The Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Hamilton Fish Bridge

Franklin Fish

Mid-Term
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Combined Essays

The area between the Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Hamilton Bridge, also known as Franklin Fish, is filled with rich history. Franklin Fish is a beautiful area to visit because of its many historical sites and interactive activities for the entire family to enjoy. This slice of the Mid Hudson River Valley offers a wide variety of historical sites to explore as long as fun family friendly activities that will leave you with a life time of memories.

The Franklin D Roosevelt Bridge is a toll suspension bridge that crosses the Hudson River connecting US 44 and NY 55 in the state of New York. Ralph Modjeski designed the bridge and official construction of the bridge took place in 1925. The bridge officially opened on August 25th 1930. It was then officiated by the governor and Mrs. Roosevelt. This is why the bridge would be renamed the Franklin D Roosevelt Bridge in 1994 In 1983 the site was officially deemed a historic civil engineering landmark. The Hamilton Fish Newburgh-Beacon Bridge is an Articulated Desk Truss Bridge that has two sections and spans across the Hudson River from Newburgh, NY to Beacon, NY. The purpose of building the bridge was to connect the towns of Beacon (Duchess County) and Newburgh (Orange County) in a more convenient way. Construction of the bridge took place in 1961 and it was completed on year later. It was not until 1997 that the bridge was named the Hamilton Fish Newburgh-Beacon Bridge.

The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge connects Poughkeepsie and Highland, while the Hamilton Fish Newburgh Beacon Bridge connects Newburgh and Beacon. Both of the bridges cross the Hudson River. The area between these bridges consists of three counties: Dutchess, Ulster and Orange County. In 1683, the Province of New York established twelve counties, one being Dutchess. The boundaries included the present Putnam County and a portion of Columbia County. Dutchess County was named after Mary of Modena, the Duchess of New York. Until 1713, the county was administered by Ulster County. The settlers consisted of Dutch, German and New Englanders.
They settled along the Fishkill River and in areas now known as Poughkeepsie and Rhinebeck due to easy trading and fertile land for farming. In 1812, Putnam County was detached from Dutchess. The area between the Hamilton Fish Newburgh Beacon Bridge and the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge has historical significance based on its geography and location. Settlers used the area’s resources for survival and advanced in trading and farming. Today, this land is recognized between two important bridges that is a key for transportation in New York State.

There is a great array of historical and family activities located between these two bridges. Some of the historic sites include the Wappinger’s falls historic district, Locust grove, and the Gomez Mill House. They also have interactive activities for the family such as Dubois Farms and Splash Down allowing the history to come to life and leaving the children begging to go back soon. This is a wonderful place to visit as the Hudson River Valley takes so much pride in maintaining the historical landmarks in the area.

It is very easy to find these wonderful sites because of the Highway signs for directions. Signs are located along the highways and busy roads, directing tourists to historic and iconic attractions in the area. The signs are strategically located to best guide those who are looking for a place to spot. The bright colors of the signs allow drivers to easily notice and read them, making for a quick and easy drive. Along with these road mark signs different interpretive signs are located outside of the different sites allowing visitors to glance and easily understand the historical importance of the place they are about to enter. These signs will briefly describe the history and what the land or home is used for now. The signs are made to be intriguing leaving the tourist to be curious and interested enough to venture into the different locations.

The area of Franklin Fish is a must see spot to visit. It is filled with historical gems that are tucked around the area waiting to be explored. The captivating beauty of the Hudson River is just the start of what Franklin Fish has to offer. Come and discover the history of the land and have a fun filled time while you do it.
Franklin Delano Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge

The FDR bridge or officially named Franklin Delano Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge is a toll suspension bridge across the Hudson River connecting US 44 and NY 55 in the state of New York. It is located in the beautiful Hudson valley creating great views. The towns it connects are Poughkeepsie and Highland. The FDR bridge was officially starting construction in after the proposal by J. Grisworld Webb and John M. Hackett of the state legislation in 1923. At this juncture there wasn’t many forms of traveling in certain areas. The Holland Tunnel located in Manhattan was currently being constructed as well as the Bear Mountain Bridge in Westchester County. The Governor at the time, Alfred E. Smith signed off the bridge for about $200,000. Then, 66,000 tons were stuck into the riverbed in several spots, next the 315-foot tall gothic steel towers were constructed in April 1929. Ralph Modjeski designed the bridge and made it perfect. When the bridge was first created it was recognized as the most beautiful suspension bridge in this part of the country, which is a huge honor. Getting a reward like that made the people of the surrounding towns happy to have it as a landmark. The opening day was on August 25th 1930; it was then officiated by the governor and Mrs. Roosevelt as well as many other important people in the area. Mrs. Smith was responsible for cutting the ribbon on one side while Mrs. Roosevelt cut it on the other. On the opening day 12,000 automobiles and 30,000 pedestrians crossed the bridge for free for the first time. Three years after the grand opening of the bridge, 1933, the ownership was transferred to the New York State Bridge Authority. The bridge provides two lanes of traffic on lane in each direction across the Hudson and also provides a walkway for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The bridge also had to withstand post war traffic needs, which was
difficult at first. More people occupied the road in the post war era so it had to be made to with stand increasing traffic loads. It was then altered to meet the needs. They widened it from two lanes to three as well as a third tollbooth constructed. The middle lane is used for whichever side the traffic is heavier. On August 24th 1980 the bridge celebrated its 50th anniversary. In 1983, the American Society of Civil Engineers honored FDR Mid-Hudson as a New York State Historic Civil Engineering Land Mark. This was a big deal for the bridge. In 1994, the bridge was renamed the “Franklin D. Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge in order of the former Governor. Now it is referred to as many different names such as the FDR Bridge or Mid-Hudson Bridge or the official name. It is a beautiful bridge that overlooks the entire Hudson. The Bridge now has an E-Z pass collection system to eliminate rush hours and traffic. They continue to have anniversaries and celebrate the bridges history and its importance.
The Hamilton Fish Bridge

The Hamilton Fish Newburgh-Beacon Bridge is an Articulated Desk Truss Bridge that spans across the Hudson River from Newburgh, NY to Beacon, NY.\(^1\) The bridge consists of two twin bridges, one that consists of an east-bound double lane and another that consists of a west bound double lane.\(^1\) The purpose of building the bridge was to connect the towns of Beacon (Duchess County) and Newburgh (Orange County) in a more convenient way.\(^2\) Prior to the opening of the bridge, the quickest way to cross the river from the Beacon side to Newburgh side of the Hudson was by way of ferry.

The ferry had been an important part of the Hudson River Valley as it has served its community for three centuries starting in 1743.\(^2\) The ferry also played a huge part in the Revolutionary War because it aided General George Washington and the American troops whenever they crossed the Hudson River from the Newburgh side to the Beacon side and vise versa.\(^1\) Ferry service between Newburgh and Beacon ended upon the first bridges opening. However, ferry service between the two cities re-started once again in 2005. The ferry continues to operate into the present day.\(^1\)

Construction on the bridge began in March 1961 and was overseen by the New York State Bridge Authority.\(^1\) It took a little over a year to complete the bridge before it opened to the public on November 2 1962.\(^2\) Upon its completion, the bridge was named the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge\(^1\). It spanned 7,855 feet\(^2\) and had cost $19, 500,000 to build.\(^1\) By 1980, although only 18 years old at the
time, the bridge was in need of repairs. Some of the improvements that the bridge underwent included widened, strengthened as well as repainting.\textsuperscript{1} In addition to repairs to the original bridge, there also became a need for construction of a second bridge as the first bridge was becoming congested with 25,000 vehicles using the two lane bridge on a daily basis.\textsuperscript{1} In 1976, construction on the second bridge began. The bridge was completed within four years and opened to the public on November 1 1980, almost 18 years to the date that the original bridge was opened.\textsuperscript{2} When the second bridge opened, it spanned longer then the first bridge at 7,789 feet.\textsuperscript{1} Overall, it cost $93,600,000 to build the second bridge making it more expensive to build then the first bridge.\textsuperscript{1} A year after its opening in 1981, a bicycle and pedestrian crossing opened on the second bridge.\textsuperscript{1} In 1997 the bridge was renamed the Hamilton-Fish Newburgh Beacon Bridge in honor of the Fish family.\textsuperscript{2} Today, the Newburgh-Fish Bridge is still owned by the New York State Bridge Authority and is the organizations most traveled bridge, carrying 25 million people per year.\textsuperscript{1}

Interpretive Sign

One of the first interpretive signs I made was for Wappinger’s Falls Historic District. I specifically focused on the Grinnell Library. The sign I made consists of a picture of the library (present day). The picture of the library gives off the impression that it is a nice cozy place on the corner of the street where people like to go to relax and do their work. The historic appearance to the place will make people question its history and the ancient books it stores. With just one quick glance at the photo, you can already tell that the library has a past, which adds on to the mystery and peoples curiosity. I believe that this was a great picture to choose as an interpretive sign because it clearly represents Wappinger’s Falls and its old town. The creative makings of a sign will draw people’s attention in and make learning about historical events a pleasant experience.

