquired the property in 1912, members added open air and enclosed porches on two levels.

Also, a fire escape was added to the south elevation in approximately 1945, which required enlarging one window into a door-sized opening. In 1972, the Club constructed a one-story frame kitchen addition on the south elevation.

Internally, the Club built a bar on the second/street level and poured a concrete floor in the basement, ground level, among other cosmetic changes that made the interior space more hospitable than the open, utilitarian space of a mid- to late-19<sup>th</sup> century stone warehouse.

**The Caretaker's Residence:** Despite the 20<sup>th</sup> century additions of synthetic exterior siding and replacement windows, the Caretaker's Residence retains essential building integrity and the association and setting of its early 20<sup>th</sup> century construction for use as the on-site residence of the Tucquan Club's property manager and family. It continues that use and arrangement with the Club. Although not planned or contemplated, the physical changes could be removed, if desired, and the building would present its original basic appearance and dimensions. All current door and window openings and spacial arrangements remain the same as those shown on the plans for the dwelling, dated 1937. The same may be said of current interior finishes and treatments.

Considering on-site observations and available records regarding its location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship, the Tucquan Club Caretaker's Residence retains the integrity of association and feeling of a support building purpose-built for a family in residence in the employ of a social club, a function which it has served since construction of the current dwelling (1937) and for years before (as early as circa 1910) the same use was conducted in an early dwelling that occupied the same site, with the current Caretaker's Residence built on the original foundation.

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Based on the above descriptions and observations, with regard to location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship, the overall Tucquan Club Complex retains integrity of association and feeling of a social club, the intended function for which it was converted after acquisition in 1912.



## History and Significance (Item 39)

**"The hills above York Furnace are getting so familiar to members who have visited there that they are gradually drawing others who, hunting distant spots, overlook the attractions so near at hand and easily reached for rest and recreation."**

***The Tucquan Camp, 20th anniversary, Life at York Furnace, by William L. Brown, Tucquan Club member, letter to the editor, The Lancaster Examiner, July 16, 1889***

The buildings and grounds that currently comprise the organization known as the Tucquan<sup>1</sup> Club are located on two contiguous parcels of riverfront land that total approximately 8.9-acres. This property grouping was formed during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century through a fee simple transaction for the club house property and a lease arrangement for the property on which is located the Caretaker's Residence. These two parcels were extracted or delineated from a larger tract of 377 acres<sup>2</sup> known as the York Furnace Farm, then owned by the Pennsylvania Water & Power Co. (*Historic Map 3*). The private social club has occupied the former canal warehouse as its club house since it acquired the building and 3.6 acres in 1912.<sup>3</sup> The Tucquan has owned the dwelling known as the Caretaker's Residence since the Club built the home (1937-1938) on land leased from the utility company specifically for the occupancy of its caretaker employee and his family. (*Historic Map 4*). In prior years, beginning about 1917, the Club engaged building and grounds caretakers and their families as employees under a "handshake arrangement" with the utility company.<sup>4</sup>

Beginning in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, and growing socially and economically well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the general area of the subject property evolved into a highly developed industrial and commercial enclave with transportation links that gave it access to interstate markets. The community and its varied enterprises were centered around steep, densely wooded hillsides that provide a reliable water flow and lumber to power early saw mills and a charcoal iron furnace complex known as York Furnace. The area included expansive and productive farmlands and the transportation infrastructure of the river, canals and roadways that linked two states: Pennsylvania and Maryland.<sup>5</sup>

The name York Furnace continues to identify this locale, even though industrial operations ceased more than a century ago. The name also indicates the primacy of this extensive business venture in an area of Southeastern Pennsylvania that was essentially a community on the frontier of the early American nation. York County was established in a separation from Lancaster County in 1749. In 1886, a local historian wrote:

**"For over a half- century York Furnace has been one of the most important business places in the county along the Susquehanna River. It lies in the northeast part of Lower Chanceford Township near**

<sup>1</sup> Native American derivative-name for 5.9-mile Stream in Lancaster County, PA, near Holtwood. Pronounced tuk-wan.

<sup>2</sup> Deed recorded May 16, 1902 in Book 12Y, page 370 between grantor Samuel M. Fulton, assignee of John Bair and grantee Pennsylvania Water & Power Co.

<sup>3</sup> York County deed, 18 K, Page 510, August 5, 1912. Grantor Pennsylvania Water & Power Company and Knickerbocker Trust Company to grantee, The Tucquan Club

<sup>4</sup> Interviews: with Paul H. Ripple, M.D. born 1924, Club archivist (retired), artist and community historian. Conversation with the preparer on November 11, 2016 at his home, Lancaster, PA; and with Geraldine Bacon Kilgore, born 1927, daughter of Carl and Mary Kathryn Keepports Bacon, caretakers of Tucquan Club, 1928-1954. Personal meeting with the preparer, October 28, 2016 at the Kilgore home, Paradise, Lancaster County, PA.

<sup>5</sup> Prowell, George Reeser. History of York County, Pennsylvania. Vol. 1. Chicago, IL, J.H. Beers, 1907, page 1004.

the mouth of Otter Creek. The Charcoal Furnace was built in 1830, by James Hopkins of Lancaster, a prominent lawyer. Mr. Hopkins manufactured pig iron, some stone and hollow ware. The name, York Furnace, was given to it because it lay in York County. Mr. Hopkins owned a similar furnace then, in Lancaster County.<sup>6</sup>

The growth in this immediate area was sparked first by a primitive water-powered saw mill dating to the Colonial era, circa 1760, but growth and development surged with the firing of that first iron furnace in 1830. According to a county history from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, and also noted in the Tucquan Club's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary booklet, the York Furnace village included enterprises in forestry, mining, metal trades, raw material transportation and a variety of commercial support activity, all extending along the west bank of the Susquehanna River in Lower Chanceford Township in the general vicinity of, and within the sub-watersheds of two river tributaries: Otter Creek marking the approximate northern reaches of the Village and Saw Mill Run to the south.<sup>7</sup> (*Historic Map 1*)

Village growth continued with the commencement of construction in 1836, and the opening in 1839 of the Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal. AT its northern terminus at Wrightsville, York County, this important canal transportation system was linked to another canal operation at Columbia, Lancaster County, by way of a river crossing at a wooden covered bridge built in 1831-32. There, on the eastern shore of the Susquehanna River, the state-owned Pennsylvania Canal had its southern terminus. Beginning in the late 1820s, this canal moved freight and passengers north to the state capital at Harrisburg. From there, by 1834, canals, early railroads and inclined planes connected west to Pittsburgh, creating what was known as the Main Line of Public Works. From Columbia, canal boats carrying passengers and freight were pulled west across the river on a tow path attached to the bridge, to the Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal at Wrightsville. The canal extended south 45 miles south along the river to Havre de Grace, MD, at the head of Chesapeake Bay. Of the total distance of the canal, 30 miles were in York County and 15 miles in Maryland. York Furnace Village, as it was also known, was located at about the mid-way point along the canal system.<sup>8</sup>

Many successive owners and operators invested in the early iron furnace from its beginnings in 1830 until stability was achieved in about 1850 when Lancaster County native John Bair (1816-1892) became a principal. With the canal right of way running directly through the Village of York Furnace, Bair's business interests changed dramatically.

"A weigh lock was erected over Saw Mill Run in 1850. The same year, John Bair erected a large store, hotel, warehouse building and wharves near the weigh lock."<sup>9</sup> (*Historic Maps 1 & 2*).

This reference to a "warehouse building" is the basis of the traditional understanding of the earliest date ascribed to the current building, which serves as the club house or social hall of the Tucquan Club.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Gibson, John, *History of York County, Pennsylvania*. Chicago, IL, F.A. Battey Publishing Co., 1886, page 482.

<sup>7</sup> Ripple, Tucquan Club 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book, 1994, page 2; Prowell, *History of York County, Pennsylvania*. 1907, page 606.

<sup>8</sup> Prowell, *History of York County, Pennsylvania*. 1907, page 607.

<sup>9</sup> Prowell, *History of York County, Pennsylvania*. 1907, page 1005.

<sup>10</sup> Interview: Gerald Dunkle, Tucquan Club Property Committee Chairman since 1991 and Club member since 1969, September 29, 2016.

