

Midterm Case Study

The History of Fishkill

Sarah Coshal

Fishkill, New York is a part of Dutchess County. Fishkill is about 14 miles away from



Marist, if you wanted to know. The history of the town of

Fishkill revolves around the *Dutch people* who settled there in

New York. It was originally part of the Rombout Patent licensed

from the *Wappingers Indians* who had received it originally from

the Crown in 1685. The name Fishkill came from two Dutch

words “*vis*” (*fish*) and “*kil*” (*stream*). There are many theories about how this town received its

name. PETA actually asked Fishkill to change its name to *Fishsave* because of the violent

imagery that comes with the name Fishkill. The name wasn’t changed once PETA understood

the translation and the town argued that they loved the name of their home (McRae). In 1714,

the Dutch found this area to settle on.

To relate Fishkill to the surrounding area, it was a crossroads in the *land transportation network* in the 18th and 19th centuries. An important road, Kings Highway, which connected Albany to New York City, intersected with a major overland route from New England to the Hudson River here. Fishkill became one of the largest Colonial



military encampments during the *Revolutionary War*. Fun fact, even General Washington’s aide,

Alexander Hamilton stayed here! In 1778, it served as a headquarters for the Northern Department of the Continental Army.



The *Trinity Church* was organized in 1756 and the building was created in 1760. It was actually used as a hospital during the Revolutionary War for wounded soldiers. The *First Dutch Reformed Church* was organized in 1716 and was built in 1731. Since the 4th Provincial Convention of New York met at that church, it was the *state capital* until it was changed to Kingston in 1777. The Village of Fishkill was incorporated May 1, 1899 and became a municipality. *Henry Dubois Van Wyck* was elected as the Village's President (a title that came before Mayor). He built the Van Wyck Hall "as a theater but, in the latter part of 1901, his relatives deeded the Hall to the Village requesting that the Declaration of Independence be read every July 4th on the steps of the Hall," (A Brief History). 2012 even marked the 111th consecutive reading of the Declaration here!

In addition to historical figures from the Revolutionary War, Fishkill also has had many famous people grace its ground. To start off, *Josh Butler*, a professional baseball player for the Tampa Bay Rays, got his start here in Fishkill playing for the Hudson Valley Renegades. Next, *Mariah Carey* was even spotted here for her Camp Mariah event. The children were thrilled to hang out with Mariah and she even donated a million dollars to the Fresh Air Fund. Next, *Robert Garrow* is infamous in Fishkill. He was a rapist and spree killer, taking the lives of four victims. On a nicer note (literally), Cecilwood Theater was home to many famous celebrities.



Barbara Rosenblat, from “Orange is the New Black,” even started her career here! Another, maybe more well-known celebrity, *Barbra Streisand* performed in *The Boyfriend* when she was just 18 years old!

As you can tell, Fishkill has a rich history directly related to *America's beginning*. It was home to revolutionary hospitals and new reformed churches. It also was home to many celebrities the majority of the population know. Come visit *Fishkill* to see the history!

Works Cited

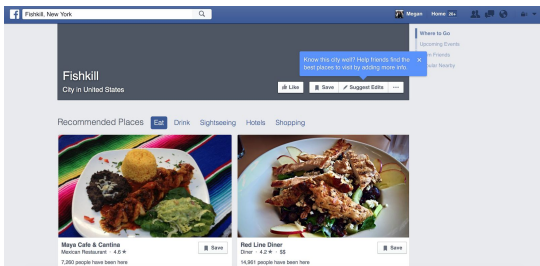
"A Brief History." *Village of Fishkill*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Mar. 2016.

McRae, Mary Ann. "A Fishy Name Will Stay." *CNN*. Cable News Network, 6 Sept. 1996. Web. 15 Mar. 2016.

Megan Beiermeister

Tourism Development

In the modern era of 2016, almost all aspects of life are documented on some sort of social media. Most important cities, towns, and monuments have websites and accounts dedicated to all information pertaining to them. Fishkill, New York, is one of these towns; having varying Social Media accounts dedicated to tourism development. The social Medias that exist pertaining to Fishkill are *Facebook*, *Twitter*, *the township website*, *YouTube*, and *Snapchat*.



