

# Washington-Rochambeau

## Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail



## March 2014 Highlights



Revolutionary War reenactor Joe Becton speaking to a group of students at the Wilderness Inquiry program in Chester, PA

## News Along the Trail

### Maryland Land Preservation and Recreation Plan 2014-2018

Maryland has done a great job preparing their Land Preservation and Recreation Plan which is prepared every five years to identify issues impacting outdoor recreation and natural resource protection in Maryland. This plan was developed using public input gathered through surveys, stakeholder meetings, and analysis of national, state, and local issues impacting recreation and natural resource conservation. The Land Preservation and Recreation Plan will help guide land conservation and development of outdoor recreation opportunities over the next five years and builds upon the America's Great Outdoors Initiative. The Plan aims to: provide Maryland's citizens and visitors with safe and easily accessible amenities; encourage the enjoyment and stewardship of Maryland's natural world; and balance outdoor recreation land use with natural and cultural resource protection. It serves as Maryland's Statewide Comprehensive

Outdoor Recreation Plan and qualifies the state to receive funding through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. The National Park Service administers the state side which is allocated to states. The Maryland Land Preservation and Recreation Plan can be found online at: [http://www.dnr.state.md.us/land/Stewardship/LPRP\\_2014-2018.asp](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/land/Stewardship/LPRP_2014-2018.asp)

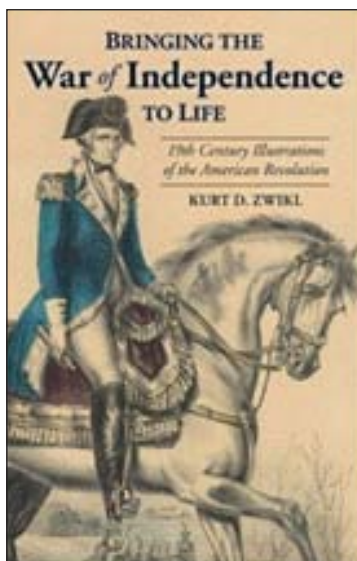
For the first time, the state plan has a stand-alone trail section (Chapter 4: Connecting People and Places). A section on national trails is included in the conservation section (Chapter 5: Land Protection and Conservation). Chapter 5 can be accessed here: [http://www.dnr.state.md.us/land/Stewardship/pdfs/LPRP/Chapter5\\_Protection.pdf](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/land/Stewardship/pdfs/LPRP/Chapter5_Protection.pdf)

A discussion of scenic byways is also included in the conservation section. An exploration of a revolutionary route may be worthwhile now that the Maryland Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route cultural resource inventories are well underway. More information on the Maryland Scenic Byways Program may be found here: <http://roads.maryland.gov/index.aspx?pageid=97&d=56>

## American Revolution Center

On March 2, a ceremony was held at Third and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, future site of the Museum of the American Revolution, to announce the project beginning this spring. Mike Quinn, Museum President and CEO, introduced H.F. “Gerry” Lenfest, whose \$40 million donation galvanized ambitions that the museum would be built, and former Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell, who helped choose the museum site and who has assisted with fund-raising. Enough has been raised to begin construction in the summer and to open by late 2016 at the site of the vacant Independence National Historical Park visitor center. The private nonprofit needs about \$30 million more for an endowment, as well as \$18 million to be ready for opening. For more information about the event, a Philadelphia Inquirer article can be found here: [http://articles.philly.com/2014-03-07/news/47975283\\_1\\_museum-site-museum-backers-rendell](http://articles.philly.com/2014-03-07/news/47975283_1_museum-site-museum-backers-rendell)

