

# Guidebook: American Revolution

## UPPER HUDSON

### **Bennington Battlefield State Historic Site**

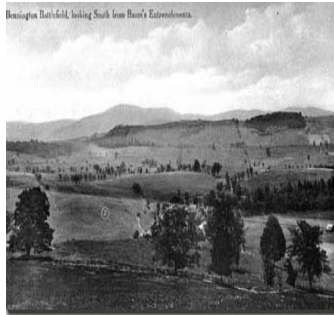
<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/sites/info.asp?siteId=3>

5181 Route 67

Hoosick Falls, NY 12090

Hours: May-Labor Day, daily 10 AM-7 PM Labor Day-Veterans Day weekends only, 10 AM-7 PM Memorial Day-Columbus Day, 1-4 p.m on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday

Phone: (518) 279-1155



*(Special Collections of Bailey/Howe Library at Uni*

**Historical Description:** Bennington Battlefield State Historic Site is the location of a Revolutionary War battle between the British forces of Colonel Friedrich Baum and Lieutenant Colonel Henrick von Breymann—800 Brunswickers, Canadians, Tories, British regulars, and Native Americans--against American militiamen from Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire under Brigadier General John Stark (1,500 men) and Colonel Seth Warner (330 men). This battle was fought on August 16, 1777, in a British effort to capture American storehouses in Bennington to restock their depleting provisions. Baum had entrenched his men at the bridge across the Walloomsac River, Dragoon Redoubt, and Tory Fort, which Stark successfully attacked. Colonel Warner's Vermont militia arrived in time to assist Stark's reconstituted force in repelling Breymann's relief column of some 600 men. The British forces had underestimated the strength of their enemy and failed to get the supplies they had sought, weakening General John Burgoyne's army at Saratoga. Baum and over 200 men died and 700 men surrendered. The Americans lost 30 killed and forty wounded

**The Site:** Hessian Hill offers picturesque views and interpretative signs about the battle.

**Directions:** Take Route 7 east to Route 22, then take Route 22 north to Route 67. The battlefield is on the north side of Rte. 67 between Walloomsac, NY, and VT state line.

## UPPER HUDSON

### **Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter House, Library, and Museum**

<http://home.mhonline.net/mhmjm/HENHUD1.html>

113 Warren Street  
Hudson, NY 12534

Hours: Call for specific hours of operation.

Phone: (518) 828-9764



*DAR Chapter House*

#### ***Historical Description:***

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a volunteer women's organization committed to promoting patriotism, preserving American history and concentrating on better education for children. Founded in 1890 the organization now has 3,000 chapters all across the United States. The Hendrick Hudson Chapter of the DAR, founded in 1896, established Hudson's first library, which remained the only library in Hudson till 1959. The Chapter maintains its current library in former home of Robert Jenkins, son of one of the former Proprietors of the City of Hudson

#### ***The Site:***

The Robert Jenkins House Library features a collection of Columbia County genealogy as well as reference information on the whaling industry of Hudson, NY. Furthermore, the chapter offers tours of the House Museum, which contain artifacts concerning the history of Hudson and the whaling industry. Featured in its collection are a number of civil war guns as well as a rare civil war uniform. Paintings by artists of the Hudson River School are also displayed.

#### ***Directions:***

From 187 the NYS Thruway: Exit 21 and turn left on CR-23B then left onto RT-23 East. Bear left onto RT-23B. Turn left onto Warren St.

## UPPER HUDSON

### **Historic Cherry Hill**

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

523 South Pearl St  
Albany, NY 12202

Hours: April-June and October-December:

Tuesday-Friday, tours at 12, 1, 2 & 3

Saturday at 10, 11, 12, 1, 2, & 3

Sunday at 1, 2, & 3

July-September: Tuesday-Saturday, tours at 10, 11, 12, 1, 2 & 3

Sunday at 1, 2, & 3 Closed January through March, Mondays and major holidays

Admission: \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for college students, and \$1 for children 6-17

Phone: (518) 434- 4791



*Historic Cherry Hill*

### ***Historical Description:***

Philip Van Rensselaer was an early proponent of American freedom. After becoming active in the Albany Committee of Correspondence, Van Rensselaer was elected as a member of the second ward in 1776. He proved to be a valuable liaison with supply for the revolutionary war effort. After the war, Philip moved his family to Cherry Hill and continued to expand the family holdings.

The preservation of this home was ensured by Catherine Bogart Putnam Rankin. Rankin moved to Cherry Hill in 1860, at the age of three. Her history is recounted throughout the tour of the museum

### ***The Site:***

The home explores the hardships the family faced for nearly a century, 1857-1948. The site offers 100 primary sources, including letters, diaries, photographs, school compositions, and census records from Watervliet, receipts, cartoons, floor plans, sheet music, and trade cards. Each room represents a distinct experience that the family endured. Finally, the museum also briefly explores how socioeconomic class, genders, age, and race influenced a person's life during this time.

### ***Directions:***

Historic Cherry Hill is located at 523 1/2 South Pearl Street in Albany, just off Exit 2 of Interstate 787. From the North, take Exit 2. At the light, turn left, and look for Historic Cherry Hill immediately on your right. From the South, take exit 2, and follow the ramp straight to the end. At the light turn left. Under the overpass, take another left onto Route 32 South. Bear right onto 787's exit ramp. At the light, turn left, and look for Historic Cherry Hill immediately on your right.

"The birthplace of the American Navy during the Revolutionary War is the focus of exhibits in this center. Ships built in Skenesborough, under the command of Benedict Arnold, played a vital role in delaying the British invasion, earning Whitehall the designation 'Birthplace of the U.S. Navy.'"

***The Site:*** "Ship models from 1776 and the War of 1812, modern naval ships and lake boats are displayed. The Champlain Canal is featured among the center's exhibits, along with antique farm and home implements, buel spoon, doll and railroad artifacts. The center is located along the Champlain Canal. "

***Directions:*** Visit the website for directions.

## UPPER HUDSON

### **Saratoga Battlefield**

<http://www.nps.gov/sara/sara.htm>

Saratoga National Historical Park

648 Route 32

Stillwater, NY 12170-1604



*Great Redoubt*

Hours: Open April through October (special events throughout the year)

Phone: (518) 664 – 9821

### ***Historical Description:***

The Battle of Saratoga was one of the most significant American military victories of the Revolutionary War. It was on the battlefields of Freeman's Farm and Bemis Heights on September 19 and October 7, 1777, that American forces under the command of Major General Horatio Gates met and defeated a major British force under the command of Lieutenant General John Burgoyne. Major General Benedict Arnold secured the battlefield victory by taking Breymann's Redoubt on October 7. This event drew worldwide attention to the rebellion in the American colonies and established foreign support for the Americans cause politically, economically, and militarily from both the French and the Spanish. The victory at Saratoga was the turning point in the War for American Independence and must be ranked among the ten most decisive battles in world history.

### ***The Site:***

The park comprises three separate sites: the four-square mile battlefield in Stillwater, New York, where the battles took place; the Schuyler House, the country estate of Major General Philip Schuyler eight miles north in Schuylerville, rebuilt after the British burned it; and, the nearby 155-foot Saratoga Monument, in the final entrenched campsite for Burgoyne's army, marking Burgoyne's surrender site on October 17, 1777.