The *Facebook* account that currently exists in dedication to Fishkill is very up to date. It offers a variety of restaurants, bars, sight-seeing locations, hotels, and shopping venues for tourists who are looking to embrace the

culture of what Fishkill has to offer. This *Facebook* account is currently the most beneficial tourism strategy that exists for Fishkill. The *Twitter* that exists for Fishkill is one primarily dedicated to the local news; for improvement in tourism development I believe creating a *Twitter* that gives updates on sight-seeing locations or trendy restaurants would be more beneficial. *Twitter* is such a powerful social media with the ability to retweet and favorite various tweets that a *Twitter* account that advertises the benefits of Fishkill would spread information at a viral rate greatly benefiting the tourism development. The township information website, although containing a plethora of information on Fishkill, such as news, departments, boards and meetings, community information, calendars, and contact information is more beneficial for local Fishkill residents rather than tourists. The website is more suited for people who need to know basic everyday information, rather than a tourist looking for fun and exciting sightseeing, hotels,

and restaurants. This website would need to create a portion that was just dedicated to people visiting Fishkill rather than suited to those who have a permanent resident there. The *YouTube* account is also more suited for locals with video clips of events and varying board meetings. The *YouTube* account could substantially improve tourism development if the *YouTube* videos previewed different locations that tourists visiting Fishkill would go to. *Snapchat* is very up to date and offers an awesome geofilter when someone is located in Fishkill. While group 5, aka the Hudson Horses, were visiting Fishkill they experienced firsthand the geofilter in its exciting nature. *Instagram* on the other hand did not have an account existing on Fishkill. There is an existing location tag that contains approximately ten-thousand posts of people visiting or those living in Fishkill New York.

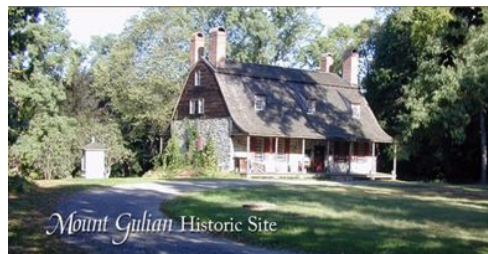
In Conclusion, for the tourism development to improve I believe the creation of a Fishkill Instagram account is necessary, because *Instagram* is such a popular source of social media. People of all age groups check *Instagram* and other varying Social Medias on a daily basis, making it evident that it is in Fishkill's best interest for tourism development to create various tourist friendly social media accounts. Overall the tourism development that exists for Fishkill needs to be improved by developing a new *Instagram* and improving the *Twitter*, *YouTube*, and the township information website by making them all more tourism friendly. With these minor improvements there will be a guaranteed increase in tourism in the beautiful town of Fishkill.

Key Sites

Ashley Skrec

Fishkill is filled with amazing tourist opportunities for people of all ages. It is home to numerous sites that are historically important and capture the essence of the town. After visiting a few, tourists will get a sense of the significance that the Hudson River Valley held in the past and still holds today.

The first and most significant site is the *Van Wyck Homestead Museum*. This Dutch Colonial house played a major role during the *Revolutionary War* when it became the headquarters of the *Fishkill Supply Depot* that served the northern branch of the Continental Army. It was a military camp and storage yard that provided resources to troops. The house today contains original woodwork and relics from the depot in addition to 18th century furniture. Anyone can go on an informative tour of this museum!



overlooking the Hudson River. This property shows what it looked like living in the 18th century. Many important people have lived here or have had a major influence on events while here. For instance, the house served as the headquarters of *Major General von Steuben* during the American Revolutionary War. It was also the site of the founding of the *Society of Cincinnati*. Aside from adults, children will enjoy

visiting Mount Gulian because many events like children's tea and dinner with president Roosevelt are held at this National Historic Landmark.

Another key site in Fishkill is *Trinity Church*, which is an Episcopal Church offering weekly services and programs. This church has a lot of rich history. For example, General Washington's army used the building as a *hospital* during the Revolutionary war. As a result, many patriots are buried in the churchyard. It is neat for tourists to see a building that was so important during the war for our nation's independence.



