

Headless Horseman Final Case Study



By

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Team 3: Headless Horsemen

Colonel Johnson

History of The Hudson River Valley

Group Essay

Collaborative Revised Midterm Essay for Final

Thesis: Picture yourself in the heart of the picturesque Hudson Valley in the beautiful Dutchess County!

We offer a variety of trails with historic and modern aspects along with various scenic and picturesque views of the Hudson River Valley that can be visited year long by both experienced and inexperienced hikers and the common adventurer. Therefore, the Dutchess County is the quintessential place to visit, hike, and enjoy.

Revised Combined Essay-

Dutchess County has many trails that offer historic, and modern aspects, and various scenic and picturesque views of the Hudson River Valley that can be visited year long by both experienced and inexperienced hikers and the common adventurer. That said, the trails are appealing to everyone of all ages and offer a glimpse of what the Hudson River Valley has to offer.

Poet's Walk romantic landscape park trail was developed in a German fashion that resemble a lot of the famous writers that used to reside here. the Mount Beacon trail starts on staircase following the course of the Beacon Incline Railway, in the early 20th century the world's steepest funicular and one of the Hudson Valley's prime tourist attractions. In 1934 Margaret Lewis Norrie State Park donated to the state by sister of Mrs. Norrie, in which only remains of this buildings that remain. In 1979 the land that is now the Tivoli trail was bought by the New York State Department of environmental conservation, to ensure that it would be protected for generations to come. One of the most important events that took place was in 1968,

when the national trails system act was put into place. this made the Appalachian trail a “national Scenic trail” that would be federally protected. The 36 hour lesson plan was an interesting portion of the final that i was able to be a part of. There are many different and unique parts of each one of the trails that will make them a great place to take any one of our future classes.

When creating the highway sign for the trails of Dutchess County, I used symbols that illustrate the landscapes specific to each trail. All five of the trails are very beautiful but different in their own way. It is these differences that I based my creativity on when I was designing these highway signs. Poet’s Walk Romantic Landscape Park Trail is meant to celebrate the connection between poetry and landscape so I focused on adding natural beauty into the sign such as light colors and trees. The Appalachian Trail is the longest hiking-only footpath in the world. That inspired me to make this sign more picturesque so I incorporated a mountainous landscape in the background. The other three trails do not have something specific like Poet’s Walk and The Appalachian trail but are uniquely beautiful so I based their signs on significant features that they may have such as the Hudson river or even the Mount Beacon Railway.

The trailheads of each trail are a culmination of information from maps, to facts, and also including things to do (features) at the areas. Each of these trails have unique landscapes and things that define them as a trail. The trailheads each reflect colors that are representative of these unique qualities. For example the Poets Walk trailhead I decided to design it to appear on a wooden surface to stay within the theme that the trail already has and match the wooden vistas and stone bridges. These trailheads will be set on different parts of the trail and the goal of the trailheads is to inform hikers or visitors of what they can expect on the trail, whether it be Poets’ Walk, the Appalachian trail, Tivoli Bays, or Mount Beacon Park, or Mills Norrie State Park. The Dutchess County logo was created keeping in mind that the main focus is of nature’s beauty

which is pivotal to the attraction of visitors. The logo also incorporates the motto “Put yourself in the picturesque heart of the Hudson River Valley.” This motto is incorporated into the thesis because we felt that this was a good synthesis of proving that Dutchess County is the heart of history, and culture, and contains some of the most beautiful hiking trails.

Although hiking these magnificent trails may be enough for some, sometimes what really drags people to these trails are the significant features. Every trail has some sort of quality in them whether it be the classic wooden vistas from Poets Park, the fire tower from Mount Beacon Park, or even the Great Dover Oak tree from the Appalachian Trail and it is those qualities that makes them stand out and worth visiting. Dutchess County trails while may not be well known throughout the U.S. are surely unique. Our trails explore the aspects of nature on all levels. So if you want to learn some history, if you want to take in what Dutchess County has to offer, if you want an adventure you will never forget then you should visit one if not all of these trails.