The purpose of this interpretive sign is to help people understand the many great historic sites that Wappinger’s Falls has to offer. Not only can you learn about the town’s history, but also the fun activities and events it has to offer during the week and special holidays. Another purpose for having interpretive signs around the town is to help people pick up interesting and fun facts in a quick and easy way. The use of a tour guide might be the ideal way to obtain information but signs can do the same thing and are much cheaper and less time consuming. The sign that I made for the Grinnell Library includes the following information: Grinnell Library is a great place for children and adults to come and learn about the history of the area, the library offers fun activities for kids such as arts and crafts, reading sessions, and interesting educational videos, Lastly, I included one fun fact, Grinnell Library is home of the 6th oldest library in New York.

Depending on how much your sign stands out, people will be craving to see more. A visitor
would most likely want to further explore an area if he or she saw colorful, photo-filled and bold lettered signs rather than plain, boring and small lettered signs. The most exciting aspect about going to an unknown place is learning about its history through the signs you read, people you talk to, and cultural things you observe while there. The sign that I made for the Wappinger’s Falls Historic District is only one example of the many more signs to come. I hope to include interpretive signs about the Mesier Homestead Museum, The Orchards, the Village Diner, the Van Wyck Homestead Museum, Locust Grove and Fishkill’s First Reformed Church. The signs for these sights will be just as great as the one I made for the Grinnell Library. I hope to make each individual sign with a creative look and incorporate interesting facts that will keep visitors and locals entertained.

Grinnell Library
Come learn about one of Wappinger’s greatest historical sites!

- Grinnell Library is a great place for children and adults to come and learn about the history of the area.
- The library offers fun activities for kids such as arts and crafts, reading sessions, and interesting educational videos.
- Fun Fact: Grinnell Library is home of the 6th oldest library in New York.
Highway Signs

The historic sites and iconic attractions in our section of the Hudson Valley will be of no use if no guests can find them. Aside from the locals, many people could potentially have a very hard time finding a location to go to, or simply cannot find where the location they have in mind is. For each of our sites, there will be signs located along highways and busy roads directing tourists to these educational and entertaining attractions throughout the area.

Many things need to be kept in mind when designing each of these highway signs. First, the guests will need to be able to spot these signs while driving fifty miles an hour. To ensure these signs are seen, they will be brightly colored to ensure they will be spotted easily and will have simple graphics that can be quickly recognized. While driving fifty miles an hour, the guests will be able to read these signs due to the fact that they contain large, bold fonts and that the physical size of them is large enough. These signs will also be strategically located at important intersections and locations alongside the road to prevent the guests from going the wrong way and getting lost. Signs will also be located near rest stops and gas stations since many guests may be traveling long distances to our area. Specific locations of these signs are still to come.

The first sign made, for the Wappinger’s Fall Historic District will direct our guests to this quaint little town filled with historic facts and activities. With over 130 attractions in this little area, you could not possibly direct people to every single site. So instead, we will use one umbrella sign that will cover the entire area and direct them to the center of town. Once they reach the center of town they can explore this historic area on their own and with the assistance of the interpretive signs located at each site acting as their tour guide. The sign we have created contains an image of a brightly colored red
cottage. This bold color will stand out on the side of the road and the phrase, “follow the signs” will let the guests know exactly what to do and where to go. The signs for the remaining sights in the area will follow this pattern and the same requirements will be met to help our guests have a positive, educational, and entertaining experience in the Hudson Valley area.
The History of the Area

The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge connects Poughkeepsie and Highland, while the Hamilton Fish Newburgh Beacon Bridge connects Newburgh and Beacon. Both of the bridges cross the Hudson River. The area between these bridges consists of three counties: Dutchess, Ulster and Orange County.

Dutchess County is located in southeastern New York State, between the Hudson River at west, and the New York-Connecticut border at east. It contains two cities: Beacon and Poughkeepsie. It’s main geographical features are the Hudson Highlands and the Taconic Mountains, being that most of the terrain is hilly. The flatter areas are along the river. The highest point of Dutchess County is the peak of Brace Mountain in the Taconics and the lowest point is at sea level of the Hudson River (Diana, 1). In 1683, the Province of New York established twelve counties, one being Dutchess. The boundaries included the present Putnam County and a portion of Columbia County. Dutchess County was named after Mary of Modena, the Duchess of New York. Until 1713, the county was administered by Ulster County. The settlers consisted of Dutch, German and New Englanders. They settled along the Fishkill River and in areas now known as Poughkeepsie and Rhinebeck due to easy trading and fertile land for farming. In 1812, Putnam County was detached from Dutchess (Diana, 1).

Ulster County is located in the Mid-Hudson Region of New York State, south of Albany, and directly west of the Hudson River. The county is within the Catskill Mountains and the Shawangunk Ridge. It’s main landmarks are the Minnewaska State Park, Mohonk Perserve, Sundown State Park, and several forests. The highest point of Ulster County is Slide Mountain and the lowest point is at sea level of the Hudson River. The “county seat” is the city of Kingston (UCHC, 1). As a part of the New
York Metropolitan area, Ulster County is named after the Irish province, Ulster. When the Dutch settled in this area it was called Esopus, a part of the New Netherland Colony. Thomas Chambers, a freeholder, purchased land and began trading in 1652. Evidence of the first permanent settlement was revealed by Johan de Hulter, Christoffel Davids, and Jacob Jansen Stoll in 1654. The supplies used for their survival was shown in the village of Wiltwijck, now known as Kingston. Like Dutchess County, Ulster County was also one of the twelve founding boundaries of the Duke of New York’s province (UCHC, 1). In 1777, Kingston was named the first state capital of the independent New York, however was later moved to Kerhonkson. Over the years, the county was broken down and renamed areas to different counties, however Ulster County still exists today!

Orange County is located in southeastern New York State, directly north of the New Jersey-New York border, west of the Hudson River, east of the Delaware River and northwest of New York City. Orange County is the only county in New York State that borders both the Hudson and Delaware Rivers. It was named after William III of Orange, who was strongly recognized by the English settlers of the region (Lynn, 1). Alike Dutchess and Ulster, Orange County was one of the twelve first counties established by the Province of New York in 1683. At that time, the boundaries included present day Rockland County, which split following the American Revolution in 1798. Orange County had a very small population, which caused other counties to share their governmental functions until they became independent. In 1703, public buildings were built, but it wasn't until 1801 where a court was established and an independent government came about. There was a strong dispute between the State of New York and New Jersey over boundary issues of Orange County. Due to the conflict, many of the southern towns were not established until the 1800s. The highest point of Orange County is at Schunemunk Mountain and the lowest point is at sea level along the Hudson River. The Great Valley of the Appalachians opens up and ends in Orange County. (Lynn, 2). The land along the Rockland County border and south of Newburgh is part of the Hudson Highlands. The land in between is the valley of the Wallkill River. In the southern portion of the county, the Wallkill Valley
expands into a wide glacial lake known as the Black Dirt Region for its fertility.

The area between the Hamilton Fish Newburgh Beacon Bridge and the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge has historical significance based on its geography and location. Settlers used the area’s resources for survival and advanced in trading and farming. Today, this land is recognized between two important bridges that is a key for transportation in New York State.

Works Cited


The Sites

The area between Hamilton Fish to Franklin D. Roosevelt Bridge (or Franklin Fish) contains many historic sites including the Wappinger’s falls historic district, Locust grove, and the Gomez Mill House. They also have interactive activities for the family such as Dubois Farms and Splash Down allowing the history to come to life and leaving the children begging to go back soon. Wappinger’s Falls Historic District is a 90-acre area along Main Street. This District includes many historic sites such as the Grinnell Library and the Messier Brewer House. The Grinnell Library was started by Irving Grinnell and built in 1887. He came from a prosperous family and wanted to bring an opportunity to become educated with books at an affordable membership of one dollar a year (History of the Library). The Locust Grove is a historic estate, museum, and nature preserve. The home was designed in 1850 and offers 15,000 pieces of furniture, paintings, and pieces of art from the late 1800’s. After touring the home and exploring the fascinating architecture it is time to stand in awe over the captivating rolling hills and vista. This garden was inspired by the romantic 19th century and is now offered as a place of tranquility and history. Lastly, stop by the Morse and Locust grove to look at original portraits of the Morse and Young family even look at one of the first Morse Code Machines (Locust Grove).

Regardless of your religion it is important to stop by the Gomez Mill House. This is the oldest Jewish dwelling in North America. The home belonged to the Gomez family who had fled with his family from the Spanish inquisition. This beautiful home is along Jews Creek and has been impeccably kept up and has several of the original fireplaces and stonewalls from the 1700s (Gomez Mill House an American Treasure). After spending a day at a museum it is time to take them on a fun adventure to Splash Down! This water park is perfect after a long hot day of walking around and exploring parks.
This wonderful cool down spot offers dozens of water slides, lazy river, and even slides for younger children (Attractions). If a water park is out of the question a short trip across the FDR Bridge brings you right to the Dubois Farm. This spot of land offers many free family activities such as apple picking, pony rides, and hay rides. If munching on those freshly picked apples is not satisfying your hunger grab some barbeque at one of the farm stands and enjoy a homemade pulled pork sandwich (Pick it Yourself). The area of Franklin Fish is the perfect place to travel and explore with your family. It offers a land filled with history and beauty.