### ***Directions:***

Saratoga National Historical Park is located 40 miles north of Albany, New York, and some 15 miles southeast of Saratoga Springs. From South: Exit 12 off the Northway (I-87). From North: Exit 14 and follow signs for Route 29 East to Schuylerville where the Schuyler House and Saratoga Monument are located. Eight miles south on Route 4 you will find the main entrance to the Battlefield.

***Research Patron:*** Atwood Collins

## UPPER HUDSON

### Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site

<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/sites/info.asp?siteId=27>

32 Catherine Street  
Albany, NY 12202

Hours: April through October  
Wednesday through Sunday 11 AM – 5 PM  
November through March, by appointment only

Allow 1-2 hours for visit.

Phone: (518) 434-0834

Fax: (518) 434-3821



*Schuyler Mansion*

***Historical Description:*** Schuyler Mansion was the home of Revolutionary War general Philip Schuyler and his household from 1763-1804. From 1775 to 1777 Schuyler served as commander of the Northern Department of the Continental Army. During the Revolution years, this home was visited by many of the prominent men of the day, including George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and Benjamin Franklin. Following the British defeat at Saratoga in 1777, Lieutenant General John Burgoyne stayed here as a prisoner/guest, despite having ordered the burning of the Schuyler's country estate in Saratoga. Many noteworthy events took place here during the Revolution years, including the 1780 wedding of Alexander Hamilton and Schuyler's daughter, Elizabeth, and the 1781 attempted kidnap of General Schuyler by a Loyalist raiding party.

***The Site:*** Schuyler Mansion was the home of Revolutionary War general Philip Schuyler and his household from 1763-1804. From 1775 to 1777 Schuyler served as commander of the Northern Department of the Continental Army. During the Revolution years, this home was visited by many of the prominent men of the day, including George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and Benjamin Franklin. Following the British defeat at Saratoga in 1777, Lieutenant General John Burgoyne stayed here as a prisoner/guest, despite having ordered the burning of the Schuyler's country estate in Saratoga. Many noteworthy events took place here during the Revolution years, including the 1780 wedding of Alexander Hamilton and Schuyler's daughter, Elizabeth, and the 1781 attempted kidnap of General Schuyler by a Loyalist raiding party.

**Directions:** Accessible from the NYS Thruway Exit 23 and I787 (from the South, Exit 2/Port of Albany; from the North, Exit 3B/Madison Avenue) The site is located at 32 Catherine Street between Delaware Avenue and South Pearl Street, one block south of Morton Avenue. Call for specific directions at 518-434-0834.

**Research Patron:** Atwood Collins

## UPPER HUDSON

### **Haver (Peebles) Island**

<http://www.revolutionaryday.com/usroute4/peebles/default.htm>

Post Office Box 219

Peebles Island

Waterford, NY 12188-0219

Hours: Open year round

Phone: (518) 237-8643



*Haver (Peebles) Island Marker Map*

### ***Historical Description:***

Haver Island was in Lieutenant General John Burgoyne's planned line of advance to Albany in 1777. According to traditional narratives of the Revolution, Colonel Thaddeus Kosciuszko, the military engineer who would later oversee the construction of the fortifications at West Point, built three earthwork batteries here in August 1777. Their remains are still visible. The works were never tested because the Americans, under the command of Major General Horatio Gates, stopped Burgoyne at the Battle of Saratoga in October 1777.

### ***The Site:***

Haver Island, presently called Peebles Island, is a 138-acre state park and the headquarters of New York State's preservation offices and resource center. A trail showcases the remaining earthworks. The park offers picnic and restroom facilities on a seasonal basis.

### ***Directions:***

Take I-787 North to Route 470, or Ontario Street. Turn right on Route 470, and proceed .7 of a mile to Delaware Avenue, which is signed Peebles Island State Park and is the last street before the bridge. Turn left on Delaware Avenue, and proceed to the end of the road into the visitors parking area.



## **MID HUDSON**

### **Glebe House**

<http://www.northnet.org/mckenney.middle.school/poughny.html>

635 Main Street  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Hours: Open Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday from 1 PM – 4 PM

Phone: (845) 454-0605



*Glebe House*

#### ***Historical Description:***

The Glebe House was built in 1767 and is a one and a half story brick home. It was the residence of the first Anglican rector, the Reverend John Beardsley, in Poughkeepsie. Americans forced him to leave Poughkeepsie in 1777 due to his loyalist views. He lived in exile in Canada for the rest of the American Revolution. The word "glebe" means "land held by the church for use of its rector."

#### ***The Site:***

The Glebe House originally stood on twenty-six acres and contains three bedrooms, a parlor, and study room, as well as a keeping room making it a wonderful example of an eighteenth century colonial home. Along with the Clinton House, it allows visitors to envision Poughkeepsie at the time it was the state capital.

#### ***Directions:***

To get to the Glebe House, take exit 18 (New Paltz) from the New York State Thruway. Turn right onto 299 South to Route 9W South. Cross the Mid Hudson Bridge and continue on routes 44 & 55 East. Follow 44 & 55 for three miles to Worrall Avenue. Turn left and go one block to Main Street. Turn left onto Main Street. Go one and a half blocks and the Glebe House will be on the right.

***Research Patron:*** Irma and Robert Casey and Karen Casey Hines

## **MID HUDSON**

### **Clinton House State Historic Site**

<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/sites/info.asp?siteId=1>

P.O. Box 88  
549 Main Street  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12602

Hours: Hours: Tuesday- Friday 10 AM – 3 PM (by appointment only)

Phone: (845) 471-1630



*Clinton House*

#### ***Historical Description:***

The Clinton House State Historic Site is named for Revolutionary War Governor George Clinton. This beautifully restored Dutch colonial/Georgian stone house was built in 1765. Rebuilt with soldier labor after a fire, the house served as the residence of Quartermaster Udnay Hay for four years. It was an active site from 1777-1783 when Poughkeepsie was the capital of New York State.

#### ***The Site:***

The Clinton House is not just an historic home but also a repository for historical documents that span over three centuries of Hudson Valley History. Today the site is home to the Dutchess County Historical Society.

#### ***Directions:***

Take exit 18 (New Paltz) from the New York State Thruway. Turn right onto 299 South to Route 9W South. Cross the Mid Hudson Bridge and continue on Routes 44 & 55 East. Follow 44 & 55 for three miles to Worrall Avenue. Turn left and go one block to Main Street. The Clinton House is located at 549 Main St. in Poughkeepsie, on the corner of North White Street between the east and westbound arteries of Route 44/55.

***Research Patron:*** Irma and Robert Casey and Karen Casey Hines

## MID HUDSON

### **Gomez/Acker(t) Mill House**

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

11 Mill House Road  
Marlboro, NY 12542

Hours: Open by appointment in the winter. Spring hours are  
Wednesday - Sunday from 10 AM - 4 PM  
Tours begin at 10 AM, 11:30, 1 PM and 2:30

Phone: (845) 236-3126



*Gomez/Acker(t) House*

### ***Historical Description:***

In 1714, Luis Moses Gomez bought 6,000 acres of land and built the fieldstone blockhouse for a fur trading post that lasted some thirty years. It is the oldest house on register in Orange County and the oldest existing Jewish residence in North America. His sons sold the house, and later Wolvert Ackert bought the house just before the Revolutionary War. Ackert was a descendant of the early Dutch settlers and had no patience with British rule. He immediately used the house to hold weekly meetings with neighbors with the same views as he. He would keep them up to date on what was going on in the war, Whig activity, and any anti-Tory activities. He became the Commissioner of Newburgh's Committee of Safety and Observation. This group reported people who were suspected of being loyalist. Wolvert, who changed his name to Acker after the war, was also a lieutenant in the New Marlborough Company of Minute Men.