Business volume in York Furnace Village – with a boost from canal operations -- grew appreciably until the canal reached its peak volume of traffic in about 1870. During this period, however, railroads continued to draw freight and passengers from all canal operations in this region and beyond.<sup>11</sup>

As with many communities and regions that experience explosive growth and development over a relatively short period, the economic engine of the area eventually waned for a variety of reasons, and the larger community in this area -- on both sides of the Susquehanna River – began to revert to its natural features during the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. During this transition, the area evolved socially and economically into a place where outdoor activities were conducted by individuals and groups, such as river boating, camping, fishing and general recreation. A notable regional trend in outdoor recreational excursions began here in 1869, continuing to the present day, centered around the birth of private organization that has become known as the Tucquan Club.<sup>12</sup> Continuing for many years in the club's formative period, excursions were made to this region of the Lower Susquehanna River by scientifically-minded businessmen from the City and County of Lancaster. These individuals appear to have been on the leading edge of a national movement that swept across America by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>13</sup>

“Camping gained momentum in the nineteenth century, when increasing numbers of better-off Americans grew concerned that both the natural world and American traditions were being eroded by modernity. Anxious about a growing and increasingly heterogeneous population, the development of cities, and the impact of new technologies, the first proponents of camping saw in it a potential antidote to these modern ills. Thus, the camping impulse was at its inception sentimental, romantic, and nostalgic. Through a temporary return to nature, camping proponents claimed, Americans would rediscover physical vigor and find spiritual contentment. From its inception, the practice of camping attempted to balance the glories of nature with various creature comforts. Proponents of camping did not necessarily expect to “rough it.” While Americans were receptive to the idea of wilderness, few were actually prepared to tough it out in the woods.”<sup>14</sup>

Lancaster's citizens who would form the Tucquan Club reflected this national movement:

"In 1869, a contingent of twenty professional and business men—all with a penchant for naturalism and relaxation—set out on a four-day camping trip at the mouth of the Tucquan Creek along the Susquehanna River. By 1880, this initial expedition had developed into a tradition. Group camping trips to a destination south of Pequea (York Furnace Springs) featured fishing, philosophical discussions, and night-time merrymaking. The organization, which came to be known as the Tucquan Club, capped its membership at fifty and moved across the river in 1910 to York Furnace, where it continues its traditions today. During the twentieth century, the Tucquan Club attracted prominent politicians as members and guests, survived several floods, and even escaped Prohibition, thanks in part to prescriptions for "medicinal" alcohol from a few of its physician members."<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Prowell, *History of York County, Pennsylvania*. 1907, page 607.

<sup>12</sup> Rathvon, Simon Snyder, compiler. *Scrapbook of the Linnaean Society, Tucquan Club and Lancaster County Agricultural Society*, June 1851-October 1888. Repository: LancasterHistory.org (Lancaster, Pa.).

<sup>13</sup> Cross, Gary S., Editor in Chief, *Encyclopedia of Recreation and Leisure in America*, Woodbridge, CT, Charles Scribner's Sons, an imprint of The Gale Group Inc., a division of Thomson Learning, Inc. 2004, pages 59-60. Ripple, Tucquan Club 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book, 1994, page 4.

<sup>14</sup> Cross, *Encyclopedia of Recreation and Leisure in America*, 2004. On camping, page 139.

<sup>15</sup> *A Brief History of the Tucquan Club of Lancaster*, published by LancasterHistory.org, Lancaster County's Historical Society, as part of its exhibition, "The Fraternal River," Lancaster, PA, 2004.



The area of the subject property experienced a social and economic transition that attracted the club members from Lancaster County, as reflected in this account in a York County history book:

“John Bair and Robert C. Bair, under the firm name of J. Bair & Son, carried on business from 1878 to 1892. The abandonment of the canal in 1894 changed the whole character of York Furnace. Businesses closed down, and the once busy place was deserted. By 1894 [the year the canal ceased operations], the seclusion of the York Furnace, its magnificent scenery and restful location has developed a delightful summer resort to which people come during the season from York, Lancaster and Philadelphia.”<sup>16</sup>

It was during this latter part of this transition period of the Village from industrial to more of a resort area (1869-1894) that the Tucquan Club of Lancaster re-organized from its more purely academic and scientific origin as the Linnaean Society of Lancaster (1862) and emerged a decade later as *The Tucquan Scientific & Piscatorial Association*. A club member wrote an essay in a local newspaper in 1882, reflecting on the origins and evolution of the club from the 1860’s:

"At the completion of the organization in 1872 the title adopted was *The Tucquan Scientific & Piscatorial Association*, the object being to develop a spirit of scientific investigation of the flora and fauna of Lancaster County, the piscatorial depletion of the Susquehanna and a promotion of mental and physical culture among the members of the Association generally.

"Professors Stauffer and (Simon S.) Rathvon (founding member and long-time president) pursued their scientific researches [sic] faithfully and assiduously, and each year some scientist from abroad joined our band of enthusiastic workers in the paths of science, and all went home rejoicing with kettles full of black snakes and copperheads, and jars full of bugs and beetles and legs full of wood ticks. In these piscatorial pursuits all took a hand, except a few earnest sleepers..."<sup>17</sup> (*Historic Photograph Sheet 2*)

The identification with “piscatorial pursuits” by these outdoor enthusiasts seems to correspond with the early stirrings of another attraction to the out of doors: freshwater fishing in America as growing trend.

“Starting in the eastern states with trout fishing, moving to the southern states with black bass fishing, and then reaching the Midwest and West with fishing for nearly all species, freshwater sport fishing was finally established as one of the most popular leisure activities for Americans by the end of the nineteenth century.”<sup>18</sup>

The new group included many, if not all the same members, but took on the focus more of an out-of-doors, recreational and camping social group, circa 1880-1890. During this time – just before and following the closure of the canal in 1894 -- members of the Club continued to organize regular encampments in and around various riverfront and island camping sites, and at tourist hotels along both sides of the Lower Susquehanna River. These included the York Furnace accommodations at the Urey Hotel and the York Furnace Hotel, owned by John Bair and his son Robert.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Prowell, *History of York County, Pennsylvania*. 1907, page 1005.

<sup>17</sup> “An Historical Sketch of the Club to 1882” by Thomas B. Cochran, *The New Era*, Lancaster, PA, July 20, 1882.

<sup>18</sup> Cross, *Encyclopedia of Recreation and Leisure in America*, 2004. On Freshwater Fishing, page 345.

<sup>19</sup> Ripple, Tucquan Club 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book, 1994, pages 3, 18, 20.

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The York Furnace Farm property was sold in 1902 by the executor of John Bair to the McCall's Ferry Electric Power Company.<sup>20</sup> The utility proposed the erection of a sixty-foot dam across the Susquehanna river below the ferry. The Holtwood Hydroelectric Power Plant, the first hydroelectric power plant built on the lower Susquehanna River, was eventually constructed by the Pennsylvania Water and Power Company between 1905 and 1910. The first two generators went online in 1911.<sup>21</sup> This major construction project marked the beginning of the property related associations and activities between the Pennsylvania Water and Power Company, its successor corporate entities and the scientific, recreational and social club made up of prominent business and professional men from Lancaster County.

The following timeline documenting Tucquan Club property conditions and occupancy was derived from conversations with the preparer on September 29, 2016 among: Gerald Dunkle, Tucquan Club House Committee chairman since 1991; John Eshelman, club archivist since 2013; and Barry Acker, Real Estate Specialist, Pennsylvania Power & Light (PPL) for 30 years, part of whose coverage area included York Springs and the Lower Susquehanna River Valley. Property transaction data are derived from public records. These events and dates are consistent with those published in the Club's previously cited 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary booklet by Paul H. Ripple.

- In 1909, after more than 30 years of camping excursions and social outings at York Furnace Springs, a popular recreation site in Lancaster County, and outings at various other places in the vicinity, Tucquan Club members began to set down roots in the more secluded environs of the York Furnace Village area of Lower Chanceford Township, York County. Club members moved their equipment into the recently repaired York Furnace Hotel. This commercial property was originally built by John Bair during the Village's period of rapid growth in the mid-to late 19<sup>th</sup> century, and was then owned by Pennsylvania Water & Power Company.
- 1910- York Furnace Hotel was destroyed in a fire; most of the Tucquan Club's equipment and other effects lost.
- 1911- Club first rented the former Susquehanna & Tidewater Canal Warehouse from the utility company for \$30 for a six-month period.
- 1912 – Club acquires the stone circa 1850 Warehouse on 3.3 acres from Pennsylvania Water & Power Company for \$1,663.<sup>22</sup>
- 1913 - Pennsylvania Water & Power Co. improves a single-family dwelling near the Clubhouse. This dwelling became known as the Caretaker's Residence for year-round use by a person (and family) employed by PW&P as on-site manager and maintenance staff for PWP properties within the immediate area of its hydroelectric facility.

