



A Member of the American Cultural Resources Association

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**SCOPE OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
OLD KENNETT MEETING BURIAL GROUND, KENNETT TOWNSHIP,
CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- The proposed purpose of the undertaking is to determine, if possible, whether there is an actual burial at the location of the “Hessian” burial stone in the Old Kennett Meeting Cemetery.
- The proposal is requested by Kennett Township, to recognize and honor the important history of the Old Kennett Meeting during the America250 celebration.
- The proposed area of interest is arbitrarily defined as a 100-foot by 100-foot area superimposed over the “Hessian” burial stone in the Old Kennett Meeting burial ground.
- The scope of professional services is presented as a phased approach; results of Phase I will determine the efficacy or need for Phase II.

PHASE I: HISTORICAL RESEARCH:

- Detailed historical research would be undertaken to more fully understand the “Hessian” burial stone, its date of placement, and whether it actually marks any burial space. Historical research would build upon any materials already available through the Old Kennett Committee. It is not intended to duplicate any work already in hand.
- The purpose of the literature review (historical research) is to contextualize the “Hessian” burial stone. While we know generally what it is intended to memorialize, we have very limited information regarding who placed it, when it was placed, why it

was placed, and if it was placed at a spot that marked a true burial, or was intended as a metaphor for the burial space.

- Individuals and organizations with previous knowledge of the history and use of the burial ground will be sought to attempt to develop the history of the “Hessian” burial. It is possible that a record of the placement of the stone may be in the Meeting minutes or some other documentary record; these sources are available at the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College and some are available online through Ancestry.com.
- If not already consulted by others, documentary sources anticipated to be consulted as part of the project include burial ground records, newspaper records, oral histories, and meeting house records.
- Results of the historical research will be presented in a historical report explaining the goals, methods, and results of the investigation. Recommendations for (or against) any further investigations will be provided.
- The report will be illustrated, including maps, drawings, and photographs.
- The report will contain, but will not necessarily be limited to, the following elements:
 1. Introduction: An executive summary of the battle action in Kennett Township September 10/11, 1777 to provide a context for the following:
 2. A description of the project area, including a discussion of topographic and environmental characteristics.
 3. Descriptions of background research and literature review, which will present findings as well as identify sources and individuals consulted.
 4. A summary of any previous archaeological work conducted in or near this area.
 5. Discussion of previously recorded or suspected archaeological properties in or near the project area.
 6. Descriptions of the field strategy and field methods that were employed.
 7. Presentation of survey results with archaeological resources appropriately documented.
 8. Discussion of archaeological properties regarding potential significance.
 9. Appropriate recommendations for (or against) any non-invasive investigations (such as ground-penetrating radar) and/or areas to be slated for avoidance for future planning purposes at the Old Kennett Meeting House Burial Ground.
 10. Appropriate photographs, graphics, and tabular material that will support the text and ensure the report's accuracy.

The scope of services proposed for Phase I scope of services will not exceed \$2,000.

Phase II: GROUND PENETRATING RADAR:

- The survey would consist of ground-penetrating radar (GPR) in the above-stated space. GPR is a nondestructive geophysical method that uses high frequency radio waves (microwave electromagnetic energy) to record various changes in subsurface materials without drilling, probing, or digging. The signal is reflected off these changes and its intensity and travel time is recorded along grid lines. The data are presented as a continuous cross-sectional profile called a vertical time/depth section that reveals subsurface anomalies in the form of any deviation of the signal from the natural pattern. GPR profiles are used for evaluating the location and depth of anomalies that may be related to subsurface cultural features and/or objects and to investigate the presence and continuity of natural subsurface conditions and features.
- It is anticipated that the GPR fieldwork will be undertaken using a GSSI SIR-4000 Radar System with a 350 HS Antenna. The maximum depth window for this system is 4 meters. An assumed signal velocity of 0.1 m/ns will be used during the data collection and the post processing of the geophysical data. The display of the GPR data is as a vertical section on the screen during the field survey.
- It is anticipated that post-processing routines for the GPR data will be conducted in GSSI's RADAN Software and are likely to include position correction (time zero), background removal, migration, and high and low pass filtering. GPR grids are proposed to be processed individually and then combined into one file using the Super3D function of RADAN. The data are to be interpreted in cross-section view (2D), as well as in 3D view mode. In 3D mode individual cross-section profiles are combined using grid coordinates to produce a three-dimensional cube of the entire dataset. The cube can be sliced through at different depth intervals to reveal horizontal patterning between subsurface anomalies that may otherwise be missed though analysis solely of cross-section profiles.
- The scope of services proposed for Phase II will not exceed \$6,000.

