

BATTLEFIELD UPDATE

Newsletter of the American Battlefield Protection Program

Summer 2002, No. 79

SPECIAL 2002
CONFERENCE
EDITION

GRANTS AND GIS WORKSHOPS

The National Park Service will offer two workshops during *Closing Ranks*. One workshop will focus on grants and the other will focus on using geographic information systems. Both will be offered on August 16 and August 18, 2002. The American Battlefield Protection Program will present a workshop designed to cover the basics of its preservation grants program. The workshop will provide fledgling battlefield support groups with a primer for using ABPP grants in support of local preservation goals.

Paul Hawke, Chief of the ABPP, will outline the history, philosophy, and mission of the ABPP and its grants program. Staff members will discuss the most common types of ABPP grants and highlight successful projects that exemplify "best practices" in battlefield preservation. Topics will include archeological research and surveys, historic landscape and preservation planning, and interpretation of resources.

Workshop participants will also learn about fundamental grant administration and Federal granting requirements. ABPP Grants Manager, Glenn Williams, will discuss application submission procedures, grant administration techniques, competitive bidding, and Federal standards as they apply to ABPP grant projects.

Successful preservation projects require sound funding strategies. Julie Fix, Director of Programs for the Civil War Preservation Trust, will explore how non-profit organizations can leverage matching funds for Federal and private grants. She will also discuss how to identify and use funding sources for cultural resource and lands protection.

During the workshop, time will be set aside for small groups to discuss issues facing specific battlefields and to develop ideas for applicable grant projects. The ABPP staff will be available to work with participants. We recommend this free workshop for new battlefield friends

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HOW TO REGISTER

To register for the 6th National Conference on Battlefield Preservation, *Closing Ranks*, simply fill out the registration form you received in the mail and return it along with your payment to:

Kristen Stevens, ABPP Conference Coordinator
P.O. Box 604
Westminister, MD 21158

If you need a copy of the registration form, visit our web site, <http://www2.cr.nps.gov/abpp/Conference/Albany2002.htm>. This site includes a printable version of the registration form. Also, check out this page for any future updates on conference activities.

The conference registration cost for *Closing Ranks* is \$95. This includes the opening reception, the paper presentations, lunch, and the closing banquet. The tours and GIS workshops are not covered by the registration fee. The tour of Saratoga National Historical Park and the tour of Lake George are \$35 each. The tour of Fort Montgomery is \$25. The GIS workshops are \$25 each. Please make checks payable to The Civil War Preservation Trust.



Old Tennent Church was used as a hospital during and after the Battle of Monmouth in 1778.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE IN THE ALBANY AREA

Albany is the vibrant, historic capital of New York. The city and the surrounding region offer numerous fairs, performances, exhibits, and other events that may interest conference attendees and their families. Of special note is the 225th anniversary of the Battle of Bennington, which occurred on August 16, 1777. The Bennington Battlefield State Historic Site in Hoosick Falls, New York, will celebrate the anniversary on Saturday, August 17. For more information call the State Historic Site at (518) 279-1155.

Battlefield overload? There are many other activities from which to choose. History buffs will want to take a guided tour of the Van Schaick Mansion in Cohoes or tour historic downtown Albany on the Albany City Trolley.

Music lovers will be hard-pressed to choose from a range of performances, including the Cooperstown Chamber Music Festival, the musical *George M* at the Park Playhouse in Albany, a free concert at Canal Square in Cohoes, the musical *Mame* at the Mac Haydn Theatre in Chatham, and a bell tower concert at Albany City Hall.

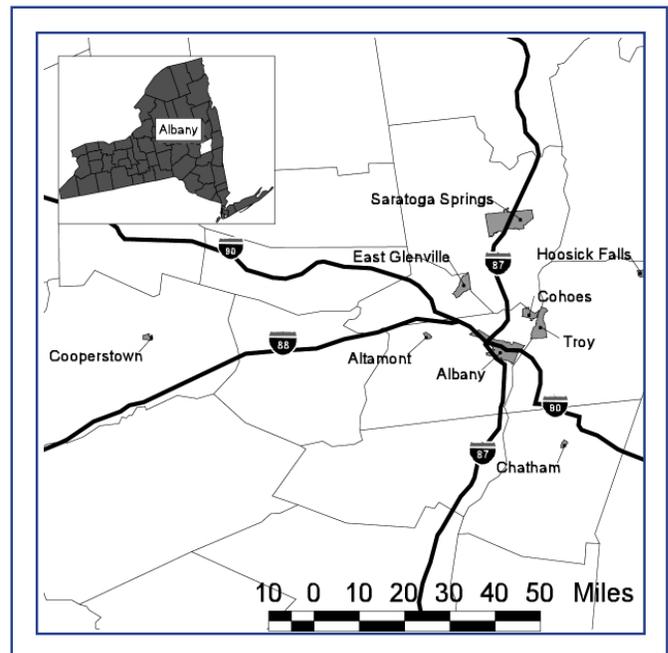
Art aficionados will not want to miss the “American Impressionists,” “Abroad and at Home,” and “The Great American Circus” exhibits at the New York State Museum in Albany or the “2002 Exhibition” by Artists of the Mohawk-Hudson Region at the Albany Institute of History and Art.