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<sup>20</sup> York County deed, May 16, 1902 in Book 12Y, page 370; grantor Samuel M. Fulton, assignee of John Bair and grantee Pennsylvania Water & Power Co.

<sup>21</sup> Shirk, Willis, *Our Documentary Heritage-Holtwood Hydroelectric Power Plant*, Pennsylvania Heritage Magazine, 2009.

<sup>22</sup> York County deed, 18 K, Page 510, August 5, 1912. grantor Pennsylvania Water & Power Company and Knickerbocker Trust Company to The Tucquan Club

- 1916 - PW&P offers the use of the Caretaker's Residence to the Tucquan Club if the Club would provide for the services of a caretaker to jointly to oversee utility company properties acquired in conjunction with construction of the dam and hydroelectric plant.
- 1917 - Tucquan Club House Committee authorized to employ a resident caretaker.
- 1918 – William F. “Billy” and Pearl Jane Heffner Smith employed as caretakers, occupying the residence through 1927 with their three daughters and a son, according to Grace I. Smith Runkle Brouge (1912-2010), the eldest daughter.<sup>23</sup>
- 1927 - Caretaker's Residence house was improved/remodeled for \$2276; continued in utility company ownership.
- 1928 - Carl Bacon and family employed as caretakers, remaining in that capacity until 1954.
- 1933 – Club gives permission to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to construct a public road through a portion of the property.
- 1936 – March: massive flooding brings water to a height of four feet into the main floor (second level) of the Clubhouse. (*Historic Photograph Sheet 6*)
- 1936 - November 11, Armistice Day, during the Club's annual oyster roast encampment, the Caretaker's Residence is destroyed due to what is believed to be a furnace fire. The Bacon family moves into the Clubhouse.
- 1937 - Plans approved for building a new dwelling on the existing dwelling foundation at a cost of \$4326. Architect Charles Faver of Elizabethtown, Lancaster County commissioned to draft plans for the new residence. Original blueprints found in the basement of the residence in 1915. (*Historic Photograph Sheet 7*)
- 1938 – Bacon family moves into the newly built/re-built Caretaker's Residence.
- 1944 – Electric service provided to Clubhouse and Caretaker's Residence.
- 1957 – Tucquan Club executes a long-term lease with PP&L for grounds beyond Clubhouse site, including the adjacent, approximately 5.6 acres on which is located the Caretaker's Residence. (*Historic Map 6*)

Since the rebuilding of the Caretaker's Residence in 1936-37, three successive families have occupied the property as year-around employees of the Tucquan Club, providing services ranging from grounds keeping, security, building maintenance, to janitorial work, as well as culinary support for annual dinners, meetings and special member-family events and overall general domestic tasks.<sup>24</sup>

The provision of these services by in-residence caretakers in the dwelling adjacent to the club has been integral to maintaining property security and in continuing functional operations of the club, especially considering the seasonal occupancy by Club members, and in support of their extensive and ongoing activities from April through November each year, according to statements during interviews with Club members.

<sup>23</sup> York Daily Record and York Dispatch, York, PA, Obituary, Grace I. Smith Runkle Brouge, published April 30 to May 1, 2010.

<sup>24</sup> Interviews: with Paul H. Ripple, M.D. born 1924, Club archivist (retired), artist and community historian. Conversation with the preparer on November 11, 2016 at his home, Lancaster, PA; and with Geraldine Bacon Kilgore, born 1927, daughter of Carl and Mary Kathryn Keepports Bacon, caretakers of Tucquan Club, 1928-1954. Personal meeting with the preparer, October 28, 2016 at the Kilgore home, Paradise, Lancaster County, PA.



**Significance: Why is the property important?**

Reported to be one of the oldest social/outdoor science & recreational organizations in America,<sup>25</sup> The Tucquan Club is a private social and outdoor recreational club that evolved from the local chapter of an internationally recognized scientific organization – the Linnaean Society. That society's founding members, led by the noted entomologist, author and journalist, Simon Snyder Rathvon, Ph.D. (1821-1891), were among the most prominent persons in business, politics, academia and the professions in the City and County of Lancaster, PA during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. These Linnaean Society of Lancaster members became the founders of the new organization, which originally took the name, The Tucquan Scientific and Piscatorial Association in 1869.

In its initial years as a volunteer, community-based organization, Lancaster Linnaean Society (established 1862 in the City of Lancaster) undertook regular scientific and recreational expeditions in the Lower Susquehanna River Valley area as well as occasional excursions to sites in the Mid-Atlantic Region. The group amassed extensive collections of plant and animal specimens that continue to be available for public educational purposes through the North Museum of Nature and Science, located on the campus of Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, founded 1787.<sup>26</sup>

The Rathvon Scrapbook describe scores of meetings and outings in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries of the Linnaean Society and its separate subsidiary-type organization, the Tucquan Scientific & Piscatorial Association of Lancaster. The Scrapbook also includes accounts of numerous other subjects and objects from the Rathvon/Linnaean Society collection.<sup>27</sup>

“Simon Snyder Rathvon of Lancaster, Pennsylvania was one of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century America's leading economic entomologists. His knowledge of controlling destructive insects stood as the first line of defense protecting Lancaster County's bountiful agriculture. On the state level, he served as Professor of Entomology to the Pennsylvania State Horticultural Society, and on the national level he wrote reports for the United States Department of Agriculture. Consistent with these interests, he edited the Lancaster Farmer, functioned as the backbone of the Lancaster Linnaean Society, and was a Corresponding Member of the Academy of Natural Sciences and the Philadelphia Horticultural Society. This protege of distinguished naturalist Samuel S. Haldeman was awarded an honorary Ph.D. from Franklin and Marshall College in 1878.

“In addition to contributing to the library and specimen collection of the Linnaean Society, Simon also worked on establishing his own. It was estimated that he built a personal library that approached 1,000 volumes. He established a modest mineral collection and assembled almost 10,000 specimens of insects, focusing primarily on coleoptra" (beetles and weevils, for example). In recognition of these

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<sup>25</sup> Ripple, Paul H., *The Tucquan Club of Lancaster*, Journal of Lancaster County Historical Society, Lancaster, PA. Volume 103, Number 1, Spring 2003, pages 24-25, citing such other early, comparable organizations as The Schuylkill Fishing Company of the State of Schuylkill, Pennsylvania, founded in 1732 and the more recent, Society of Fort Saint David's Fishing Company.

<sup>26</sup> Rathvon Scrapbook (1851-1888). Franklin & Marshall College, one of the oldest institutions of higher learning in the United States, was founded in 1787 as Franklin College with a financial contribution from Benjamin Franklin.

<sup>27</sup> Rathvon Scrapbook/IBID.

interests Rathvon was elected a Corresponding Member of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia (1854) and of the Entomological Society of Philadelphia (1862).”<sup>28</sup>

The Society members maintained associations with national figures in the scientific community. (*Historic Photograph Sheet 1*) The acceptance of their field work by those national leaders is evident in a series of newspaper accounts included in the Society’s Scrapbook, maintained by LancasterHistory.org, Lancaster County’s Historical Society (organized and established 1886-87).

A feature article from *The Lancaster Daily Express* from July 1864 describes a two-day scientific excursion of a Society members to the Susquehanna River below the community of Safe Harbor, approximately 25 miles away from their starting point in City of Lancaster via by what must have been a horse-drawn wagon. They stayed the first night in a hotel and the next day, before breakfast, hired a boatsman who look them and their equipment to a large rock outcropping on the River when they spent a day and half, camping, cooking and making plaster casts of the carvings of Native Americans from what we now know were made about 900 to 1000 AD. They made 54 castings, two of each of the 27 carvings found on the large rock, depicting "many of the birds, beasts, snakes and other rude figures equal to anything found in Schoolcraft's Indian antiquities."<sup>29</sup>

The club made the sets of casts with the intention of donating them to the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. and to the Historical Society of New York through the affiliations with these organization by one of the Linnaean Society members, Professor Henry.<sup>30</sup>

The other news clips cover a period through to the late 1880s and detail regular meetings at which members read scientific papers and bring a variety of natural specimens of plants and minerals, taxidermy techniques and the reading by members of their scientific papers. The scrap book also gives detailed accounts of the Society’s annual meetings when officers are elected and reports given of club finances and other activities.