Works Cited


The Hudson History Hunters

Midterm Project

Presentation

Franklin Delano Roosevelt to Hamilton Fish Bridge

http://caitlynborzone.wix.com/hudsonhistoryhunters
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The Franklin D Roosevelt Bridge is a toll suspension bridge that crosses the Hudson River connecting US 44 and NY 55 in the state of New York. Ralph Modjeski designed the bridge and official construction of the bridge took place in 1925. The bridge officially opened on August 25th 1930. It was then officiated by the governor and Mrs. Roosevelt. This is why the bridge would be renamed the Franklin D Roosevelt Bridge in 1994. In 1983 the site was officially deemed a historic civil engineering landmark. The Hamilton Fish Newburgh-Beacon Bridge is an Articulated Desk Truss Bridge that has two sections and spans across the Hudson River from Newburgh, NY to Beacon, NY. The purpose of building the bridge was to connect the towns of Beacon (Duchess County) and Newburgh (Orange County) in a more convenient way. Construction of the bridge took place in 1961 and it was completed on year later. It was not until 1997 that the bridge was named the Hamilton Fish Newburgh-Beacon Bridge.

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area between the Hamilton Fish Newburgh Beacon Bridge and the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge has historical significance based on its geography and location. Settlers used the area’s resources for survival and advanced in trading and farming. Today, this land is recognized between two important bridges that is a key for transportation in New York State.

There is a great array of historical and family activities located between these two bridges. Some of the historic sites include the Wappinger’s falls historic district, Locust grove, the Gomez Mill House, Springside, Van Wyck Homestead Museum, Wappinger’s Falls Historic District, and Mesier Park and Homestead Museum. They also have interactive activities for the family such as Dubois Farms and Splash Down allowing the history to come to life and leaving the children begging to go back soon. After exploring the social media that these sites have to offer I found that it was not well developed if even existent at all. I decided to make a facebook page for the area of Franklin- Fish where people can look online and view the different sites of the area and comment on reviews and make comments. This is a wonderful place to visit as the Hudson River Valley takes so much pride in maintaining the historical landmarks in the area.

It is very easy to find these wonderful sites because of the Highway signs for directions. Signs are located along the highways and busy roads, directing tourists to historic and iconic attractions in the area. The signs are strategically located to best guide those who are looking for a place to spot. The purpose of an interpretive sign is to communicate specific information to local residents or visitors. The signs usually include descriptions and pictures of an area you are about to explore. The creative makings of a sign will draw people’s attention in and especially make learning about historical events a more pleasant experience. The bright colors of the signs allow drivers to easily notice and read them, making for a quick and easy drive. Along with these road mark signs different interpretive signs are located outside of the different sites allowing visitors to glance and easily understand the historical importance of the place they are about to enter. These signs will briefly describe the history and what
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The Hamilton Fish Bridge

The Hamilton Fish Newburgh-Beacon Bridge is an Articulated Desk Truss Bridge that spans across the Hudson River from Newburgh, NY to Beacon, NY. The bridge consists of two twin bridges, one that consists of an east-bound double lane and another that consists of a west bound double lane. The purpose of building the bridge was to connect the towns of Beacon (Duchess County) and Newburgh (Orange County) in a more convenient way. Prior to the opening of the bridge, the quickest way to cross the river from the Beacon side to Newburgh side of the Hudson was by way of ferry.

The ferry had been an important part of the Hudson River Valley as it has served its community for three centuries starting in 1743. The ferry also played a huge part in the Revolutionary War because it aided General George Washington and the American troops whenever they crossed the Hudson River from the Newburgh side to the Beacon side and vise versa. Ferry service between Newburgh and Beacon ended upon the first bridges opening. However, ferry service between the two cities re-started once again in 2005. The ferry continues to operate into the present day.

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time, the bridge was in need of repairs. Some of the improvements that the bridge underwent included widened, strengthened as well as repainting. In addition to repairs to the original bridge, there also became a need for construction of a second bridge as the first bridge was becoming congested with 25,000 vehicles using the two lane bridge on a daily basis. In 1976, construction on the second bridge began. The bridge was completed within four years and opened to the public on November 1 1980, almost 18 years to the date that the original bridge was opened. When the second bridge opened, it spanned longer then the first bridge at 7,789 feet. Overall, it cost $93,600,000 to build the second bridge making it more expensive to build then the first bridge. A year after its opening in 1981, a bicycle and pedestrian crossing opened on the second bridge. In 1997 the bridge was renamed the Hamilton-Fish Newburgh Beacon Bridge in honor of the Fish family. Today, the Newburgh-Fish Bridge is still owned by the New York State Bridge Authority and is the organizations most traveled bridge, carrying 25 million people per year.

Interpretive Sign

The purpose of an interpretive sign is to communicate specific information to local residents or visitors. The signs usually include descriptions and pictures of an area you are about to explore. The creative makings of a sign will draw people’s attention in and especially make learning about historical events a more pleasant experience. The five historic sites that I made signs for pertain to my area in the Hudson River Valley (Hamilton Fish to FDR). I made signs for the following sites: Mesier park and homestead, Locust Grove, Springside, Gomez Mill house, and the Van Wyck Homestead Museum. For the two recreational sites, I chose to make signs for SplashDown Beach and DuBois Farm.

The first sign I created was for Mesier Park and Homestead. On the sign I included some of the following information: Mesier Homestead Museum is a great place to go to learn about the Mesier family history and the Wappingers Falls area, Mesier Park offers the public many fun and exciting events to attend, the Bandstand located on the front lawn is used throughout the year and holds many concerts, Christmas tree lighting ceremonies, weddings and photo shoots (Mesier Park and Homestead). This sign is quit informative and highlights all the fun activities there is do to at this location.

Another purpose for having interpretive signs at a specific site is to help people pick up interesting facts in a quick and easy way. The use of a tour guide might be the ideal way to obtain information but signs can do the same thing and are much cheaper and less time consuming. The second sign I made was for Locust Grove. The sign includes some of the following information: Locust Grove overlooks the beautiful Hudson River, the estate’s property includes carriage roads, landscaped grounds, and historic gardens, Locust Grove is an independent not-for-profit museum and nature
preserve (Locust Grove).

Depending on how much your sign stands out, people will be craving to see more. A visitor would most likely want to further explore an area if he or she saw colorful, photo-filled and bold lettered signs rather than plain, boring and small lettered signs. The third sign I made was for Springside and for this sign I used a bright picture of trees and shrubs that clearly represent the area. On the sign I included some of the following information: Springside is a National Historic Landmark. It is a 20-acre landscape that was the home of Matthew Vassar (SPRINGSIDE). Some activities that visitors can do while they are here is explore the trail and write about the nature and wildlife. The fourth sign I made was for the Gomez Mills House. I included some of the following information on the sign: Luis Moses Gomez built the Gomez Mill’s house in 1714, the mission of the home is to preserve the house and historic site, the Mill’s house offers tours and programs that aim at educating the public on the history of the Hudson River Valley and the role that Jewish people played as innovators in America (Gomez Mill House). The last historic sign I made was for the Van Wyck Homestead Museum. I included key points such as Van Wyck’s homestead museum is known for being the supply depot site for the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, leaders such as, George Washington, Marquis de Lafayette, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay visited Van Wyck’s home to conduct business (Van Wyck Homestead Museum).

The last two signs I made were for SplashDown Beach and DuBois Farm. The signs show all the fun activities one can participate in when visiting the Hudson River Valley. Both signs are very creative and give off a good vibe. The most exciting aspect about going to an unknown place is learning about its history through the signs you read, people you talk to, and cultural things you observe while there… I believe that I made each individual sign with a creative look and incorporated interesting facts that will keep visitors and even the locals entertained.
DuBois Farms is located in Highland New York. It is voted best pick-your-own in the Mid-Hudson Valley. The farm allows people to pick from a variety of fruits and vegetables.

Fruits and vegetables offered: Nectarines, plums, apples, pears, peaches, grapes, tomatoes, eggplant, and pumpkins.

The farm also has a farm market, café and bakery.

http://www.duboisfarms.com

Bibliography


Highway Signs

The historic sites and iconic attractions in our section of the Hudson Valley will be of no use if no guests can find them. Aside from the locals, many people could potentially have a very hard time finding a location to go to, or simply cannot find where the location they have in mind is. For each of our sites, there will be signs located along highways and busy roads directing tourists to these educational and entertaining attractions throughout the area.