In addition, Fishkill is home of the *First Dutch Reformed Church*. This church is



currently open and holds weekly services if tourists wish to attend. Aside from services, tourists may want to visit because it once *housed prisoners of war* during the American Revolution. It also served as the seat of state government when the British forced the New York provincial Congress out of NYC and White Plains. Clearly, Fishkill was an important town in the past and visiting a site like this church can inform tourists all about it.

Lastly, *Sarah Taylor Park* is located in Fishkill and is a great place for people to visit and relax. Located on Old Main Street, the park has over 45 acres of land and beautiful landscape along the Fishkill Creek. Whether they want to take a stroll on the track, kick a ball on the soccer field, or catch fish, tourist will have plenty



to do. The park allows one to see the beauty of Fishkill and all of its tranquil views. In addition, many of the town's events such as the Rotary Club's "Duck Race" take place here. The park represents the welcoming attitude and loving community aspects of Fishkill.

Each of these sites offer wonderful educational experiences and opportunities for tourists of any age. If these places are visited, people will understand the significance of Fishkill.

Wayside Sign - Lindsay

Imagine driving on route nine and coming across a sign that says Van Wyck Homestead



Museum. Curious as to what this museum is about, you follow the signs all the way to the parking lot. You pull up to a small house with red shutters and a red wooden sign that says Van Wyck Homestead Museum. You look around and it is very quiet so you proceed to the front door. Approaching the door you examine the original woodwork and 19th century furniture located inside the house.

Wayside Exhibits are very useful to tourists and anyone that is visiting an area that they are not familiar with. It goes in depth about a particular area of a place. It may talk about the history or anything that is important for the general area that it is looking at.

Now imagine you are standing outside of the front door and to the left of the stairs is something that looks like a bulletin board. Nothing is posted on it so you take a closer look.

Across the top it says Van Wyck Homestead Museum.

Underneath it has bulleted points talking about the history of the building and what you are going to walk into. Now, you feel prepared and ready to explore the museum having background knowledge of the homestead.



The wayside exhibit focuses on our first key site, The Van Wyck Homestead Museum. The museum started out as a house built in 1732 by a farmer named Cornelius Van Wyck. He started it out as a one to three room house that was very simple. It eventually grew as time went on. He bought 959 acres of land from Madam Brett. Now, only one acre is left due to the recent

construction of I-84 and its exit ramps. The Van Wyck Homestead served as Headquarters for the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. George Washington, John Jay and Alexander Hamilton are just some important people that stayed at the Van Wyck Homestead during the Revolutionary War.

Today the museum treasures the original woodwork, furniture, and the different paintings from the time period. Individuals can go and tour the house and learn more about the history. It gives tourists the feeling that they are walking through a house during this time period.

I chose the background of the wayside sign to be an actual picture of the Van Wyck Museum to give the audience a taste of what the house looks like. It gives it the effect of actually looking like a sign that you would see at a national park or nature trail. The information provided on the wayside exhibit talks mostly about the history of the museum.

In conclusion, Fishkill has a lot to offer when it comes to the history and value of the town. The Van Wyck Homestead Museum is just one of the sites where tourists and residents can go to understand, view and preserve the history of Fishkill.

Gloria Jung

Highway sign & Hall of Famer (Robert Garrow)

A town known as “the place where two waters meet” in Dutchess County’s southwest area, Fishkill, is about 60 miles off of the northern part of New York City. The Native Americans used to refer to Fishkill as “Tioranda.” This nomenclature is defined as: “the place where two waters meet.” According to the 2010 census, the general public’s population is a little over 22,000 residents.

