



Washington-Rochambeau

Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

End of Year 2012



W3R-MA Event at Bunker Hill Monument

Recent Events

On December 9, a commemorative event honoring the march of Rochambeau's troops through Massachusetts was held at Bunker Hill Monument in Boston National Historical Park. The staff of Boston National Historical Park hosted the new Consul General of France, Fabien Fieschi, who spoke about the Franco-American Alliance, and the W3R Marchers who walked in uniform in 2006 from Newport, Rhode Island to Yorktown in real-time, duplicating the march of the French Auxiliaries. Also present on Sunday were three French regiments who fought for the United States in the Revolution as part of the French forces, and the 6th Connecticut Continental Regiment who joined Washington's Army in Cambridge in 1775. The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts, the 3rd oldest militia in the world (1638), presented the Colors, the American and French Flags, and the two national anthems were sung.

Following the event was a lecture by Dr. Robert Selig to kick-off the study of the various NHT routes through Massachusetts. The very successful and well attended event was organized by the W3R-MA and the Lafayette Society and the NHT was represented by Samantha Driscoll.

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In 2006, the W3R Marchers completed the entire 700+ mile route of Rochambeau's army from Newport, RI to Yorktown, VA. The Marchers were critically important in persuading Congress in 2009 to recognize the Washington-Rochambeau Route as a National Historic Trail administered by the National Park Service.

From December 3 to December 9, 2012 the W3R Marchers finished the final leg of that great French effort - the 1782 return march from Providence to Boston. The Marchers included Dave Fagerberg, David Hallowsay, Michael Fitzgerald and Richard Swartwout - one of the two support drivers in 2006 - and Rose Morin, the driver, cook, nurse and web-keeper.

The Marchers visited a number of sites including the North Ground Cemetery, the Jeremiah Dexter Homestead, the Slater Hill Museum, the Joy Homestead, and the General Nathanael Greene Homestead.

The March culminated with a celebration of the W3R Marchers at Bunker Hill Monument at Boston National Historical Park on December 9. We would like to congratulate the Marchers on such an impressive feat and thank them for working so hard to draw attention to the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail!

See them in the News!
<http://wrentham.patch.com/articles/re-enactors-march-through-wrentham>





NHT News

On December 4, Joe DiBello presented a talk on the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT as part of the Friends of Valley Forge Park and the Washington Memorial Heritage speakers series at Washington Memorial Chapel. Joe provided an overview of the Continental and French alliance and their march south that lead to the siege and defeat of the British at Yorktown. The talk focused on the stories behind the march as well as the W3R-US and NPS partnership initiatives. On Tuesday January 8, Joseph Becton will present about African Americans at the Valley Forge encampment. For further information about future programs, go to www.friendsofvalleyforge.org or www.washingtonmemorialchapel.org

To tell the story of the Battle off the Capes in Virginia, we are exploring the feasibility of commemorating Admiral DeGrasse and the Battle off the Capes at prominent locations for all to see. Nicole Yancey, W3R-NHT liaison in VA has initiated discussions with communities in Southern VA. The NHT team will work closely with Colonial National Historical Park and we will assist in applying for ABPP for financial assistance. We will also begin dialog with the state to explore ways to connect and enhance the NHT on a statewide basis.

Joe and the staff at Valley Forge and Independence Historical Parks are making arrangements for relocating the Washington-Rochambeau display currently located at Valley Forge National Historical Park to its original location at the Independence National Historical Park Visitor Center, located at Sixth and Market Streets in Philadelphia. The Independence Visitor Center will also display Washington-Rochambeau NHT brochures and provide passport stamps. We are experiencing delays due to the extra work brought on by the super storm Sandy.

We would like to compile photos of all Washington-Rochambeau NHT events, past and future. Please send any photos you would like included to Samantha Driscoll at samantha_driscoll@nps.gov. You can register for a free Flickr account. Once registered, you will be able to comment on all photos. We ask your help in using the comment section to caption the images and tell more about the place, people, or event!

Please see photos of past events at:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/washington-rochambeau/>



We've gone digital!

Please visit the official NPS website for the Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail: www.nps.gov/waro

'Like' us on Facebook to stay up-to-date on all Washington-Rochambeau NHT news: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Washington-Rochambeau-Revolutionary-Route-National-Historic-Trail/126419804105006>

NPS: A Call to Action

The National Park Service is nearing its 100th Anniversary in 2016. National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis has announced A Call to Action to move the NPS into a new century. A Call to Action calls for creative and innovative ways to interpret, experience, communicate, protect, and educate the parks, trails, sites, and resources of the National Park Service.

See the plan A Call to Action at:
http://inside.nps.gov/calltoaction/pdf/C2A_report.pdf

The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail will work with communities along the route to:

- Reach new audiences to tell the story of Generals Washington and Rochambeau, the allied armies, and the people impacted by this event
- Connect the national, state, local parks, trails, heritage areas, and greenways on the route and add cultural resource preservation and interpretation to the natural and recreation resources along the route
- Offer rich, interactive, up-to-date content in a user-friendly web platform that supports online and mobile technology including social media

Online Tourism Guide for the NHT

The NPS website section called, "Things to Do," will act as a tourism guide to the NHT where potential tourists will be able to select the state in which they are planning to travel, and view a list of sites and destinations along the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. **We ask your help in telling us which sites you would like to see included from your state!** The sites should be **open to the public**, and can be federal, state, local, or non-profit. Please send your list of destinations and their corresponding websites directly to Samantha Driscoll at samantha_driscoll@nps.gov.

