Sustainable Neighborhood Public Outreach Program
(obligation-commitment-engagement-involvement-immersion)

I-95 Archaeological Investigations in Philadelphia
I-95/Girard Avenue Project

The most comprehensive archaeological study of Philadelphia’s Waterfront to date

Spans 3 contiguous miles

3 historic neighborhoods
National Significance of Project Area
Native American History

- 10 previously undocumented, intact sites
- Oldest site dates to about 3,560 B.C.
- Largest assemblage of Native American materials found in Philadelphia
- Archaeologists are surprised to find pre-contact sites in urban settings
- Inspires a renewed interest in, and appreciation of Delaware Indian cultural heritage
National Significance of Project Area
Manufacturing

“Workshop of the World”

Glassmaking

- Large number of factories in area
- Local glass industry supplied bottles, tableware, and lighting to markets across the country
- Early use of pressing technology

Millville, NJ
National Significance of Project Area

Port Richmond: Railways and Shipping
Transporting anthracite, grain, and other goods

Rail Yard/Anthracite

Rail Yard Wharves 1927

Cramp Shipyard Dry Dock c. 1900

Grain Elevator
National Significance
Ship and Engine Building

Neafie & Levy Ship & Engine Building Company (1844-1908) – Site of PECO power plant
• First steam powered fire engines in America
• First submarine for US Navy (Civil War)
• First naval destroyer, the Bainbridge

William Cramp and Sons/Cramp Shipyards
Kensington, (1830-1920s, reopened temporarily in WWII)
Occupied 50 acres and employed 10,000 individuals
Artifacts: Native American and Historical

- Over one million artifacts of various materials
- 1500 Hollinger boxes
- Over 750,000 cataloged to date
- Reveal an 8,000 year continuum of life along the Delaware River
Preservation

- Preserve local heritage and infuse the waterfront communities with a sense of time, place, and identity

- Preserve the artifacts and make them accessible onsite and through digital technologies
Exhibitions

- Engage diverse audiences
- Modular design
- 21st-century technology for interactive, independent, user-initiated learning
- Ask questions

Clark James Mishler Photography, Anchorage, Alaska (Smithsonian’s Arctic Studies Center)
Programs

- Serve the public through creative programming for individuals, families, students, and lifelong learners

Museum of Ontario Archaeology

- Meet Common Core and state Learning Standards
- Foster visual and traditional literacy
The Waterfront Communities

• Northern Liberties
• Kensington-Fishtown
• Port Richmond
According to Discover Philadelphia Convention and Visitor’s Bureau Website Map

No museums, aquariums, zoos, or historic buildings in this district
Land Use in River Wards
Less than 0.1% is allocated to culture

As part of the Philadelphia 2035 citywide planning and zoning project, the Philadelphia City Planning Commission staff spent over 300 hours surveying land use in the River Wards.

Philadelphia 2035 River Wards Community Meeting Presentation, PCPC
Population Changes

- From 2000 to 2010 Northern Liberties population increased by 60%, with 61% under the age of 34.
- 761 new construction building permits were issued in the River Wards between 2006 and 2014.
- Population increase is anticipated, particularly under the age of 20.
Strong Community Support

• Partnered with local organizations for community pop-up exhibits
• Up to 600 visitors per event
• Diverse audience, drew from large geographic area and wide range of interests
Professional and Community Partnerships

Penn Treaty Museum.org

Drexel University Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Rochester Institute of Technology

Philadelphia Archaeological Council
Our Next Steps

• Establish a neighborhood project laboratory
  – Design Curation Stations
    • Washing, marking, mending, analysis, photography, 3D imaging, curation
  – Maintain routine visiting schedule

• Create a long term temporary display space