



New Amsterdam History Center On-Line Exhibition User Guide

HOW TO USE THE SITE



The Virtual New Amsterdam Prototype was created by the Environmental Simulation Center (ESC) in collaboration with Hudson Microimaging and Haff Associates for the New Amsterdam History Center (NAHC) with funding from the New York Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC) and the Collegiate Church Corporation.

The NAHC presents this re-creation of New Amsterdam as

a lens into 17th Century colonial life in the period of 1660, before New Amsterdam became New York. The New Amsterdam History Center On-line Exhibition website, since its inception in 2005, offers visitors a powerful tool that has demonstrated the ability to combine a randomly accessible 3D immersive environment with text, numerical information, static images and primary sources, allowing users entry into the rich social, economic and physical form of New Amsterdam in the 17th Century. The visualization and spatial interpretation of New Amsterdam provides an innovative way to learn and teach about the many issues and events of the period.

This web-based environment is built using Google Earth and the Drupal Content Management System (CMS) and contains digitized primary sources, such as I.N. Phelps Stokes *Iconography of Manhattan Island, Volume 2*, previously unavailable in digital form.

Technical Requirement

You will need the most recent version of Google Earth installed on your computer in order to undertake the exploration of the 3D Model. The virtual New Amsterdam site is best viewed by accessing the internet with Internet Explorer 8 or Firefox, rather than accessing the site from your email provider.

User Log-On to Site

Click on the site VNAP 3D Model : <http://nahc.simcenterdev.org/home>

Type User Name: reviewer test

Type Password: testing123

Click “LogIn”

Under Site Navigation Home, Click “3d Model”

Note: It is likely to take a few minutes for the model to load into your computer.

Site Navigation

The heart of the website is the 3-D re-creation of the Castello Plan, the pre-eminent visual image of New Amsterdam in the 1660 period. **The navigation sections** take you, the visitor, into the virtual environment where you can roam freely among the 310 building sites that have digitally re-created descriptions, drawn from Stokes Vol. II.

There are white tags on 28 of the buildings in the Stone Street Prototype area that provide immediate detailed information about each site. While in the 3-D space, when viewing and “clicking” on a white tag, any related documents in the CMS archive appear. You can also use the “Select” button, Control Panel key in the upper right hand corner of the screen that is always available on the screen, to find information on properties that don’t have a white tag. You must, first click on any white tag and then “click” on the underlined words View Database Page that will bring you to the CMS database.

By moving your mouse left and right and up and down, you can move around the various views in the 3D model. By clicking “tags” indicated by white square flag such as “N1”

you will access the vast amount of archival information displayed in the CMS.

Mouse navigation notes:

If you have a scroll button on your mouse, pressing down on it while moving the mouse will allow for 360 degree and spherical movement.

Scrolling towards yourself will allow you to zoom in.

Scrolling away from yourself will allow you to zoom out.

Left click and drag will allow you to move forward or backward within a given area at a given horizontal plane.

Right click and drag will allow you to zoom in and change horizontal planes as you move forward or backward.

Clicking on any white tag in the model allows you to access more information and will also allow you to enter the database.

Mouse navigation for Apple Mouse users is slightly different, so please be patient as you learn to navigate.

Close-up views will reveal much of what a 17th century resident of New Amsterdam might have experienced.



Points of View: Sights of New Amsterdam

The 3D Model features detailed models of several significant buildings in New Amsterdam including the Fort, the windmill, the house of Peter Stuyvesant, and the wharf area as well as the Stone Street Pilot Area of Virtual New Amsterdam. These sights enrich the model and enhance users' experience of the settlement, serving as reference points and landmarks as a user navigates the 3D environment. The model also features ships donated by Docema, the historical film company that produced *Broadside: Emerging Empires Collide*, which are clickable and connected to information in the Drupal Content Management System.

The following images offer a glimpse of the prototype model, including: a view of the whole area of the Castello

Plan, an eye-level streetview of Stone Street, the interior of a farmhouse on Stone Street, and the underlying CMS database.