All of these trails in Dutchess County are beautiful and remarkable in their own ways but they would be nothing without what visitors can find around them. Although the county is filled with great American history and the remnants of them, there are now newer, more modern sights to see, explore and experience while keeping the integrity of the past. The trails the county have to explore are not exclusive to experienced hikers only, they allow adventurers and families alike to get to know and explore the Hudson River Valley Region hands on and see the beauty for themselves. The trails themselves are not only just for hiking but they also have kayaking, nature study, bird watching, dog walking, history finding, and winter cross country skiing capabilities. Dutchess County additionally offers various unique places to stay, eat, drink and see aside from trails. Many more activities can be found on the tourism website that dutchess county has

[\(http://dutchesstourism.com/\)](http://dutchesstourism.com/). With over one hundred places of lodging varying from hotel chains to cozy bed and breakfasts there is no excuse not to visit Dutchess County.

Overall, Dutchess County has an extensive list of trails that offer historic, and modern aspects, and various scenic and picturesque views of the Hudson River Valley that can be visited all year long. The trails are appreciated by both experienced and inexperienced hikers and the common adventurer, not to mention perfect for families of all kinds. Dutchess County also offers unique lodging, dining, attractions and indulging opportunities which makes it the perfect place for anyone to visit. With all of these aspects, Dutchess County is the quintessential place to learn new things and have fun here in the Hudson River Valley!

Conclusion: Overall, Dutchess County has an extensive list of trails that offer historic, and modern aspects, and various scenic and picturesque views of the Hudson River Valley that can be visited all year long. The trails are appreciated by both experienced and inexperienced hikers and the common adventurer, not to mention perfect for families of all kinds. Dutchess County also offers unique lodging, dining, attractions and indulging opportunities which makes it the perfect place for anyone to visit. With all of these aspects, Dutchess County is the quintessential place to learn new things and have fun here in the Hudson River Valley!

Marlena Simoneau

12/14/2015

History of the Hudson Valley

Colonel Johnson

There are many trails of Dutchess County that make this region of the country absolutely breath taking to come and visit. These trails are steeped with history that is unlike anywhere else in the world. Poets walk, Mount Beacon, Norrie trail, Tivoli trail, and the Appalachian Trail all have their own unique history, that bring in many tourists every year. Each trail has had its own struggles to get to the point that they are at today, but they bring in thousands of tourists every year.

Poets walk romantic landscape park trail is a beautiful place to visit. This trail was developed in a German fashion that resemble a lot of the infamous writers that use to reside here. Ehlers also created a path that honored Washington Irving and other literary figures who reputedly strolled here. Today, the park features two miles of trails through woods and meadows The Park is surrounded on all sides by 780 acres of private lands. All the land whether private or public is protected from further development.

Mount Beacon is steep, but is manageable. The hike actually begins on a staircase following the course of the Beacon Incline Railway, in the early 20th century the world's steepest funicular and one of the Hudson Valley's prime tourist attractions. Norrie state park is another one of the trails that makes Dutchess County a spectacular place to come hiking. In 1933 the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp was established at the park. Then in 1934 Margaret Lewis Norrie State Park donated to the state by sister of Mrs. Norrie, in which only remains of the buildings that remain.

The Appalachian Trail is a very beautiful trail that has had a lot of hardships in its rise to success, and it all started in 1921. There are many trails through the mountains which give beautiful views that you can't get anywhere else in the country. The Tivoli trail is another one of the trails in Dutchess County that have more beauty and history that most people are unaware of. The land was originally owned by the Native Americans in the late 1600's.

Along with all of the histories of the trails I was responsible for working on the 36 hour lesson plan for the classes that we will take on the trails in our future careers. There were many aspects of each one of the five trails that make them special and unique. For each one of the 12 hour days that we will have, there are many aspects of each one of the trails that will make each day unique.

There are many different aspects of each one of the trails in Dutchess County that make them unique and special. Each trail is steeped with history and beautiful aspects that make them unique, but special.