Google Maps of the NHT Auto Route

The NPS website is now up and running, allowing us to have a more accessible format for the Google Maps of the NHT Auto Route. Please follow this link to the 'Directions' page of the NPS site and click on the state.

<http://www.nps.gov/waro/planyourvisit/directions.htm>



Announcements

National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program 2012 Grant Awards

More than \$1.3 million in National Park Service grants will be used to help preserve, protect, document, and interpret America's significant battlefield lands. The funding from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) will support 27 projects at more than 75 battlefields nationwide. This year's grants provide funding for projects at endangered battlefields from the Pequot War, King William's War, the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, World War II and various Indian Wars. Awards were given to projects in 17 states or territories entailing archeology, mapping, cultural resource survey work, documentation, planning, education and interpretation. Priority was given to those groups submitting applications for nationally significant battlefields. We have checked the 2007 American Battlefield Protection Program Report to Congress for sites associated with the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. We are happy to report the Washington-Rochambeau Route is listed as a Class A "road, trail, and waterway needing further study." The associated site of the Chesapeake Capes is listed as a Class A "naval and maritime site needing further study" as well as a Class A "battlefield needing further study." There are various battlefields, locations of altercations, and historic sites along the Washington- Rochambeau NHT which may qualify for a 2013 Battlefield Preservation Grant. Please contact us to discuss projects, sites, or proposals that you think may qualify. We would be happy to assist and support you in preparing an application. To learn more about this very important opportunity, please visit: <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/abpp/>

"All About the Revolution"

A Blog about American History

"All About the Revolution," a blog that delves into an array of historical topics relating to the American Revolution and early national period, marks its first anniversary with "Yorktown's Fame Predates the Revolution." Access to the blog is from the home page of www.historyisfun.org, the website for Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center history museums located in Virginia's Jamestown-Williamsburg-Yorktown Historic Triangle. The blog debuted in 2011 with an essay on the meaning of the American Revolution. "All About the Revolution" provides updates on the future American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, which will replace the Yorktown Victory Center by late 2016, and features objects in the



museum collection. The direct link to the blog is <http://www.historytube.org/category/all-about-the-revolution/>.

2013 Pennsylvania DCNR Community Conservation Partnership Grants

Due April 10

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources will host a series of 7 regional grant workshops designed to assist potential grant applicants with preparing their applications and providing information about the program. The workshop dates and locations in our area are Feb. 6: Conshohocken – Montgomery County Public Safety Training Campus: Fire Academy; Feb. 7: Doylestown – Heritage Conservancy: Aldie Mansion;

For grant applications and instructions, visit <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/index.aspx> or contact the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation's Linda Manning by sending email to: Linmanning@pa.gov.

America's Best Idea Grants Program by the National Park Foundation March - December 2013 cycle

America's Best Idea Grants Program is an NPF signature program that provides a springboard from which national parks can initiate projects that reach out to new partners, strengthen existing relationships, and/or engage new audiences. This is a "community engagement program," designed to involve underserved and under-engaged audiences in meaningful and relevant ways. While not the sole focus of this year's grant cycle, "engaging youth" –getting kids to literally experience parks either in person or virtually – is a major focus. It is also critical to tie community partners into the projects, whether local, state, regional or Federal.

Grant applications should consider:

- Engaging youth in meaningful, enduring ways
- Forging and/or expanding community partnerships
- Targeting underserved audiences
- Motivating park stewardship
- Connecting to local, state, and other federal lands
- Leveraging grant dollars
- Empowering program participants
- Promoting and celebrating your project

For more information, please visit: <http://www.nationalparks.org/our-work/programs/americas-best-idea>



Our Town Grant

Deadline January 14, 2013

Art works to improve the lives of America's citizens in many ways. Communities across our nation are leveraging the arts and engaging design to make their communities more livable with enhanced quality of life, increased creative activity, a distinct sense of place, and vibrant local economies that together capitalize on their existing assets. For more information, please visit: <http://arts.gov/grants/apply/OurTown/index.html>

American Revolution Museum at Yorktown

Mary Morton Parsons Foundation of Richmond Challenge Grant

The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation of Richmond has pledged a \$250,000 challenge grant in support of gallery exhibits at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, planned to open by late 2016. Work is under way on the new museum, which will replace the Yorktown Victory Center.

“The grant comes at a crucial time for the new museum,” said Philip G. Emerson, executive director of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, the Virginia state agency that operates Yorktown Victory Center and Jamestown Settlement history museums. “The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation’s commitment to this project helps us move forward with critical elements of gallery planning.”

The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown project includes an 80,000-square-foot structure that will encompass expanded exhibition galleries, classrooms and support functions, and reorganization of the 22-acre site. Designed to encourage discussion and critical thinking, the new galleries will feature immersive learning environments, interactive exhibits and period artifacts. The galleries will segue into the museum’s two outdoor living-history areas, a re-created Continental Army encampment and Revolution-period farm.