The highway sign displays the definition of its original name by the Native Americans. It displays the route that would be taken to reach the destination (the location of the town). It A well known murder spree was carried out by Robert Garrow. A husband and father was fired from many blue-collar occupations was destitute and could not improve his life. He was working at a fast food restaurant when he robbed the function as well as participate in an abusive homosexual relationship. In 1961, he was taken in for rape and spent time behind bars (seven years). After his release, he continued to rape. However he continued a series of rapes on young children and these later escalated to murder. In July 1973, he



kidnapped and repeatedly raped (eventually resulting to a fatal end) an adolescent camper in the Adirondacks. The largest manhunt in New York State history was carried out at the time in New York. A Conservation officer cornered him and shot him in three places (foot, arm, and back). It was claimed that he was “partially paralyzed.” Doctors at the hospital he was taken to denied this

claim. Garrow sued New York state (for \$10 million) due to negligent treatment and malpractice at the hospital and by the doctors. Garrow was transferred to a medium security prison in



exchange for dropping the lawsuit. However, Garrow lied again. He was faking his partial paralysis. The manhunt that lasted twelve days in search for a man who consistently lied, manipulated, raped, tortured, and murdered young children.

It is terrible to even entertain such thoughts that such horrifying people exist in a town such as Fishkill and have an encyclopedia of several killers and rapists.

Unlike the late 1900s, today it is a much safer

environment of residents with a better security

blanketing the town. Fishkill is equipped with a better

staff and system that will allow residents to feel

comfortable and at ease in their homes.

As you can tell, Fishkill has a rich history

directly related to America's beginning. It was home to

revolutionary hospitals and new

reformed churches. It also was

home to many celebrities the

majority of the population know.

WANTED BY THE NEW YORK STATE POLICE FOR MURDER (WARRANT ISSUED)



ROBERT FRANCIS GARROW, SR.

Description: white - male - 34 - DOB - March 4, 1934 - 5'11" - well built - brown hair (shaved on top) - blue eyes - ("Foster Grant" type) glasses Varied Density "adjust to light" - brown frames - slight speech impediment - tattoo "Man and Dog" and a heart on left forearm - scar index finger right hand - tip of thumb left hand - large nose - 148 pounds - (shave left thigh - small scar left eyebrow - bridge of nose - left upper and pointed lower denture - habit of always wearing a hat and being clean shaven. When last seen: was wearing forest green workpants and medium blue long-sleeved sport shirt.

When last seen was wearing forest green workpants and medium blue long-sleeved sport shirt. (Aug. 3, 1973). Residence: 11 Barry Avenue, Fishkill, N. Y. - has relatives in Whitehall - Port Jervis and Milford (Glenn County) and Schenectady, N. Y.

Has extensive record for rape and various sex crimes usually involving females under the age of 16 - Burglary - Grand Larceny - Attempted Robbery. DOB - 030334 - FBI - 107702

CAUTION

SUBJECT IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS
Is known to be armed with a 30-06 cal. Old lever-action rifle, unknown quantity of ammunition, and a knife of unknown description.

ANY INFORMATION CONTACT: NEW YORK STATE POLICE

Troop 8
Westport, New York
Telephone: 518-346-7811 or 862-8235
873-2111 or 585-8200
OR ANY STATE POLICE STATION

Terror in the Adirondacks



The True Story of Serial Killer Robert F. Garrow

Lawrence P. Gooley

There is a lot that Fishkill can offer to demonstrate from its interesting stories of the past to the present point in time today. Overall, Fishkill has many more well known figures to represent the history that is related to America's beginning as well as aspects such as its Dutch history, the Van Wyck Homestead Museum, the multifaceted hall of famers, and updated social media platforms.

Work Cited: "Robert Garrow | Murderpedia, the Encyclopedia of Murderers." *Robert Garrow | Murderpedia, the Encyclopedia of Murderers*. N.p., n.d. Web. 16 Mar. 2016.

"Adirondack Killer Who Sparked 12-day Manhunt Remembered 40 Years Later." - *The Denver Post*. N.p., n.d. Web. 16 Mar. 2016.

Final Summary Synthesis

A town known as “the place where two waters meet” in Dutchess County’s southwest area, Fishkill, is about 60 miles off of the northern part of New York City. The Native Americans used to refer to Fishkill as “Tioranda.” Most important cities, towns, and monuments have websites and accounts dedicated to all information pertaining to them. Fishkill, New York, is one of these towns; having varying Social Media accounts dedicated to tourism development. The social Medias that exist pertaining to Fishkill are Facebook, Twitter, the township website, YouTube, and Snapchat. It is home to numerous sites that are historically important and capture the essence of the town.