### ***The Site:***

On twenty-eight acres sits the six-room house, the mill, the icehouse, and the restored root cellar and work shed, which is now the visitor center. There are lectures, art exhibits, craft workshops, archaeological digs, and events for the whole family to enjoy. The house has stood for 285 years and has been restored over the years. A newly restored wheel on the mill allows school children to make paper.

### ***Directions:***

The Gomez Mill House is located on Mill House Road in the town of Marlboro, NY. The Mill House is 5.2 miles north of the junction of Route 9W and I84 (Newburgh Beacon Bridge) and ten miles south of the junction of Routes 44/55 (Poughkeepsie Bridge).

## **MID HUDSON**

### **Mount Gulian Historic Site**

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

145 Sterling Street  
Beacon, NY 12508

Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday: 1-5 PM (April through October) Wednesday and Sunday: 1-5 PM (Nov. & December) Group tours available year round

Phone: (845) 831-8172



*Mount Gulian*

### ***Historical Description:***

The prominent Dutch merchant Gulian Verplanck built the original house at Mount Gulian Historic Site between 1730 and 1740. Major General (Prussian) Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, the Continental Army's Drillmaster and Inspector General, used the house as his headquarters in 1783. He played an instrumental role in establishing the Society of the Cincinnati, our nation's first veterans' organization and a fraternal order of the officers of the Continental Army. The Society was formed at Mount Gulian on May 13, 1783.

### ***The Site:***

Mount Gulian is the headquarters of the New York State Society of the Cincinnati. The house features a large meeting/exhibit room, a museum room with Revolutionary War era collections, a dining room and kitchen with period furnishings, and a gift shop. Adjacent to the home is a restored eighteenth century Dutch barn built by the Verplancks and a restored garden.

### ***Directions:***

Take I-84 to exit 11. Take 9D north approximately 1/10th of a mile. Turn left into Hudson View Park Apartments. Make an immediate left onto Lamplight Street, which becomes Sterling Street. The site is at the end of the road.

***Research Patron:*** Atwood Collins; Todd and Beverly Brinckerhoff;  
Frances Reese; Thomas Wermut

## **MID HUDSON**

### **Van Wyck House**

<http://www.fishkillridge.org/history/vanwyck.htm>

Routes 9 & 84  
Fishkill, NY 12524

Hours: June through October:  
Saturday and Sunday 1 to 4 PM  
Museum and Library open by appointment

Phone: (845) 896-9560

#### ***Historical Description:***

In 1732 Cornelius Van Wyck developed the Van Wyck Homestead on 959 acres in present day Fishkill and expanded it in "pure" Dutch fashion in 1757. The Continental Army requisitioned the house during the American Revolution and used it as a headquarters for Major General Israel Putnam and others as the area became a major supply depot. The Van Wyck house was also the setting for the fictitious trial of Enoch Crosby, the famous American spy, in James Fenimore Cooper's novel, *The Spy*

#### ***The Site:***

The Van Wyck Homestead contains a library, which houses original documents and a variety of sources, and is the home of the Fishkill Historical Society.

#### ***Directions:***

The Van Wyck Homestead is located on the corner of Route 9 and I-84 (exit 13) in the town of Fishkill.

***Research Patron:*** Todd and Beverly Brinckerhoff



*Van Wyck House, (Felicia Ritters)*

## **MID HUDSON**

### **The First Dutch Reformed Church of Fishkill**

Main Street  
Fishkill, NY 12524

Hours: Church has no posted hours Graveyard M-F until dusk  
Sunday afternoons



*First Dutch Reformed Church,  
(Felicia Ritters)*

#### ***Historical Description:***

The Dutch Reformed Church dates back to 1716, when its congregation was formed and this beautiful church was constructed in 1731. Originally built with stonewalls and portholes in the upper story for protection against the Indians, the church was later used during the American Revolution as a meeting place for the New York Provincial Congress from 1776 to 1777. In September of 1776, it was in the Dutch Reform Church that the New York Provincial Congress drafted the constitution for the state. During the height of the American Revolution the church acted as a prison and housed Tory prisoners including Enoch Crosby.

#### ***The Site:***

The Church is well known for its historic cemetery that is the resting place of many American Revolution soldiers. The cemetery is still in use, and one can view the elaborate tombstones that make this site famous. After the American Revolution ended in 1783, the original church was enlarged and remodeled. The stone walls remain 36 to 42 inches thick and the spire rises to 120 feet with a golden cock on top of the steeple to symbolize Peter's denial of Jesus; thus reminding its congregation to be faithful.

#### ***Directions:***

The Church is located on Main Street in Fishkill, New York. It can be easily reached from I-84 by using the Route 9 Exit (Exit 13). After exiting, go north on 9 for about .7 miles. The Church is located on the left where Route 52 and Route 9 intersect.

***Research Patron:*** Todd and Beverly Brinckerhoff

## **MID HUDSON**

**John Kane House**  
126 E. Main St.  
Pawling, NY 12564

Hours: Open May 15-Oct. 15 Saturday and Sunday, 2-4 PM

Phone: (845) 855-9316



*John Kane House*

### ***Historical Description:***

In the summer of 1778, General Washington followed General Sir Henry Clinton's army as it evacuated Philadelphia and reinforced the garrison of New York City. He chose to position his forces in the area extending from Danbury, Connecticut, to Newburgh, New York. Washington used the house of Tory John Kane as his headquarters from September to November 1778. The nearby 1764 Oblong Meeting House served as a hospital for Continental Army troops.

### ***The Site:***

The portion of the John Kane used by General Washington is the present kitchen wing. The Slocum-Watts family razed the rest of the house around 1820 and built the present Federal style structure. The house has exhibits about the town of Pawling in the Pawling Room and a Lowell Thomas Room. There is a gift shop. Nearby Purgatory Hill was the site of the great Ox Roast celebrating the first anniversary of the American victory at Saratoga.

### ***Directions:***

Take Route 22 north from Interstate 84. Turn left onto Main Street.

## **MID HUDSON**

### **Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site**

<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/sites/info.asp?siteId=32>

84 Liberty Street  
P.O. Box 1783  
Newburgh, NY 12551-1476

Hours: April-Oct, Wednesday through Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM;  
Sunday, 1 PM - 5 PM July 1-Sept 6, 10 AM - 5PM

Phone: (845) 562-1195



*Washington's Headquarters*

#### ***Historical Description:***

The Washington's Headquarters' property was originally home to Jonathan and Tryntje Hasbrouck before it was occupied by General George Washington from April 1782 August 1783. The widowed Tryntje Hasbrouck rented out the house to General Washington, and from here he managed the affairs of the Main Army until the end of the war. Washington was the creator of the Badge of Military Merit, the forerunner of the Purple Heart, presented here to three enlisted soldiers in 1783. From here, he issued his order on April 19, 1783, for a "cessation of hostilities," bringing to a close to eight years of hostilities with the British.