## Unique Exhibit of Revolutionary War Illustrations



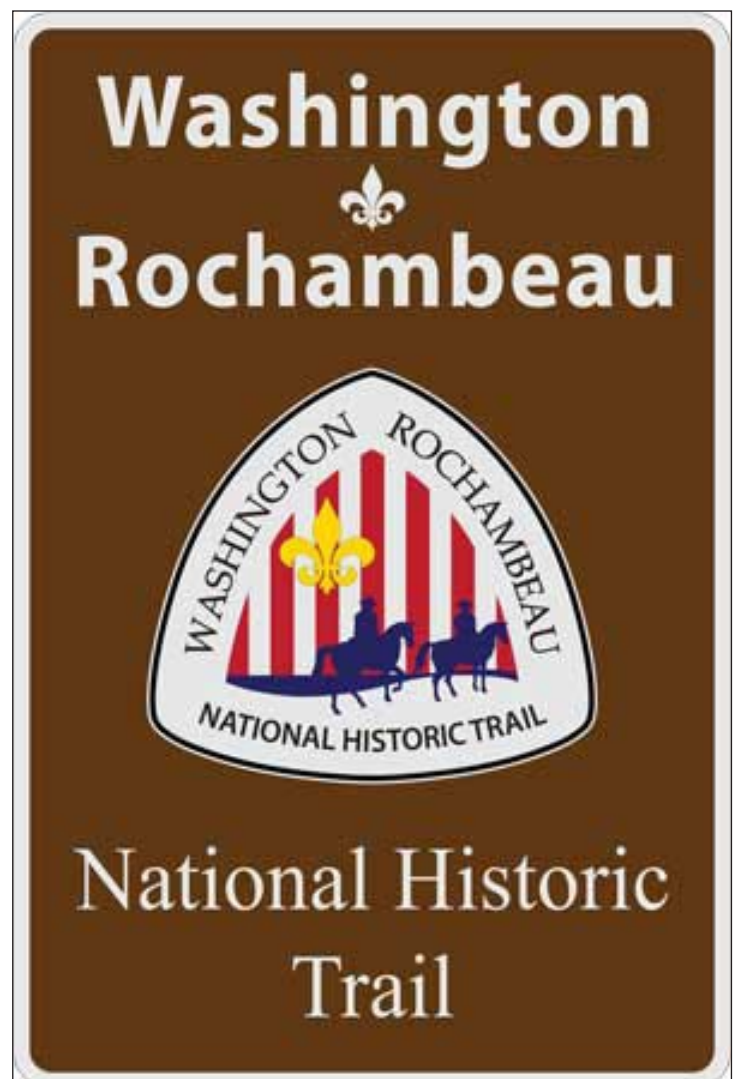
An exhibit of illustrations opened at the Valley Forge National Historic Park Visitor Center on February 22, 2014, which is Washington’s Birthday. It will be there until April 28, and then it will be on display from June 23-August 26 at Morristown National Historic Park. *Bringing the War of Independence to Life: 19th Century Illustrations of the American Revolution* features a selection of 42 illustrations from Curt Zwickl’s personal collection of 19th century Revolutionary War illustrations. Zwickl also penned a 24-page booklet as a companion piece to the exhibit. The beautifully illustrated booklet includes 20 images from the exhibit, and provides details about the artists who created the works. The book may be obtained at <http://www.schuylkillriver.org/store/pc/viewPrd.asp?idproduct=41&idcategory=2> for \$6.95.

## Independence Visitor Center

One of the NHT's immediate project needs is to update the Washington-Rochambeau NHT display now located in the Independence National Historical Park (INDE) Visitor Center at 6th and Market Streets in Philadelphia. We hope to refresh and enhance this display in cooperation with INDE and our partners. This is a short term fix needed to introduce the local community to the NHT and inform visiting school groups and teacher about the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route. We also anticipate that visitors from near and far will want to know more in anticipation of the arrival of the reconstructed French frigate L'Hermoine on its East Coast tour in 2015. The ship, assigned to Lafayette, brought him from France to Boston in 1780. Lafayette then rejoined General Washington and the campaign. L'Hermione joined DeGrasse's fleet for the Battle for the Capes on the lower Chesapeake and the siege at Yorktown. The ship then sailed to Philadelphia 1781 where the Continental Congress visited and paid tribute to her.