The Society appears to have been unique in being open to women members when most fraternal organizations were limited to men. A news report (publication not shown) about the Society's reg. meeting on March 26, 1881, reports that "Mrs. Gibbons donated a specimen of anthracite coal, the fracture of which exhibited three circular disks, indicating transverse fractures of the vegetation out of which the coal was originally formed, if not fossilized Eucrinites."<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> Winpenny, Thomas R., “The Triumphs and Anguish of a Self-Made Man: 19th Century Naturalist S.S. Rathvon,” *Pennsylvania History*, Volume 57, Number 2. April 1990. Page 1.

<sup>29</sup> Rathvon, Simon Snyder, compiler. *Scrapbook of the Linnaean Society, Tucquan Club and Lancaster County Agricultural Society*, June 1851-October 1888. Repository: LancasterHistory.org (Lancaster, PA), page 1.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

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**Context and Comparisons: Describe briefly similar properties in the area, and explain how this property compares.**

The following social clubs in Pennsylvania have been designated as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places by the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Office/ Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission:

The Odd Fellows Hall and Masonic Hall in the National Historic District of the Borough of Columbia, Lancaster County both are NR eligible as each has been found to contribute to the Historic District.

Key # 104726 - Homestead Workingmen's Club, 541 Dickson Street, Homestead, Allegheny County, PA, private social club of African American Steelworkers.

Key # 106299.

The First Hungarian Self Culture Club, 33 North 5th Street, Duquesne, PA, significant for its ethnic association with workers as part of the labor force of the Duquesne Works of the Carnegie Steel Company and the ethnic make-up of the Community. This building represents their presence in the Community. The Club supported their cultural identity and cohesion. Year built 1941. Hungarian and Eastern European workers in the Carnegie Steel Company Plant, Duquesne, Allegheny County, PA. Key social activity shown in SHPO evaluation: "Heavy drinking."

Oregon Hunting & Fishing Club. One building. Key # 007945 304 Cherry Street, Brackenridge Borough, Allegheny County, PA. Multi-use dwelling, part of which uses a social clubhouse. SHPO Eligible.

Sylvan Canoe Club 132 Arch Street, Verona, Allegheny County, PA SHPO Eligible as an early 20th century Athletic Club, built by Sylvan Club members in the Colonial Revival, Bungalow/Craftsman style. Social club: Function - Recreation and Culture; Sub function - Outdoor Recreation; Use - canoe club.

Key # 094279 Inventory ID - 94183 Historic name: Little Collins Property, ER No, 1993-3775-133 SHPO: Eligible, Bonnair Road, Codorus Township, York County, Built c1876: c1890. Former Masonic Hall.

### **National Register Evaluation**

From its roots in the Linnaean Society, the organization originally took the name: the Tucquan Scientific and Piscatorial Association. The Tucquan Club remains today as a social and camping association for men, limited to 100 members, who have met at the subject property since the Club purchased the building in 1912.

The original group consisted of twenty members who wanted a retreat away from the busy life of Lancaster City. Originally an annual four-day camping outing in July, it developed into a week-long vacation which changed location every two to four years until 1909. In 1909, the members decided to hold the annual



encampment at York Furnace Springs in York County. The Tucquan Club adopted a constitution and a set of by-laws in 1872; the by-laws mandated elections be held during their annual outing and defined the purpose of the group—to discover more about fishing, botany and science.

The leader of the original members of the Linnaean Society and then Tucquan Club as the founding president, was Simon Snyder Rathvon (1812-1891) whose scientific acumen and achievements were notable. His extensive collections of plant and animal specimens, minerals and other materials and artifacts are now housed in the North Museum in Lancaster. Today, the North Museum's collections include more than 360,000 objects in disciplines ranging from archaeology to zoology.

The Club evolved from its more purely scientific roots, and in 1869 became mainly a social club with a focus on out-of-door activities such as fishing, hiking and gaming held during regular encampments as well as ceremonial and seasonal gatherings. It continues to meet and operate as such and these activities continue to be supported and the club property continues to be maintained by the various families who are employed as on-site caretakers occupying the 1937 re-built Caretaker's Residence, which is an integral physical and functional component of the Tucquan Club as a well-known, long-standing organization.

### **Summary:**

Based on the criteria outlined in the National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation" (National Park Service [NPS] 1997), the Tucquan Club Complex, Indian Steps Road, Lower Chanceford Township, York County, Pennsylvania, is recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and B.

The Tucquan Club of Lancaster, consisting of two buildings on two parcels of property at York Furnace (the Club House and Caretakers Residence), Lower Chanceford Township, York County is significant in American history since it possesses integrity of location, design, setting, feeling and association as a social club with origins that reflect local organizations at the early stages of national trends or movements, within the context of men's fraternal and social clubs which focused on scientific and/or out-of-doors recreational missions and pursuits.

Regarding Criteria A, The Tucquan Club is the current extension of a mid- to late-19<sup>th</sup> century national movement of people and groups who possessed the financial means and the available free time to organize themselves and participate in regular, thematic outdoor activities with the goal of finding physical and mental rejuvenation, occasionally along with scientific-based educational pursuits. The interests, pursuits and related excursions allowed them to spend time apart from the increasingly competitive, intense and often polluted and degraded environment of some urban industrial centers of American in the wake of the Civil War (post 1865) and during the peak of the nation's Industrial Revolution (circa 1880-1920). These clubs and personal pursuits continued for generations and led to more purely recreational activities in the ensuing years of the early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.

Research indicates that the Tucquan Club played a significant role in the birth, growth and evolution of various local, regional, state and national clubs and organizations.

The Tucquan Club began in 1869 as an offshoot of a Lancaster City and County-based organization modeled after the London, England-based Linnaean Society, an international group dedicated to scientific pursuit. Some of Tucquan Club's members were on the faculty of Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster. They joined the

club's regular yearly encampments to collect a wide range of samples of local flora and fauna. These activities led to the establishment of a museum associated with Franklin & Marshall College of Lancaster, one of the oldest colleges in the country (established in 1787). Now known as The North Museum of Science and Nature, which, according to its website:

"...was founded in 1953 by Franklin & Marshall College. Named for Lancaster businessman Hugh M. North, whose estate funded the building's construction, the North Museum quickly became a destination in the community for introducing children to the natural world.

"The Museum's collections trace their existence back to the 19th century and an active group of amateur naturalists in Lancaster County called the Linnaean Society. They collected specimens to document the flora and fauna of this region, and in time, their combined collections found a home at Franklin & Marshall College. Today, the North Museum's collections include more than 360,000 objects in disciplines ranging from archaeology to zoology.

"The North Museum became an independent non-profit organization in 1992, and in 2009, the Museum received its fourth re-accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums. Fewer than five percent of museums nationwide earn this mark of institutional excellence."<sup>32</sup>

This perspective statement about members of the Tucquan Club and their involvement with the establishment of the collections of the North Museum provides an opportunity to examine the relevant history of Franklin & Marshall College, as one of the oldest institutions of higher learning in the United States, and as an institution that helped to form the experiences and background of the persons who provided the scientific educational underpinnings of the Tucquan Club.

The institution's origin is Franklin College, founded in Lancaster in 1787 "with a generous financial contribution from Benjamin Franklin," according to the college website:

"The product of a pioneering collaboration between English- and German-speaking communities in the most ethnically diverse region of the new nation, the College was launched by leaders of the Lutheran and Reformed Churches with support from trustees that included four signers of the Declaration of Independence, three future governors of Pennsylvania, two members of the Constitutional Convention, and seven officers of the Revolutionary Army. Their goal was "to preserve our present republican system of government," and "to promote those improvements in the arts and sciences which alone render nations respectable, great and happy."<sup>33</sup>

In addition, many members of the Tucquan Club, operating under their earlier banner as the Linnaean Society of Lancaster, pursuing early outdoor recreation that combined with scientific interests, resulted in contacts and collaboration with scientists from outside the area of Southeastern Pennsylvania, as well as representatives of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Some of these activities involved making plaster casts of petroglyphs in river rocks, resulting in the furtherance of anthropological studies of the lifestyles of Native Americans in the Susquehanna River Valley, a settlement grouping which we now understand dated to circa 1000 AD.

<sup>32</sup> North Museum of Science and Nature website, <https://northmuseum.org/about-us/#pg-2053-1>, accessed February 15, 2017.

<sup>33</sup> Franklin & Marshall College website, <https://www.fandm.edu/about/mission-and-historym>, accessed February 15, 2017.

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Therefore, The Tucquan Club can be considered to possess national historic significance under Criteria A: the subject property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of the nation's history.