NOTE:

- No subsurface archaeological investigations are proposed as part of this work. Should some sort of possible burial anomaly be identified during the GPR survey, consultation with all interested parties will occur to determine what, if any, next steps may be. Excavation of human remains is never undertaken lightly or without careful consideration of all relevant circumstances.

FIRM PROFILE: SOUTH RIVER HERITAGE CONSULTING, LLC

Based in Newark, Delaware, South River Heritage Consulting, LLC is a small cultural resource management and historic preservation professional consulting firm. Founded in 2017, the firm specializes in providing historical and archaeological research, preservation planning, and cultural resource management consultation. Services include development of historical contexts, archaeological surveys, preparation of National Register of Historic Places nominations, and professional consultation on Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. A member firm of the American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA), South River specializes in the research, survey, and preservation of America's battlefields and in the history and archaeology of the Middle Atlantic Region.

EXPERIENCE PROFILE

South River Heritage Consulting's president and principal, Wade P. Catts. He is a Registered Professional Archeologist (RPA) with more than 40 years of historical research and cultural resource management (CRM) experience. His experience includes projects in Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Virginia with management tasks including alternative mitigations, MOA development, National Register evaluations and nominations, Section 106 consultation, NEPA consultation, all phases of archaeological field work, historical research, and the development of exhibits and public outreach. He is a member of Society for Historical Archaeology, the Archaeological Society of Delaware, the Delaware Historical Society, the Society for Army Historical Research (UK), the Company of Military Historians, and the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology. Wade is a past President and past Vice President for Membership of the American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA).

He is a nationally and internationally recognized historian and historical archaeologist with research interests in the history of farmsteads and agricultural landscapes, urban development, military history and archaeology, environmental history, African-American studies, and Middle Atlantic regional history and historic preservation. Wade is a past president of the Delaware Academy of Science, and currently serves on the board of the Old Swedes Foundation in Wilmington, the Dennis Farm Charitable Land Trust in Pennsylvania, and the Advisory Board for Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Masters in Applied Archaeology Program. In 2016 he was the recipient of the Archibald Crozier Award for Distinguished Achievement in and Contributions to Archaeology from the Archeological Society of Delaware and he received the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution History Award Medal in 2021.

Mr. Catts is an Adjunct Professor of History with Rowan University. Other teaching experience includes guest lecturing and adjunct teaching for the anthropology departments of the University of Delaware (1991), Temple University (2009-2013), Washington College (2013, 2015, 2019), the State University of New York, Binghamton (2008, 2009), West Chester University (2017/18, 2020-2022), and Princeton University (2018). He has also lectured in preservation programs including Rutgers/Camden MARCH Historic Preservation Continuing Education Program (2018), and the Center for Historic Architecture and Design, University of Delaware (2019-2025). In 2021 he received a Visiting Fellow award to West Chester University of Pennsylvania by Consortium of Practicing & Applied Anthropology Programs.

Prior to launching South River Heritage Consulting, Mr. Catts was a principal for 23 years (1993-2017) with John Milner Associates, Inc (JMA), later Commonwealth Cultural Resources Group, based in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Previous to that position, he worked for the University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research and the Delaware Department of Natural Resources.