The history of the town of Fishkill revolves around the Dutch people who settled there in New York. It was originally part of the Rombout Patent licensed from the Wappingers Indians who had received it originally from the Crown in 1685.

The name Fishkill came from two Dutch words “vis” (fish) and “kil” (stream). There are many theories about how this town received its name. PETA actually asked



Fishkill to change its name to “fishsave” because of the violent imagery that comes with the name Fishkill. The name wasn’t changed once PETA understood the translation and the town argued that they loved the name of their home (McRae). In 1714, the Dutch found this area to settle on.

The first and most significant site is the Van Wyck Homestead Museum. This Dutch Colonial house played a major role during the Revolutionary War when it became the

headquarters of the Fishkill Supply Depot that served the northern branch of the Continental Army. It was a military camp and storage yard that provided resources to troops. The house today contains original woodwork and relics from the depot in addition to 18th century furniture. Anyone can go on an informative tour of this museum!

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boards and meetings, community information, calendars, and contact information is more beneficial for local Fishkill residents rather than tourists.

In conclusion, Fishkill has a very well-rounded community of residents and places to visit and explore. The town of southwest of New York's Dutchess County has changed so much from then and now and truly deserves a genuine audience to admire the beauty it hides as a town.

Final Case Study

Itinerary

Megan Beiermeister

The final case study allowed me to create a fun and educational trip through the town of Fishkill. I created an itinerary using what I thought would be the most enjoyable dining, hotel, and historical locations. My itinerary included where each meal would be eaten, the hotel where they would be staying, the sites they would be visiting, and the directions to and from each differing place. The key sites I chose to be most important to visit were *Sarah Taylor Park*, *Van Wyck Homestead Museum*, and *Mount Gulian*. The trip starts with the drive to *Sarah Taylor Park* where the day will be spent participating in a lot of differing outdoor activities and a nice lunch under the gazebo. After spending the day in the park they will head to *The Tomato Cafe* around 6 to eat dinner, and after head back to *The Hilton Garden Inn* where they will be staying through the duration of their trip. I chose to have them go to the *Sarah Taylor Park* because it is over 45 acres of picturesque parkland along the Fishkill Creek.

Day two will include a hotel breakfast then they will head to the *Van Wyck Museum*. I chose the *Van Wyck Museum* because it became headquarters of the Fishkill Supply Depot which served the northern branch of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War in 1775. After the two hour tour of the *Van Wyck Museum* they will walk around Fishkill and grab some lunch. After lunch they will go back to *The Hilton Garden Inn*, relax and change, and then go to dinner at *Grand Centro Grill* for an early 5:30 dinner.

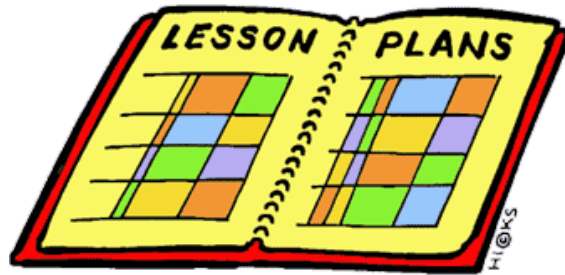
Day three will start the same way as day two with a hotel breakfast and then they will head over to *Mount Gulian*. I chose *Mount Gulian* because it is a national historic landmark that

served as the headquarters of General Von Steuben, inspector General of the Continental Army, during the final days of the Revolution. After the tour has ended they will go to a Dunkin Donuts or Starbucks to grab a quick snack and then go back to the hotel. Around 6 they will head to *// Grille and Spirits* for dinner for their final night in Fishkill.