Many things need to be kept in mind when designing each of these highway signs. First, the guests will need to be able to spot these signs while driving fifty miles an hour. To ensure these signs are seen, they will be brightly colored to ensure they will be spotted easily and will have simple graphics that can be quickly recognized. While driving fifty miles an hour, the guests will be able to read these signs due to the fact that they contain large, bold fonts and that the physical size of them is large enough. These signs will also be strategically located at important intersections and locations alongside the road to prevent the guests from going the wrong way and getting lost. Signs will also be located near rest stops and gas stations since many guests may be traveling long distances to our area. Specific locations of these signs are still to come.

Each sign created used an actual photo of the site which was edited in Photoshop. The title of the site is clearly defined on the top of the sign and the phrase, “follow the signs” can be found on almost every one. Each sign can be found on the website along with their prospective locations along major roads and intersections. Here are some of the signs I have created:
Locust Grove
Follow the Signs

Dubois Farm
Follow the Signs

Gomez Mill House
Follow the Signs

SpashDown Beach
Follow the Signs
The History of the Area

The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge connects Poughkeepsie and Highland, while the Hamilton Fish Newburgh Beacon Bridge connects Newburgh and Beacon. Both of the bridges cross the Hudson River. The area between these bridges consists of three counties: Dutchess, Ulster and Orange County.

Dutchess County is located in southeastern New York State, between the Hudson River at west, and the New York-Connecticut border at east. It contains two cities: Beacon and Poughkeepsie. Its main geographical features are the Hudson Highlands and the Taconic Mountains, being that most of the terrain is hilly. The flatter areas are along the river. The highest point of Dutchess County is the peak of Brace Mountain in the Taconics and the lowest point is at sea level of the Hudson River (Diana, 1). In 1683, the Province of New York established twelve counties, one being Dutchess. The boundaries included the present Putnam County and a portion of Columbia County. Dutchess County was named after Mary of Modena, the Duchess of New York. Until 1713, the county was administered by Ulster County. The settlers consisted of Dutch, German and New Englanders. They settled along the Fishkill River and in areas now known as Poughkeepsie and Rhinebeck due to easy trading and fertile land for farming. In 1812, Putnam County was detached from Dutchess (Diana, 1). Franklin Delano Roosevelt grew up in Hyde Park overlooking the Hudson River. The house still remains today and has become a historical site. He lived at this location with his family and his mother for his entire life, aside from her terms in office. He is buried on the grounds of his household along with his wife. The first Presidential Library was built next to his home that contains books, letters and other primary sources from his
Ulster County is located in the Mid-Hudson Region of New York State, south of Albany, and directly west of the Hudson River. The county is within the Catskill Mountains and the Shawangunk Ridge. It’s main landmarks are the Minnewaska State Park, Mohonk Perserve, Sundown State Park, and several forests. The highest point of Ulster County is Slide Mountain and the lowest point is at sea level of the Hudson River. The “county seat” is the city of Kingston (UCHC, 1). As a part of the New York Metropolitan area, Ulster County is named after the Irish province, Ulster. When the Dutch settled in this area it was called Esopus, a part of the New Netherland Colony. Thomas Chambers, a freeholder, purchased land and began trading in 1652. Evidence of the first permanent settlement was revealed by Johan de Hulter, Christoffel Davids, and Jacob Jansen Stoll in 1654. The supplies used for their survival was shown in the village of Wiltwijck, now known as Kingston. Like Dutchess County, Ulster County was also one of the twelve founding boundaries of the Duke of New York’s province (UCHC, 1). In 1777, Kingston was named the first state capital of the independent New York, however it was later changed to Kerhonkson. Over the years, the county was broken down and renamed areas to different counties, however Ulster County still exists today!

Orange County is located in southeastern New York State, directly north of the New Jersey-New York border, west of the Hudson River, east of the Delaware River and northwest of New York City. Orange County is the only county in New York State that borders both the Hudson and Delaware Rivers. It was named after William III of Orange, who was strongly recognized by the English settlers of the region (Lynn, 1). Like Dutchess and Ulster, Orange County was one of the twelve first counties established by the Province of New York in 1683. At that time, the boundaries included present day Rockland County, which split following the American Revolution in 1798. Orange County had a very small population, which caused other counties to share their governmental functions until they became independent. In 1703, public buildings were built, but it wasn't until 1801 where a court was
established and an independent government came about. There was a strong dispute between the State of New York and New Jersey over boundary issues of Orange County. Due to the conflict, many of the southern towns were not established until the 1800s. The highest point of Orange County is at Schunemunk Mountain and the lowest point is at sea level along the Hudson River.

The Great Valley of the Appalachians opens up and ends in Orange County. (Lynn, 2). The land along the Rockland County border and south of Newburgh is part of the Hudson Highlands. The land in between is the valley of the Wallkill River. In the southern portion of the county, the Wallkill Valley expands into a wide glacial lake known as the Black Dirt Region for its fertility.

The area between the Hamilton Fish Newburgh Beacon Bridge and the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge has historical significance based on its geography and location. Settlers used the area’s resources for survival and advanced in trading and farming. Today, this land is recognized between two important bridges that is a key for transportation in New York State.

Works Cited


The Sites

The area between Hamilton Fish to Franklin D. Roosevelt Bridge (or Franklin Fish) contains many historic sites including the Wappinger’s falls historic district, Locust grove, the Gomez Mill House, Springside, Van Wyck Homestead Museum, Wappingers Falls Historic District, and Mesier Park and Homestead Museum. They also have interactive activities for the family such as Dubois Farms and Splash Down allowing the history to come to life and leaving the children begging to go back soon. After exploring the social media that these sites have to offer I found that it was not well developed if even existent at all. I decided to make a facebook page for the area of Franklin-Fish where people can look online and view the different sites of the area and comment on reviews and make comments. Wappinger’s Falls Historic District is a 90-acre area along Main Street. This District includes many historic sites such as the Grinnell Library and the Messier Brewer House. The Locust Grove is a historic estate, museum, and nature preserve. The home was designed in 1850 and offers 15,000 pieces of furniture, paintings, and pieces of art from the late 1800’s. After touring the home and exploring the fascinating architecture it is time to stand in awe over the captivating rolling hills and vista. This garden was inspired by the romantic 19th century and is now offered as a place of tranquility and history. Lastly, stop by the Morse and Locust grove to look at original portraits of the Morse and Young family even look at one of the first Morse Code Machines (Locust Grove). Regardless of your religion it is important to stop by the Gomez Mill House. This is the oldest Jewish dwelling in North America. The home belonged to the Gomez family who had fled with his family from the Spanish inquisition. This beautiful home is along Jews Creek and has been impeccably kept up and has several
of the original fireplaces and stonewalls from the 1700s (Gomez Mill House an American Treasure). After spending a day at a museum it is time to take them on a fun adventure to Splash Down! This water park is perfect after a long hot day of walking around and exploring parks. This wonderful cool down spot offers dozens of water slides, lazy river, and even slides for younger children (Attractions). If a water park is out of the question a short trip across the FDR Bridge brings you right to the Dubois Farm. This spot of land offers many free family activities such as apple picking, pony rides, and hay rides. If munching on those freshly picked apples is not satisfying your hunger grab some barbeque at one of the farm stands and enjoy a homemade pulled pork sandwich (Pick it Yourself). The area of Franklin Fish is the perfect place to travel and explore with your family. It offers a land filled with history and beauty.

Works Cited


The Hudson History Hunters

Final Project

Presentation

Franklin Delano Roosevelt to Hamilton Fish Bridge

http://caitlynborzone.wix.com/hudsonhistoryhunters
August 1, 2013

36 Hours in the Hudson
By Alex Valvano

Need a weekend getaway this summer? The Hudson River Valley is truly the perfect place to visit during the summer. The region spans from the Northern part of Westchester County to Rensselaer County, NY. The region is known for being the home of the beautiful Hudson River as well as many historical sites, beautiful forests, farms, suburban homes as well as factory sites. The region is also known for its rich local history dating back to Henry Hudson’s exploration of the Hudson River. For one weekend 36 hour period only (Fri-Sun), drive or take the Metro-North Railroad from New York’s Grand Central Station to New Hamburg and experience a weekend filled with history, culture and beauty and fun.

Day 1: Friday
Dinner in Wappingers Falls

5PM—Leave the office early and drive or and catch a Train to Wappinger Falls via New Hamburg Train Station from Grand Central Terminal (NYC). Upon your arrival, wine and dine in one of Wappinger Falls best Resturants, Aroma Oyster(http://www.aromaosteriarestaurant.com/Aroma_Osteria/Dinner_Menu_Aroma_Osteria_Fine_Dining_Authentic_Italian_Cuisine.html). Aroma Oyster opened in the late 1990’s. At the time, it was the first restaurant in the Hudson River Valley that introduced Italian Cuisine to the general population. Their delicious dinner menu incudes the Salmone Alla Grilia composed of Grilled Atlantic Salmon and served over an Arugula and plum tomato salad ($24.95). The menu also includes the delicious Fusilli Alla Melenzane ($18.95)-Fusilli tossed in a light tomato basil sauce with eggplant and smoked mozzarella. Their desert menu includes the delicious Torta Di Mela ($8.95)-a warm apple cake served with a scoop of vanilla bean gelato drizzled with a rum carmel sauce and the Torta Di Cioccolato Fondente ($8.95)-A Perugina Bittersweet Chocolate Cake Served with fresh whipped cream and raspberry sauce. You can call and make reservations at 845-298-6790.

