



YOUR GATEWAY TO THE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY

Hudson River Valley Institute

The Academic Arm of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

“Westchester: The American Suburb” Opens at Hudson River Museum

Not only is the Hudson River Museum the largest and oldest museum in Westchester, it now is also the home of an exceptional and unique exhibit. Through a grant from the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, as well as with support from the Office of the Westchester County Executive and the Westchester County Board of Legislators, this exhibit, “Westchester: The American Suburb,” will run from late January until May 28, 2006. By opening the presentation with the Dick Van Dyke Show, the exhibit is able to masterfully reflect and examine the community which surrounds it, Westchester County, an archetype of suburbia.

While many people today take the existence of suburbs for granted, this exhibit explores critical questions about the reasons for the growth of suburbia. Most importantly, the exhibit asks, “How, when, and why did the suburbs grow.” In an effort to answer this fundamental question, the Hudson River Museum is displaying photography, paintings, memorabilia, and even a model kitchen. Through these relics and recreations, the exhibit illuminates social culture and history, particularly in Westchester. However, the most provocative question that the exhibit elicits is “What will happen to the American Dream in the years ahead.”

Besides the exhibit itself, there are a plethora of activities that fur-



Dick Van Dyke Show
<http://www.hrm.org/exhibits.html>

ther investigate issues revolving around suburbia. These include the Family Workshops. For families with young children, some of the upcoming workshops feature such exciting activities as appliance sculptures, postcard designs, and “pop-up neighborhoods,” an activity that encourages participants to design their own neighborhoods.

Students and adults will likely enjoy the many lectures that the museum is hosting. In addition, the Katonah Museum of Art, the Westchester Arts Council, and the Jacob Burns Film Center are all holding events that complement the Hudson River Museum’s presentation.

The exhibit promises to excite and educate both residents of the region as well as people interested in understanding the transformation of American communities. Furthermore, with all the events that surround and complement “Westchester: The American Suburb,” the exhibit guarantees to be an outstanding opportunity for teachers, students, and the general public alike.

~Lauren Santangelo

For more information on the exhibit, fees, and hours visit <http://www.hrm.org/index.html> or

call (914) 963-4550.

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Special points of interest:

- Please be sure to consult the HRVI website, as we are constantly updating our content
- Huguenot Historical Society’s new online exhibit is explored on page 2.

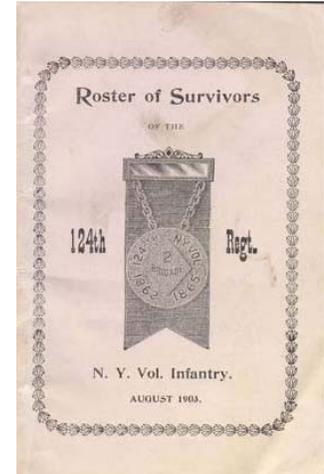
Historic Huguenot Street Creates Online Exhibit

Historic Huguenot Street in New Paltz, NY is pleased to present the online exhibit, *"I'm now in Rebelldom": New Paltz Soldiers in the Civil War at www.huguenotstreet.org*. Visitors will experience a captivating collection of photographs, letters, propaganda, and other documents that describe the impact of this great American conflict on the New Paltz community. Viewers will enlist with the boys and travel with them to the exotic world of the war-torn American South; work with local women to provide soldiers necessary supplies; weep with mothers, wives, and sisters upon receiving news of the deaths of beloved sons, husbands, and brothers; and proudly march with veterans to ensure that their service would not be forgotten. (In addition to the online presentation, original weaponry and accoutrements carried by local soldiers are currently on display in Historic Huguenot Street's Grimm Gallery.)

Historic Huguenot Street, a National Historic Landmark, is the site of a collection of colonial and early National period stone houses owned and operated as historic house museums by the Huguenot Historical Society in the Village of New Paltz, New York. Originally the home of a group of French Protestants who fled northern France because of political and religious persecution, the town was founded in 1677 after the purchase of nearly 40,000 acres along the Wallkill River from the native Esopus Indians. Tours of the houses are available from May through October. Visitors are also encouraged to take advantage of the picnic facilities, museum shop, education programs, and special events held throughout the year. Both the library and archives are open year-round by appointment.

For more information call (845) 255-1660 or email info@huguenotstreet.org.

~Eric Roth
Archivist/Librarian,
Huguenot Historical Society



<http://www.huguenotstreet.com/assets/huguenot2.pdf>

Featured Historic Website – The Lower East Side Tenement Museum

The rigid life of a 19th century, and early 20th century, immigrant is hard to capture by mere words alone. Nonetheless, in an effort to understand this experience, the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, located at 97 Orchard Street in New York City, has preserved tenements, as well as artifacts of immigrant life. Besides the museum's many physical learning opportunities, its website is an exceptional electronic source for people interested in 19th century life. In essence, the website successfully fulfills the museum's mission "to promote tolerance and historical perspective through the presentation and interpretation of the variety of immigrant and migrant experiences on Manhattan's Lower East Side."