Knowing the history of these trails can help make the lesson plan for the future classes that we will have.

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History of the Hudson River Valley

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Dutchess County Tourism

Dutchess County is unlike any other within the Hudson River Valley in that fact that not only is it filled with a surplus of trails but it also offers various unique places to stay, eat, drink and see. Included within this are a variety of scenic trails that allow visitors and local adventurers alike to bask in the glory of the Hudson River Valley. Dutchess County is the perfect place for anyone to take a weekend and adventure to due to the extensive variety of trails, lodging, dining and more.

Experienced hikers are usually the ones who find the best, most beautiful trails, however, that does not have to be the case for trails in Dutchess County. All trails in the county vary in difficulty and most have paths are less challenging but range in difficulty the further the trail continues. Aside from their differentiating difficulty, there are other aspects that compel hikers and adventurers alike to visit these trails. One of the more leisurely trails is Poet's Walk Romantic Landscape Park Trail located in Red Hook. Poet's Walk offers a scenic and picturesque hike described as, "Poet's Walk is buffered on all sides by 780 acres of private lands under conservation easements that ensure the landscape's protection from development" (<http://www.scenichudson.org/parks/poetswalk>). **With all of the private land there are plenty of things to do here recreationally which is what the park markets. All year long visitors are able to participate in bird watching, on leash dog walking, hiking, while in the winter visitors are able to go cross-country skiing and snowshoeing on ungroomed trails.** A similar trail to this with the same aspects is Mount Beacon Park. Mount Beacon Park is maintained in cooperation with the Mount Beacon Incline Railway Restoration Society (<http://www.scenichudson.org/parks/mountbeacon>.) In addition to those aspects, Mount Beacon Park is unique due to the ruins there are left behind from the incline railway powerhouse—a key aspect that makes visitors interested in visiting.

Norrie State Park is another trail that has great offerings for visitors and greatly advertises for their recreational activities. Margaret Lewis Norrie State Park adjoins Ogden Mills and Ruth Livingston Mills Memorial State Park and together, comprises more than 1,000 acres (<http://parks.ny.gov/parks/171/details.aspx>)! Aside from hiking there are various other happenings for all types of people. Due to their location on the water they offer kayaking tours, which gives visitors a different view of the beautiful trail. Also the Mills Mansion is located nearby on their premises, which draws crowds of history buffs to participate in what else is around. Another distinctive offering they have is NYS DEC Norrie Point Environmental Education Center where they constantly offer "a variety of activities and events including school programs, lectures, workshops and training for regional professionals making decisions that affect the estuary, and educational canoe programs (<http://parks.ny.gov/parks/171/details.aspx>.) Tivoli Bays is similar to this that they offer water activities;

instead their specialty is canoeing. In order to get people to canoe they offer free canoe trips throughout the summer. In addition to this they have the opportunity for biking on their trails, which is particularly important because most trails do not accommodate cyclists.

One of the most important trails to note is the Appalachian Trail. Although the Appalachian Trail is well known throughout the East Coast it is not well marketed in the Hudson Valley although it passes through, particularly Dutchess County. The Appalachian Trail is protected and owned by National Park Service. In the Hudson Valley portion of the trail the management responsibility is delegated through the Appalachian Trail Conservancy to the NY-NJ Trail Conference

(<http://www.appalachiantrail.org/home/explore-the-trail/explore-by-state/new-york>). What the county could market the trail for is not specifically for hiking but what you can find on the trail that appeals to people, and specifically families. The NY portion of the trail passes through the Trailside Museum and Zoo at Bear Mountain, which we visited on our first field trip to Fort Clinton and Fort Montgomery. Another fact about the trail, which makes it even more enticing to visit that in New York it is lowest elevation point of the Appalachian Trail at 124 feet, which is less intimidating for those who think hiking the trail is difficult.