## Signs, Signs, Everywhere a Sign...

There is much interest in "marking" the NHT and pointing out this great asset in communities along the route from Boston, Massachusetts to Virginia Beach, Virginia. As many of you know, there is clear economic benefit to tourism, preservation, conservation, recreation, trails, and parks. To download the report that includes information on spending by individual parks and by states visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm>. To learn more about national parks in New Jersey and how the National Park Service works with New Jersey communities to help preserve local history, conserve the environment, and provide outdoor recreation, go to <http://www.nps.gov/state/nj/index.htm?program=all>. Union County, New Jersey is taking the initiative in marking the NHT along its county routes and in its park system. We are in the process of developing some guidelines for working with partners interested in marking the route, developing and installing way finding and wayside exhibits, entering into general agreements, providing design guidelines, and placement and use of the NHT logo. Here's a proposed road sign designed by Union County, New Jersey.



# NHT Updates

## Registration of the Washington-Rochambeau NHT Logo

Amanda Jones of the NPS Northeast Regional Office is helping us advance the process of getting the Washington-Rochambeau NHT's official logo listed in the Federal Register. This will help us and our partners when using the logo on signs, publications, exhibits, etc. We have many requests pending for digital files for use by partners.

## Planning Ahead

Planning is critical to the future of the NHT, particularly in the ever-changing environment we face. Many of you have participated in the early phases of our strategic planning effort, and we have begun the next phase, which is what we call the Foundation Document. Building on the earlier efforts, this document will provide a base or foundation for future planning and action. Under the leadership of Allen Cooper, Chief of Planning, and Peter Iris-Williams, Planner, both with the NPS Northeast Regional Office, we are developing a draft purpose statement, significance statements, and themes. We hope to share some of the written material with you soon.

Phil Correll assembled our plan for the Northeast Region Servicewide Comprehensive Call which is a program that develops and refines our 5-year project funding forecast from 2016-2020. The project funding forecast is accompanied by a projected operating budget over the next five years. One of the immediate project needs is to update the Washington-Rochambeau NHT display now located in the Independence National Historical Park (INDE) Visitor Center at 6th and Market Streets in Philadelphia. We hope to refresh and enhance this display in cooperation with INDE and our partners.

The NPS is celebrating its centennial in 2016. The NPS' Call to Action plan offers tangible, concrete ways for us to work together to transform our organization to make sure that we are ready for a future that is so different from our past. Learn more about our mission and please join us in the stewardship of our nation's most incredible places. We need your creativity, innovation, and dedication to make these action items real. Please log on and share your ideas with us at <http://nextcenturyforparks.org/centennial/2016-national-park-service-centennial/>

Keep in mind that 2025-2034 will mark the 250th Anniversary of America's War for Independence. The NHT not only highlights an important event, but can also serve as a connection or link to NPS units, heritage areas, state and local parks, trails, recreation areas, museums, and many outstanding natural resources along the way.

# Items of Interest

## Website and Google Maps of the NHT

Please visit the NPS website, [www.nps.gov/waro](http://www.nps.gov/waro) to learn more about the NHT. To see the Google maps of the NHT auto route, follow this link to the 'Directions' page of the NPS site and click on the desired state. <http://www.nps.gov/waro/planyourvisit/directions.htm>

## Colonial National Historical Park Climate Change and Cultural Resources Video

The latest video by the NPS Climate Change and Cultural Resources Program (CCRP) on climate change in parks has been released. Climate Change in National Parks: Culture and History on Jamestown Island addresses the relevance of unique cultural resources to climate change -- how they are affected by current change, what they reveal about ways people have responded to change in the past, and how they can inform the decisions we need to make today and in the future. The episode features Jamestown Island at Colonial NHP. To watch the video, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2tm4uW02zCM>

## Read about our Revolution

The American Revolution Center recently featured T. H. Breen's book, *The Marketplace of Revolution* (where he offers a look at how one city's rebellion became an entire people's war), in their latest Read the Revolution newsletter. Read the Revolution is published biweekly by the Museum of the American Revolution to inspire learning about the history of the American Revolution and its ongoing relevance.