#### ***The Site:***

Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site, the first publicly operated historic site in the nation, is located in Newburgh. The headquarters is situated within 445-acres of historic land in Newburgh's East End Historic District. Also on the site is Museum Building, built in 1910, where muskets, personal items of the Washingtons, a section of the West Point boom, and one of the original Badges of Military Merit are on exhibit. Architect John Duncan's Tower of Victory, built in 1887-88 to commemorate the end of the War of Independence and the peace that followed, rises above the Hudson River to its east.

#### ***Directions:***

Directions to the site from I-87 (Thruway): Take exit 17, or I-84, exit 7S, for Newburgh, proceed to NY 17K (Broadway) and follow cross-town east to Liberty St. Turn right onto Liberty St. and, at third left, turn east onto Lafayette St. Drive two blocks on Lafayette St. and go straight into on-site parking lot inside fence. A walkway leads to the Museum building. From NY 9W or NY 32 in Newburgh, turn east at intersection with Broadway and proceed as above. The Hasbrouck house is directly across the property from the Museum.

***Research Patron:*** Barnabas McHenry



## MID HUDSON

### **Knox's Headquarters State Historic Site**

<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/sites/info.asp?siteId=18>

P.O. Box 207  
Vails Gate, NY 12584

Hours: Open Memorial Day through Labor Day: Wednesday-Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM Sunday 1 PM – 5 PM. Other times are available by appointment only.

Phone: (845) 561-5498

***Historical Description:*** The elegant fieldstone mansion now called Knox's Headquarters was constructed in 1754 when by stonemason William Bull for the prosperous miller and merchant, John Ellison. High-ranking officers, including Generals Henry Knox, Nathanael Greene, and Horatio Gates, shared the home with the Ellison family at various times during the American Revolution. Major General Knox occupied the house four different times, including when he commanded the artillery park during the winter of 1780-81. He and his wife Lucy made their final stay there in the summer of 1782 prior to his assumption of command of Fortress West Point. Subsequently, Major General Gates used it as his headquarters when he was Commandant of the New Windsor Cantonment

***The Site:*** Built in the Georgian style the house is elegant and beautiful. The rooms are still furnished in the eighteenth century style bringing to life the wartime appearance of the house had when it was shared by Ellisons and their military guests. The Jane Colden Native Plant Sanctuary, named after Jane Colden, the daughter of the last Royal Lieutenant Governor of New York and the first woman botanist in North America, contains over one hundred different kinds of wild flowers. The ruins of the 1741 Ellison gristmill on Silver Stream can also be found at site.

***Directions:*** Knox's Headquarters is located in Vails Gate, New York. From I-87 (Thruway) Exit 17 or I-84 exit 7-S, Newburgh, take NY 300 south until you reach an intersection. Take NY 94, and turn off on Forge Hill Road. From south on NY 9-W, turn left onto Orange City 107; take until you reach NY 32. Turn right onto NY 32 north; take until you reach a five-way intersection at NY 300, and NY 94. Take NY 94, and then turn onto Forge Hill Road.

***Research Patron:*** Barnabas McHenry

## MID HUDSON

### **New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site**

<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/sites/info.asp?siteId=20>

P.O. Box 207  
Vails Gate, NY 12584

Hours: Open April- October Sunday 1 PM – 5 PM Wednesday through Saturday 10 AM – 5PM Tel.: (845) 561-1765

Phone: (845) 561-1765



*New Windsor Cantonment*

***Historical Description:*** The New Windsor Cantonment was the final encampment of Washington's army during the Revolutionary War and at that time was a thriving community of 8,000 soldiers as well as their families and skilled artisans. The army arrived here in October 1782 and left in June 1783. By late December 1782 the soldiers had constructed some 600 log huts. Officers of the Continental Army challenged Washington and Congress in the so-called Newburgh Addresses, but these challenges were defused with General Washington's famous speech at a meeting held in the Cantonment's Temple of Virtue on March 15, 1783. The "Proclamation of the Cessation of Hostilities," effective on April 19, 1783, which was the cease-fire that ended the American Revolution, disbanded the army and sent its soldiers home shortly thereafter.

***The Site:*** The New Windsor Cantonment is positioned on 120 acres of the original 1,600 acres. There are many buildings located on the grounds including the Temple of Virtue, the Mountainville Hut, and the Temple Hill Monument. A Visitor Center and exhibit galleries explain the historical significance of the camp and features military

***Directions:*** New Windsor Cantonment is located in the town of New Windsor at 374 Temple Hill Road (Route 300) just three miles south of I-84 exit 7-S and Thruway (I-87) exit 17 for Newburgh.

***Research Patron:*** Peter Stern

## **MID HUDSON**

Fort Constitution  
<http://www.usma.edu/tour/>  
NY

Hours: Open: June to October - Wednesday and Thursdays Tour Hour is 1 PM – 2 PM

Phone: (845) 446-8676

### ***Historical Description:***

From 1775 to 1777, American troops were stationed on Constitution Island before being forced to flee from British soldiers advancing up the Hudson River. From 1778 until the end of the war, troops were stationed here to protect this strategically important bend. As an obvious strategic point of defense, construction on the fort began on the island in 1775. The fort was named Fort Constitution for the English unwritten constitution as Americans sought their rights as Englishmen. A chain was stretched across the Hudson from West Point to Fort Constitution to hinder the passage of British ships. American soldiers were garrisoned on Constitution Island until December 20, 1783, when Congress disbanded them.

### ***The Site:***

Located on the east side of the Hudson River, across from the United States Military Academy is Martelaer's Rock with the Warner House and the ruins of Romans Battery and Redoubts 5, 6 and 7. .

### ***Directions:***

Reservations are required from the Constitution Island Association. Tours depart from the West Point South Dock

***Research Patron:*** John Wort

## **MID HUDSON**

### **Wiltwyck Chapter House and Library**

<http://wiltwyckchapter.freeservers.com/>

Wiltwyck Chapter: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
114 Green Street, P.O. Box 3592  
Kingston, NY 12402

Hours: Call for hours of operation

Phone: 845-339-0366

#### ***Historical Description:***

Wiltwyck Chapter House stands on a triangular lot at the junction of Crown and Green Streets, within what was the original stockade area of Kingston, New York. It is one of the oldest stone houses in the city, having been built before 1695. The first owner of the house, of whom records remain, was Anthony Crispell. He sold the property to Matthys Van Keuren on December 27, 1703. In 1735-36 Van Keuren sold the house to Hendricus Sleight for £120. During the Revolution, the house was damaged when the British burned Kingston. It was soon rebuilt. In 1782, George Washington visited Kingston, and it is believed that he called at the house to pay his respects to Mr. Sleight, Head of the Village Trustees. Hendricus Sleight conveyed the property to his daughter, Helen Jansen for \$400, in 1784. This deed now hangs in the front entry hall of the Chapter house. In 1785, Helen Jansen, recently widowed, deeded the house to her son-in-law, John Tappen. He was the editor of an early local newspaper, The Ulster Plebian. Mr. Tappen used the second floor of the house for his print shop and newspaper publishing. During the Civil War, Mrs. Henry Jansen Tappen opened her home as a center for local women to meet to make bandages and hospital supplies for the Union Army. For nearly a hundred years the property was known as "The Tappen House." In 1907, Wiltwyck Chapter, NSDAR bought the property to be used as a Chapter House and Museum.

#### ***The Site:***

On the second floor of the house, where Mr. Tappen had his printing business, there is a library. It has over 400 books dealing with history and genealogy. There are many other records available to those who wish to avail themselves of the research facility.