Day four is the travel home day; they will wake up, eat a 9 am breakfast, and leave for the travel back home. The trip home will involve reminiscing of the fabulous trip to Fishkill and the many memories that were made throughout.



dreamstime.com



Lesson Plans

Sarah Coshal

I created *lesson plans* for all five key sites in Fishkill that are very independent of each other. These five sites are: the *Van Wyck Homestead Museum*, *Sarah Taylor Park*, *Mount Gulian*, *Trinity Church* and the *First Dutch Reformed Church*. Even though we are going to two churches, I wanted to make the lessons different for each of them so the students would be learning the *maximum amount about the history of Fishkill*. I feel like all of these ideas would be a complete success if you brought a class of fourth or fifth graders from the Hudson River Valley. Let's start our trip!

First is the *Van Wyck Homestead Museum*. The overview of the lesson is as follows: Pick a side! You are now a Patriot or Loyalist. After viewing and learning about the history of the Van Wyck Homestead Museum, you will now be part of the action. The *character* may be a man, woman, or child; a trade person, slave, tenant farmer, manor owner, or soldier; Patriot or Loyalist. A *worksheet* will be given out to get the students thinking about who they want to be. Once the characters are well thought out, ask students to make *regular journal entries* as their character. You may want to ask them to draw a picture of their character and/or the person's home or workplace. Students can share these out loud when they are finished and the journals

can be shown on display in the classroom library. I think this lesson will ensure that the students will think creatively about the time period of the *Revolutionary war*, which is what most of my lessons revolve around. I think making it more *personalized* will help them connect to the characters they are creating.

My favorite lesson plan would be the one for *Mount Gulian*. Here, you will be *James F. Brown* for the day! Groups of four will be given cards with the pictures of different *vegetables and fruits* on them that would've been planted by Brown in 1837. You must decide when and where to plant your food. We will then create a *timeline of crops* and discuss how different crop seasons impact what we eat throughout the year. I like this because it incorporates *group work* and pulls in issues from the current time as well. We can discuss how lucky we are that we can have so many different crops throughout the entire year, not just their harvesting time.

At *Sarah Taylor Park*, the class will *reenact scenes from the Revolutionary War*. They will learn how to shoot a wood musket. They will also compare and contrast the lives of *British and American soldiers*. At *Trinity Church*, we will be learning about how towns were formed around churches. We will also be doing *grave rubbings* and a scavenger hunt in the graveyard at this church. At the *First Dutch Reformed Church*, the students will think like *architects* from the 1700s. They will use methods and materials from the time the church was built to create a *draft of a building* they will be making for Fishkill.

Here is my link with all of my completed lesson plans and worksheets:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ziiBXXKj1mFFl8_NQHibHH48aVbXqGa6As-uCUZskXgM/edit?usp=sharing

Wayside Exhibit

Lindsay

You are driving through New York State, heading north on Route 9 and you come across a town called Fishkill. Curious as to what kind of area Fishkill is, you start driving around the town. You come across multiple different locations that you want to explore a little more.

First you come across the *Sarah Taylor Park*. You pull into a parking lot that looks out to a large field with soccer fields, walking paths and picnic tables. You get out of your car and walk towards a wayside exhibit. You read about the park and what the town uses the park for.



Next you end up at the *First Dutch Reformed Church*. When you pull up out front you realize that there is another wayside exhibit so you can quickly learn about the building and the buildings history.

You learn how the church came to be in Fishkill and you realize that it has a very important role for the town and it is a historic



building that the community members love and cherish.



After visiting the *First Dutch Reformed Church* you end up at *Trinity Church*, another very important location in Fishkill. While viewing the

wayside exhibit at *Trinity Church* you learn that the church would have never existed if it were not for the 100 families that wanted a church in their town. You also learn about the structure and architecture of the church.

You leave the *Trinity Church* and you end up the *Van Wyck Homestead Museum*. You see the wayside exhibit to the left of the house and you go over to read it. Here you learn about the land, architecture and the purpose of the museum before it became a museum.

Lastly you come across *Mount Gulian*. You pass a sign that says “Mount Gulian, Verplanck Homestead, 1730” while driving up a curvy driveway, you pull up next to the house. You get out and peek through some windows but you realize that you came when the house was closed. When you go around back you find a beautiful, lush, green garden. Here you find a wayside exhibit. Curious about the property you read it. You find out who designed the garden, who managed the garden and who finally took responsibility for the garden. You find out about what is planted here and you view what the original garden layout plan had looked like.