All of these trails in Dutchess County are beautiful and remarkable in their own ways but they would be nothing without what visitors can find around them. Although the county is filled with great American history and the remnants of them, there are now newer, more modern sights to see, explore and experience while keeping the integrity of the past. Dutchess County additionally offers various unique places to stay, eat, drink and see aside from trails. With over one hundred places of lodging varying from hotel chains to cozy bed and breakfasts there is no excuse not to visit Dutchess County. While visitors are here they can do much more than hike, including visit wineries, breweries, dine at restaurants offering local cuisine, and experience the arts (<http://dutchesstourism.com/>).

Dutchess County begins less than two hours from New York City which makes it the perfect escape from the urban life to the serenity of the wilderness. There are a variety of bed and breakfasts scattered across the county as well as cozy homes that you can rent out for special occasions, most allow

you to bring pets with you as well. Aside from the lodging options there are also a great deal of local restaurants, many of which get their food from local farms which allow organic options including The Enchanted Cafe in Red Hook, NY. So NYC health nuts, and those from all over the world, need not worry about lack of healthy options because there are plenty to choose from! That said, there are also options for people who aren't as health conscious. The town of Rhinebeck is a great place for all types due to their small downtown area filled with different restaurants, shops, and chocolate stores! Essentially, no matter where you wind up in Dutchess County there will always be a variety of options to choose from that fit all different lifestyles and explorer preferences.

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Devin Encalada

Professor Johnson

HIST 218L 111

14 October 2015

Significant Features

There are many significant features to take notice when hiking one of these trails.

Whether it be the structure of the landscape, the accomplishments made by man, or just the scenic views. **Each trail has its own persona that makes it unique and worth going to see.**



Poets Walk Romantic Landscape Trail located near Red Hook is a two mile hike out and back that overlooks the scenic Hudson River. The trail sets up a romantic landscape feeling meant to celebrate the connection between landscape and poetry in the hopes of showing hikers new

ways of appreciating beauty they've never thought to notice before.

With its significant features such as its classic wooden vistas, stone and wooden bridges, or even just its endless paths through mesmerizing grassy fields this path is one that everyone should go visit.



Mount Beacon Park is a 3.5 mile hike out and back making it a jaw dropping 7-mile hike

total located in Beacon, New York. The hike although can be



difficult to some is mostly moderate for many. The trail takes

you on a vertical stretch to the top of mount beacon. **On the**

way hikers will experience many significant features about

the trail including the Mount Beacon Incline Railway which

was the steepest railway in the world during its time, wish

stones, and ruins from the once famous Beacon crest

hotel and casino that burned down in 1927. However,

only if you have the dedication to keep climbing will you

experience **the trails most treasured significant feature**

which is the Mount Beacon Fire Tower. At a staggering

60 ft. tall and a total elevation of 1651 ft. above sea level

the view at the top is said to be so great that you can see 75



miles out and catch views of The Beacon Reservoir and Catskills to your northwest, the

Newburgh-Beacon Bridge and Gunks to the west, and, to the south, the southern Hudson

Highlands and if the weather is permitting even New York City. This trail is surely one not to

miss out on.

Norrie Point Trail is a 5-mile loop trail that is located near Staatsburg, New York. The hike is said to be easy however most people don't come to this trail necessarily for the hike but

rather for the places of interest the trail has to offer. **Places such as Mills Mansion which is an**

elegant country home overlooking the Hudson that is a Staatsburg State Historic Site due

to the fact that it represents a fine example of great architecture that came to be during the Gilded Age (1876 – 1917). Another significant feature is the Norrie Point Environmental Center. The environmental center is a place where families came come and spend some quality time together while visiting exhibits and learning more about the hudson river on a scientific



level. It's a great family activity and a fantastic bonding experience. Norrie Point Trail is more of a stroll than a hike however that not to say that it isn't worth visiting because it does have significant features you can enjoy.

Tivoli Bays Trail is a 5-mile loop trail that is

located near Red



Hook, New York. The

Tivoli Bays hike is filled with numerous ridges and ravines making for an



interesting terrain in

which to hike. Along with hiking this trail is filled with other significant features that make it a big tourist attraction including amazing views, animal watching, bicycling, and even canoeing. **Hikers can canoe the Marsh to small**



secluded islands such as Cruger and Madalene island that are only accessible by boat to make for a really unique experience.

