



The Poestenkill as a canal in South Troy (Looking East from 1st Street Bridge)

## **Troy and Poestenkill Green Infrastructure** Study'



Hudson River Watershed Alliance

### **FUNDERS**:

The workshop and report were prepared for NYS Water Resources Institute at Cornell University and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Hudson River Estuary Program, with support from the NYS Environmental Protection Fund.

### **CONSULTANTS:**

Hans Hesselein, RLA, Apiary Studio Landscape Architecture Brian Davis, RLA, Assistant Professor of Landscape Arch., Cornell University George Fowler, PE, Princeton Hydro

### **PARTICPANTS:**

City of Troy: Monica Kurzejeski, Deputy Mayor City of Troy: Anasha Cummings, City Councilmember City of Troy: Steve Strichman, Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development City of Troy: Tyler Holloway, Recycling Coordinator The Narrows: Cascade & Heritage Trail **Rensselaer Land Trust** TAP. Inc Capital District Regional Planning Commission NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program **Cornell University** Skidmore College Community Members At Large

Presentation will focus on the assets of the Poestenkill and Poestenkill Green Infrastructure Study suggested green infrastructure improvements. 10.29.2019

### **About Apiary Studio**:

Founded by Hans Hesselein in 2015, Apiary Studio is a landscape architecture firm based in Philadelphia, PA. Apiary Studio believes very strongly in the power of collaboration to achieve optimal design solutions that improve people's lives and enrich their daily experiences. We work to design places for people that are functional, sustainable, beautiful, memorable and equitable.

### **About Hans:**

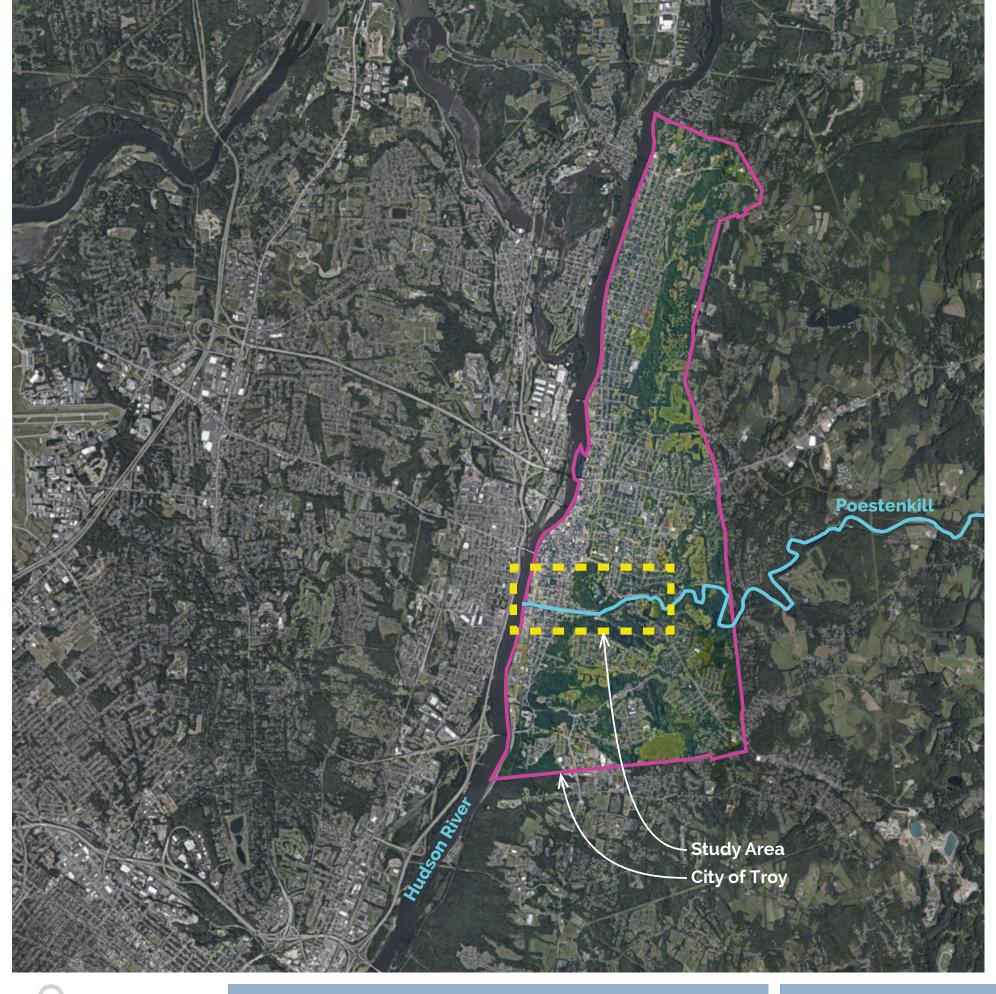
Hans Hesseleinis a registered landscape architect in the states of Pennsylvania and New York as well as a LEED-Accredited professional. He served most recently as Executive Director of the Gowanus Canal Conservancy in Brooklyn, NY before founding Apiary Studio. Hans has been a guest speaker and critic at multiple universities, including Cornell, City College of New York, Pratt Institute, Temple University and Rutgers. He is an adjunct faculty member at Jefferson University, where he teaches two courses in the history of landscape architecture.