Castello Plan's Stone Street View

The opening view of the prototype is an aerial perspective, modeled on the Castello Plan, an early map of New Amsterdam, created by the surveyor, Jacques Cortelyou. Each tax lot is tagged with a number corresponding to its description in I.N. Phelps Stokes' *Iconography of Manhattan Island*. Clicking on a tag links the user to the database containing corresponding information about the tax lot, including the use of the tax lot (i.e., brewery, mill, house, etc.) and the related ancestors, as well as a PDF of

the tax lot's listing in the Stokes *Iconography* and other related resources.



Eye-Level View

A user can select "Eye Level" view to virtually walk down Stone Street to gain a sense of daily life in the Dutch settlement. On the way, users encounter figures extracted from 17th Century Dutch paintings, and can visit a fully modeled period garden based on Joel Grossman's *Human-*

Landscape Interventions in the 21st Century. Users can also peek into the window of a tavern and see the lively scene inside. Tax lots are displayed and clickable, so that users can click between the 3D model and the database.

The views above shows detailed models of Stone Street within the broader context of the settlement. Notice the difference in level of detail between the Stone Street buildings and the other, more generic buildings. This “visual cue,” as well as the Tax Lots that are tagged to each Stone Street building, indicates to a user that there is something to see on Stone Street, and invites them to take a closer look.





Points of View: Panoramic Views and Control Panel

Inspired by 17th Century Dutch Genre Painting and capitalizing on the build-out of the settlement, a sequence of selected Panoramic Views of New Amsterdam have been incorporated into the main Navigation Page of the model. Views allow a user the ability to navigate freely within the model, as well as choosing pre-defined points of reference from the Control Panel to the right of the main Google Earth Window.

The Control Panel allows the visitor to “Explore the Site” through navigation from the perspective of panoramic views, a Stone Street Tour, and miscellaneous sights in the following way:

Panoramic Views:

- [Overview Bird's Eye](#)
- [Panorama](#)

- [Panorama \(Lower\)](#)
- [Panorama \(Looking West\)](#)
- [Castello Plan View](#)

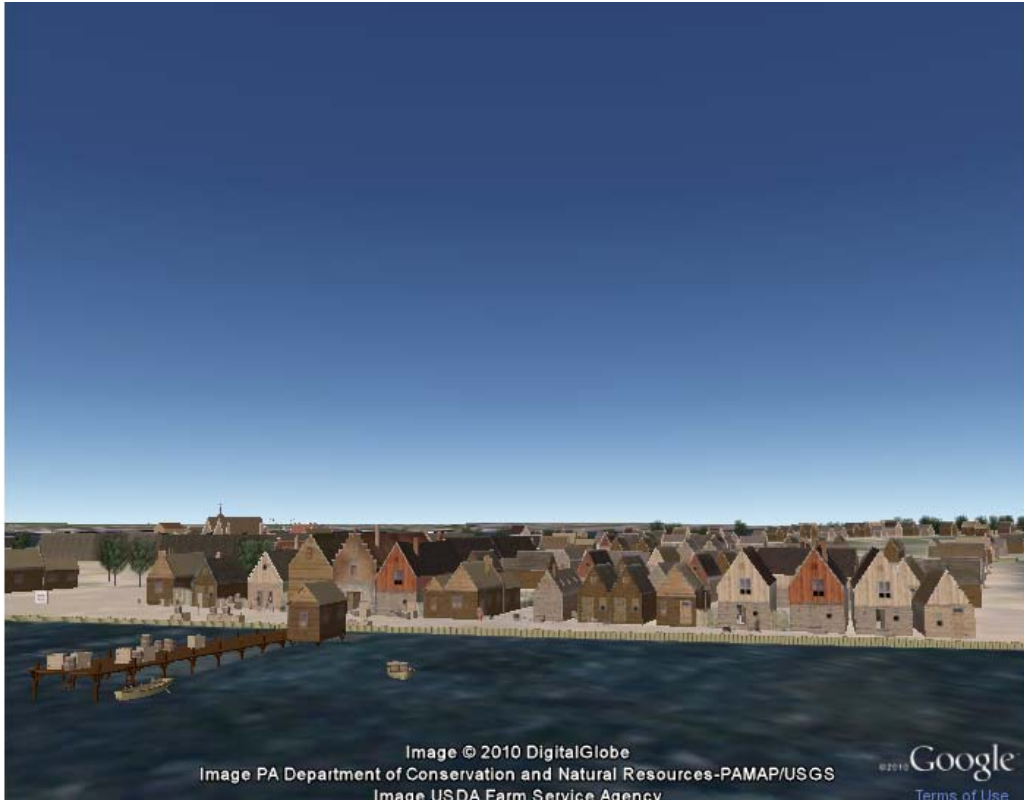
Stone Street Tour:

- [Stone Street Bird's Eye](#)
- [Stone Street Eye Level](#)
- [Looking South Towards Ship](#)
- [Farm House Exterior](#)
- [Farm House Interior](#)
- [Garden](#)
- [Tavern](#)
- [Nichlas De Meyer's Mill and House](#)

Miscellaneous Sights:

- [Fort](#)
- [Fort Interior Looking At Church](#)
- [Merchant Ship](#)
- [Canal](#)

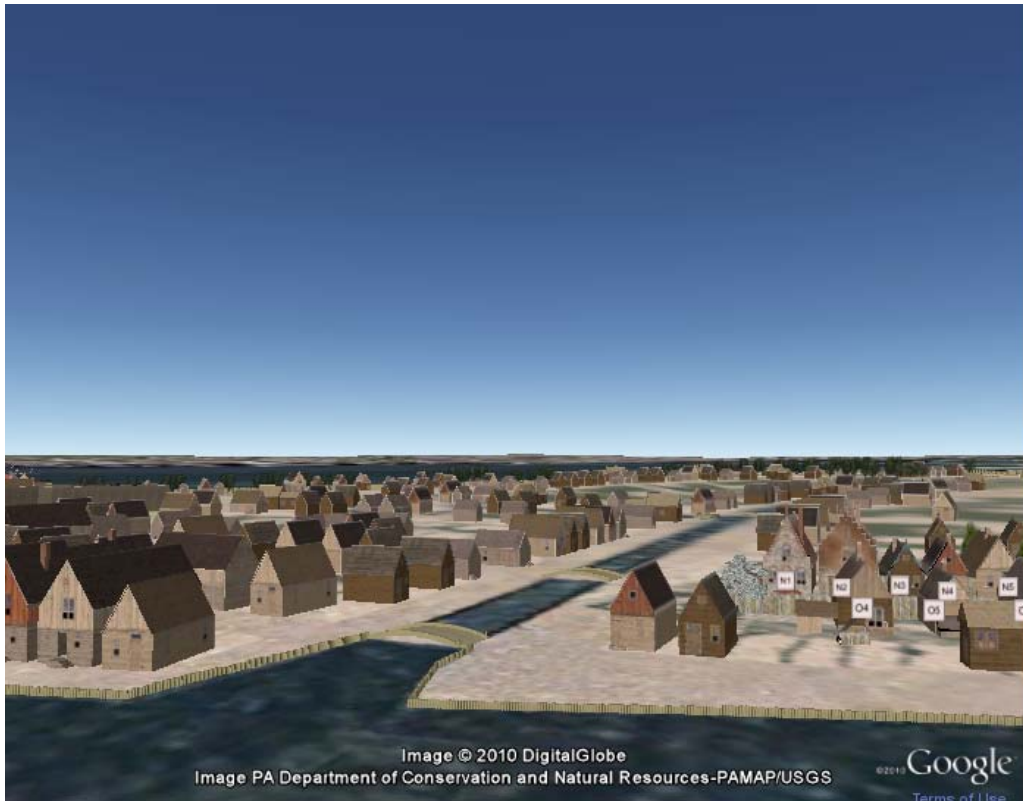
The model features the entire Castello Plan up to and including the wall modeled in various levels of detail in 3D, as well as detailed models of ships, the fort, the windmill, warehouses and a wharf populated with people, objects and animals. Several areas of the model, including the Stone Street Pilot Area, modeled in detail for the previous phase of development, are “clickable” and connected to the Drupal Content Management System.



