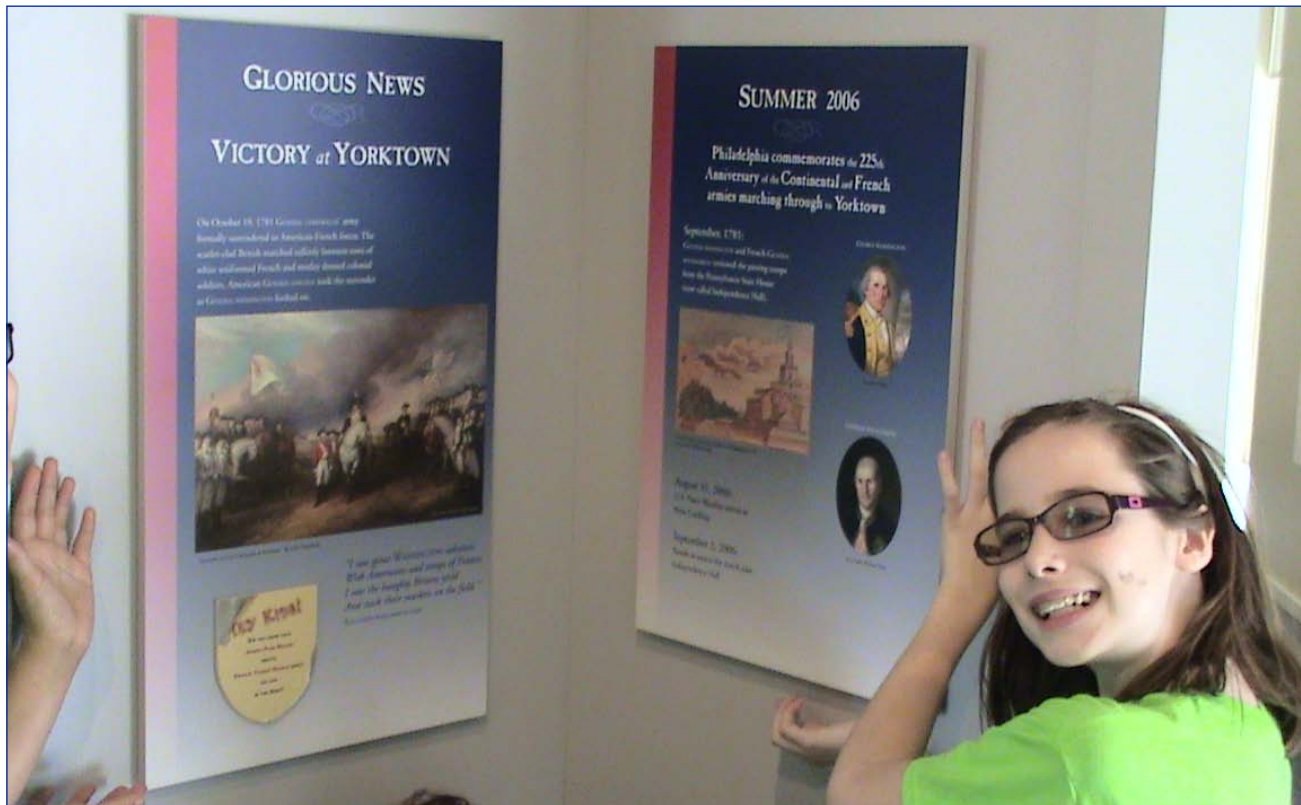


# Washington-Rochambeau

## Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail



## May 2014 Highlights



Students visit the Washington-Rochambeau NHT display dating from 2006

## News Along the Trail

### Education Program

On May 1st, Joe DiBello and Ursula Reed met with Jeff Collins at Independence National Historical Park to discuss incorporating the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route in education programs. Jeff is planning a teachers' workshop for next fall or spring. We also talked about presenting the NHT to interpreters and tour guides so they could learn about it. We at the NPS and W3R-US continue efforts 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 short-term fix is needed to introduce the local community to the NHT and to inform visiting school groups and teachers about the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT.

## **New York Outdoor Wayside Exhibits**

Work continues on the development of outdoor wayside exhibits for fifteen sites in New York selected as destinations for the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. Each site will receive two exhibit panels. One will be a site-specific interpretive exhibit linking the site to part of the Washington-Rochambeau story. The second exhibit will be an overall orientation panel about the Washington-Rochambeau NHT with an inset “You-Are-Here” map showing the locations of the fifteen destinations in New York. We see this partnership project in New York as a prototype for wayside exhibits along the entire 700-mile Washington-Rochambeau NHT. As it stands at the moment, the exhibits should be delivered by the end of 2014. Phil Correll has been managing this draft exhibit review process along with help from Susan Haines and Neil Mackay from our Harpers Ferry Center.

## **NHT Updates**

### **Partnerships**

As you know, the success of the NHT is completely reliant on partnerships. Joe DiBello and Ursula Reed, Chair of W3R-US, will be attending a partnership training session hosted by NPS on June 9th at Independence National Historic Park in Philadelphia. The morning will focus on fundraising, and the afternoon is focused on leadership growth and development for both executive directors and for future non-profit leaders.

### **Registration of the Washington-Rochambeau NHT Logo**

We are moving through the approval process, and it is now being reviewed in Washington DC. Amanda Jones of the NPS Northeast Regional Office and Helen Scully at NPS headquarters are 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 NPS planning and action. Allen Cooper, Chief of Planning, and Peter Iris-Williams, Planner, both with the NPS Northeast Regional Office, are developing a draft purpose statement, significance statements, and themes that we hope to share with you soon.