#### ***Directions:***

From the Thruway I87: Take exit #19 onto a local road toward Rhinecliff/Kingston Bridge. Continue on Washington Ave before taking a left on North Front Street. Finally take a right onto Green Street.

## MID HUDSON

### **Chancellor Livingston Chapter: Daughters of the American Revolution**

<http://www.geocities.com/Chancellor12572>

77 Livingston Street  
Rhinebeck, NY 12572



Hours: Friday and Saturday 2PM-4PM Memorial Day through Labor Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, 4th of July and the first Saturday in December

Phone: 845-876-3867 or 845 876-4592

#### ***Historical Description:***

The Chancellor Livingston Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution is located in the General Montgomery House. In the 18th century the house was owned by Judge Henry Beekman. It was given to his granddaughter, Janet Livingston upon her marriage to Major General Richard Montgomery while they're own estate was being built. Montgomery was a Revolutionary War hero who was killed fighting in Quebec, Canada on December 31, 1775. The house was moved from its location on Montgomery Street (also known as Route 9) to Livingston Street. It was then purchased and restored by Mrs. de Laporte, founder of the local DAR chapter.

#### ***The Site:***

The General Montgomery House is an accredited museum and is listed on the New York State Revolutionary War Heritage Trail. The house is the oldest in the village of Rhinebeck. Regular meetings of the Daughters of the American Revolution take place there every month. Chancellor Robert Livingston, who the chapter is named after, was the brother-in-law of General Montgomery. Chancellor Livingston assisted Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin in drafting the Declaration of Independence. Livingston became Chancellor of New York State after the Revolutionary War and was given the honor of administering the Oath of Office to President George Washington.

#### ***Directions:***

From the South:

Take the Taconic State Parkway North to Route 115/ Salt Lake Turnpike exit. Turn right onto Hollow Road. After 7.5 miles turn right onto NY-9G. Turn slight right onto Violet Hill Road then turn left onto NY-308. Turn right onto Beech Street and then left on Livingston Street.

From the North:

Take I-87 New York State Thruway to exit 21 toward Rt. 23/Catskill/Hudson. Turn left onto CR-23B. Merge onto NY-23 East via the ramp on the right. Turn slight right onto the Route 9-G ramp. Turn right onto NY-308 and then right onto Beech Street. Turn left onto Livingston Street.

## MID HUDSON

### **The Reformed Protestant Dutch Church**

<http://www.revolutionaryday.com/usroute9w/kingston/main.htm>

272 Wall Street  
Kingston, NY 12402

Hours: Open 9 AM - 2 PM weekdays

Phone: (845) 338-6759



*Protestant Dutch Church (Felicia Ritters)*

***Historical Description:*** Although the present Reformed Protestant Dutch Church (Old Dutch) was constructed in 1852, the congregation was organized in 1659. October 16, 1777, the British burned the edifice that had been built in 1679 and enlarged in 1752, along with the rest of the village. Among the notable persons interred in the present churchyard is George Clinton, brigadier general in the Revolutionary War, first governor of New York State, and vice-president under Thomas Jefferson and James Madison. He is surrounded by some seventy Revolutionary War soldiers, many of whom were Clinton's officers. George Washington visited the church in November 16, 1782.

***The Site:*** The 1852 Renaissance Revival style church, designed by Minard LaFever, is Old Dutch's fourth sanctuary. Noted nineteenth century designer Calvert Vaux called the architecture "ideally perfect." The church was constructed over its own ancient burial grounds. In order not to disturb the graves, trenches were dug for the walls, and no cellar was excavated. In the churchyard are gravestones dating from 1710. Stones bearing a St. Andrew's Cross identify the eighty-one members buried beneath the present church. The steeple bell, tradition says, was cast in Amsterdam in 1794 from silver and copper items given by families when they presented their children for baptism.

***Directions:*** From NYC or Albany: Kingston is at exit 19 on the New York State Thruway (I-87). From the traffic circle after exiting the Thruway, take the second exit to Washington Avenue. At the first actual street, North Front Street, turn left and go three blocks. Take a right to Fair Street, and after two blocks, turn right onto Main Street. The Old Dutch Church occupies the full block at the intersection of Fair, Main, and Wall Streets.

***Research Patron:*** Jane Hawkes Liddell

## MID HUDSON

### **The Senate House State Historic Site**

<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/sites/info.asp?siteId=28>

296 Fair Street  
Kingston, NY 12401

Hours: Seasonal Visiting Hours ...

Mid-April through October: Sunday 11-5

Monday, Wednesday, Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM

Phone: (845) 338-2786



*Senate House*

***Historical Description:*** One of twenty-one colonial houses in the Stockade Area, the residence of Dutchman Abraham Van Gaasbeck, a colonial merchant, located in the heart of Kingston, served as the meeting place for the first Senate of New York State in September and October 1777. The Provincial Convention adopted the State's Constitution in the village on April 20, 1777. The arrival of the British expedition at Rondout Creek in October forced the delegates to flee to Hurley. Major General John Vaughan and his British troops burned the capital, including the Van Gaasbeck house on October 16 before continuing north in an attempt to divert American forces from the already doomed Lieutenant General John Burgoyne and his army at Saratoga.

***The Site:*** Visitors to the site may tour the two-story museum building built in 1927, thirty-nine years after New York State acquired the rebuilt Senate House as its second historic site in 1887. Among its treasures are major art works by John Vanderlyn and other members of the Vanderlyn family of Kingston, dating from the 1720s through the 1870s, as well as notable paintings by Ammi Phillips, Joseph Tubby, James Bard, and Thomas Sully. The Senate House is now furnished as a residence of the early Revolutionary period.

***Directions:*** Thruway, I-87, take exit 19 for Kingston and proceed around the traffic circle to Washington Avenue, Business District Exit. Take Washington Avenue to Schwenk Drive at the second traffic light. Turn left and take Schwenk Drive through the stoplight at the shopping center entrance and straight up the hill to a stop sign. Bear left onto Clinton Avenue, the site's parking lot is immediately on the right.

***Research Patron:*** Peter Bienstock

## **THE HUDSON HIGHLANDS**

### **Fort Arnold/Clinton**

<http://www.usma.army.mil/tour/>

United States Military Academy  
West Point, NY

Phone: (845) 938-2203/3590



*Fort Arnold/Clinton*

### ***Historical Description:***

Originally known as Fort (James) Clinton after the colonel of the regiment which had constructed it, it became Fort Arnold in April 1778, after the hero of Saratoga, General Benedict Arnold. The fort's name reverted to Fort Clinton after Arnold's treason in 1780. Its primary purpose was to defend the water batteries protecting the Great Chain. The Americans held the fortifications at West Point, which include Fort Clinton/Arnold and Fort Putnam, from 1778 to the end of the war in 1783.

### ***The Site:***

The site of Fort Clinton is now a part of the USMA at West Point near the famous Trophy Point, and its location is marked by a statue of Thaddeus Kosciuszko (1746 – 1817). The tribute to Kosciuszko at this position is appropriate since he was the person who oversaw the construction of Fort Clinton and most other fortifications at West Point. The fort clearly commands the river, overlooking the entire strategic bend that the river makes around the point.

### ***Directions:***

Fort Clinton is located near the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY.