A Night Out On The Town
7PM—Need to walk off that dinner? Take a drive to beautiful Main Street in Fishkill, located only 8 minutes away from Wappingers Falls and walk around town! Still hungry from that big dinner? There is a Frozeberry frozen yogurt shop located at 6 Broad Street just off of Main Street. Their menu consists of delicious frozen yogurt and ice cream. Visitors have the opportunity to top their dishes with seasonal fruits consisting of Blackberries, Blueberries, Kiwi, Mango, Papaya, Pineapple, and Strawberries. In additions, visitors can top their servings with syrups such as honey, melba and peanut butter and mix dry toppings such as lucky charms and peanut M&M’s for more information visit
Driving Directions from Aroma Oyster to Downtown Fishkill, NY

1. Head **north** on **Old Post Rd** toward **U.S. 9 N** 0.1 mi
2. Turn right onto **U.S. 9 N** 427 ft
3. Take the 1st left onto **County Rd 28/Old Hopewell Rd** 49 ft
4. Turn left onto **U.S. 9 S** 3.1 mi
5. Slight left onto **Main St** 0.1 mi
6. Turn right onto **Old Main St** 495 ft
7. Turn right onto **Elm St** 328 ft
8. Take the 1st right onto **U.S. 9 N** 0.1 mi

**Arrive Fishkill, NY**

Driving Directions from Downtown Fishkill, NY To The Towne Inn Fishkill

**Depart:** **Main Street, Fishkill, NY**

1. Head **southwest** on **NY-52 W/Main St** toward **Wheaton Ave** 0.5 mi
2. Turn right to merge onto **I-84** 3.2 mi
3. Take exit 11 for **New York 9D** toward **Wappingers Falls/Beacon** 0.2 mi
4. Turn right onto **NY-9D N/N Rd** 0.8 mi
5. Turn left onto **Brockway Road** 0.2 mi
6. Take the 1st left onto **Town View Dr** 0.2 mi

**Arrive: At The Towne Inn Fishkill**

Driving Directions from Downtown Fishkill, NY to the Buttermilk Falls Inn

**Depart:** **Main St**
Fishkill, NY 12524

1. Head **southwest** on **NY-52 W/Main St** toward **Wheaton Ave** 0.5 mi
2. Turn right to merge onto I-84 5.6 mi

3. Take exit 10N to merge onto US-9W N/Albany Post Rd toward Highland
   Continue to follow US-9W N 11.3 mi

4. Turn right onto Mahoney Rd 0.2 mi

5. Turn right onto N Rd/Main St
   Destination will be on the left 0.2 mi

Arrive: Buttermilk Falls Inn & Spa
220 N Rd
Milton, NY 12547

Saturday
Breakfast at the farm
7AM-Enjoy a delicious breakfast consisting of fresh eggs and honey made from the Millstone Farm at the Buttermilk Falls Inn (http://www.buttermilkfallsinn.com/restaurant/henry-s-at-the-farm.htm) The Millstone farm is composed of 40 acres of land and is the site of the growth of greens, fruits, vegetables, herbs, honey and eggs. The site is also home to a hotel and spa. For menu information, contact the restaurant at 845-795-1310

Driving Directions from The Towne Hill Fishkill To Buttermilk Falls Inn
Depart: 767 U.S. 9
Fishkill, NY 12524
1. Head south on U.S. 9 S toward Old Rte 9 2.6 mi

2. Take the I-84 W ramp to Beacon/Newburgh 0.3 mi

3. Merge onto I-84 6.8 mi

4. Take exit 10N to merge onto US-9W N/Albany Post Rd toward Highland
   Continue to follow US-9W N 11.3 mi

5. Turn right onto Mahoney Rd 0.2 mi

6. Turn right onto N Rd/Main St
   Destination will be on the left 0.2 mi

Arrive: Buttermilk Falls Inn & Spa
220 N Rd
Morning At The Museum Part 1
8AM-Spend the morning learning about the History of Wappingers Falls at the Mesier Park and Homestead Museum. The site covers 750 acres of land and was purchased by Nicholas and Adolphus Brewer. In 1891, the town of Wappingers Falls gained ownership to the site. In 1952, a large World War I memorial was established in the park and throughout the 20th century, renovations and repairs occurred on the museum as well as throughout the park. Each year at Christmas, a tree lighting ceremony occurs at the bandstand. Tours of the site are free and must be made in advance by appointment. For information about prices, contact the museum at 845-430-9520 (http://www.wappingershistoricalsociety.org/mesier.shtml)

Driving Directions from Buttermilk Falls Inn to the Mesier Park and Homestead Museum
Depart: Buttermilk Falls Inn & Spa
220 N Rd
Milton, NY 12547
1. Head north on N Rd/Main St toward Mahoney Rd
Continue to follow N Rd
0.4 mi

2. Take the 2nd left toward US-9W
482 ft

3. Turn right onto US-9W
2.4 mi

4. Slight right to merge onto NY-55 E/US-44 E
Partial toll road
1.9 mi

5. Turn right to merge onto U.S. 9 S toward Wappingers Falls/Hyde Park
6.3 mi

6. Turn right onto NY-9D S/W Main St
1.4 mi

7. Turn left onto Spring St
79 ft

8. Take the 1st right onto E Main St
299 ft
Morning At The Museum Part 2

10AM-Journey down to Fishkill for another adventure at one of the Hudson River Valley’s famous museums “The Van Wyck Homestead Museum. The museum consists of a Dutch colonial house that was built by Cornelius Van Wyck. During the revolutionary war, the house became the home of a supply depot for the northern branch of the continental army. For one hour, take a tour of the site and discover archeological relics from the depot, learn about the architecture of the house and enjoy portraits painted by Ammi Philips. An appointment must be made in advance. For more information contact the site at 845-896-9560 or visit the website at (http://www.hudsonrivervalley.com/Details.aspx?sid=17b30e7e-fa91-425b-9691-da14b6ce5561).

Driving Directions from Mesier Park and Homestead Museum To Van Wyck Homestead Museum

Depart: Mesier Park
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
1. Head east on E Main St
   436 ft

2. Turn left to stay on E Main St
   0.3 mi

3. Turn right onto U.S. 9 S/Albany Post Rd
   Continue to follow U.S. 9 S
   5.4 mi

4. Make a U-turn at Snook Rd
   184 ft

Arrive: Van Wyck Homestead Museum
504 Rte 9
Fishkill, NY 12524

Lunch on The Farm
11AM-Hungry yet? Want to see another farm? Journey over to Dubois Farms in Highland, NY where every Saturday and Sunday from 11:30AM-4:30PM you can enjoy a delicious free barbeque. The farm also holds pony rides, children’s games and many more family fun activities!

Driving Directions from the Van Wyck Homestead Museum to DuBois Farm
Depart: Van Wyck Homestead Museum
504 Rte 9
Fishkill, NY 12524
1. Head north on U.S. 9 N
   0.2 mi
2. Turn left onto the I-84 W ramp
   0.3 mi
3. Merge onto I-84
   6.8 mi
4. Take exit 10N to merge onto US-9W N/Albany Post Rd toward Highland
   Continue to follow US-9W N
   11.8 mi
5. Turn left onto Perkinsville Rd
   Destination will be on the left
   0.7 mi

Arrive: DuBois Farms
209 Perkinsville Rd
Highland, NY 12528

Gardens and Mansions
12:30PM-Journey to Poughkeepsie to visit the Locust Grove Historic Mansion. Designed by Alexander Jackson Davis in 1850, It was one of Samuel F.B Morse’s many homes. Eventually Morse’s daughter oversaw that the mansion and grounds be eventually made into a museum. In 1979, the estate opened to the public. The house offers many programs for adults and children including house hunts at Halloween and tours during the Holiday Season. For one 45 minute tour(cost $10 for one adult, $6 for children ages 6-18) discover and learn about the many pieces of furniture, paintings and other items that makes up this home. http://www.lgny.org/the-mansion

Depart: DuBois Farms
209 Perkinsville Rd
Highland, NY 12528
1. Head northwest on Perkinsville Rd toward Wellington Pl
   0.6 mi
2. Turn right to stay on Perkinsville Rd
   0.5 mi
3. Turn right onto Chapel Hill Rd
4. Continue onto **Macks Ln**

5. Turn left onto **US-9W N**

   **Partial toll road**

7. Turn right to merge onto **U.S. 9 S toward Wappingers Falls/Hyde Park**
   Destination will be on the right

**Arrive: Locust Grove**
2683 S Rd
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

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**Into The Woods**
1:30PM-Less then a minute down the road from Locust Grove is the Springside estate. The estate is a National historic landmark and was once owned by Matthew Vassar the founder of Vassar College. The estate’s landscape was designed by AJ Dowling and was made into an ornamental farm. For a long period of time, the site was the scene of neglect until the Springside Landscape Restoration Organization started to take care of the property which it sill does today. Admission to the site is free.