He has authored or co-authored articles in *Historical Archaeology*, *North American Archaeologist*, *Northeast Historical Archaeology*, *Delaware History*, *Advances in Archaeological Practice*, *Chester County Ledger*, and *The Bulletin of the Archeological Society of Delaware*. With the assistance of a McKinstry Award from the Delaware Heritage Commission, he is completing a book on the history and archaeology of the Battle of Cooch's Bridge, Delaware's only Revolutionary War engagement. In 2007, he published a chapter in the 250th Anniversary volume *Histories of Newark, 1758-2008*, entitled "Newark and Newarkers in the Era of the American Revolution, 1775-1783" and in 2013 he co-authored an essay on the Princeton Battlefield study published by Springer Publishing. He has recently completed a chapter about the battle of Cooch's Bridge for a volume on the archaeology of asymmetrical warfare published by The University of Alabama Press (2019) and co-authored a chapter detailing the archaeology of a target range discovered at the Valley Forge Encampment (2019), published by the University of Florida Press. In 2021 he co-authored a chapter about the archaeology of Fort Casimir in the volume *The Archaeology of New Netherland: A World Built on Trade*, published by the University of Florida Press.

Wade is a past president of the Delaware Academy of Science and currently serves on the board of the Old Swedes Foundation in Wilmington, the Dennis Farm Charitable Land Trust in Pennsylvania, as a Trustee for Preservation Delaware, Inc., and the Delaware Military Heritage and Education Foundation. He serves on the Advisory Board for Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Masters in Applied Archaeology Program. He was awarded a 2021-2022 Visiting Fellows Program at West Chester University of Pennsylvania by the Consortium of Practicing and Applied Anthropology Programs. In 2016 he was the recipient of the Archibald Crozier Award for Distinguished Achievement in and Contributions to Archaeology from the Archeological Society of Delaware and in 2021 he received the National Society, Daughters

of the American Revolution History Award Medal for contributions to Delaware and national history and archaeology.

His Revolutionary War experience includes multiple projects in New Jersey (Raritan Landing, Beverwyck, Short Hills, Princeton, Fort Mercer), Pennsylvania (Brandywine Battlefield, Paoli Battlefield, Valley Forge National Park, Camp Security, French Creek Powder Works), Delaware (Cooch's Bridge Battlefield), New York (Schuylerville, Bennington Battlefield), Vermont (Hubbardton Battlefield), and Massachusetts (Minuteman National Park). Many of these projects were successful American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) grant projects and include national register nominations and revisions, battlefield overviews, interpretive recommendations, and GIS studies. He has extensive experience with Princeton Battlefield, having co-authored several ABPP-funded studies of the engagement, and has worked with the Civil War Trust in its preservation efforts at Princeton and Brandywine battlefields.

Mr. Catts' experience with preservation projects in public places includes: survey, historical research, interpretive planning for the French Creek Industrial Complex in East Pikeland Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania; survey and planning at Bennington Battlefield State Historic Site (Hoosick Falls, NY); updating the National Register listing for Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site in Vermont; archaeological survey, interpretation and planning for Red Bank Battlefield Park in Gloucester County, New Jersey; preservation planning, archaeological and historical investigations. updating the National Register listing, conducting public archaeology activities at Princeton Battlefield State Park in Princeton, New Jersey; and ongoing master planning, interpretive planning, and public outreach for the Dennis Farm Charitable Land Trust in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, a farm property owned by the descendants of an African American family for over 200 years.

He is a consultant to the Friends of Cooch's Bridge Historic Site in New Castle County as the Friends support the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs on developing public access for the Cooch Homestead in New Castle County and as historical and archaeological advisor to support public programming associated with the capital improvements at the John Dickinson Plantation Museum property in Kent County. These projects include documentation of historical landscapes, historic structure inventory and survey, archaeological planning, public outreach, and development of interpretive and master plans.