The website's most impressive feature is its virtual tour, which allows a

person to digitally explore the museum's many potentials. This includes the opportunity to navigate through six different apartments. In the process of navigating, a visitor is also able to learn about the immigrant families who inhabited the tenements. Another impressive interactive feature is the "Folk Songs from the Five Points" section of the webpage. By employing audio recordings of mundane sounds, this section enables visitors to feel as if they are standing at the center of the Lower East Side.

In addition to visitors' ability to virtually explore the museum, the website provides educational resources for teachers and researchers, information on visiting the museum, an activity analyzing primary sources, and "tenement e-cards." In sum, the website

successfully offers a detailed analysis of the museum, as well as interactive and illuminating resources.

~ Matthew Blair Hittenmark and
Lauren Santangelo
<http://www.tenement.org>



<http://www.tenement.org/rogarshevsky/>

Featured Historic Site — The Crawford House

When looking out at the Hudson River today, it would be rare to see a steamship. Tugboats pulling and pushing larger ships, freight and passenger trains moving up and down the banks, are now the more common scene. Although it may be hard for us to imagine fleets of steamships navigating the river, at one time it was very common.

The Crawford House, located on Montgomery Street in Newburgh, is one window to this era of Hudson River Valley history. Built in 1830, the Crawford House is an outstanding example of classic revival architecture. First situated on five-hundred acres of land, the Crawford House was built for Captain David Crawford and his family. Owning one-third of the waterfront, Crawford's docks were in constant use by the sloops sailing along the Hudson. As sloop navigation declined in the 1820s, more steamships were appearing on the Hudson. Crawford amassed his wealth in the steamship transport business, using his ships to move produce and dairy products from Orange County to New York City and Albany.

The Crawford House today is the

headquarters of the Historical Society of Newburgh Bay and the Highlands. Fully furnished as a house museum, it



www.newburghhistoricalsociety.com/home.html

also holds a collection of Hudson River Art. Besides the art, the Crawford House has a permanent collection that features scale models of sailing and steam-powered vessels, entitled Flyers of the Hudson.

The Crawford House is open for tours to the public from April through October, Sundays 1-4PM and every last Saturday of the month from 4-

6PM. The Historical Society hosts many cultural events throughout the year. Every December the Society holds a Candlelight House Tour, which features tours of unique and historic homes in and around Newburgh. Every second Saturday during its open season, the Society offers Music on the Lawn featuring the jazz ensemble "Crawford on Montgomery." People are encouraged to come and enjoy the great music on the sprawling lawn of the Crawford House. On April 22, 2006, the Society will host a benefit art auction to feature local artists at Union Presbyterian Church in Balmville.

~David Sabatino

Visit the Society's website at www.newburghhistoricalsociety.com for information on program dates. Additional information will be made available in the Society's 2006 Program Brochure, which is scheduled for print and distribution in March.

Editor's Note:

This information was taken from www.newburghhistoricalsociety.com and provided by Lisa Silverstone, Director of the Crawford House

Feature Historic Town—Red Hook

Red Hook's history begins with its early Native American inhabitants and reflects many important historical moments in the Hudson River Valley's past, including the Dutch settlement, American Revolution, and the transportation revolution. The Native Americans that made Red Hook their residence included the

Esopus and the Sepasco.

The town's name reveals its Dutch heritage. The local lore is that Dutch navigators came upon Cruger's Island, which is actually a peninsula or *hoek*, during the autumn, when leaves were beginning to change to vibrant reds, yellows, and oranges, and thus gave the town

its name, Red Hook. In the late 17th century, Colonel Pieter Schuyler bought the land from the Native American inhabitants. Thereafter, Red Hook and the surrounding towns quietly developed an agricultural economy. In 1737, Red Hook became a part of Dutchess County.

(Continued on page 4)

Featured Historic Town (Continued) – Red Hook

(Continued from page 3)

During the Revolutionary War, the British destroyed some of the mills that were built in the town. Nonetheless, Thomas' Tavern in Upper Red Hook and Elmendorph's Inn in "lower" Red Hook continue to stand as testaments to the town's Revolutionary past. In the following century, sporadic industries dotted the town. For example, the wool industry flourished in Tivoli during this

century and ice harvesting grew in both Barrytown and Tivoli.

More recently, since the 1850s, new means of transportation, including the Hudson River Railroad and Route 9G, have brought commerce and residents to the area. In 1988, Montgomery Place, an architectural marvel designed in part by Alexander Jackson Davis, was opened to the public as a museum. Red Hook now has many fine restaurants, pick-your-own orchards, antique

shops, and beautiful paths for tourists and residents alike to enjoy.

~Adrienne Harris

Editor's Note: This information was synthesized from <http://www.redhook.org/history.htm>

Meet the Interns—Christine Caiazzi

As a senior history major at Marist College, Christine Caiazzi has joined the Hudson River Valley Institute as an intern. Along with her history major, Christine is working toward completing a concentration in public history and a minor in women's studies. Christine is acting as the history/English intern for the Hudson River Valley Institute, where she will be engaged in historical research, as well as composing an article for *The Hudson River Valley Re-*

view.