The Appalachian Trail is a very popular interstate hiking trail that goes from Maine to Georgia while cutting through southeastern Dutchess County for 30 miles. Now the Dutchess county portion of the trail while is said to be the low point of the whole trail, meaning that hikers won't be experiencing high altitudes such as in Georgia, that doesn't mean that it isn't strenuous and packed with significant features. The Dutchess County portion is said to be perfect for activities such as backpacking, snowshoeing, camping for multi-day hiking if you're planning on



going the distance, etc. This trail is so popular in fact that it even has its own train stop between New York City and Poughkeepsie. **While on the trail hikers may come across many different interesting sightings including what is known as the “The Dover Oak”.**

The Dover oak is a white oak tree that is said to be about 300 years old and the largest blazed tree on the whole Appalachian Trail. Another interesting feat is the swamp river bridge. **A 1600 boardwalk bridge constructed by volunteers in Dutchess county to make the hiking trip easier for travelers.** Needless to say the Appalachian trail is an amazing experience and should not go unnoticed and neither should the rest of the Dutchess County Trails.



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(This site helped me with the pictures and statistics of the trail)

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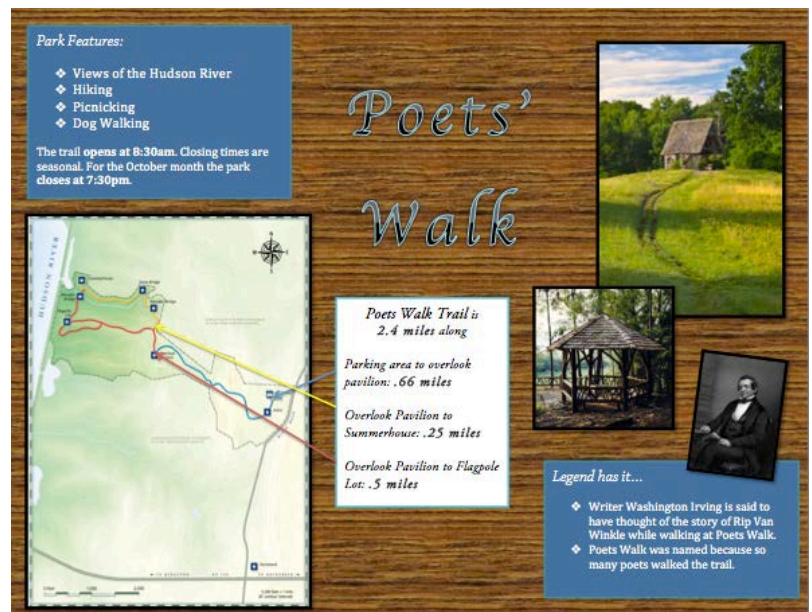
HIST 218L 111

15 December 2015

Interpretive Trail Signs and Dutchess County Logo

Before creating the trail signs, I thought about what each of them needed. I decided that each trail sign should have a map of the trail or the area, and I knew that I wanted each sign to be unique to their area. As you will see, each trail sign is different from the next. From my own experience with hiking, I recalled that, there was typically a map, and some photos of what you will see on the trail. There is also usually rules and regulations, or fun facts about the trail. All of these things I kept in mind as I created each of the trailhead. Trailheads should be informative with facts or rules, or features about the area, creative in a way that reflects the landscape's beauty, and enticing so that the tourist or hiker knows what to expect from the trail and is well informed.