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**Driving directions from Locust Grove, NY to Springside, NY**

**Depart: Locust Grove**
2683 S Rd
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

1. Head **south** on **U.S. 9 S/South Rd** toward **Rivercrest Ct**

2. Make a U-turn

3. Exit onto **Academy St**

4. Turn right onto **Springside Dr**

5. Turn right to stay on **Springside Dr**
Cool Down
5:30–Hot from the walk around Springside? Head on down to New York’s little waterpark-Splashdown Beach, located in Fishkill, NY. Take a swim in the monster wave pool, tan and relax by the side of the pool or go for a ride on the lazy river. For 2 hours or less at the Park you can receive a half day park pass. For more information, visit their website at http://www.splashdownbeach.com

Driving directions from Springside to Splashdown Beach

Depart: Springside Dr
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

1. Head northwest on Springside Dr
   0.1 mi

2. Turn left toward Academy St
   151 ft

3. Turn left onto Academy St
   0.1 mi

4. Continue onto South Ave
   499 ft

5. Turn left at Phoenix St
   0.2 mi

6. Take the ramp onto U.S. 9 S/South Rd
   Continue to follow U.S. 9 S
   10.0 mi

7. Turn right onto Old Rte 9 W
   Destination will be on the right
   0.1 mi

Arrive: Splashdown Beach
16 Old Route 9 W
Fishkill, NY 12524

Dinner on The Hudson
8:00PM-End your day with dinner at Shadow’s on The Hudson in Poughkeepsie. The restaurant is newly established on the waterfront along the Hudson River. Their dinner menu includes an appetizers list consisting of delicious Shrimp Cocktail served with traditional sauce($10), and Garlic bread tower served warm with Gorgonzola Fondue($7). Main entrees include Butternut Squash Ravioli($20), Paramsean Crusted Chicken($17), and Crab Cakes ($23). For more information visit the website at
Driving Directions from Splashdown Beach to Shadows on the Hudson

Depart: Splashdown Beach  
16 Old Route 9 W  
Fishkill, NY 12524  
1. Head southeast on Old Rte 9 W toward U.S. 9 S  
   0.2 mi
2. Turn left onto U.S. 9 N  
   10.7 mi
3. Take the Columbia Street exit toward Rinaldi Boulevard  
   0.1 mi
4. Turn left onto Columbia St  
   240 ft
5. Take the 1st right onto Pine Street Ext.  
   0.1 mi
6. Turn left onto Pine St  
   0.1 mi
7. Turn right onto Rinaldi Blvd  
   0.1 mi
8. Make a U-turn at Hurlihe St  
   Destination will be on the right  
   489 ft

Arrive: Shadows On the Hudson  
176 Rinaldi Blvd  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Driving Directions from Shadow’s on The Hudson to Buttermilk Falls

Depart: Shadows On the Hudson  
176 Rinaldi Blvd  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
1. Head south on Rinaldi Blvd toward Rinaldi Blvd  
   32 ft
2. Continue onto Pine St  
   0 ft
3. Turn left onto Jefferson St
4. Turn left onto Church St

5. Continue onto NY-55 W/US-44 W/Mid-Hudson Bridge
Continue to follow NY-55 W/US-44 W


7. Turn left toward N Rd

8. Turn right onto N Rd
Destination will be on the left

Arrive: Buttermilk Falls Inn & Spa
220 N Rd
Milton, NY 12547

Driving Directions from Shadow’s On The Hudson to Towne Inn Fishkill

Depart: Shadows On the Hudson
176 Rinaldi Blvd
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
1. Head south on Rinaldi Blvd toward Rinaldi Blvd

2. Continue onto Pine St

3. Turn right onto Pine Street Ext.

4. Take the ramp onto U.S. 9 S
Destination will be on the right

Arrive: Towne Inn
767 Rte 9
Fishkill, NY 12524
Sunday
8AM-On your way out of town catch one last bite to eat! Visit the Falls Diner located at 235 Myers Corner Road, Wappingers Falls, NY. Their breakfast menu includes drink choices of delicious Apple Juice ($1.65), Cranberry Juice ($1.65), and Half Grape juice ($2.35). Their delicious main course includes servings two eggs with ham, bacon and sausage at a cost of $6.95, short stack griddle pancakes served with butter and syrup at a cost of $4.75.

Driving Directions from Buttermilk Falls Inn to Falls Diner

Depart: Buttermilk Falls Inn & Spa
220 N Rd
Milton, NY 12547

1. Head north on N Rd/Main St toward Mahoney Rd
Continue to follow N Rd 0.4 mi

2. Take the 2nd left toward US-9W 482 ft

3. Turn right onto US-9W 2.4 mi

4. Slight right to merge onto NY-55 E/US-44 E Partial toll road 3.0 mi

5. Turn right onto S Cherry St 0.6 mi

6. Turn left onto Hooker Ave 1.3 mi

7. Continue onto NY-376 S/New Hackensack Rd 2.3 mi

8. Turn left to stay on NY-376 S/New Hackensack Rd 2.3 mi

9. Slight right toward County Rd 94/All Angels Hill Rd 253 ft

10. Continue straight onto County Rd 94/All Angels Hill Rd 1.3 mi
11. Turn left onto Myers Corners Rd  
   Destination will be on the left  
   0.3 mi

Arrive: Falls Diner and Catering  
235 Myers Corners Rd  
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Driving directions from Towne Hill Fishkill to Falls Diner

Depart: Town View Dr  
Fishkill, NY  
1. Head southeast on Town View Dr toward  
   Spearmint Ct  
   0.2 mi

2. Turn right onto Brockway Road  
   0.2 mi

3. Turn left onto NY-9D N  
   5.0 mi

4. Turn right onto County Rd 93/Middlebush Rd  
   Continue to follow County Rd 93  
   Destination will be on the left  
   3.4 mi

Arrive: Falls Diner and Catering  
235 Myers Corners Rd  
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Final Stop
9AM-On your way out of town, visit the Gomez Mill House. The property was purchased by Luis Moses Gomez in 1714. Gomez built the house himself for the purpose of trade and has served as a home for many families since the 18th century including Wolferet Acker, William Henry Armstrong and David Hunter. In 1984, The Gomez Foundation for Mill House purchased the house and turned it into a museum. Admission to the house is $8.00 for adults and $3.00 for children who are age’s 6-18 years old. Guided tours are available but most be reserved in advance. http://www.gomez.org/visitors.html

Driving directions to Gomez Mill House
Depart Falls Diner and Catering  
235 Myers Corners Rd  
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590  
1. Head northwest on County Rd 93/Myers Corners Rd  
   toward Degarmo Hills Rd  
   Continue to follow County Rd 93  
   3.4 mi
2. Turn left onto NY-9D S

3. Take the ramp onto I-84

4. Take exit 10N to merge onto US-9W N/Albany Post Rd toward Highland
   Continue to follow US-9W N

5. Turn right onto Old Post Rd

6. Slight left to stay on Old Post Rd

7. Turn left onto Millhouse Rd
   Destination will be on the right

Arrive: Gomez Mill House
11 Mill House Rd
Marlboro, NY 12542

Lodgings

Looking for a place to stay? There is the Towne Inn Of Fishkill located at 767 Route 9 and located four acres away in walking distance from Downtown, Fishkill. The Towne Inn offers its residents extended stay and daily room rates, free wireless connection, high speed cable in every room, and free long distance calling throughout the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. For reservations and prices call the hotel at 845-896-6767 or visit their website at http://www.towneinnoffishkill.com/index.htm

Want to live the colonial life of staying at a bed and breakfast? Stay awhile at the Buttermilk Falls Inn located at 220 North Road, Milton, New York. The Inn itself consists of a spa, restaurant called Henry’s, and of course rooms! For two nights only, stay at the Riverknoll Downs-a pet and family friendly guest suite for a total cost of $550. For more information call 845-795-1310 or visit the website at http://www.buttermilkfallsinn.com/inn/your-stay.htm
LOCUST GROVE

Grade Level: 4th Graders

Overview: Students will be able to compare and contrast the modern day lifestyle to the lifestyle that existed in the 18th century.

Model Being Used: Cooperative learning will be used in this lesson as students work together in their groups.

Learning Intelligences Used:
- Visual: Students will make connections of older objects in the mansion to objects we use today.
- Auditory: Students will work together in their group to agree on a connection made.
- Kinesthetic: Students will walk along the trails of Locust Grove and experience the nature first hand.

New York State Common Core Standards:

Social Studies:
- Standard 1: History of the United States and New York: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in the history of the United States and New York.
- Standard 3: Geography: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of the geography of the interdependent world in which we live, including the distribution of people, places, and the environment.

Science:
- All Standards: Students will foster development of science process skills through gathering and organizing data, observing, and interpreting data.