Children will love the Henry Hudson Planetarium’s planet workshop, baseball story and activity time at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, and story time at the Troy Junior Museum.

Likewise, sports fans will enjoy thoroughbred racing at Saratoga Race Course, the Baseball Author Series at the National Baseball Hall of Fame, and visits to the New York Giants Football Training Camp in Albany.

Other special events include a lecture entitled “Buildings with Agendas” at the Albany Institute of History and Art, a Fly-In Breakfast at the Empire State Aerosciences Museum in Glenville, nature walks at Yaddo Gardens in Saratoga Springs, and the Altamont Fair.

Updated information about these and other exciting events can be found at www.albany.org or obtained by calling 800-258-3582.



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groups and other organizations interested in learning more about project funding from the ABPP.

Also on August 16 and 18, the Cultural Resources Geographic Information System (CRGIS) team of the National Park Service will host a hands-on workshop to familiarize participants with potential uses of GIS and Global Positioning System (GPS) in battlefield preservation. This workshop will begin on the bus ride from the Crowne Plaza Hotel to the Saratoga National Historical Park with an introductory lecture on how to use GIS and GPS to record spatial and digital information about battlefields. The field session will be devoted to the use of GPS equipment and data processing at the park’s GIS station. Attendees will learn about the possibilities of map enhancement and feature recording for battlefield management. A box lunch will be provided on the bus. Limit 20 participants at a cost of \$25 per person.

Please remember to sign up for the workshops on the conference registration form.

ALBANY CONFERENCE TOURS

The ABPP is pleased to offer three exciting tours of sites associated with the French and Indian War and the Revolutionary War during its *Closing Ranks* conference. The tours will take participants to Saratoga National Historical Park, Lake George battlefield, and Fort Montgomery.

Eric Schnitzer of Saratoga National Historic Park will lead the tour of Saratoga on Friday, August 16. Edwin C. Bearss, Historian Emeritus of the National Park Service, will not be able to join us. Participants will visit the battlefields of Bemis Heights and Freeman's Farm and learn about the stunning American victory that led France to recognize the sovereignty of the new United States of America. The tour will also visit related sites in Saratoga, including the General Philip Schuyler House, the Saratoga Monument, the Siege Field, and the Field of Grounded Arms where the beleaguered British surrendered.

Dr. David Starbuck, professor of archeology and anthropology at Plymouth State College in New Hampshire, will lead the Lake George Battlefield tour, also on Friday. Participants will visit British military sites of the French and Indian War. The first stop will be the new Rogers Island Visitors Center in Fort Edward, which features military and archeological exhibits pertaining to the early history of upstate New York. The tour will continue to the grave sites of Black Watch Major Duncan Campbell, who was mortally wounded during the British attack on Fort Ticonderoga in 1758, and Jane McCrea, whose murder and scalping in 1777 sensationalized fighting on the frontier and led to increased opposition to the British. The tour will move then to the Lake George battlefield (1755) and the site of Fort George (1759). The Battle of Lake George marked the beginning of several years of warfare along the Lake George/Lake Champlain corridor. Before returning to Albany, the tour will briefly visit the site of Fort William Henry, the location of the 1757 battle and massacre immortalized in James Fenimore Cooper's classic novel "The Last of the Mohicans."

On Sunday, August 18, Dr. James Johnson, Military Historian of the Hudson River Valley Association, will lead a tour of Fort Montgomery. Constructed to prevent British passage up the Hudson River, the fort fell to the British in October 1777. The British destroyed the fort after the battle, but American forces continued to use the site as a camp and erected a battery in 1779 to serve as a watch point for West Point. Extensive ruins remain at the site of this National Historic Landmark. In October 2002, the Fort Montgomery battle site will be dedicated as a New York State Historic Park.

If you are interested in participating in one or more of these stirring tours, sign up early— space is limited and will be filled on a first come first served basis. Indicate the tour of your choice on the registration form and send in your registration today! The cost of the Friday tours to Saratoga and Lake George is \$35 per person. The Sunday tour to Fort Montgomery is \$25 per person. Tour costs include round-trip transportation and a boxed lunch.

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Fran P. Mainella
Director

Katherine H. Stevenson
*Associate Director,
Cultural Resources Stewardship and Partnerships*

John Robbins
*Manager,
National Center for Cultural Resources*

Paul Hawke
*Chief, American Battlefield
Protection Program*

Kristen L. Stevens
Editor

Janice C. McCoy
McCoy Publishing Services

Jerry Buckbinder
Production Manager

Battlefield Update is published quarterly and is available free of charge. Please send articles, news items, and correspondence to the address below or electronically to Glenn_Williams@nps.gov.

American Battlefield Protection Program
Heritage Preservation Services
National Park Service
1849 C Street, NW (NC330)
Washington, DC 20240
PHONE (202) 343-1210
FAX (202) 343-3921

For more information about the
American Battlefield Protection Program
visit us on-line at
www2.cr.nps.gov/abpp/.



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Even the cows are lining up and Closing Ranks to register for the ABPP conference – better get a MOOOOVE on it and register today!