For our first trail Poets' Walk, I knew I wanted to include photos of the beautiful trail, and have a wooden panel background. Having been to the area myself, I know that it is a very woody area, and two of their main features, their

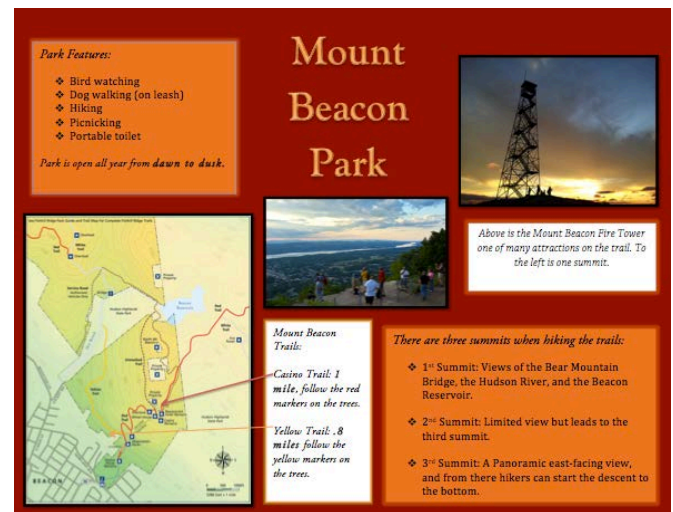


gazebo and archway are made of wood. **For the name of the trail I made it blue to reflect the views of the blue skies, and the views of the Hudson River.** I also included a section for “Legend has it...” because sometimes trails advertise fun facts like that. In this case it had to do

with an iconic writer, Washington Irving. My thinking was that it would appeal to an older population, and anyone who is familiar with the tale of Rip Van Winkle. I also included a map and had arrows to the trails.

For Mount Beacon Park's trailhead, I had a red and orange color scheme. I chose these colors because the park is known for its attraction, the Fire Tower. Therefore I used colors that would be associated with fire. Again for this

trailhead I included a map of the trail, and a picture of the Fire Tower. **I also included a section describing each of the summits because I figured hikers would want to know what the trail was going to look like and be well informed of the points at which there was a break in the trails.** It could also be a way to advertise the trail;

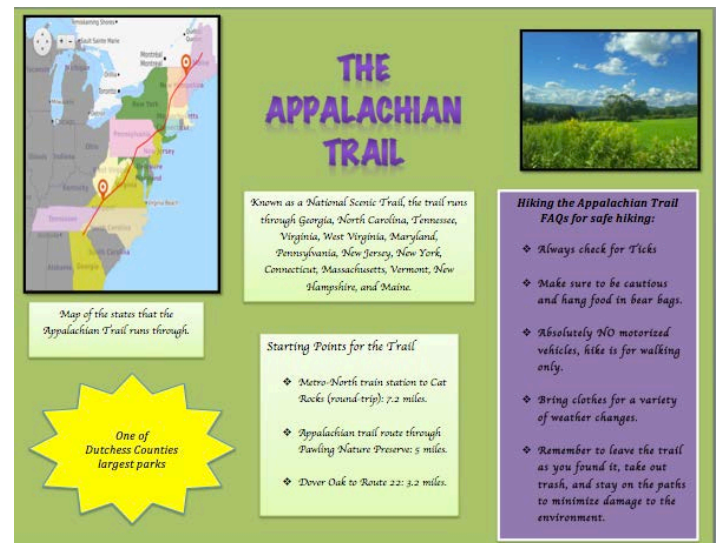
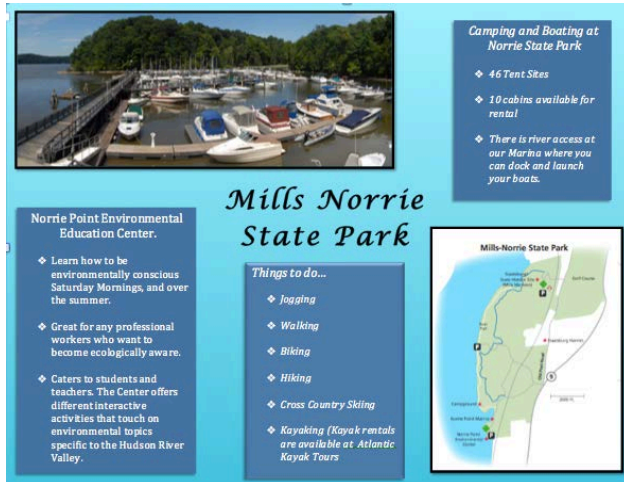


because of its beautiful views. I also included a section for Park Features, and the time that it would be open. I thought those would be important for anyone planning a trip to hike.