Christine hopes to pursue a graduate degree following graduation in May, as well as obtain a position with a publishing company. As an active member of the Marist College community, Christine has served as a Student Justice for three years, and participated in the History Club, Campus Ministry, Dean's Circle, and Phi Alpha Theta. She is excited to be joining the HRVI team for her final semester.

~ Christine Caiazzi



Meet the Interns—Jessica Campilango



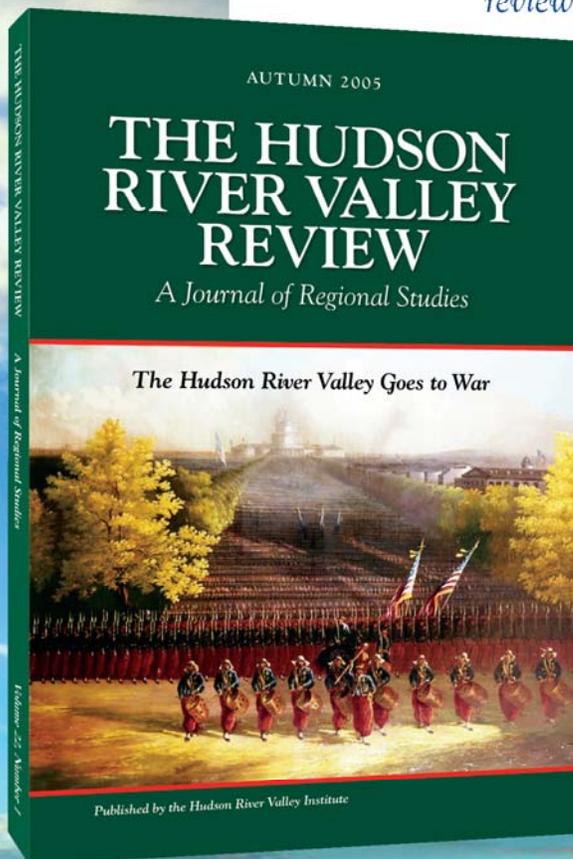
Jessica Campilango, a senior at Marist College, has joined the interns at the Hudson River Valley Institute. Jessica is majoring in English, with a concentration in writing, as well as working toward a minor in psychology. At the Hudson River Valley Institute, Jessica will act as the writing intern. Her many responsibilities include editing other interns' works and writing for *The Hudson River Valley Review*.

Following her graduation in May, Jessica hopes to acquire a job at a publishing company. As a member of the Marist College community, she has studied abroad in Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, has served as vice president for the Resident Student Council, and plans on studying abroad in London in May. She looks forward to her upcoming semester at the Hudson River Valley Institute.

~Jessica Campilango

An interdisciplinary journal dedicated to our region

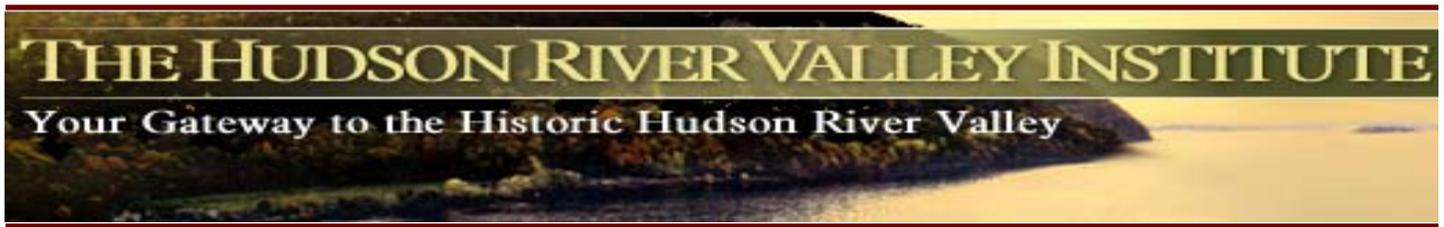
publishing essays, poems, photographs, paintings, documents, and book and art reviews, ready to consider all forms of intellectual achievement...



As the academic arm of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, the Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College is increasing public awareness about the significance of America's First River in the history of New York and the United States. Its mission is to study and to promote the Hudson River Valley.

To subscribe or learn more, visit www.hudsonrivervalley.org/hrvr.php or call 845-575-3052

Hudson River Valley Review
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Contact Us

The Hudson River Valley is one of only 23 Congressionally designated National Heritage Areas in the United States. As one of the most important regions in the United States, it is the fountainhead of a truly American identity. Recognizing the area's national value, Congress formed the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area in

1996 to recognize, to preserve, to protect, and to interpret the nationally-significant history and resources of the Valley for the benefit of the nation.

As the center for the study of the Hudson River Valley, the Hudson River Valley Institute (HRVI) at Marist College is the central hub for information about the region. HRVI serves

heritage tourists, scholars, elementary and secondary school educators, environmental organizations, the business community, and the general public seeking to know more about the region that Congress called "the Landscape that defined America."

www.hudsonrivervalley.net

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