English Language Arts:
- Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.
- Standard 2: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for literary response and expression.

Objectives:
1. Students will compare and contrast the modern lifestyle and lifestyle in the 18th century.
2. Students will make connections to how machinery changed and new inventions were developed.
3. Students will explain their experience of nature on the trails of Locust Grove.

Materials: Worksheet, pen/pencil, smartphone/camera.

Teacher Resources:
http://www.lgny.org/
http://www.morsehistoricsite.org/

Pre-Procedure: Students will be given background information on Locust Grove and its significance.

Procedure: Students will travel to Locust Grove and split up into groups. During the tour of the mansion, they will be given a worksheet that has several rooms listed along with three objects in
the room. Under each room, students will be responsible for writing down what these three objects were used for then, and what we use now for its same purpose. Students will travel along the trails of Locust Grove and take pictures of the landscape that was important for use in the 18th century.

**Closure:** Each group will compare their answers and discuss the inventions made. Students will develop a chart of their choice to compare and contrast the object more in depth. Students will put together a collage of the pictures taken of the nature at Locust Grove.

Example of objects in a room from the worksheet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Billiards Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The music player:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The steel bar with numbers hanging from it:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The skylight:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MESIER FARM AND HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

Grade: 4th Graders

Overview: Students will understand the significance of this historical ground. They will take a tour and observe the nature of this site.

Model Being Used: Cooperative learning will be used in this lesson as students work together in their groups.

Learning Intelligences Used:
- Visual - Students will be looking at and observing the nature they see in order to write their descriptions of it. They will also be taking pictures of what they write about to go along with their written entries.
- Auditory - Students will work together with their group to write their journal entries.
- Kinesthetic - Students will walk along the trails and experience the nature first hand.

NY State Common Core Standards:

Social Studies:
- Standard 1: History of the United States and New York: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in the history of the United States and New York.
- Standard 3: Geography: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of the geography of the interdependent world in which we live, including the distribution of people, places, and the environment.

Science:
- All Standards: Students will foster development of science process skills through gathering and organizing data, observing, and interpreting data.

English Language Arts:
- Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.
- Standard 2: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for literary response and expression.

Objectives:
1. Students will understand the historical significance of site.
2. Students will take pictures of the environment and explain why it’s important in writing.

Materials: Paper, pen/pencil, smartphone/camera

Teachers Resources:
http://www.wappingershistoricalsociety.org/mesiershtml

Pre-Procedure: Students will be given background information about this site and learn why it’s so important.

Procedure: Students will travel to the Mesier Farm and Homestead Museum and break up into groups. They will be taken on a tour and are responsible for taking pictures of things they feel are
valuable. They must write down why these things are important and what they were used for.

**Closure:** The students will regroup and discuss their pictures and their importance. The pictures and entries will be handed in with each group picking one they want to share with the class.
SPRINGSIDE

Grade Level: 4th Graders

Overview: Students will learn about John Burroughs and his naturalistic writings. They will split up into groups and use what they learned about John Burroughs to write their own naturalist journal entries.

Model Being Used: Cooperative learning will be used in this lesson as students work together in their groups.

Learning Intelligences Used:
- Visual- Students will be looking at and observing the nature they see on the trails in order to write their descriptions of it. They will also be taking pictures of what they write about to go along with their written entries.
- Auditory- Students will work together with their group to write their journal entries.
- Kinesthetic- Students will walk along the trails and experience the nature first hand.

New York State Common Core Standards:

Social Studies-
- Standard 1: History of the United States and New York: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in the history of the United States and New York.
- Standard 3: Geography: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of the geography of the interdependent world in which we live, including the distribution of people, places, and the environment.

Science-
- All Standards: Students will foster development of science process skills through gathering and organizing data, observing, and interpreting data.

English Language Arts-
- Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.
- Standard 2: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for literary response and expression.

Objectives:
1. Students will understand who John Burroughs was and why he was so important.
2. Students will discuss John Burroughs writing style.
3. Students will apply their knowledge of John Burroughs and create their own writing.


Teacher Resources:
http://springsidelandmark.org/

Pre-Procedure: Students will be given background information on John Burroughs and learn about his significance.

Procedure: Students will travel to Springside and split up into groups. They will admire the
landscape and nature and learn about its historical significance. Students will create their own writing based on what they learned from John Burroughs' naturalistic values.

**Closure:** The students will regroup and discuss the experience of writing the naturalistic journals. The pictures and entries will be handed in with each group picking one they want to share with the class.
VAN WYCK HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

Grade: 4th Graders

Overview: Students will take a tour of the grounds and understand its historical significance. They will look at handmade objects that were used back then and explain what each was used for.

Model Being Used: Cooperative learning will be used in this lesson as students work together in their groups.

Learning Intelligences Used:
Visual- Students will look at objects used in the museum and its function during that time.
Auditory- Students will work together in their group to agree on a connection made.

NY State Common Core Standards:
Social Studies-
- Standard 1: History of the United States and New York: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in the history of the United States and New York.
- Standard 3: Geography: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of the geography of the interdependent world in which we live, including the distribution of people, places, and the environment.

Science-
- All Standards: Students will foster development of science process skills through gathering and organizing data, observing, and interpreting data.

English Language Arts-
- Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.
- Standard 2: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for literary response and expression.

Objectives:
1. During the tour, students will observe objects (i.e. original woodwork, archaeological relics, furniture, portraits, crafts, and weavings) and make connections with its function during that time.
2. Students will understand the historical significance of the historic site.

Materials: Paper, pen/pencil

Teachers Resources:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Van_Wyck_Homestead

Pre-Proceduere: Students will be given background information the historical significance and history of the Van Wyck Homestead Museum

Procedure: Students will travel to the Van Wyck Homestead Museum and split up into groups. During the tour, they will be responsible for writing down handmade objects and its function for
that time. They should be able to understand how each object served a purpose in their lifestyle.

**Closure:** Each group will compare their answers and discuss the historic significance of the Van Wyck Homestead Museum.
GOMEZ MILL HOUSE

Grade: 4th Graders

Overview: Students will learn the significance of the Mill House and its historic site. They will split up into groups and take a tour of the house.

Model Being Used: Cooperative learning will be used in this lesson as students work together in their groups.

Learning Intelligences Used:
- Visual- Students will make connections of objects in the house to objects we use today and understand the difference in lifestyle from then and now.
- Auditory- Students will work together in their group to agree on a connection made.

New York State Common Core Standards:

Social Studies-
- Standard 1: History of the United States and New York: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in the history of the United States and New York.
- Standard 3: Geography: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of the geography of the interdependent world in which we live, including the distribution of people, places, and the environment.

Science-
- All Standards: Students will foster development of science process skills through gathering and organizing data, observing, and interpreting data.

English Language Arts-
- Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.
- Standard 2: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for literary response and expression.

Objectives:
1. Students will understand the historical significance of the Gomez Mill house.
2. Students will be aware of the long history and the role of American Jews as pioneers, predating the Revolution by many decades.
3. Students will compare and contrast the use of various rooms in the home.

Materials: Paper, pen/pencil

Teachers Resources:
http://www.gomez.org/

Pre-Procedure: Students will be given background information the historical significance and history of the Gomez Mill House.

Procedure: Students will travel to the Gomez Mill House and split up into groups. During the tour
of the house, they will be given a worksheet that has several rooms listed. Under each room, students will be responsible for writing down what these rooms were used for and how they are used differently today. They should be able to understand how each room served a purpose in their lifestyle.

**Closure:** Each group will compare their answers and discuss the historic significance of the Gomez Mill House.
Historical Description:

Henry Livingston purchased land from Phillip Scheyler, former royally, in 1751 to make simply clear it and fertilize it. In 1771 Henry Lovingston Jr bought the farm from his father and began to settle there and make a family and originated the name of the estate as “Locust Grove”. After the death of Livingston Jr., the land was sold to a wealthy couple from New York City, John and Isabella Montgomery. The Montogerys decided to relocate the farming and build a home that would perfectly overlook the Hudson River. Samuel F. B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph, purchased the estate from the Montogerys in 1847. Alexander Jackson Davis, a well-known architect, and Morse worked to remodel the house into an Italianate villa. They continued throughout the years to revise and improve the house and landscaping. When Morse died Locust Grove was rented to William and Martha Young who also rented it as a summer home in 1895. They expanded the land and added many gardens. In 1975 Annette Innis Young, the last member of the Young family to live at Locust Grove, created a not-for-profit foundation to preserve the estate for “the enjoyment, visitation, and enlightenment of the public.”

The Site:

Locust Grove is full of special events and beautiful sites. They offer guided tours and lectures as well as large events. There are many rooms that include conferences, seminars, lectures, concerts, local civic events and private parties. Locust Grove’s visitor center consists of 22,000 square feet of kitchens for
events, gift shops, office space, an orientation room, and a telecommunications gallery. The basement area also includes a fully equipped education space.