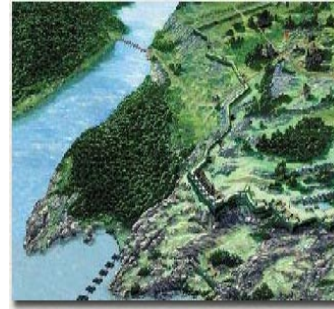


## THE HUDSON HIGHLANDS

### Fort Montgomery State Historic Site and Fort Clinton at Trailside Museum

<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/sites/info.asp?siteId=36>

Bear Mountain State Park  
Bear Mountain, NY 10911



*Fort Montgomery, (Jack Mead)*

Hours: Fort Montgomery is open daily from dawn to dusk YEAR ROUND Trailside Museums and Zoo, and Fort Clinton, are open YEAR ROUND, 10 PM -4:30 PM daily, weather permitting

Phone: (845) 786-2701

#### ***Historical Description:***

Begun in February 1776 Fort Montgomery had three landward redoubts and river batteries while Fort Clinton (August 1776) had a battery and two redoubts. On October 6, 1777, in a diversion to draw off American forces opposing General John Burgoyne's expedition into New York from Canada, General Sir Henry Clinton led 2,100 Loyalists, Hessians, and Regulars from King's Ferry against the landward approaches of Forts Montgomery and Clinton. American Brigadier Generals Governor George and James Clinton had to defend the two forts with a garrison of fewer than 700 men. On the river five American warships protected an iron chain on wooden rafts and boom of ships' hawsers. Despite the gallant American efforts, the undermanned twin forts fell to overwhelming British attack by nightfall. While British forces won the battles of Forts Clinton and Montgomery, these fortifications disrupted Sir Henry Clinton's timetable, complicating any attempts to relieve Burgoyne's trapped army.

#### ***The Site:***

Fort Montgomery comprises some twenty-five archeologically significant features on 14.42 acres of land owned since 1914 by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. The ramparts of the irregularly shaped fortification follow the contours of the bluffs overlooking the Hudson River and Popolopen Creek and connect three landward redoubts-South, Round Hill, and North--and three river batteries-Grand, Putnam's, and River. Foundations of structures in the fort include the guard house, the powder magazine, the main barracks, officers' commissary, officers' barracks, storehouse, bake house, soldiers' necessary, provision stores, soldiers' hut and an additional barracks. A trail and interpretive signs tell the story of the fort and the battle. Fort Clinton has a museum with artifacts and exhibits describing the forts and the battles as well as the remarkably well-preserved Outer Redoubt.

#### ***Directions:***

Take Palisades Parkway to the northern end. At traffic circle take 9W north to Welcome Center on right after second bridge. For Fort Clinton, park in Parking Lot 1 at Bear Mountain Inn and follow the signs to the Trailside Museum and Zoo.

***Research Patron:*** Margaret K. Johnson; John Wort

## THE HUDSON HIGHLANDS

### **Stony Point Battlefield State Historic Site**

<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/sites/info.asp?siteId=29>

P.O. Box 182  
Stony Point, NY 10980

Hours: Mid-April to October 31

Museum: Wednesday-Saturday, 10 AM.-4:30 PM., Sun. 12-4:30 PM.

Grounds only open: Monday through Saturday, 10 AM –5 PM.

Sunday 12-5

Phone: (845) 786-2521

Fax: (845) 786-0463



*Stony Point Battlefield, (Bleeker)*

### ***Historical Description:***

King's Ferry between Verplanck's Point and Stony Point was the key ferry crossing in the Lower Hudson. British Lieutenant General Sir Henry Clinton gained control of it on 31 May 1779 with about 6,000 British and Hessian troops by capturing Fort Lafayette on the eastern bank of the Hudson River and building fortifications at Stony Point on the opposite shore as a possible prelude to a decisive battle in the Hudson Highlands with General George Washington's Continental Army. Facing a reduced British force, on 6 July at Buckberg Mountain Washington and Brigadier General Anthony Wayne planned an attack to retake Stony Point. On 15 July Wayne led his Corps of Light Infantry of about 1,150 against the British garrison of 564 men commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Henry Johnson. After an eight-hour march from Sandy Beach north of Fort Montgomery, to Springsteel's farm just west of Stony Point, Wayne organized his force into three columns for the final movement and the nighttime attack that began at midnight. Led by 20-man "forlorn hopes," two flanking forces, using only bayonets, penetrated the northern and southern ends of the abatis of the Outer Works of the fort while the third column effectively created a diversion with musketry to its front. Both assault columns penetrated the Inner Works, and by 2:00 A.M. on 16 July Wayne reported the fort captured. At a cost of 15 men killed and 83 wounded, Wayne's soldiers captured the garrison, killing at least 20 and wounding 74. Deciding not to maintain the fort, Washington ordered it destroyed and abandoned. The British reoccupied and refortified it on 19 July but abandoned it and the Highlands for good, as it turned out, by October.

### ***The Site:***

series of numbered signs tell the story of the battle and indicate the major features of the British fort. A small but excellent museum, featuring archeological artifacts and three British guns from the battle, is open five days a week. Costumed interpreters set up a soldiers' camp on weekends and demonstrate muskets, camp-life, cooking, the activities of a military surgeon and much more. Take a short walk on a woodland path to a vantage point overlooking the terminus of the King's Ferry in the north cove of the peninsula. The oldest lighthouse on the Hudson River, built on the grounds of Stony Point Battlefield in 1826, guided vessels for ninety-nine years before it was decommissioned. Visitors to Stony Point Battlefield today can tour the recently restored and re-lighted lighthouse on weekends for a magnificent view of the Hudson Valley.

### ***Directions:***

Take Palisades Interstate Parkway to Exit 15, and follow the signs to Rt. 106/210 (east) to Route 9W (north). The Stony Point Battlefield is 1/2 mile north of intersection with East Main Street, Stony Point.

## THE HUDSON HIGHLANDS

### Fortress West Point at the United States Military Academy

<http://www.usma.edu>

West Point, NY

Hours: The Visitor Center and Museum

Open daily 10:30 AM - 4:15 PM

Closed: Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year's Day

Notes: The Great Chain / Trophy Point

Visitors on West Point Tours can see a part of the chain that was stretched across the Hudson River to stop British ships.

Phone: (845) 938- 2638



*WestPoint from Fort Putnam*

#### ***Historical Description:***

George Washington referred to West Point as "the key of America." Although no battles were fought at West Point, it was the most strategic fort the Continental Army held. Its location and topography made it an important stronghold in preventing the British from cutting New England off from the rest of the colonies by securing the Hudson River. Engineer Bernard Romans started the first fortifications-Fort Constitution--on Martelaer's Rock in September 1775 but did not follow the plan to build a blockhouse across the river. After the British destroyed Forts Montgomery and Clinton on Popolopen Creek in October 1777, the key military commanders decided to fortify both sides of the river at its west point. That work began after Connecticut troops crossed the Hudson on the ice on January 27, 1778, with Colonel Louis de la Radie`re's design for Fort Clinton, Sherburne's Redoubt, and four water batteries. On April 30, Captain Thomas Machin supervised the floating of a large iron chain across the river on log rafts from West Point to Constitution Island to deter the British from trying to gain control of the river. The defenses of West Point consisted of three concentric rings of fortifications designed to support each other with firepower. The inner ring consisted of Fort Clinton/Arnold and four water batteries. The outer ring consisted of Forts Putnam, Webb, Meigs, and Wyllys; it also included Redoubts five through seven. The middle ring comprised

#### ***The Site:***

A restored Fort Putnam dominates the remaining works of Fortress West Point. Ten links of the chain remain displayed on Trophy Point, and the statue of Colonel Thaddeus Kosciuszko, the Polish engineer who oversaw construction of the defensive works, stands guard over the remains of Fort Clinton/Arnold. The ruins of the other works are not on the route of visitors. An overview of the fortifications can be found in the Museum at Pershing Center in Highland Falls and in the McLean Museum at Fort Putnam.