Pier with Weigh House



View of Fort Amsterdam and the Harbor



Canal with Bridges



Street Scene with Pigs



Wall with Gate



Windmills



The Church in the Fort



Dutch West India Company Barracks in the Fort

The Drupal Content Management System (CMS) is an open source software that provides the framework for organizing, storing, and linking the diverse forms of digital

information that have been gathered and created for Virtual New Amsterdam. It is a powerful tool that has allowed the NAHC to create different user “roles” that have access to and ability to edit varying levels of information.

Development of the VNAP features two inter-related goals that will support users’ ability to explore the model and take advantage of the rich, multi-media content it contains.

First, this area will support a waterfront trade-based activity (such as the curriculum designed by American History Workshop (AHW) for 11th grade students. The CMS connects the activity to the Stone Street Pilot Area modeled in detail, as well as the Fort and the Windmill. The proximity of these areas provides the capacity to experience, at eye level, a significant portion of New Amsterdam in detail and supports ease of navigation and exploration within the model.

Second, the model has been tailored to support the curriculum related activities developed by AHW for the purpose of releasing the model to educators for evaluation. In addition to the detailed modeling of the wharf area (as explained above) three additional content types are available to the user (Documents, Objects/Object Types, and Curricula) in the CMS.

In summary, the Virtual New Amsterdam website is composed of a replication of the Castello Plan as developed in 1660 that enables the user to explore New Amsterdam in a 3D environment;

Database View

The CMS database that is connected to the 3D model contains linked information about the people and places of New Amsterdam. The database allows users to deepen their understanding of the settlement by learning more about specific inhabitants, occupations and property types.

Explore the On-line Exhibit



Stone Street Ground Level View of the Ship in the Harbor



Ground Level View Looking South Towards the Harbor



Upper Story View of the Ship in the Harbor



Upper story View of the Ship and Buildings

Points of View: Context

The full buildout of the model results in a virtual 3D an environment that offers the viewer the opportunity to explore the colony of New Amsterdam in its formative years.

For example, the views above were taken from the perspective of someone looking out from a second story window of a house on Stone Street (upper views) and from ground-level (lower views) looking south towards the harbor and the ship. Notice the difference in scale between the ship and the buildings in the settlement.





Points of View: Streets for People, Streets for Pigs

The current iteration of the Virtual New Amsterdam Prototype features a detailed wharf scene populated by people and animals. The scenes above, captured from the working Sketchup model of Virtual New Amsterdam uses

images of people captured from 17th Century Dutch Genre Paintings, as well as a variety of species of pigs. By walking down this bustling street, a user senses the richness of the everyday experience of being in New Amsterdam.



Interior View of Tavern on Stone Street



Interior View of House on Stone Street

Points of View: Interiors

Virtual New Amsterdam offers users a glimpse into the public and domestic life of the everyday people of the settlement. The current iteration of the model features two ways of seeing interior spaces. The first, shown here in the upper image, is simply a painting (*Princes Day*, by Jan Steen, 1665), that is “wrapped” around the interior space.

The lower view presents a modeled interior. It features everyday objects such as a barrel, a cradle and a hearth modeled in 3D based on photographs from the Wyckoff House and other sources. By visiting New Amsterdam residents engaged in domestic activities, a user further deepens their sense of daily life in the settlement.

Information about these objects (such as the cradle pictured here) is included in the Drupal Content Management System, and is accessible from the Information Window to the right of the Google Earth view, or can be explored within the Content Management System.

Access to Information

Virtual New Amsterdam supports the integration of visual, textual, and numerical information in the 3D environment. By clicking on “More Information” compelling opportunities to think about ways to capitalize on the rich connections between the model and database are available in the CMS . Once the visitor seeks more information or desires to “Search the Archive,” the Dupral Content

Management database of primary documents is the source of 10 related content types:

- [Tax Lots](#)
- [Ancestors](#)
- [Spouses](#)
- [Objects](#)
- [Places](#)
- [Marriages](#)
- [Ship Journeys](#)
- [Surnames](#)
- [Occupations](#)
- [Object Types](#)
- [Curricula](#)
- [Documents](#)

Stone Street Pilot Area 3D Model [View](#) [Revisions](#)