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Apiary Studio - About Us



**GOALS OF PROJECT:** primary goals:

- 1) Improve local water quality,
- 2) Reduce flooding impacts,

4) Improve public access to open space along the Poestenkill waterfront.



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Goals of Green Infrastructure Study

Work with local stakeholders to explore sites along the Poestenkill that could be redesigned to achieve four

3) Restore ecological systems, and







areas before joining the Hudson River

# The Poestenkill is an amazing creek that runs throug rural and urban

### Mouth of Poestenkill



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Assets of the Poestenkill: Confluence with the Hudson (Looking North on Hudson banks @ Scolite site)







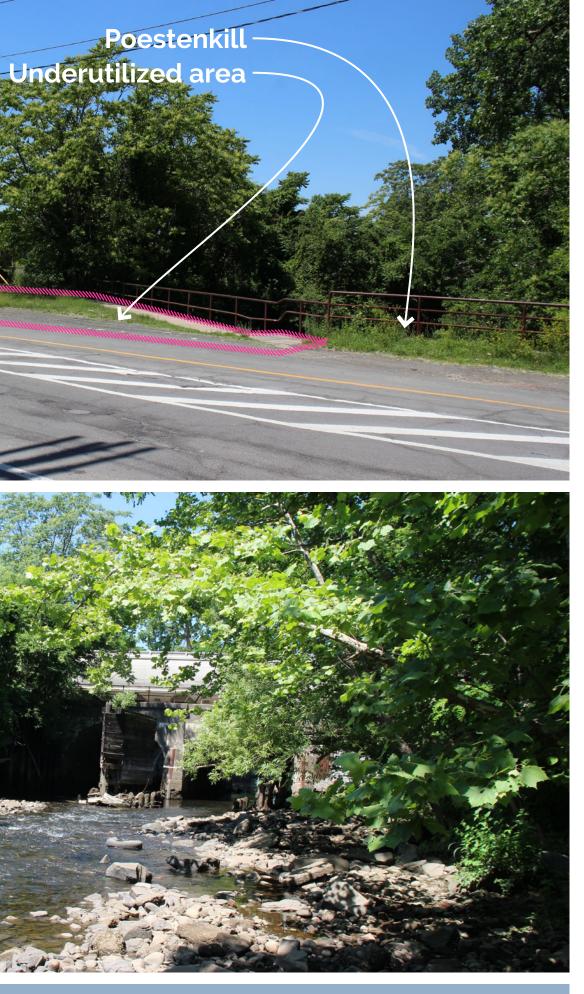
# Assets of the Poestenkill: Undeveloped waterfront edges (Looking South @ woodland border of Valente Materials parking lot)





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Assets of the Poestenkill: Poestenkill Beach & 1st street bridge overlook / fishing spot







