When the John Dingell Act was signed into law in March 2019, Lancaster and York Counties were officially designated America’s 55th National Heritage Area. SNHA is the local coordinating entity for the Susquehanna National Heritage Area, with responsibility to develop a NHA Management Plan. To advance the plan, in 2021 a consultant team was engaged and SNHA reached out to sites, organizations, and individuals across both counties to develop an approach for connecting, interpreting, and promoting our nationally important stories and places. When the plan is approved by the National Park Service later this year, SNHA will work closely with federal and state agencies, planning organizations, nonprofits, and other interested parties to carry out its recommendations.

**NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The success of SNHA’s 2019-21 River Discovery Tours led us to seek a bigger boat. Our search culminated with acquisition of the Chief Uncas, a classic 55 ft. ELCO launch built for beer magnate Adolphus Busch in 1912. Generous donations from Ann Barshinger, Doug Hoke, and George and Bambi Long made this possible, with grants from PA DCNR and the National Park Service funding transport, US Coast Guard certification, and other costs. The Chief Uncas is an elegant electric-powered vessel with appeal to antique boat lovers and those seeking environmentally conscious experiences. After a century cruising the Susquehanna’s headwaters on Otsego Lake, NY, the Chief Uncas will begin exploring our reach of the river on public tours this summer – an iconic new way to experience the Susquehanna’s extraordinary cultural and natural legacy.

**ACQUISITION OF THE CHIEF UNCAS**

2021 **Project Highlights**

**SNHA, The Conservation Fund, and Preservation PA have secured an agreement to acquire the historic Mifflin House site in Wrightsville as a new heritage and outdoor attraction. The Mifflin Project will preserve 87 acres of historic landscape featuring important Underground Railroad and Civil War heritage. The barn will become the Susquehanna Discovery Center, a SNHA-managed visitor attraction showcasing local history for travelers to our area. The house will be restored as an Underground Railroad center with an interpretive trail to the river. The story of the Civil War battle that once engulfed this land and changed American history will also be told along trails through the site. This important project will boost our region’s heritage and outdoor economy and bring new vitality to our historic river towns.**

**MIFFLIN PROJECT MOVES FORWARD**

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2021 OPERATING FINANCES

REVENUES

- State and Federal Public Support: 30%
- Local Public Support: 22%
- Private Contributions & Endowments: 20%
- Other Income: 14%
- Reserves: 14%

EXPENSES

- General Operations Staff: 37%
- Visitor Center Staff: 21%
- Operating: 18%
- Capital Expenses: 14%
- Building: 6%
- Fundraising & Marketing: 4%

GRANT FUNDING AWARDED $637,683
TOTAL REVENUE/EXPENSES $1,216,989
PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS $245,946

Susquehanna National Heritage Area appreciates the support of our generous private donors and major funding partners:

- County of Lancaster
- County of York
- Columbia Crossing
- Zimmerman Center for Heritage
- LCSWMA
- DCNR
- R.H. Goodno Riverlands Fund
- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- National Park Service

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Zimmerman Center for Heritage
1706 Long Level Road
Wrightsville, PA 17368

Columbia Crossing River Trails Center
41 Walnut Street
Columbia, PA 17512