View: [Castello Plan](#) | [Eye Level](#) | [Farm House Exterior](#) | [Farm House Interior](#) | [Garden](#) | [Tavern](#) **Labels:** [Toggle Labels](#) | [Show Current Buildings](#) | [Hide Current Buildings](#)





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Tax Lot: N10

Property Was Used For:

- House

Related Ancestors:

- Nicholas de Meyer

Date Occupied: 1656-00-00 (circa)

[More information...](#)

For example, by selecting **Tax Lot: [N10](#)** the following info appears:



Property Type(s):

- [House](#)

User Tags:

- [Residential](#)

And then under Residential, click on the Property Type, “House” below

Residential

Type: NAHC Property Type

- [Boarding House](#)

- [Great House](#)
- [House](#)
- [Houses - Attached](#)

to view the Video: The Dutch Room at the Met

In celebration of the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson’s voyage to the place that would become New York, Philippe de Montebello of SundayArts interviews Peter Kenny, the Curator of Decorative Arts at the American Wing at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Discover the history of the room and what features define it as Dutch by clicking on the link below.

<http://www.thirteen.org/dutchny/video/video-the-dutch-room-at-moma/102/>

Several ways of looking at info under tax lots can be obtained by for example specifying the Property Type and Lot Number

Selecting Property Type:

Lot Number (starts with):

Tags:

Which obtains:

Related Book Page: [View Stokes Page for Tax Lot D9](#) (*opens in new*

window )

Property Was Used For:

- [Houses - Attached](#)

Related Ancestors:

- [Isaac de Forest](#)

Date Occupied: 1653-10-15

About this Property:

D8 and D9 were double attached houses made of brick.

By exploring **Related Ancestors** and **Place**, additional information can be obtained by clicking on **Related Ancestor** for [Isaac de Forest](#) which delivers from the CMS

User Tags:

- [beer](#)
- [HSNY](#)

Alternate Name: Issac

Related Modern Surnames:

- [De Forest/De Freest](#)

Born: [Leyden, Holland](#)

Arrived: [1637-03-04](#) from [Texel, Netherlands](#)

Occupation(s):

- [Brewer](#)

Ancestor Notes:

Notes from HSNY state arrived in New Amsterdam 1631-00-00.
Subsequent information lists: 1637-03-04

Biographical Notes:

De Forest arrived in New Amsterdam on March 4, 1637 on the Rensselaerswyck ship. Kiliaen van Rensselaer and Gerard de Forest each had a half interest in the ship. This journey is shown as 1636 despite the arrival date in 1637.

See Emily J. de Forest, a "Walloon Family in America, Vol. 1 ", p. 80
<http://www.archive.org/details/awalloonfamilyi00foregoog>
<http://books.google.com/books?id=41VmAAAAMAAJ&oe=UTF-8>

Below is also a link for Volume II:

<http://www.archive.org/details/awalloonfamilyi00foregoog>

and Van Rensselaer Bowier MSS, pp. 323, 328, 360

<http://www.archive.org/details/vanrensselaerbo00rensgoog>.

Clicking on the place of departure Texel, Netherlands

Place: Texel, Netherlands

[\(View Places List\)](#)

- [About This Place](#)
- [What Links Here](#)

User Tags:

- [Old World](#)

Texel is a municipality and an island in the Netherlands, in the province of North Holland.

More information at Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Txel> (*opens in new window* )

Clicking on the above link for Texel in wikipedia provides a description of Texel.

In the upper right hand corner type in Leyden and click on the insert which provides a description of the history of Leyden, Holland

- [1 History](#)
 - [1.1 Siege of 1420](#)
 - [1.2 16th and 18th centuries](#)

Clicking on the above 16th and 18th centuries “link” provides the following images and textual material on the history of Leiden and its relationship to New Amsterdam



[Otto van Veen](#): **Relief of Leiden** (1574), Inundated meadows allow the Dutch fleet access to the Spanish infantry positions.



17th-century houses along the Herengracht.



