



Washington-Rochambeau

Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

September 2012



The team visits Stony Point Battlefield State Historic Site in Stony Point, NY

Recent Events

On September 17-20, Samantha, Phil, Dr. Selig, the Harpers Ferry Design Center team and the Hudson River Valley Greenway introduced representatives from Pannier and the Gecko Group to several possible sites for wayside exhibits for the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT in the Hudson River Valley. Based off these site visits, fifteen important historical sites of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT were selected for participation in this New York State project. Contacts have been made and initial proposals were sent out to those administrating the sites. Each site will review and comment on all content at each stage of the process.

Each site proposal includes two wayside exhibits. One panel will be site-specific, detailing an event or theme that reflects the site's importance as part of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT. The second panel will be an orientation panel to tell the broader, overall story of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT. New York is the first state to develop NPS quality wayside exhibits for the NHT. This project will set the precedent for the other eight states and Washington DC. The orientation panels will be consistent for future sites from Boston, MA to Yorktown, VA.

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The National Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association and the Marcus Hook Preservation Society of Marcus Hook, PA hosted the 4th Annual W3R®-PA Celebration and Ice Cream Social on Saturday, September 1, 2012. The NPS was represented by Phil Correll, Trails Program Coordinator, for the Washington –Rochambeau National Historic Trail, and the W3R®-US by Chairman Sallie T. de Barcza and Vice-Chairman Carl Nittinger. The event began with a tour of the historic 18th century Plank House that is being restored by the Society. A color guard led a procession to the nearby St. Martin’s Cemetery where a brief ceremony and remarks honored the Marcus Hook patriots buried there.



Phil Correll, W3R®-US Director Ursula Reed, Keynote Speaker Joe Becton, W3R®-US Chairman Sallie de Barcza, W3R®-US Vice Chairman Carl Nittinger, and Marcus Hook Historical Society Chairman Michael Meehan.

Joe Becton of Becton Tours and Historical Services treated participants to a fascinating and lively presentation on the changing roles of African-Americans as participants and soldiers during the course of years leading up to and through the Revolutionary War. Joe performed in and explained the components of the uniform of the First Rhode Island regiment Revolutionary War re-enactors. Becton had previously been a park ranger supervisor at Independence National Historical Park and Director of Visitor Services at Historic Fort Mifflin.

On September 11, Joe attended the dedication of the 9/11 Memorial in Philadelphia. The ceremony was well attended, including Mayor Michael Nutter and many other high ranking officials. The memorial is located below the Chestnut Street Bridge on the Schuylkill Banks. The memorial falls along the Schuylkill Banks trail, the Washington-Rochambeau NHT, the East Coast Greenway, and the planned 9/11 Trail.



Dedication of the 9/11 Memorial in Philadelphia

Lanny Patten of W3R® –PA and Joe DiBello attended the annual award and membership meeting of the Delaware County Historical Society held at the Museum of the History of Delaware County in Chester, PA. Lanny and Joe introduced the Washington-Rochambeau NHT and proposed Delaware County make



it part of their successful Passport to History program. Lanny and Joe are exploring the creation of a Washington-Rochambeau NHT brochure for Pennsylvania which will be modeled after the national brochure.

On September 13, Joe DiBello attended a meeting hosted by the Crossroads of the American Revolution Association with members of the NJ Land Trust Network. The meeting was informative about ongoing land preservation projects and how to include history, particularly colonial and Revolutionary War, in landscape conservation efforts. The NJ SHPO office demonstrated use of the state GIS system which can be accessed at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm>. Steve Jandoli, NJ Green Acres Program, provided contacts for NJDOT Scenic Byways Coordinator and other organizations that may be interested in helping move Washington-Rochambeau NHT efforts forward.

The 13th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble was held throughout September in New York. On September 29, the Rochambeau Ramble was hosted for the 12th year in a row by the Town of Greenburgh Greenway/W3R-NHT Committee and the New York Chapter of the SAR that owns the Odell House/Rochambeau Headquarters and the property. The Rochambeau Ramble is one of the approximately 200 events of the Hudson River Valley Ramble sponsored by the Hudson River Valley Greenway.



Rochambeau Ramble on September 29

NHT News

The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail NPS brochure has won an award! Harpers Ferry Center, the design center for the National Park Service, submitted the Washington-Rochambeau NHT brochure for the 2012 National Association for Interpretation Media Competition. The Washington-Rochambeau NHT received third place in the Site Publication category. Award recipients will be displayed at the NAI National Workshop in Hampton, Virginia, November 13-17, 2012, as well as recognized in *Legacy* magazine and the *NAI Now* newsletter. We would like to thank McKnight Design, LLC with writer Amy Pastan and designer Joan Wolbier for their wonderful work. From Harpers Ferry Center, we would like to thank Diane Liggett for all her assistance through the development of the brochure and Janice Wheeler for submitting the Washington-Rochambeau NHT brochure to the competition.

Lucy Lawliss, Superintendent of George Washington Birthplace National Monument shared with us the design for the new Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT bookmark. Eastern National is currently developing a series of bookmarks for National Scenic and Historic Trails. We are pleased that the Washington-Rochambeau NHT bookmark is part of this endeavor.