For the Appalachian Trail, I had a green and purple color scheme because they are very earthy tones, and the Appalachian is a hike of great magnificence. I also included a section for facts about safe hiking. **Especially on the Appalachian Trail it is important for hikers to know and be prepared for hiking the trail, such as bringing a variety of clothes, and being conscious of food safety in relation to taking proactive steps not to attract animals.** I also

included a map of all of the states that the trail runs through. Included is a section for various starting points of the trail because hikers should know where the entrance points are.

For Mills Norrie State Park I stuck with a very blue scheme, because one of the features



of the park is the Marina. I choose to include

things to do, information about camping and boating, and information about their Environmental Education Center. The environmental center is an important feature because they are being proactive about teaching others to be environmentally aware. **It is a great resource to advertise on the trailhead because it can pertain to teachers or camps that will then bring their students back.** I also included a map of the area, so that hikers and visitors can gain a sense of the land and where things are located.

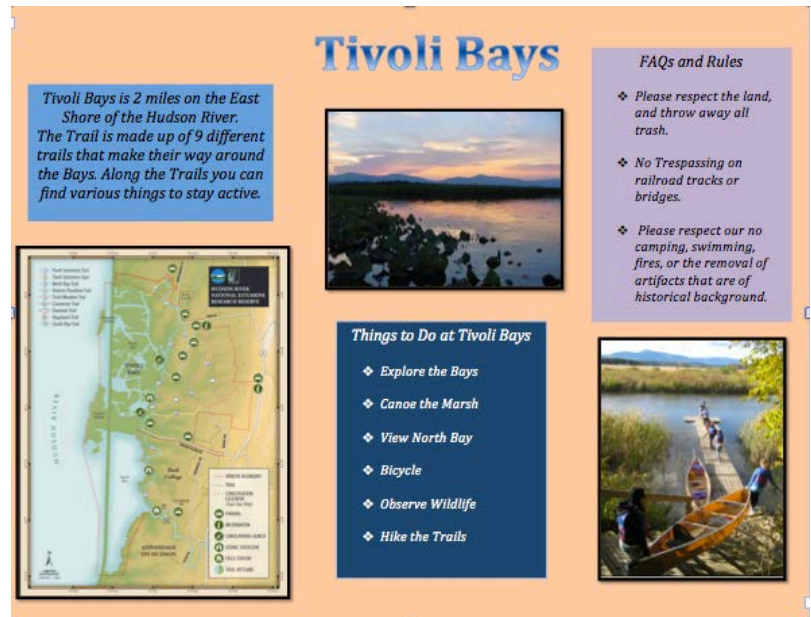
For Tivoli Bays, again I included rules that I felt were important for making sure the trails are safe and hikers are safe. I also included things to do, because I feel that it is important for families who are visiting the area to know what is available for them at Tivoli Bays. The

color scheme for this area was centered on one picture that is a view of the Hudson River from one of the trails. **The sunset ambiance is always a great way to attract hikers to trails, so I designed the board with a combination of blues, purple, and a peach color.** Tivoli Bays also stresses their want for visitors to

keep the area clean and not litter, so I included a section that bequests this of visitors.

The logo found at the top of the page is representative of the Dutchess County logo. **I wanted it to have a picture of nature because that is pivotal to the Hudson River Valley.** The center of the circle is a

picture of mountains and water, and above the picture is Dutchess County in blue letters. Like the trailheads I wanted to incorporate color and meaning. That is why the colors are blue and green for the logo, to reflect the nature aspect of our county and trails. Under the circle is the motto, “Put yourself in the picturesque heart of the Hudson River Valley.” This phrase is incorporated into our thesis statement and is used to entice visitors to come to the Hudson River Valley, and partake in historic Dutchess County.



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