Koornbrugsteeg

Leiden flourished in the 16th and 17th century. At the close of the 15th century the [weaving](#) establishments (mainly [broadcloth](#)) of Leiden were very important, and after the expulsion of the Spaniards Leiden [cloth](#), Leiden [baize](#) and Leiden [camlet](#) were familiar terms. In the same period, Leiden developed an important printing and publishing industry. The influential printer [Christoffel Plantijn](#) lived there at one time. One of his pupils was [Lodewijk Elzevir](#) (1547–1617), who established the largest bookshop and printing works in Leiden, a business continued by [his descendants](#) through 1712 and the name subsequently adopted (in a variant spelling) by contemporary publisher [Elsevier](#).

In 1572, the city sided with the Dutch revolt against [Spanish](#) rule and played an important role in the [Eighty Years' War](#). [Besieged from May until October 1574](#) by the Spanish, Leiden was relieved by the cutting of the [dikes](#), thus enabling ships to carry provisions to the inhabitants of the flooded town. As a reward for the heroic defence of the previous year, the [University of Leiden](#) was founded by [William I of Orange](#) in 1575. Yearly on 3 October, the end of the siege is still celebrated in Leiden. Tradition tells that the citizens were offered the choice between a university and a certain exemption from taxes and chose the university. The siege is notable also for being the first instance in Europe of the issuance of [paper money](#), with paper taken from prayer books being stamped using coin dies when silver ran out.^[2]

Leiden is also known as the place where the [Pilgrims](#) (as well as some of the first settlers of [New Amsterdam](#))^{[3][4]} lived (and operated a printing press)^[5] for a time in the early 17th century before their departure to Massachusetts and New Amsterdam in the [New World](#).^[6]

In the 17th century, Leiden prospered, in part because of the impetus to the textile industry by refugees from [Flanders](#). While the city had lost about a third of its 15,000 citizens during the siege of 1574, it quickly recovered to 45,000 inhabitants in 1622, and may have come near to 70,000 circa 1670. During the Dutch Golden Era, Leiden was the second largest city of Holland, after Amsterdam.

From the late 17th century onwards Leiden slumped, mainly because of decline of the cloth industries. In the beginning of the 19th century the baize manufacture was altogether given up, although industry remained central to Leiden economy. This decline is painted vividly by the fall in population.



Support for Curricula: Information Window

The information window to the right of the Google Earth Viewing Pane contains descriptive text as well as links to the Drupal Content Management System. For example, the 4th Grade Curriculum designed by American History Workshop includes a lesson called, “Meet the Neighbors” in which student s gather information about the families of New Amsterdam by walking down the street. Further,


“visual clues” such as those listed above include, This building is a “brewery”. Notice the beer barrels stacked outside. The large doors make it easy to move supplies in and finished beer out.” As a visitor moves through the model, a user develops visual literacy skills that helps one to read the environment in a more fluent manner.



Support for Curricula: Related Tax Lots

Another function developed during this phase is the “Related Tax Lots” function, shown here, using the house, mill and other property of Nicholas de Meyer. According to Stokes, there are quite a few property owners who owned more than one property in the settlement. This function allows a user to see each of the properties associated with a particular property owner, without leaving the 3D environment.

About This Taxlot What Links Here



User Tags: beer, family life, wood

3D View:

- [View in Google Earth interface](#)

Related Book Page: [View Stokes Page for Tax Lot N2](#) (opens in new window)

Property Was Used For:

- Brewery

Related Ancestors:

- Govert Lookermans

About this Property:

Home of Govert Lookermans (151), a wealthy brewer who became a major landholder in New Amsterdam. Described in Stokes as 'house and brewhouse', it is later described in Stokes as "the great stone brewhouse".

Related Documents:

- NAHC VNAP Theme First Families.pdf

Support for Curricula: View in Google Earth

The connection between the 3D Model and the Drupal Content Management System, provides an option to “View in Google Earth Interface” which returns a user to a view of the tax lot in the model.

For example, a seventh grade student who is using American History Workshop’s lesson, “ Building a Community” from the curriculum, “Justice, Courage and Community: Dutch Settlers in New Amsterdam , circa 1641,” might return to the 3D model to demonstrate their

understanding of the relationship between their household and the greater context of the settlement.