#### ***Directions:***

West Point is located off Route 9W in the town of Highlands, New York. The visitor center is on your right hand side while heading towards USMA in the village of Highland Falls. Tours of West Point on buses of West Point Tours leave from here.

***Research Patron:*** Margaret K. Johnson

## THE HUDSON HIGHLANDS

### **Fort Putnam**

<http://www.usma.army.mil/tour/>

Line 1 of the Address

Line 2 of the Address

City Name, NY The Zip

Hours: May – September

Contact the West Point Museum for available hours and information.

Phone: (845) 938-2203/3590



*Fort Putnam*

### ***Historical Description:***

Colonel Rufus Putnam's 5th Massachusetts Regiment built Fort Putnam in 1778 as one of Fortress West Point's largest and most important military fortifications. From this site, the Plain and approaches to the Great Chain could be protected. The fort predates the United States Military Academy (1802) by nearly twenty-five years and it is positioned to protect against infantry assaults. Originally a wood and earthen redoubt, Fort Putnam evolved into a stone fortification that stands today after restoration during the American Revolutionary Bicentennial.

### ***The Site:***

A complete refurbishment of Fort Putnam occurred during the nation's Revolutionary War Bicentennial. Cannon and mortars were reproduced and placed according to drawings by Lieutenant Louis-Alexandre Berthier, a Revolutionary War topographic engineer. Fort Putnam provides a view of West Point, Constitution Island, and the surrounding Hudson River Valley. Particularly evident is the S-shaped bend in the Hudson as it passes between Constitution Island and West Point that convinced military leaders that West Point should be fortified in 1778.

### ***Directions:***

Located within the compound of West Point, Fort Putnam overlooks USMA and is situated northeast of Michie Stadium. It is presently not open to visitors.

***Research Patron:*** Patron Who

## LOWER HUDSON

### **Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site**

<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/sites/info.asp?siteId=24>

Warburton Avenue and Dock Street  
Yonkers, NY 10702

Hours: January through March, Saturdays 12-4  
April through October, Tues-Fri 12-5  
November through December, Sat.& Sun. 11 PM-5 PM

Phone: (914)-965-4027



*Philipse Manor Hall*

***Historical Description:*** Philipse Manor Hall was built in the 1680s by Frederick Philipse as a dwelling on the Lower Mills portion of his 52,500-acre estate. Philipse Manor Hall was an important symbol of what happened to Loyalists during the Revolution. Frederick Philipse III was LORD of Philipse Manor Hall during the Revolutionary period. His strong Loyalist views prompted him to sign the Declaration of Dependence in 1776, which caused George Washington to order his arrest. He lost the manor hall and the land it was on when the New York State Legislature confiscated it and eventually fled to England where he died broken in spirit and heart.

***The Site:*** The Philipse Manor Hall is a stone manor designed with eighteenth-century, high style Georgian architecture and a 1750s paper mache Rococo ceiling. Today the Hall exhibits selections from Alexander Smith Cochran Collection of American Portraiture. It is a museum of history, art, and architecture including a 1750s paper mache Rococo ceiling.

***Directions:*** From North, follow Route 9 to merge with Warburton Ave., right on Warburton, continue on Warburton for 4 miles, Manor Hall appears on right side, make right into driveway. From south, Route 9 to prospect street, left one block, right on Riverdale Ave., left into driveway after third traffic light.

***Research Patron:*** Atwood Collins

## LOWER HUDSON

### **Saint Paul's Church National Historic Site (Pell's Point)**

<http://www.nps.gov/sapa/>

897 South Columbus Avenue

Mt. Vernon, NY 10550

Hours: Open All Year Round: Monday to Friday 9 AM – 5PM  
Closed on Federal Holidays. Please call about special weekend programs.

Phone: (914) 667-4116

#### ***Historical Description:***

St. Paul's Church was one of New York's oldest parishes (1665-1980). The first church was a simple square wooden building, called the Church of Eastchester, built in 1695. A new church was built in 1763; its name was changed to St. Paul in 1795. Following the Battle of Pell's Point, the half-finished church served as a hospital for the British and their Hessian allies, who used the old church for firewood. In 1825, the Marquis de LaFayette visited St. Paul's cemetery to pay respects to his friend Philip Pell, who is buried there. The Battle of Pell's Point, fought a mile from the church on October 18, 1776, was instrumental in keeping the British from attacking General George Washington's army, as it moved from New York City to the safety of White Plains.

#### ***The Site:***

St. Paul's Church National Historic Site is located on 6.13 acres of Federal Land in Mount Vernon. Facilities include a visitor center, various exhibits, historic cemetery, and a museum.

#### ***Directions:***

Take Interstate 95 to Exit #13, Conner Street, which is in the northern Bronx or Route 9 North to Baychester Avenue exit. Turn left onto Baychester and take next left onto Conner Street. Continue straight across Boston Post Road onto Provost Avenue. Provost becomes South Third Avenue. Turn Right at Columbus Avenue. Church is on right.

***Research Patron:*** Atwood Collins



*Saint Paul's Church*

## LOWER HUDSON

### **White Plains Battlefield**

[http://www.hudsonrivervalley.com/index.cfm?section\\_id=6&page\\_id=101](http://www.hudsonrivervalley.com/index.cfm?section_id=6&page_id=101)

60 Park Avenue  
White Plains, NY

Hours: For information or to plan a tour, call the Purdy House

Phone: (914) 428-1776



*Battle of White Plains  
Reenactment (Photo: Paul Ir*

### ***Historical Description:***

During the Battle of White Plains, George Washington's Army checked General William Howe's British Army after fleeing Harlem Heights on Manhattan Island. The main battle took place between Brigadier General Alexander McDougall's brigade and British and Hessian troops on Chatterton's Hill. The massed fire of twelve British cannons, the British attack, and the flight of militiamen from Massachusetts forced the New Yorkers, Marylanders, and Delawares off the hill. Total American casualties were about 150 officers and men killed and wounded. While the British claimed the field of battle, they and their Hessian allies may have lost as many as 313 officers and men killed and wounded. When Howe turned from Dobbs Ferry back toward New York City on 12 November to invest Fort Washington, he abandoned an aggressive strategy that might have destroyed Washington's army and cost the Americans New York and New England.

### ***The Site:***

The City of White Plains interprets the Battle of White Plains at Battle-Whitney Park (Chatterton's Hill) with signs and a flagpole. There are two surviving houses that General Washington used as his headquarters during the Battle of White Plains in 1776. The first is the Miller House Museum that Elijah Miller built in 1738, with an addition in 1770, as a typical Rhode Island-style farmhouse, located at 140 Virginia Road, North White Plains, NY. Washington was here between October 28-November 10, 1776. It is owned and operated by the Washington's Headquarters Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The Miller House Museum is open by appointment, and can be reached by telephone at (914) 949-1236, or via the internet at [www.westchestergov.com/history/wash.htm](http://www.westchestergov.com/history/wash.htm). The second is the Jacob Purdy House that Washington occupied from October 23-28 and also used again from July 27-September 16, 1778, in preparation for a possible assault on British forces in New York.