We assembled our plan for the NPS Northeast Region Servicewide Comprehensive Call, which is a program that develops and refines our 5-year project funding forecast from 2016-2020. The forecast is accompanied by a projected operating budget over the next five years. Keep in mind that this is merely a projection (or wish list) of what could be done and not a commitment that funds will be provided.

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 at <http://nextcenturyforparks.org/centennial/2016-national-park-service-centennial/>

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

### L'Hermione

We also anticipate that visitors from near and far will want to know more about the NHT in anticipation of the arrival of the reconstructed French frigate L'Herminette on its East Coast tour in 2015. The ship, assigned to Lafayette, brought him from France to Boston in 1780. Lafayette then met up with General Washington and rejoined his campaign. Hermione joined DeGrasse's fleet for the Battle off the Capes on the lower Chesapeake and the siege at Yorktown. The ship then sailed to Philadelphia in 1781 where the Continental Congress visited and paid tribute to her.

### 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>

### Delaware History Trail

The state that started the nation welcomes you to explore the Delaware History Trail, a journey to experience the First State's historical treasures. The trail highlights significant locations statewide that have influenced the history of Delaware and our nation. Check out the website and passport program: <http://www.visitdelaware.com/delaware-history-trail/>

### Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail

This issue of Lewis & Clark NHT's *The Trail Companion* highlights their progress. "Trailsapes: GIS Network", "Volunteers in Action" (a volunteer tracking system), and the "Interactive Trail Atlas" are great examples of activities to which we can aspire. Working together, we can eventually have a volunteer tracking system, GIS mapping and an interactive trail atlas in place. Please click to view: <http://digital.turn-page.com/i/315003>

### Revolutionary War Tours

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) .

## **Common-place: An Interactive Journal of Early American Life**

Common-place: An Interactive Journal of Early American Life just published a special issue that includes short essays and videos from the American Revolution Reborn conference held last year in Philadelphia. The issue includes essays from distinguished historians writing about the meaning and significance of the American Revolution and imbedded videos that capture some of the most probing questions and comments from the conference. You can see the special issue here: <http://www.common-place.org/vol-14/no-03/>

## **Read the Revolution**

The Museum of the American Revolution issues Read the Revolution, a biweekly newsletter 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 progress and plans for a national museum in Philadelphia that will tell the complete story of the Revolution, visit <http://timelife.americanrevolutioncenter.org/about>

This link is to a noted historical book. You can read some interesting articles by noted historians. [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/)

And if you'd like to see more articles and videos, please visit: <http://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/american-revolution-history/videos>

## **Items of Interest**

### **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, MA, to Virginia Beach, VA. As many of you know, there is clear economic benefit to tourism, preservation, conservation, recreation, trails and parks. 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. Joe DiBello and Phil Correll will be visiting in Union County, NJ, and Dobbs Ferry, NY, on June 3 to learn more about their signing plans.

### **Connecticut National Trails Day Events - June 7, 2014**

June 7 is National Trails Day. It is an excellent way to celebrate the NHT and Connecticut, Still Revolutionary. There will be a W3R®-CT meeting in Lebanon, CT, on June 7, 2014, combined with other events

and activities. Hans DePold will accompany Eric de Rochembeau and his wife Camilla along the NHT that day and can provide more details about events in CT. Joe DiBello and Ursula Reed, Chair of W3R-US will attend the W3R-CT meeting and related events in CT. You can learn more about National Trails Day and register here: <http://www.americanhiking.org/national-trails-day/>

## **New York Path Through History Weekends**

In 2012 Governor Cuomo unveiled New York's "Path through History," a statewide initiative that links historically and culturally significant sites, locations and events throughout New York State. This effort aims not only to showcase the state's history and cultural significance, but also to promote tourism and economic development in communities across the State.

The Path through History Weekends will be held on June 7-8 and 14-15. If your organization is holding an event during this timeframe that connects with New York history, we encourage you to submit the event today. If your event takes place during the week, you will have the option to submit those dates as well. For additional information about the Path through History Weekends, please visit: <http://www.path-throughhistoryweekends.com/Home.aspx>

## **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/>

## **Presentation of French Academic Palms to Larry Gall on June 20th, 2014**

Larry Gall, now retired from the NPS, worked on the special resource study for the Washington –Rochembeau Revolutionary Route. His contributions were recognized by the French government, and he will be honored by the French Consul in a ceremony in Boston on June 20th. A representative from NPS and W3R-US will attend.

## **Set Sail This Summer Aboard New Jersey's Official Tall Ship**

Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area is cosponsoring a series of cruises on the A.J. Meerwald. This is a great opportunity to view the majestic Palisades from the deck of a magnificently restored 1928 two-masted, 115-foot oyster schooner driven by over 3,500 square feet of sail. This is not your typical pleasure cruise! All proceeds benefiting Crossroads of the American Revolution help promote New Jersey's Revolutionary history through public programs, Revolutionary events, and education. Tickets are on sale now for July 17th - July 20th sails. Get your tickets early since trips sell out quickly! <http://www.revolutionarynj.org/set-sail-this-summer-on-the-hudson-river-aboard-new-jerseys-official-tall-ship-july-17th-july-20th/>