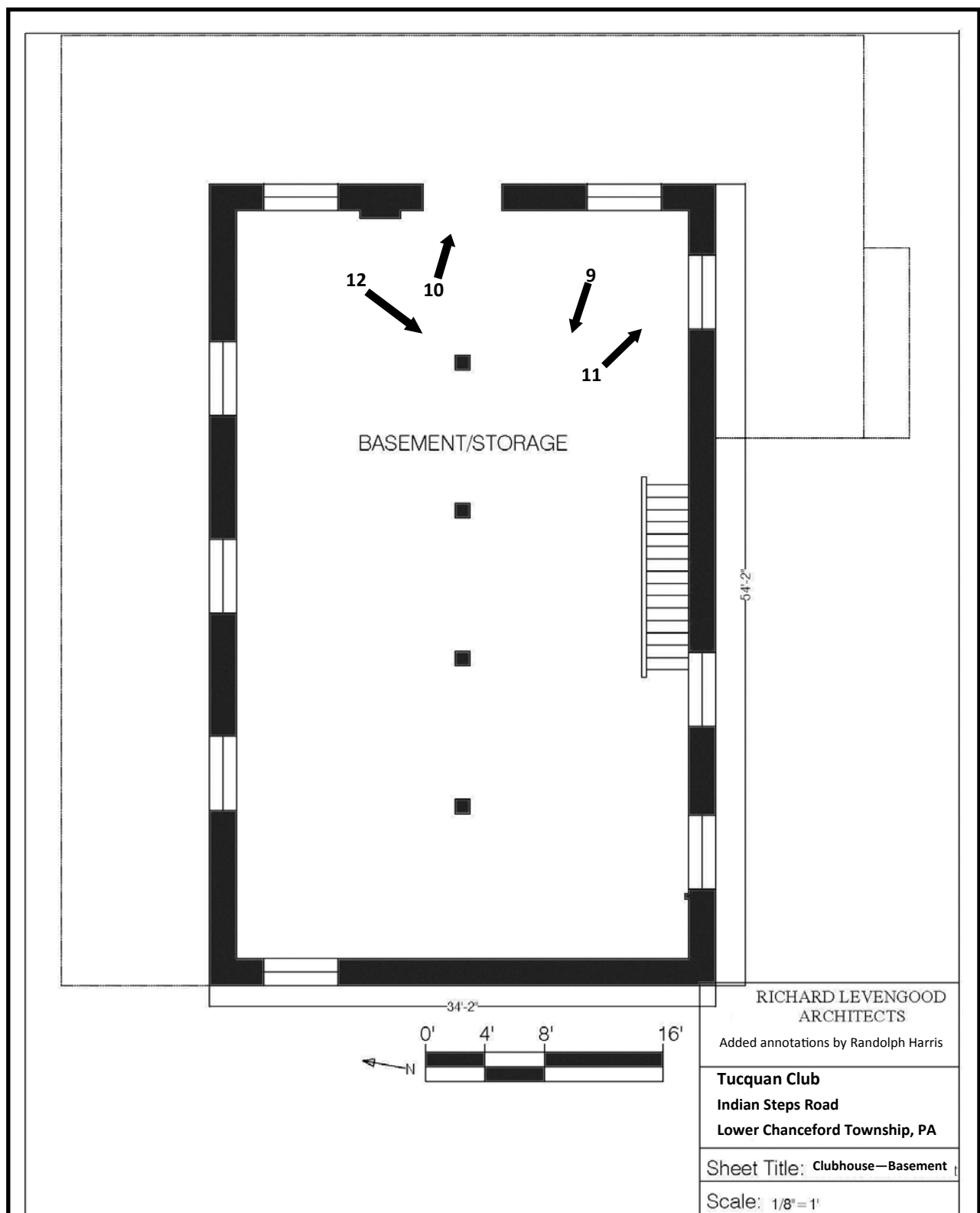
The Tucquan Club Complex is associated with a notable person in local, regional, or state history, and therefore is recommended eligible under Criterion B. Many prominent businessmen, political figures and educators have been members of the Tucquan Club over its lifetime, but research specifically identifies Simon S. Rathvon as a notable person who has made specific contributions to local, state, or national history that can be documented.

The Tucquan Club Complex is not recommended as eligible for the National Register under Criterion C. Originally constructed as a warehouse, the building has been adapted by the Tucquan Club members to accommodate their needs of regular seasonal, occasional occupancy. The changes do not represent a significant style or design or use of materials that are unique in building construction, rehabilitation or restoration. Also, the vernacular Caretaker's Residence is a functional single-family dwelling that serves an important support relationship to the Club and its members, and in the care of its main club meeting building, but this residence possesses no distinctive physical historically-significant characteristics.

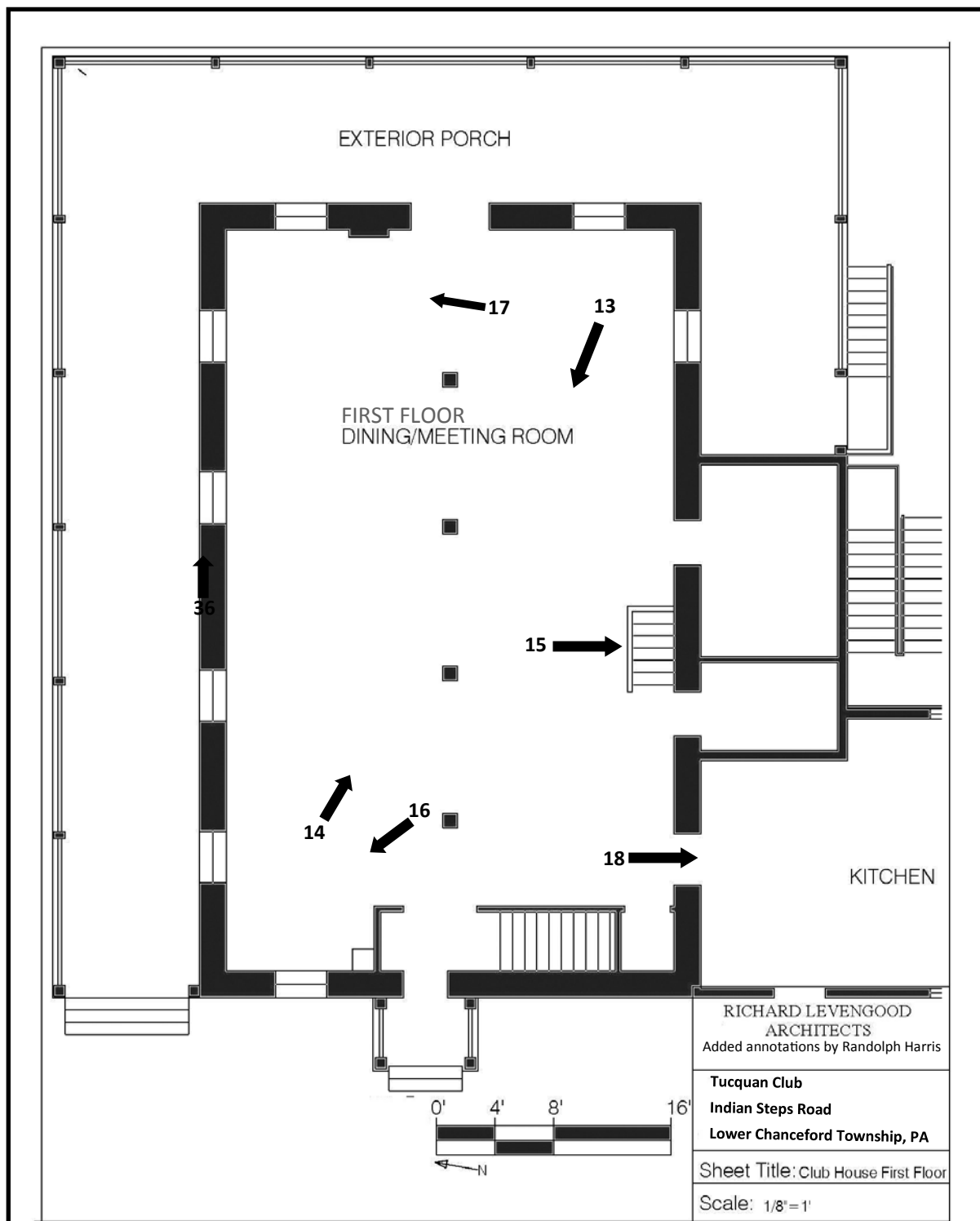
Take together the buildings that make up the Tucquan Club do not meet the National Register criterion as representing the characteristics of a distinct type, period, or method of construction. Likewise, the complex does not represent the work of a known building master or designer, nor does it possess high artistic value, as either individual buildings or the complex as a whole.

Criteria D was not considered in the completion of this survey form.