To subscribe to Read the Revolution, visit <http://amrevmuseum.org/read-the-revolution>

To learn more about the Museum's plans for a national museum in Philadelphia that will tell the complete story of the Revolution, visit <http://timelife.americanrevolutioncenter.org/about>

For more interesting articles by noted historians, visit [http://www.publicbookshelf.com/public\\_html/The\\_Great\\_Republic\\_By\\_the\\_Master\\_Historians\\_Vol\\_II/](http://www.publicbookshelf.com/public_html/The_Great_Republic_By_the_Master_Historians_Vol_II/)

## Revolutionary War Themed Bike Tours in Connecticut

Sal Lilienthal, owner of the Bicycle Tour Company, and Mary Collins, Associate Professor at Central Connecticut State University, prepared a series of Revolutionary War themed bike tours in Connecticut. Visit the website and see the Connecticut tours by clicking here: <http://www.revolutionarybattles.com/> Sal has also written *Revolutionary Battles: Experience America's Roads to Independence*. In this recently published book, Sal describes a series of bike tours focused on places associated with the American Revolution. He describes these tours (which you can also drive or walk) and the Revolutionary War history associated with them in detail. For more info about the book, contact Sal at [info@bicycletours.com](mailto:info@bicycletours.com).

## "The Early Colonial Delaware Valley—An Archaeological and Historical Symposium" Call for Papers

The Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the Archaeological Society of Delaware, is seeking informal, interdisciplinary presentations on archaeology and cultures of the Delaware Valley which will be presented at "The Early Colonial Delaware Valley—An Archaeological

and Historical Symposium” that will take place from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 10, 2014 at the New Castle Court House Museum, 211 Delaware Street, in New Castle, Delaware.

Now in its seventh year, the symposium is dedicated to building a regional-level dialog that can identify the uniqueness of the cultures that existed in the Delaware Valley during the early period of European colonization. Persons interested in making a presentation at the symposium should submit an abstract no later than April 25, 2014. Admission to the symposium is free and open to the public. To submit an abstract or to make a reservation to attend the symposium, contact Craig Lukezic at [craig.lukezic@state.de.us](mailto:craig.lukezic@state.de.us) or call 302-736-7407.

## Upcoming Events

### Cooch’s Farm, Delaware - April 5, 2014

On April 5th there will be a ceremony at Cooch’s Farm in Delaware. W3R®-DE is planning the event, which includes the inauguration of a Memorial Plaque. W3R®-DE is collaborating with the Alliance Francaise de Wilmington and the Association of Teachers of French - Delaware Chapter.

### Treaty of Paris Celebration, Annapolis, Maryland - April 6, 2014

On April 6th, members of W3R-US and others will be meeting in Annapolis to celebrate the signing of the 1783 Treaty of Paris. Contact Robert Reyes, W3R®-MD for more details.

### W3R®-US Meeting, Annapolis, Maryland - April 7, 2014

On April 7th, a W3R®-US meeting will be held at the Chesapeake Bay Offices in Annapolis. An agenda and more details are available from Ursula Reed, Chair, W3R®-US.

### New York Path Through History Weekends

Comprised of events which are heritage and cultural celebrations and special programming that promote the unique history of NY- will be held this year on June 7-8 and 14-15. With hundreds of museums and heritage sites offering special programming throughout the state at the start of the summer tourism season, this year is sure to be the most successful yet. For more information, please visit: <http://www.paththroughhistoryweekends.com/Home.aspx> or Email [info@paththroughhistoryweekends.com](mailto:info@paththroughhistoryweekends.com) with any questions you have about the 2014 Path Through History Weekends.

### PA Forum 2014 Philadelphia PA July 16-20, 2014

FORUM 2014 will bring together the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions’ biennial training program for local preservation boards and commissions with the Pennsylvania Statewide Conference on Heritage/Byways to the Past, July 16-20, 2014, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Plan ahead for a fun-filled and information packed program about historic preservation planning and cultural resource management. Learn more here: <https://classic.regonline.com/builder/site/default.aspx?EventID=1239917>

<http://www.pennbyways.org/>