To tell the story of the Battle off the Capes in Virginia, we are exploring the feasibility of moving the difficult to access commemoration of Admiral DeGrasse at Fort Story to a more prominent location for all to see. Nicole Yancey of the W3R®-US is initiating discussions with Williamsburg regarding trail waysides and marking. Dan Smith, Superintendent of Colonial National Historical Park, has researched past ownership and dedication of the statues. He has found that we are able to move the commemoration, only if a suitable place can be found and we can secure the funds needed. The NHT team will explore options for financial and technical assistance, as well as ways to enhance the NHT statewide.

Joe explored 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 passport stamps. The staff is working with us regarding arrangements for moving the display.

In response to a request from Acquetta Anderson, National Chair, Benjamin Harrison Society Friends Washington Rochambeau NHT, we have drafted a General Agreement which is under review. Additionally, the BHS National Society & Friends of the W3R NHT is preparing to introduce its prototype student/teacher guide.

Phil Correll has purchased passport stamps for the NHT. Passport stamps for the Washington-Rochambeau NHT are available at the Colonial National Historical Park Visitor Center in Yorktown, VA and we hope to distribute the others at locations along the trail. Please let us know if you are interested in having brochures and the passport stamp at your location.

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! Lydia Rapoza, Manager of Joy Homestead for the Cranston Historical Society, created a Flickr for photos from the Rochambeau Strawberry Biscuit Tea at Joy Homestead in Cranston, RI on June 18. See all the wonderful photos here: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/joyhomesteadW3R/>

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, non-profit, or privately owned. They should have some connection thematically to the NHT (18th century, the War for Independence, historical figures, etc.) and/or the site could be a natural/scenic or recreational area that visitors may enjoy along the way. The site must fall along, or be reasonably close to, the route of the NHT. To be included, the site must have a website to which we can link. 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>



Upcoming Events

“Paris on the Pennypack,” A Presentation by Robert Selig, Ph.D. October 12, 2012

Holy Family University and the W3R®-PA are hosting a presentation entitled, “Paris on the Pennypack,” presented by Robert Selig, Ph.D. on Friday evening, October 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Educational Technology Building. Holy Family University is the location of a historic campsite on the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT. The presentation ties into the ceremony on Saturday, October 13 to commemorate a Pennsylvania Historical and Museum and Commission (PHMC) marker at the bridge located at Frankford and Solly Avenues.

Pennsylvania Historical Marker Dedication at the Pennypack Creek Bridge October 13, 2012

Join the W3R®-PA, National Park Service, Holmesburg Civic Association, Friends of Pennypack Park, and the NE Philadelphia History Network in celebrating the Pennypack Creek Bridge, built in 1697 and America’s oldest stone arch bridge still in continuous use! Come learn about the Pennypack Creek Bridge’s role in Native American, colonial, and Revolutionary War history. School and Community groups are invited and encouraged to join in the celebration. The event will run from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Pennypack Park, located at Frankford Ave & Solly Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19136.

For more information please visit <http://www.pennypackbridge.com>.

Yorktown Day

October 19, 2012

October 19 is Yorktown Day! The 231st anniversary of America’s decisive Revolutionary War victory at Yorktown will be marked with a three-day celebration, beginning with a patriotic parade and commemorative ceremony on Friday, October 19. In addition to the parade, there will be morning wreath-laying ceremonies, the annual pageant of flags, and the Yorktown Victory Center will feature military re-enactors, musket and artillery demonstrations, and hands-on interpretive programs at re-creations of a Continental Army encampment.

W3R®-US Fall Board Meeting

October 20, 2012

The Fall Board meeting of the W3R® -US will be held on Saturday, October 20 in Williamsburg, VA. For more information, please visit the W3R®-US at W3R-us.org.

“Lafayette and the Farewell Tour: Philadelphia and Judge Peters Greet an Old Friend,” Presentation by Alan Hoffman

October 23, 2012

On October 23, 2012 at 4:30 PM, the W3R®-PA will host a banner dedication at Historic Belmont Mansion, followed by a presentation by Alan Hoffman, President of American Friends of Lafayette. In addition to covering the subject of Lafayette and the Farewell Tour, Hoffman will explore the relationship between Lafayette and Richard Peters, the owner of Belmont Mansion. Belmont Mansion, formerly the Peters Estate, is now home of the American Women’s Heritage Society in West Fairmount Park, Philadelphia.



Announcements

Hudson River designated to the National Water Trail System

The Hudson River from the Adirondacks to New York City was recognized by the US Department of the Interior as one of the nation's newly designated National Water Trails. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar has announced nine new trails as part of the National Water Trails System. The National Water Trails System program is designed to protect and restore the nation's rivers and other waterways and boost access to outdoor recreation along America's shorelines. The Hudson River Greenway Water Trail is a 250-mile water trail stretching from the Adirondack Park and Lake Champlain to Manhattan.

Claymont, Delaware and the Washington-Rochambeau NHT

Read about Claymont, DE and their pride in the history of the area, including the Washington-Rochambeau NHT! The article includes a brief video highlighting some of Claymont's historical properties. <http://www.delcotimes.com/articles/2012/09/17/news/doc50569a43b14a4657689729.txt?viewmode=default>

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/>