**Directions:**
Take the New York Thruway get off at Exit 18, New Paltz. Take the ramp up to Route 299 and make a right, going east. At the end of 299 is a traffic light at the intersection on 299 and Rte 9W. Make a right and go south on 9W. After the third traffic light in the town of Highland, take the ramp (on right) for the Mid-Hudson Bridge. At the end of the bridge, just before one enters Poughkeepsie, is a ramp to Route 9. Take Route 9 South 2 miles. Locust Grove is on the west side of the road, at the Beechwood Drive intersection.

**Gomez 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

**Historical Description:**
The Gomez Mill house is the oldest home registered in Orange County as well as the oldest existing Jewish residence in North America. In 1714, Luis Moses Gomez purchased the 6,000 acres of land and built a fieldstone block house. He built the house for a fur trading post that lasted more than 30 years. Wolvert Ackert bought the house when Gomez son sold it right before the revolutionary war. Ackert used the house to hold meetings weekly with the neighbors and people who were decedents of early Dutch Settlers and had no patience with British rule, like himself. He then became the Commissioner of Newburgh's Committee of Safety and observation, who were a group of people who reported others who were suspected of being loyalist. In the early 19th century the property was passed onto a local farmer, William Henry Armstrong. He added a kitchen wing and garden walls. There were many other owners in the century after including a paper maker, Dard Hunter. After World War II, Mildred Starin and her family bought the home and restored the property to its original design. 11 years later, the New York City based Gomez foundation purchased the house to restore it into the museum it is today.

**The Site:**
This property contains twenty eight acres including the six room house, the mill, the icehouse, the work
shed and the restored root cellar. The house has been standing for 285 years and continues to be renovated including a restored wheel on the mill allowing school children to make paper. The house also holds archaeological digs, crafter workshops, art exhibits, lectures, and events for the whole family.

**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).

**Springside**

26 Loockerman Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
(845) 454-2060

**Hours:**
Trails open daily from dawn to dusk. Admission is free.

**Historical description:**
The site today known as Springside was initially a part of the Allen Family farm at the edge of the Poughkeepsie city boundary. In 1850 Matthew Vassar bought the land and hired the country's foremost landscape designer, Ander Jackson Downing, to design the site with amazing landscape and gardening. Vassar continued to improve Springside for several years. After his death, John O. Whitehouse purchased Springside. His son in law E. N. Howell took over the land, enhancing it as a gentleman's farm. Owner of the Hudson Knolls estate, William Nelson, then bought the land in 1901 due to Howells bankruptcy. In 1968 there were requests for commercial and apartment preservationists. In 1969 Springside was given to the National Historic Landmark status. In 1990, it became a Springside Landscape Restoration. In 1986 a non profit organization was created and still works to restore the site.

**The Sites:**
Springside is one of the historic sites on the Greenway Trail though the mid-Hudson Valley. Although it is in the process of being restored, today visitors can walk along Downing's winding trails and his beautifully composed scenic views. The old trees that stood when the estate was newly constructed still
remain providing an enchanting retreat.

**Directions:**
Springside is located on Loockerman Ave just off of US 9 in the town of Poughkeepsie, NY. It is less than a minute down the road from Locust Grove Historic Site. Exit US route 9 onto Academy Street. Turn right onto Linvingston st, turn left onto S. Hamilton St. Take the First right onto Platt street and the first right onto Loockerman Ave and the destination is on the left.

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**Van Wyck Homestead Museum**

![Photo courtesy of the Fishkill Historical Society](image)

**504 Route 9**  
Fishkill, NY 12524  
(845) 896-9560

**Hours:** June – October  
Saturday – Sunday (1pm – 4pm)  
By Appointment  
Donations Accepted  
Amenities: Family Friendly; Passport Stamp; Accessible by Public Transportation; Handicap Accessible

**Historical Description:**
In 1732 farmer Cornelius Van Wyck started contracting this Dutch colonial home. He worked on the house in many different stages and for a very long time. He ended his construction with a beautiful addiction to the home in 1757. When Fishkill was chosen as the site of a supply depot to serve the northern branch of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, the home became the headquarters of the sprawling complex. General Israel Putnam was the first commander to use this homestead as his headquarters. It was visited by numerous dignitaries, including George Washington, the Marquis de Lafayette, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay. The mock trial of Continental spy Enoch Crosby also took place here, upon whose exploits James Fenimore Cooper allegedly based protagonist Harvey Birch in his novel, The Spy.

**The Site:**
The Van Wyck Homestead has artifacts from the American Revolution from the Fishkill Supply Depot. Along with portraits and other family possessions. The Museum is also home to the Fishkill Historical Society's library and archives. Open by appt. it has docent programs, workshops, school tours, outdoor
walking tours, and other events year round. There are also special services such as a gift shop and group tours.

**Directions:**
The Van Wyck Homestead Museum is located at 504 Route 9 in Fishkill New York, 12524, on the remaining one acre at the corner of Snook Road and Route 9 directly across the street from the I-84 exit ramp eastbound.

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**Mesier Park and Homestead Museum**

37 Mesier Park  
Wappinger’s Falls, NY 12590  
(845)297-9520

**Hours:** Mesier Homestead Museum is open to the public by appointment and during special events. You can contact them if you are interested in arranging a special tour.

**Historical Description:**
In 1741 two Dutchmen, Nicholas and Adolphus Brewer settled here in this park. They purchased 750 acres of land and built the first stone house in the village. They continued to add to renovate the originally small stone house. Peter Mesier, a loyalist tea merchant from New York City arrived and purchased the land from Nicholas Brewer and opened a small store in its place in 1776. In 1806 Peter Mesier died and the land was given to his son Matthew. Matthew’s son was the last owner of the Mesier Homestead. In 1891 5 acres of land were sold to the Village of Wappinge’rs falls. Memorials are seen around the land such as wooden plaques with names of village residents who served the country and engraved stones dedicated to the services of the volunteer fire department of the village.

**The Site:**
The Meiser Park and Homestead Museum has many events that take place all year. Each year at Christmas there is a tree lighting ceremony. During the spring there is a picnic held that includes parades, music, and refreshments. There is also a Colonial Harvest Festival yearly in October which includes children’s games, activities, and food.

**Directions:**
Meiser Park and Homestead is located in Wappinger’s Falls, NY. It is right off of U.S 9/ South Rd. You turn right onto NY-9D s/w Main St. and then a left onto Spring St. At the first right is E Main Street which leads directly to Mesier park.
Dubois Farms

209 Perkinsville Rd
Highland, NY 12528
(845) 795-5707

**Hours:** Monday-Friday 10am-5pm
Closed on Saturday and Sunday

**Historical Description:**
DuBois Farms are two of the few first-generation farmers in the Hudson Valley. 54 acres of land were purchased 11 years ago in an effort to keep the small farming industry alive. The land was destined to be sold entirely for development. The landscape is kept up with daily. Replanting and revitalizing the nature of the farms help create a healthy and beautiful farm. Constructing outbuildings and animal areas that are reminiscent of colonial times give the farm an ideal setting in the Hudson Valley.

**The Site:**
DuBois Farms offers quality fruit and flowers year round. Several weekends throughout the year consist of free family fun activities such as tractor wagon rides, farm animal visitations and pony rides. School groups are welcome Monday through Friday by appointment only. Birthday Parties are also welcome daily. Every Saturday and Sunday they host a barbeque serving delicious family favorites hot off the grill. There are other important events that take place here such as book launches, Fruit Festivals, Pumpkin Festivals, and Halloween festivals.

**Directions:**
DuBois Farms is located in Highland NY just minutes from the Mid- Hudson Bridge. Exit from Mid-Hudson Bridge (US44-NY55) south to US-9W. for 2.2 miles. Turn right onto Perkinsville Road for 0.8 mile and you’re at your destination.
SplashDown Beach

16 Old Route 9 West Fishkill, NY 12524
(845) 897-9600

**Hours:** May 24th, 25th, 26th, 31st, 1st, 7th, 8th 11am – 6 pm
June 13th-20th 10am – 6 pm
June 21st- August 24th 10 am – 7 pm
August 25th- September 1st 10am – 5pm

**The site:**
Splashdown Beach is the Hudson River Valley's premier waterpark. Its known as Americans biggest little waterpark. Located in Fishkill, NY, Splashdown features water rides, slides, and amusement for the whole family to enjoy. Attractions include: Bob the Builder Splash Works, Bullet Bowl, Humunga Half-Pipe, Cowabunga Falls, Pirate's Plunge, Pirate's Revenge, Monster Wave Pool, Croc Creek Wavy Lazy River, Coconut Pool, Rock Beach and much more. There are also many food vendors on the boardwalk to enjoy refreshments and snacks. There are also chances to come as groups, organize birthday parties, have Corporate Picnics, and camps.

**Directions:**
SplashDown Beach is located on Old Route 9 in West Fishkill, NY. Just two miles away from exit 13 North onto Route 9. From New York City you take the NYS Thruway North to Exit 17 (Newburgh). Follow signs for I-84 East. Take I-84 East to Exit 13 North. Then follow Route 9 North for 2 miles. We are on the left.