### ***Directions:***

Battle-Whitney Park is located at the corner of Battle Avenue and Lincoln Avenue just off of the Bronx River Parkway. Miller House Museum: From I-287 West, take exit 6, Route-22. Make a left on Orchard Street, which becomes Cemetery Road. Bear right onto Bronx River Parkway and then bear left onto Virginia Road. Jacob Purdy House: From Bronx River Parkway, take Bank Street north to Park Avenue.

***Research Patron:*** Atwood Collins

## **LOWER HUDSON**

### **Jacob Purdy House**

<http://www.whiteplainshistory.org/JacobPurdyHouse.html>

60 Park Avenue

White Plains, NY 10606

Phone: (914) 328-1776



*Purdy House*

#### ***Historical Description:***

The Jacob Purdy house was built in 1721 by the Purdy family. General George Washington used the home as his headquarters during the Battle of White Plains in 1776. Washington used the home again in 1778 while contemplating an attack against British occupied New York City. The house was deeded to the City of White Plains in 1973 and is currently maintained by the White Plains Historical Society.

#### ***The Site:***

The Purdy home is not a private residence and is open to the public but in order to tour it an appointment is required. (914) 328-1776

#### ***Directions:***

Directions form New York State Thruway North 1. On I-87S/ I-287 take exit 14-1 New York City. 2. Merge onto I-287E via the exit on left toward Tappan Zee Bridge. 3. Take Exit 6 (Rt. 22 exit) toward White Plains/No. White Plains 4. Turn right onto N. Broadway/NY-22/CR-87 5. Turn right onto Park Ave. 6. Turn left to stay on Park Ave.



## LOWER HUDSON

### **John Jay Homestead State Historic Site**

<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/sites/info.asp?siteId=16>

400 Route 22  
Katonah, NY 10536

Hours: April – October:

Tuesdays – Saturdays (10:00 AM – 4:00 PM) Sundays (11:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

November:

Tuesdays – Saturdays (10:00 AM – 3:00 PM) Sundays (11:00 AM – 3:00 PM)

December: Call site for holiday tour/program information.

Phone: (914) 232-5651

#### ***Historical Description:***

Near Katonah, NY is the gracious home and farm of John Jay, patriot, Founding Father and first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Jay retired to his Bedford property in 1801 after a lifetime of public service to his nation and state. John Jay also served as Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and as a member of the Committee for Detecting Conspiracies. He was President of the Continental Congress, Minister to Spain during the Revolutionary War, and one of the principal negotiators of the Treaty of Paris, ending the Revolution. He also served in the New York Provincial Congress, was instrumental in writing New York's first Constitution, and served as the state's second governor.

#### ***The Site:***

John Jay's home and farm is a state historic site. Tour Jay's stately Georgian home with restored Federal period interiors. Enjoy a walk on 64 acres of farmland, punctuated with fields, forests, and a magnificent allee of century old Beech trees. Explore numerous historic outbuildings, including a barn and a one-room schoolhouse. Picnic on rolling lawns in the shade of stately old

#### ***Directions:***

John Jay Homestead State Historic Site is located on Route 22 between Katonah and Bedford Village. Take Exit 6 off I-684 and travel one half mile east on Route 35 to Route 22 south, then 2

***Research Patron:*** Atwood Collins



*John Jay Homestead*

## **LOWER HUDSON**

### **Van Cortlandt Manor**

<http://www.hudsonvalley.org>

Croton On Hudson, NY

Notes: Accessible by either car or train  
(Amtrak or Metro North)

Phone: 914-271-8981/914-631-8200

#### ***Historical Description:***

The Van Cortlandt Manor was conceived in 1697 when Stephanus Van Cortlandt bought 86,000 acres of land from the Kitchawanc Indians and European landowners. In 1758 Pierre Van Cortlandt built the stone and brick manor house and increased his own personal holdings to over 4,000 acres. He would work concurrently as a transportation agent, land developer, rent collector, landlord, commercial farmer, saw-and-gristmill proprietor, and tavern owner. During the Revolutionary War, Pierre and his family moved out of the manor because it was located in the middle of the Neutral Ground, a major battleground of the civil war between Tories and Rebels. Raiders on both sides pillaged it over the course of the war. Pierre was elected New York's first lieutenant governor in 1777 and his son Philip fought at Saratoga.

#### ***The Site:***

A National Historic Landmark, the 18th-century stone manor house is the centerpiece of the property. It features a fine collection of Georgian and Federal period furnishings, many original to Van Cortlandt Manor. Also on the grounds is an eighteenth century tavern situated on the historic Albany Post Road at the site of a ferry crossing over the Croton River. Adjacent to the tavern is a reconstructed tenant house where cooking, spinning and weaving demonstrations occur frequently. Visitors to the site learn about the people who lived and worked here during the New Nation era: Van Cortlandt family members, enslaved Africans, tenant farmers, and ferry keepers.

#### ***Directions:***

NYS Thruway (I- 87) cross the Tappan Zee Bridge and exit immediately after toll at Exit 9 North Route 9 Tarrytown. At the light at the end of the exit ramp, turn right onto Route 9 North. Continue approximately 9 miles to Croton Point Avenue exit. Turn right at end of exit ramp; turn right again at traffic light onto South Riverside Avenue. Continue to end of South Riverside Avenue.

***Research Patron:*** Atwood Collins

## LOWER HUDSON

### **Philipsburg Manor**

<http://www.hudsonvalley.org/philipsburg/index.htm>

Route 9

Tarrytown, NY 10702

Hours: Open daily(Closed Tuesdays)

April through October, 10 AM to 5 PM

November through December, 10 AM to 4 PM

March open weekends only, 10 AM to 4 PM



*Philipsburg Manor*

***Historical Description:*** Fredrick Philipse established the Philipsburg Manor on 52,500 acres in 1693. Tenant farmers and African slaves worked the lands of the manor over its early history. A committed Loyalist during the Revolution, Fredrick Philipse III lost his manor after signing the Declaration of Dependence in 1776 and being arrested by General Washington. He eventually fled to England where he died a poor, broken man, showing how political views cost him and his fellow Loyalists their possessions and positions in society as well.

***The Site:*** The Philipsburg Manor is a late seventeenth, early eighteenth century milling, farming, and trading complex owned by an Anglo-Dutch family of merchants. The site includes a stone manor house filled with period furnishings and a working water-powered gristmill and millpond. The grounds are also home to historic breeds of cattle, sheep, and chicken as well as an eighteenth century barn and slave garden. The site also includes a visitor center, a gallery with changing exhibits, a cafe, and a museum shop.

***Directions:*** Philipsburg Manor is located on Route 9 in North Tarrytown, New York. Take the New York State Thruway (I-187) South; cross the Tappan Zee Bridge and exit immediately after the toll at Exit 9 North Route 9 Tarrytown. At the light at the bottom of the exit, turn right onto Route 9. Continue approximately 2 miles to Philipsburg Manor on left.

***Research Patron:*** Atwood Collins