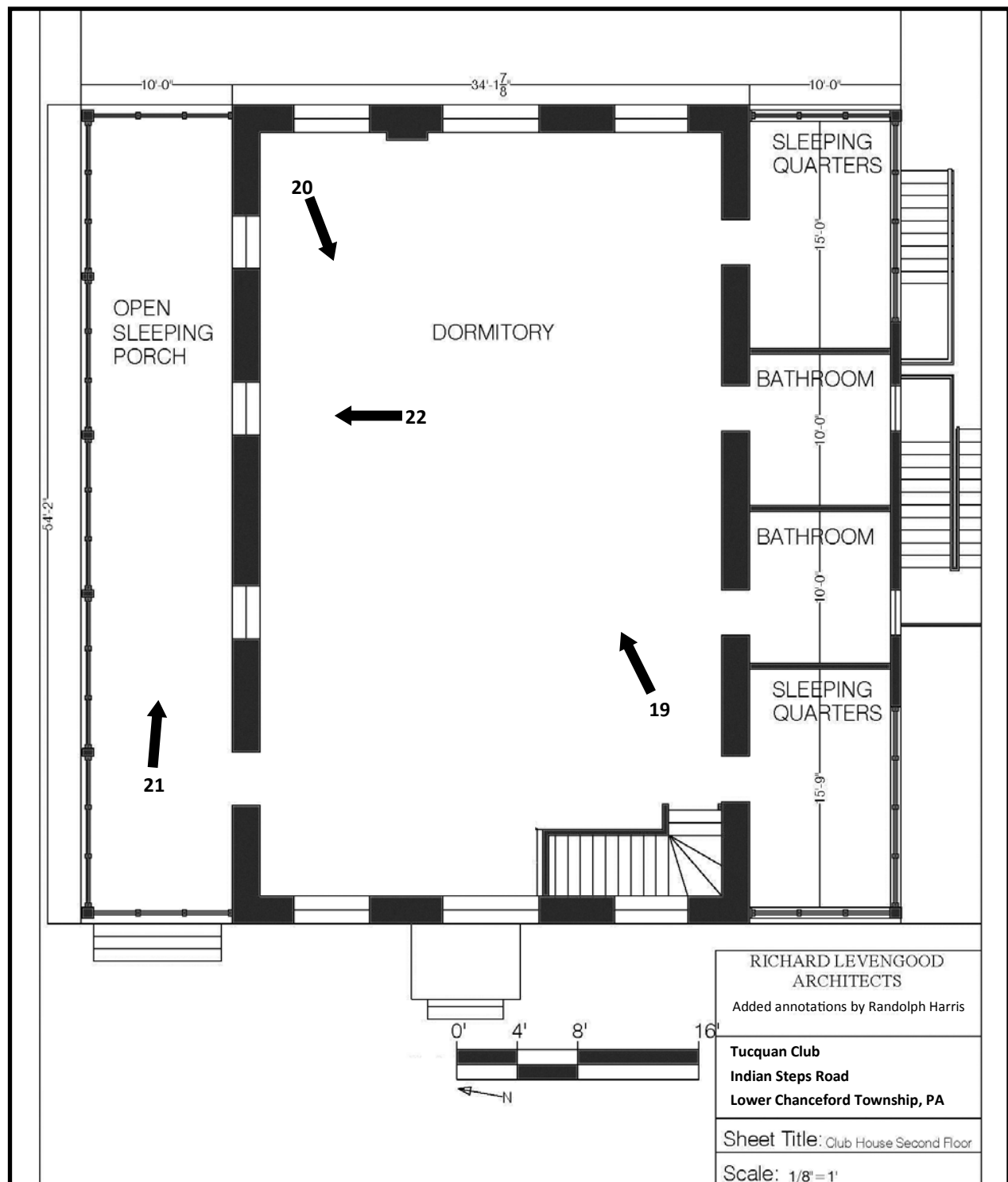




- |    |  |      |
|----|--|------|
| 9  | Basement/ground level                        | W    |
| 10 | Double door entry to basement / ground level | E    |
| 11 | Window - South elevation                     | S SW |
| 12 | Post & beam central floor supports           | S SW |



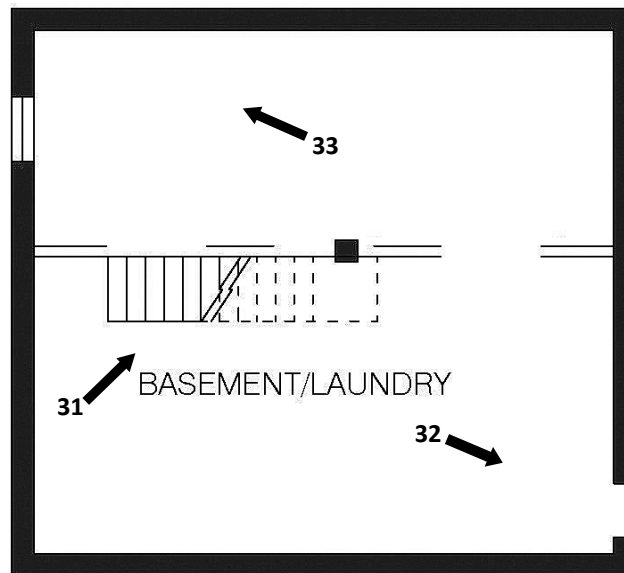
- |    |  |      |
|----|--|------|
| 12 | First floor dining room & meeting area           | W NW |
| 13 | First floor dining room & meeting area           | E SE |
| 14 | First floor dining room & meeting area           | SE   |
| 15 | Exhibits, first floor dining room & meeting area | S    |
| 16 | First floor meeting area w/ pot belly stove      | NW   |
| 17 | Bar - First floor dining room & meeting area     | N NE |
| 18 | Kitchen - First floor                            | E    |



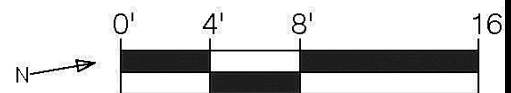
- |    |                                      |    |
|----|--------------------------------------|----|
| 19 | Dormitory Room - Second floor        | NE |
| 20 | Dormitory Room - Second floor        | SW |
| 21 | Sleeping porch - Second floor        | E  |
| 22 | Bed in dormitory room - Second floor | N  |

Clubhouse—2nd Floor





- 31 Basement - Post & beam floor support N NW  
 32 Basement - Entry and foundation N NE  
 33 Basement - Oil tank and foundation S SW



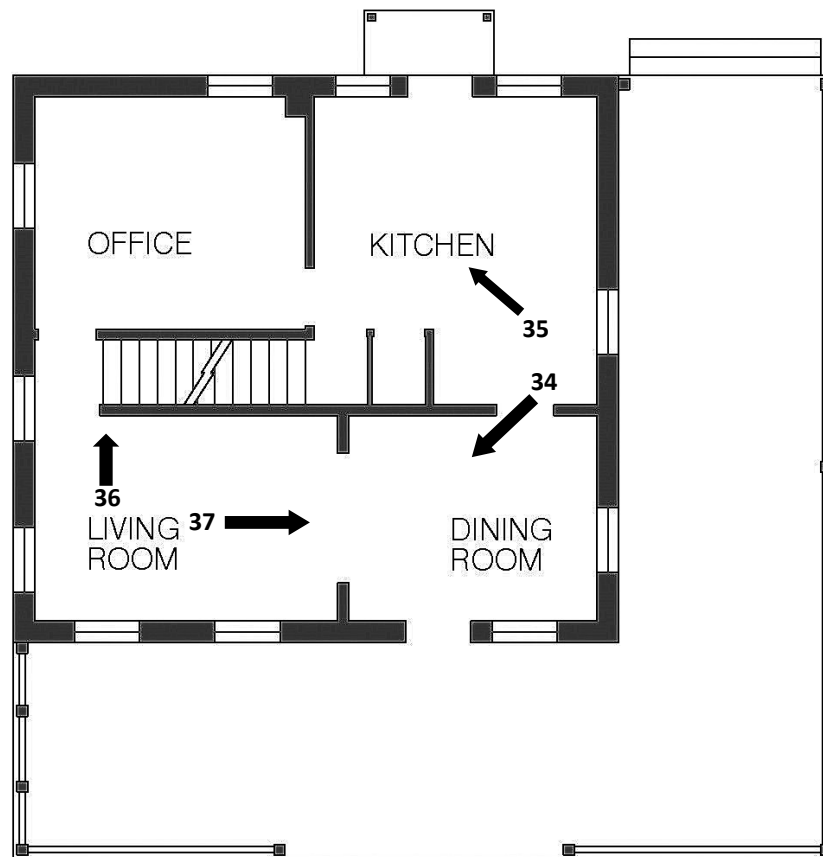
RICHARD LEVENGOOD  
ARCHITECTS

Added annotations by Randolph Harris

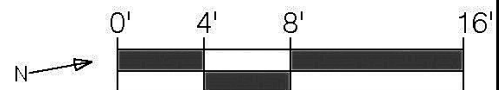
**Tucquan Club**  
 Indian Steps Road  
 Lower Chanceford Township, PA