Support for Curricula: Dropdown Boxes

To make the information contained in the Drupal CMS easy to sort and accessible to users at a variety of skill levels and experience, dropdown boxes are implemented for several content types (Tax Lots, Ancestors and Objects). These boxes demonstrate the capacity to customize the display information in the CMS to the particular needs of a user. For example, Within the Ancestors Content Type, a user can sort by Modern Surname, Tags, Occupations or Birthplace.



Support for Curricula: Information Tags

The Virtual New Amsterdam features the addition of three new content types: Objects, Documents, and Curricula. The ESC developed Information Tags that connect selected objects to the Content Management System. Currently the following objects are clickable: barrels and pigs from the waterfront scene, the cradle and butter churn in the farmhouse interior, and the ship in the harbor. The information window to the right of the Google Earth navigation pane contains basic information about these objects and provides multiple links to the CMS.

The Curricula and Documents tabs support materials for teaching and learning.

Teachers, can download the files below for a complete lesson plan and background paper.

Under Documents:

- [Historical Bkgnd-Imports Exports Maika.doc](#)

is an overview essay that enumerates the specific exhibits, documents, and lessons that pertain to topics commonly taught in U.S. history courses. This essay can help instructors familiarize themselves with the site and create student assignments related to their teaching needs.

- [NAHC Grade 11 Lesson Plan revised.doc](#)

Support for Curricula: User Tags

One of the most powerful tools in the CMS is the User Tag. Within the VNAP, user tags have been applied to multiple items in each content type that relate to a particular curriculum. User tags like:

Wood – relates to 4th grade curriculum

Justice – relates to 7th grade curriculum

Fur trade or Tobacco trade – relates to 11th grade curriculum

Clicking on a user tag will deliver all entries that have been tagged sorted by content type and title. Students and teachers can be confident that they will always be able to find everything related to their curriculum. Here is an example:

justice

Type: NAHC Ancestor

- [1,660,096 - Jan Jansen](#)
- [1,660,111 - Manuel de Gerrit de Reus](#)
- [1,660,155 - Pieter Schaeftbanck](#)
- [1,660,163 - Richard Smith](#)
- [1,660,182 - Manuel de Groot](#)
- [1,660,198 - Manuel Minuit](#)
- [1,660,221 - Paulo d'Angola](#)
- [1,660,235 - Simon Congo](#)
- [1,660,236 - Anthony Portugis](#)
- [1,660,237 - John Francisco](#)
- [1,660,238 - Garcia d'Angola](#)
- [151 - Govert Loockermans](#)
- [28 - Everardus Bogardus](#)
- [433 - Allard Anthony](#)

Type: NAHC Curriculum

- [7th Grade -Justice, Courage and Community: Dutch Settlers in New Amsterdam, circa 1641 revised 2010-06-24](#)

Type: NAHC Document

- [Van-Laer Manuscripts Vol-04 0109 Page-098](#)
- [Van-Laer Manuscripts Vol-04 0110 Page-099](#)
- [Van-Laer Manuscripts Vol-04 0111 Page-100](#)
- [Van-Laer Manuscripts Vol-04 0219 Page-208-1](#)
- [Van-Laer Manuscripts Vol-04 0223 Page-212](#)

Type: NAHC Marriage

- [1,660,182 - 660,076 de Groot - Christina](#)
- [1,660,221 - 660,077 d'Angola - Creole](#)

Type: NAHC Occupation

- [0-Status Apprentice](#)
- [0-Status Half-Free Half-Enslaved \(Half Citizens\)](#)
- [0-Status Indentured](#)
- [0-Status Schepen](#)
- [0-Status Slave](#)
- [0-Status Slave-DWIC](#)
- [Jailor](#)

Type: NAHC Ship Journey

- [1647 - Princess bound for Holland, wrecked in a storm, aka Princess Amelia](#)

Type: NAHC Spouse

- [660,076 - Christina](#)
- [660,077 - Dorothy Creole](#)

Type: NAHC Taxlot

- [0-Church in the Fort](#)
- [0-Fort - Fort Amsterdam](#)
- [0-Gallows](#)