Mount Gulian garden in full bloom,
Spring 2006.*

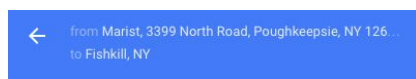
Originally I created the wayside signs to look like the one I made for the midterm, after making them I decided to redo all of them. I started over and created a completely different sign. The signs I created, although do not replicate what most wayside signs look like, I think they still get the information out to the viewers and it is much easier to read the information when it has a solid background behind the words. I incorporated pictures that I thought grasped what each wayside sign was talking about.

Highway Entrance Markers

Gloria Jung

A town in Dutchess County's southwest area known as "the place where two waters meet," Fishkill, is about 60 miles off of the northern part of New York City. Formerly known by the Native Americans as: "Tioranda," was defined to mean: "the place where two waters meet." According to the 2010 census, the general public's population is a little over 22,000 residents. East Fishkill was the original name of the southwest area of Dutchess.

The directions from Marist to Fishkill are fairly easy within distance depending on the route taken. The shortest



26 min (13.9 miles)

via U.S. 9 S

24 min without traffic

Marist

3399 North Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

↑ Head north toward Waterworks Rd
▲ Restricted usage road

26 ft

➔ Turn right onto Waterworks Rd

292 ft

↑ Waterworks Rd turns right and becomes Edvard Bech Dr

0.5 mi

➔ Turn right onto U.S. 9 S

13.2 mi

↻ Make a U-turn

354 ft

Fishkill, NY

time to quickly get to Fishkill

is by taking the Waterworks

road from the North Road, turning right onto the Waterworks

road, following this road slight right onto Edvard Bech drive,

another right onto the U.S. 9 South, and a U-turn to arrive at the

destination. The total distance for this 26 minute trip is 13.9 miles.

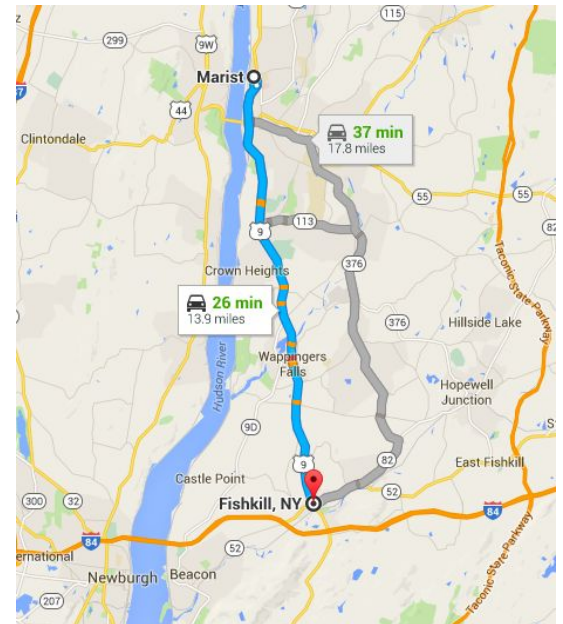
To make the trip easier to locate and visit, I have chosen the

following highway markers: near Morehouse Tavern at NYS 52

and NYS 216 at Stormville, near Town And County Line at

County Road which is a mile West of Pecksville by the

Dutchess-Putnam County line, near the Town Line at the NYS 52 in Wicopee, NYS 216 about a



mile East of Stormville, and on US 9 about 1/8 of a mile North of the Dutchess-Putnam County Line. This is a total of five highway entrance markers which may seem excessive however, are locations where Fishkill's well known historic markers such as the Town Line and County Line.

The highway sign displays the definition of its original name by the Native Americans. It displays the route that would be taken to reach the destination (the location of the town). As you can tell, Fishkill has a rich history directly related to America's beginning. It was home to



revolutionary hospitals and new reformed churches. It also was home to many celebrities the majority of the population know. There is a lot that Fishkill can offer to demonstrate from its interesting stories of the past to the present point in time today.