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Assets of the Poestenkill: The Poestenkill has a publicly accessible edge along Canal Street in South Troy





Assets of the Poestenkill: Poestenkill Gorge Park (View from parking lot towards gorge)





Assets of the Poestenkill: Mount Ida Falls (View of swimming hole (a) base of Mt Ida Falls)





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Assets of the Poestenkill: Local history, industrial artifacts & ruins (Looking @ industrial relic 100 yds downstream from Mt Ida Falls)





Assets of the Poestenkill: Ida Lake





Assets of the Poestenkill: This wooden crib dam retains Ida Lake





zones of study

# Design Charrette: The Poestenkill was separated into four general

**Charrette Limitations:** 1) Broader & more intensive community engagement shoud be a part of developing specific future site designs

2) The report includes conceptual designs that explore opportunities for investment & the potential of areas along the Poestenkill to benefit the public



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Design Charrette - June 18, 2018



# (Some of the charrette participants exploring Poestenkill Gorge)





Hudson Riverfront: Existing Site Conditions



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STU DIO Hudson River Watershed Alliance LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Hudson Riverfront: Proposed Improvements Realize Troy Monroe District Plan - knowledge-based emplyment

Shared Industrial Waterfront

**Public Viewing & Fishing Pavilions Pedestrian & Bicycle Bridge** Waterfront Greenway & Public Park

Mixed-Use Commercial Development

Cafe

Seating

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Green Buffer Park for **Residential Development** 

**Step-Down to Cross Under Railroad Bridge** 

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## Hudson Riverfront: Perspective view of future public esplanade

### Salt Pile

**Rail Bridge** 

**Underutilized Vacant Lot &** Trailer Parking Site

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Rubble "Beach Waterfront

> Unused Rail Spur Popular Fishing Bridge



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Industrial Zone: Existing Site Conditions

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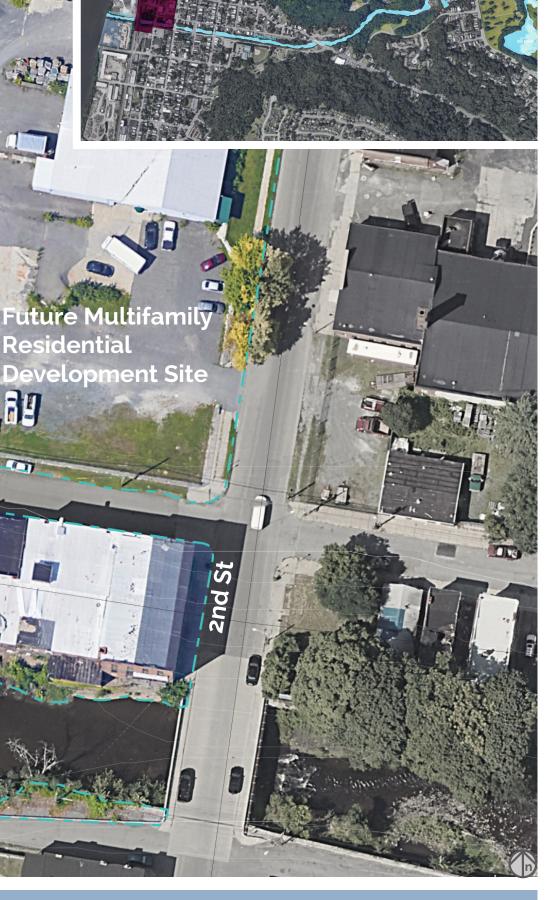
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Poestenkill

lda St



**Pedestrian Access** to Poestenkill Mouth beneath Railroad Bridge New Public Park W/ Meadow Community Gardens for

1st st

Area Residents

**Proposed Multifamily Residential Development** 

**Bioswales & Street Tree** Plantings along 1st St

Restored Riparian Forest Natural Area

Painted Roadway @ **Poestenkill Crossing** 

**Restored Aquatic Habitat** 

**Potential North Bank** Access Site

Pavilion

- Jill

Canal Ave Woonerf

Ida St

**Picnic Shelter & Pavilion Poestenkill Beach Trail Fishing Pier & Aquatic** Science Station

Poest

VIEW

1st st

**Pavilion & Fishing Overlook** 

**Pavilion & Fishing Overlook** Native Meadow & **Stormwater Basin** 



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Industrial Zone: Proposed Improvements

