From Poet’s walk to Central Park, Halleck knew how to set the mark!
Agenda

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Halleck had a major impact on the Hudson River Valley. One of his most important contributions was his works that are honored and displayed to this day at Poet’s Walk in Redhook, New York. His works were honored in American poetry, and are highly regarded among other American Poets of his time.
Historical Context

1790: On July 8th, Fitz-Greene Halleck is born

1804: At 14, he changed his last name from Hallock to Halleck

1808: He made his first visit to New York, being sent on business

1808: In the summer, he joined the militia. He became sergeant, filling the position to the satisfaction of his associates

1809: He opened an evening school for instruction in arithmetic, writing and bookkeeping

1811: In May, he left his native town to seek after fame and fortune in New York
Historical Context

1813: In the Spring, Halleck became acquainted with Joseph Rodman Drake. They became friendly as well as later on intimate only later on to be served by the death of Drake.

1819: Wrote his longest poem, “Fanny”

1827: Published anonymously an edition of his poems, two of which were his finest, “Alnwick Castle” and “Burns”

1849: Entered the office of millionaire John Jacob Aster and worked with him for 17 years. After Astor died, he left Halleck with a fortune of forty pounds/year

1867: Visited New York for his last time

1877: Statue of him was unveiled in NYC by the president of the United States

1867: Died on November 19th
First, classical American poet honored by statute

poetry skill came about later in his life when he wrote “Fanny” which was an amusing satire

Fanny received a lot of praise from John Randolph and was enlarged by 50 stanzas and republished in 1821

Salmagundi was a work which appeared in fortnightly numbers from the Shakespeare Gallery of Longworth

Salmagundi consists of the humors of the day are travestied in good-natured essays and with a skill so charming that the work is still read with interest

1827, Halleck's first collection of poems was published containing, among there, his immoral lines, “Marco Bozzaris”

1832, other editions followed and he appeared as the editor of a complete edition of Byron’s poems for which he wrote an admirable memoir

Associated in memory with Irving is Fitz-Greene Halleck. He made his debut in the Irving style in the "Croaker Papers," a series of humorous and satirical verses contributed to the New York Evening Post.
Poet’s Walk

- In honor of literary contemporaries who have strolled there including Washington Irving and Fitz-Greene Halleck
- Extends about a mile in length
- Reflects the 19th century picturesque style of American landscape design of German architect Hans Jacob Ehlers
- A series of “outdoor rooms” each framed by walls of foliage, a rise in the field, and breaks in the stone walls
Poet’s Walk Park

- 120-acre landscape park
- Protected by the Scenic Hudson’s conservation easements on the surrounding 800 acres
- Lies between a country lane and the Hudson River shore in Red Hook, NY
- Fields of tall grasses, gentle hills, creeks, and woodlands, traversed by mown and gravel paths and cedar footbridges
The Literary Contributions of Fitz-Greene Halleck

- 1819 “Fanny”
- 1823 “Alnwick Castle”
- 1825 “Marco Bozzaris”
- 1827 *Alnwick Castle, with Other Poems*
- 1839 “Fanny and other Poems”
- 1847 “The Poetical Works of Fitz-Greene Halleck, now first Collected”
- 1858 “The Poetical Works of Fitz-Greene Halleck”
- 1860 “The Croakers” by Halleck and Drake
- 1865 “Connecticut”, “Lines to Louis Gaylord Clark”, & “Young America”
~From Halleck’s first major publications in 1819 until long after his death in 1867, America’s critics sang his praises. Even Edgar Allen Poe, who rarely praised anything, called Halleck’s verse "the noblest…in all American poetry."

~Of Halleck’s poetical writings it has been well said that brilliancy of thought, quaintness of fancy, and polished energy of diction have given them a rank in American literature form which they will not soon be displaced.
Conclusion

Fitz-Greene Halleck, a famous Knickerbocker poet continues to shape lives today. He set a new standard for American literature, that we continue to study to this day. New York City and The Hudson River Valley still refer to his exquisite poetry in this day in age.
Fitz-Greene Halleck Websites

- Fitz-Greene Halleck
- Biography
- Clipart
- Read Works: “Marco Bozzaris” & “On the Death of Joseph Rodman Drake”
- Statue in Central Park
- Central Park; enter the park
- Poets’ Walk Park
- Poets’ Walk- photos and trail map
- Moving panorama view of park
- Poughkeepsie Journal Hudson Valley
- Traveler
1) http://www.centralparknyc.org/virtualpark/southend/fitz-greenehalleck
2) http://www.born-today.com/Today/pix/halleck_fg.jpg
3) http://donpepino.com/HTML/images/newyork.gif
4) http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/conservation/images/walnut/school03.jpg
6) http://www.poster.net/anonymous/anonymous-view-to-downtown-new-york-city-2104400.jpg
7) www.artemis.austincollage.edu
POETS' PARK

Located on scenic River Road in Red Hook, NY, just north of the Kingston-Rhinecliff bridge, Poets' Walk Park is a "romantic landscape" in which Fitz-Greene Halleck (1790-1867) and literary contemporaries including Washington Irving (1783-1859) and William Cullen Bryant (1794-1878) strolled while visiting the adjacent estate.

9 Vassar St.
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Poets’ Walk & Fitz-Greene Halleck Lady Lts.
The 19th-century U.S. poet Fitz-Greene Halleck was a leading member of the Knickerbocker school, a group of writers who sought to promote a genuinely American national culture and establish New York City as its literary center. Strongly influenced by the Scottish and English Romantic poets, he was a poet of slight but genuine gift.

You are invited to visit the breathtaking vistas from the Park’s paths of fields and ravines that speak to you and the poet in you. Take a moment to sit on a bench, read a poem, or better still, scribe a line or two of your own on a blank page.

1790 – 1867
Born in,
Guilford,
Conn