Sheet Title Caretaker's—Basement

Scale: 1/8"=1'



- 34 First floor - Dining room & living room    SE  
 35 First floor - Kitchen    SW  
 36 First floor - Living room & dining room    NW  
 37 First floor - Stairs—Living room    W



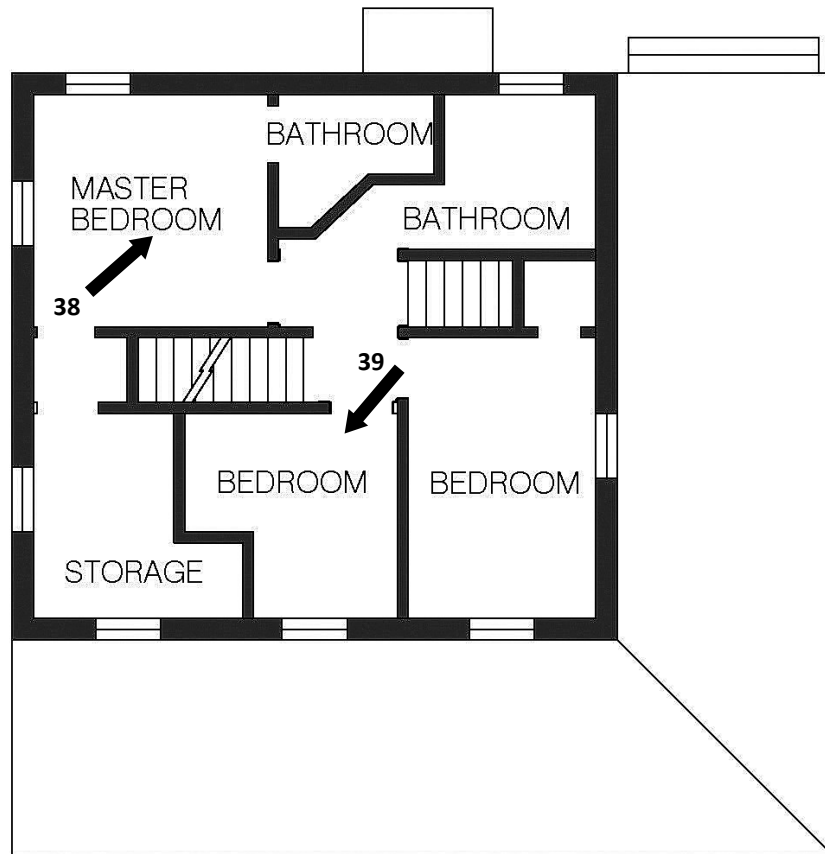
RICHARD LEVENGOOD  
ARCHITECTS

Added annotations by Randolph Harris

**Tucquan Club**  
 Indian Steps Road  
 Lower Chanceford Township, PA

Sheet Title Caretaker's—First Floor

Scale: 1/8"=1'



**38 Master Bedroom 1 -**

**S**

**39 Bedroom 2, second floor**

**E SE**

RICHARD LEVENGOOD  
ARCHITECTS

Added annotations by Randolph Harris

**Tucquan Club**  
Indian Steps Road  
Lower Chanceford Township, PA

Sheet Title: Caretaker's—2nd Floor

Scale: 1/8" = 1'

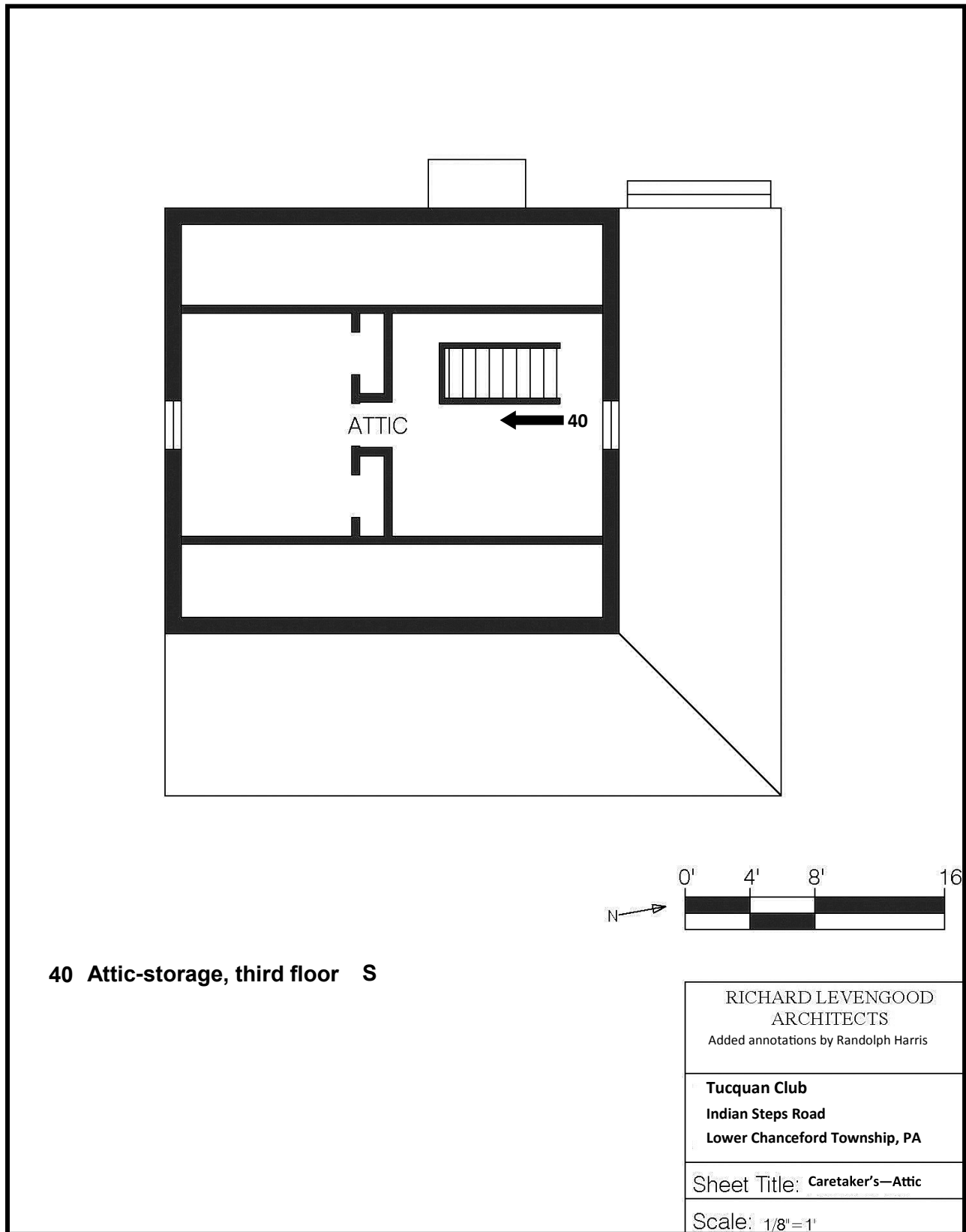






Photo 1 — East elevation View West Southwest



Photo 2— South and east elevations View Northwest





**Photo 3 — East and north elevation, with remains of York Furnace Bridge, built 1856; destroyed by ice jam, 1857. See Illustration Plate View Southwest**



**Photo 4— Bridge abutment remains, detail View West**





**Photo 5 — Susquehanna River from Club/Warehouse  
first floor rear porch View North Northeast**



**Photo 6— Club/Warehouse first floor rear porch  
View South**



**Photo 7 — Club/Warehouse Front façade, with north elevation porches and one story kitchen wing  
View East Southeast**



**Photo 8— Club/Warehouse Front façade, with south elevation porches and one story kitchen wing  
View Northeast**





**Photo 9 — Club/Warehouse Basement/ground level  
View West**



**Photo 10 — Club/Warehouse Double door entry to basement /  
ground level View East**



Photo 11— Club/Warehouse Basement/ground level  
Casement window View South Southeast