**Bioswales & Street** Tree Plantings along 2nd & Ida Sts

2nd St

**Potential North Bank Access Site Pavilion & Fishing** Overlook

Canal Ave Woonerf

2nd St





pier @ 1st Street Bridge

# Industrial Zone: Perspective View of enhanced "Beach" and fishing





Canal Banks: Existing Site Conditions



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LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

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Canal Banks: Perspective view o creek

# Canal Banks: Perspective view of future amphitheater step-down to

### Prospect Park

Prospect Park Underutilized Area Hydroelectric Plant **Industrial Ruins** 

> **Existing Trail** Parking Lot

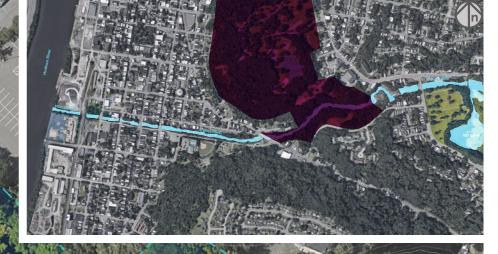
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Poestenkill Gorge: Existing Site Conditions



LindenAve

# Mount Ida Falls-Swimming Hole –

Poestenkill Gorge Park



Woodland Edge **Restoration Plantings Entry Drive & New Parking Areas Bioswales** (a) Permeable **Parking Areas** Community Dog Park; Runoff Treated w/ Bioswales

**New Landscaped Park Entrance & Bioswale** 

> **Hydro-Plant Access** Road

> > Accessible Switchback **Trails to Gorge**

Poestenkill

New Landscaped Public Park Area **Community Garden** 

**Accessible Platform** W/ Views Across Gorge

**Comfort Stations &** Vendor Booths

Hydro Plant

Linden Ave

Hale St

**Viewing Platform Preserved Industrial Ruins** & Interpretive Art

Park Pavilion & Trail Map

**Bicycle & Pedestrian Path Connects to the Narrows Trail** 

> Accessible Switchback **Trails to Gorge**

**Bicycle & Pedestrian Path** Connects to the Narrows Trail-

**Accessible Platform** W/ Views Across Gorge

Native low-mow Meadow **Restoration Plantings** 



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Poestenkill Gorge: Proposed Improvements

### **Congress St**

### Mount Ida Falls

**Preserved Industrial Ruins** & Interpretive Art

**Viewing Platform** 

**Platform for Viewing** Falls & Accessing **Swimming Hole** 

> Accessible Bridge **Across Gorge** Accessible Switchback **Trails to Gorge**

> > LindenAve

Native low-mow Meadow **Restoration Plantings** Accessible Switchback **Trails to Gorge** 

Shade Trees @ Permeable Parking Area





Poestenkill Gorge: Perspective of accessible swimming hole improvements at the base of the Falls

**Timber Dam Emergent Wetlands** 

**Brunswick Rd** 

Hydroelectric Dam Above Falls

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Vacant Caretaker's Cottage Entrance to Mt Ida Cemetery

Poestenkill

Woodland Path **Boat Launch** Parking Area

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Algae Blooms on Lake Water



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Ida Lake: Existing Site Conditions

Eagle Scout Park & Boat Launch-

### Ida Lake

Ida Lake



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LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

SITE - IDALAK

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Ida Lake: Proposed Improvements

Boardwalk

Ida Lake

Fishing Pier & Aquatic **Science Station** 

**Restoration Plantings** 

Accessible Boardwalk & Bird-watching Platform

Ida Wetland **Restoration Plantings** 





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Ida Lake: Perspective view of new community boat dock

If you would like a digital copy of the final Poestenkill Green Infrastructure Report, please email Hans and wel will send you a copy:

# hhesselein@apiary-studio.com



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THANK YOU!!!