

THE LANDSCAPE IS THE ARTIFACT

New Kent's history remains readable because rivers, roads, forests, farms, schools, and sites still connect.

1 INDIGENOUS

Moysonec and river corridors preserve evidence reaching back thousands of years.

2 COLONIAL

Churches, roads, the courthouse area, farms, and an ordinary retain context.

3 WAR AND MOVEMENT

Revolutionary and Civil War stories depend on routes, landings, fields, and rivers.

4 CIVIL RIGHTS

Green v. New Kent turned a local school record into national constitutional law.

The paper's core proposition is that the setting itself is evidence, not empty space between landmarks.

PRESERVE THE PLACE, NOT JUST THE PLAQUE.

WHY THE SETTING MATTERS

A landmark can remain standing while the landscape that explains it is permanently lost.

HISTORY

- Moysonec
- St. Peter's Church
- Historic roads
- Green v. New Kent



SETTING AS EVIDENCE

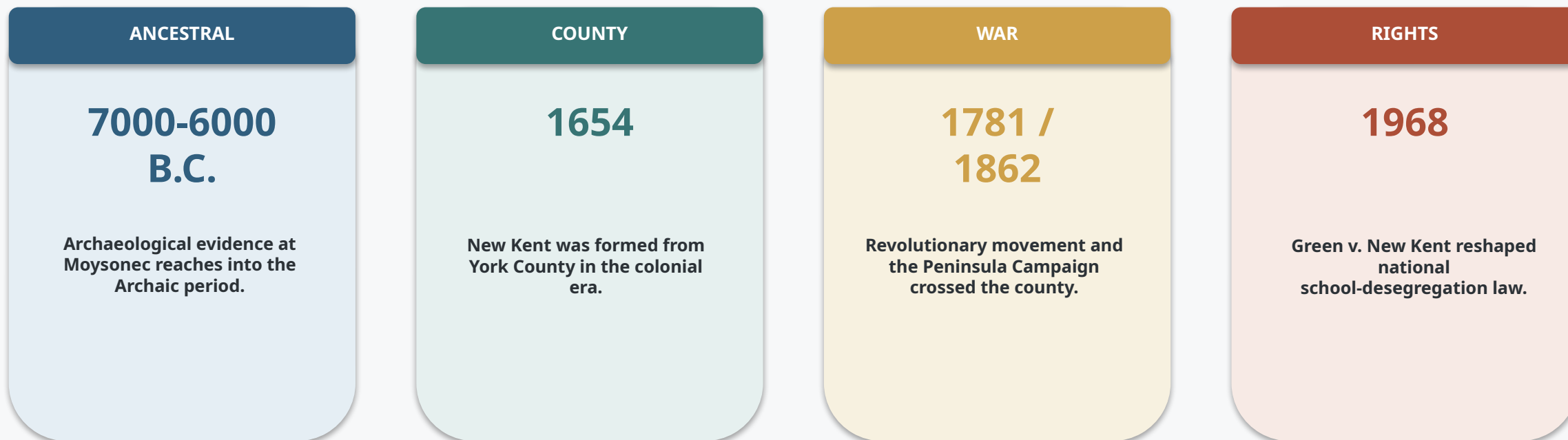
- River landscape holds context
- Pastoral setting aids integrity
- Viewsheds explain movement
- Local place shaped national law

Preservation means retaining enough physical context to understand how people lived, moved, worked, and changed the nation.

CONTEXT MAKES HISTORY LEGIBLE.

FIVE ERAS, ONE LANDSCAPE

The paper connects more than nine millennia of human history across the same rural geography.



These chapters overlap geographically, making intact roads, rivers, forests, and rural views part of the historical record.

AMERICAN HISTORY SHARES THIS GROUND.

THE CITIZEN 4x4

Four preservation questions help test development against New Kent's living historical landscape.

- 01

SURVEY EARLY

Identify archaeological, architectural, and landscape resources before design.
- 02

PRESERVE VIEWSHEDS

Protect the rural setting that gives landmarks meaning and integrity.
- 03

PROTECT CORRIDORS

Keep historic roads, river routes, forests, farms, and landings legible.
- 04

KEEP CONTEXT

Prefer avoidance and retention where documentation cannot replace the place.

Preservation is not opposition to the future; it is stewardship of a record that cannot be reconstructed after loss.

KEEP NEW KENT RECOGNIZABLY NEW KENT.