Photo 12 — Club/Warehouse Basement / ground level  
Post & beam central floor supports View South Southwest





**Photo 13 — Club/Warehouse First Floor Dining Room & meeting area View West Northwest**



**Photo 14 — Club/Warehouse First floor dining room & meeting area View East Southeast**



Photo 15— Club/Warehouse Exhibit wall  
Dining room & meeting area

First Floor  
View South



Photo 16 — Club/Warehouse Pot belly stove  
First floor dining room & meeting area  
View Northwest





Photo 17 — Club/Warehouse Bar First floor dining room & meeting area; View North Northeast



Photo 18 — Club/Warehouse Kitchen First floor View South



Photo 19 — Club/Warehouse Dormitory Room  
Second floor View Northeast



Photo 20 — Club/Warehouse Dormitory Room  
Second floor View Southwest





Photo 21 — Club/Warehouse    Sleeping porch  
Second floor            View East



Photo 22 — Club/Warehouse    Bed in dormitory room  
Second floor            View North





Photo 23 — Front façade—East elevation. View West



Photo 24 — East and north elevations. View Southwest





Photo 25—North and West elevations. View East Southeast



Photo 26—South elevation. View North



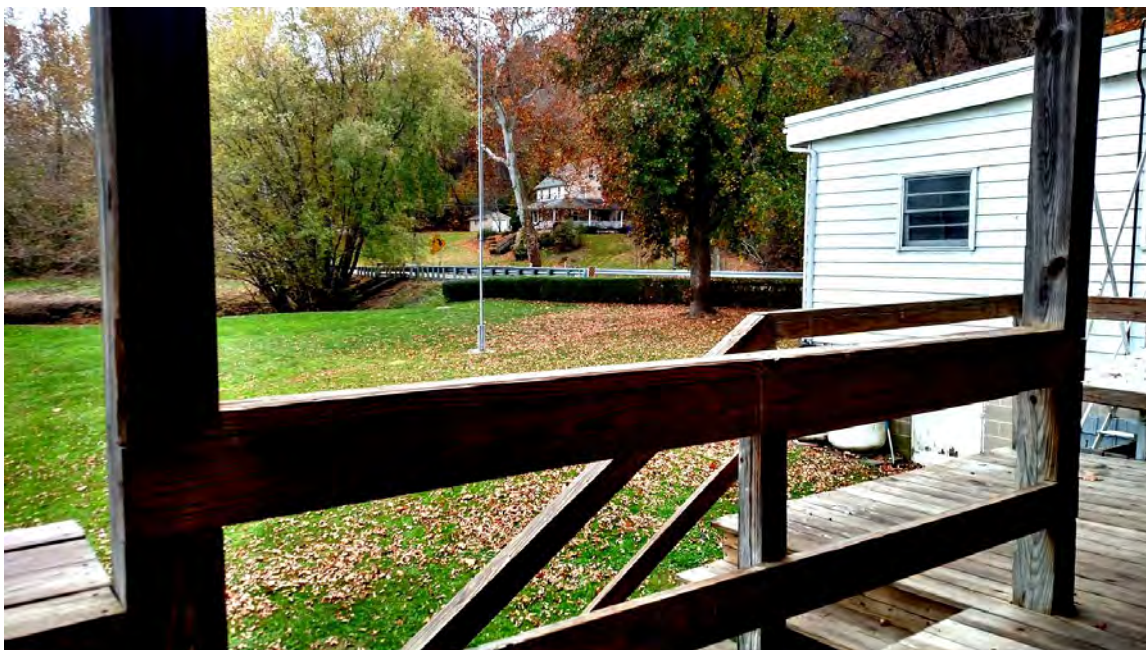


Photo 27—South elevation, with Clubhouse and River at right. View North



Photo 28—South and east elevations. View Northwest





**Photo 29 — Club/Warehouse Porch, south elevation; view to Caretaker's Residence**  
**View South Southwest**



**Photo 30 — Porch on east elevation. View to Club/Warehouse**  
**View North Northeast**





Photo 31 —  
Basement  
Caretaker's Residence  
Post & beam floor support  
View North Northwest



Photo 32—  
Basement  
Caretaker's Residence  
Entry and foundation  
View North Northeast



Photo 33—  
Basement  
Caretaker's Residence  
Oil tank and foundation  
View South Southwest



Photo 34 — Dining room & living room. View Southeast



Photo 35 — Kitchen. View Southwest



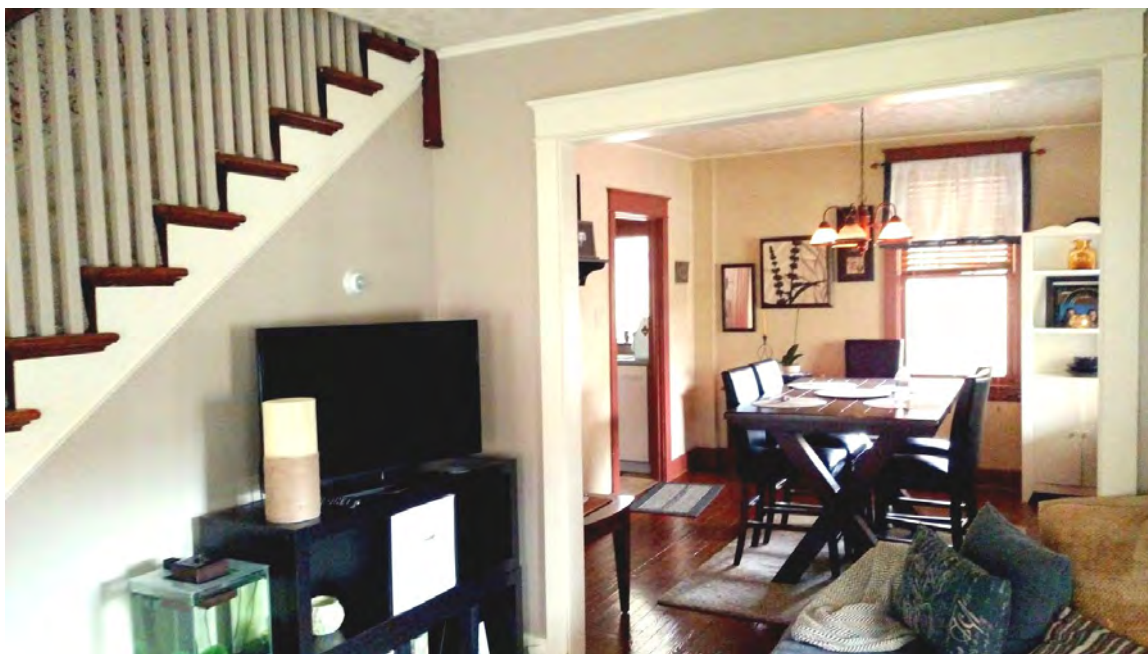


Photo 36 — Living room and dining room View Northwest



Photo 37 — Stairs—Living room View West



Photo 38 —  
Master Bedroom 1,  
second floor  
Caretaker's Residence  
View Northwest

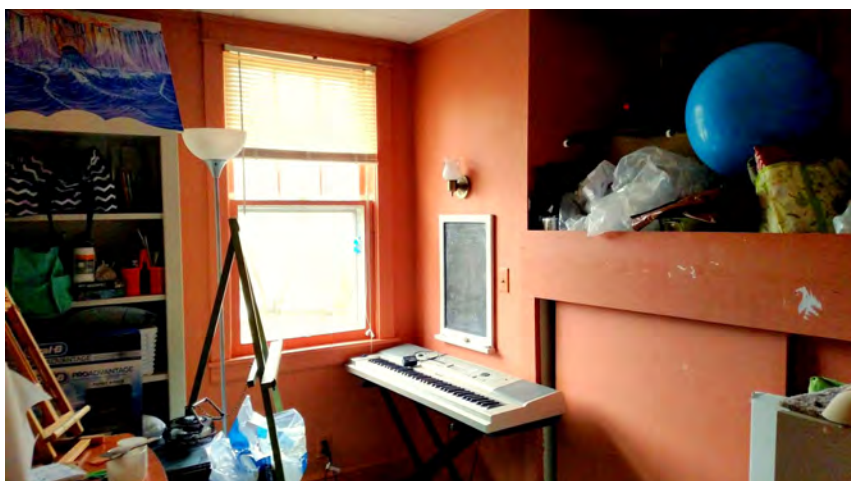


Photo 39 —  
Bedroom 2, second floor  
Caretaker's Residence  
View East Southeast



Photo 40—  
Attic-storage, third floor  
Caretaker's Residence  
View South