The highway markers and entrance sign were placed where the routes would be directed toward Fishkill's history and story of what it stands for today. Fishkill is known to be an amazing place to be a residence of and there is even a highway department for East Fishkill. The highway superintendent is Mr. William McClellan. The location of the department building is 2484 Route 52 in Hopewell Junction, New York 12533. The highway department office hours are 6:00 am to 2:30 pm on weekdays. Information can be found specifically on their website (<http://www.eastfishkillny.org/node/61>). On this website, there is not only contact information, business hours, and general details but also specific notices for the town about trash pickup and the roadways. An example of a notice that was posted is about keeping trashcans out of the way

and off the roads due to the town sweepers on the roadways and the delay that they will probably result to on all of the 194 miles of the town roads.

Overall, Fishkill has many more well known figures to represent the history that is related to America's beginning as well as aspects such as its Dutch history, the Van Wyck Homestead Museum, the multifaceted hall of famers, and updated social media platforms.

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Guidebook Pages

Ashley Skrec

I was in charge of drawing people to Fishkill and then guiding them through the town to reach the key sites. I accomplished this by making a guidebook. I included all of the information one would need to understand what the site is, how and when to go there, and how to learn additional information.

First, the *Van Wyck Homestead Museum* located on *Route 9* is easily accessible. This site was the *headquarters of Putnam* and of the *Fishkill Supply Depot*, which served the northern branch of the *Continental Army* during the *Revolutionary War*. It was the setting for the mock trial of Continental spy *Enoch Crosby* in James Fenimore Cooper's novel, *The Spy*. People can visit on *Saturdays or Sundays* from 1-4 p.m. in *June-October*. Aside from looking at the colonial crafts and depot relics, one can go on a trail and walk past historic monuments. Furthermore, visitors can see the graves of soldiers from the American Revolution who were buried at the Fishkill Supply Depot. There is much history here.



Next, *Mount Gulian* is on *Sterling Street* and is open on *Wednesday-Friday and Sunday* from 1-5 p.m. in *April-October*. Visitors should stop here because this *Dutch Colonial house* served as the headquarters of *Von Steuben*, inspector General of the Continental Army, during the final days of the Revolution. Today, the house is the headquarters of the *New York State Society of the Cincinnati*, which was founded there. The house contains a

museum with *Revolutionary War collections* and gift shop. Also, there is a barn and garden. To learn more, visitors can go to <http://www.mountgulian.org/> to book their tour!

Another site is *Trinity Church*, which was organized in 1756 and used as a *hospital* by General Washington's army during the *Revolutionary War*. The site consists of the church building, graveyard where patriots were buried, and parish house. It is an *Episcopal church* that holds



services every Sunday. At the intersection of *Route 9 and 52*, it is easy for visitors to see a historical place or to go to a service! All of this and more can be found at <http://www.trinityfishkill.org>.

Another historical church is located in Fishkill on Main Street. The website <http://www.fishkillreformed.org> states that services are held there every Sunday at 10 a.m.. One can see that the *First Dutch Reformed Church* is significant because it housed *prisoners of war*



during the *American Revolution*. It served as the *seat of state government* when the British forced the New York Provincial Congress out of NYC and White Plains. The church is a historic building in Dutchess County and there is a house, food pantry, and education building run by the church. It is a great place for people to visit, attend a service, or see a concert!

Lastly, the guidebook informs visitors of a great place to see the beauty of Fishkill: *Sarah Taylor Park*. The Village of Fishkill website contains information about this park located on Old Main Street. Consisting of 45 acres of picturesque parkland along Fishkill Creek, there are soccer fields, tracks, a



playground and more. This site is important because many *community events* are held here such as the Rotary Duck Race. Also, visitors can get a true feel of the community aspect of Fishkill here.

There are many educational and fun things to do in Fishkill. Since the guidebook pages contain the information stated above, it is easy for visitors to be inspired to come here and have an easy time reaching their destination.

Final Summary/Synthesis

Fishkill is a beautiful and exciting place to bring students to! Creating an itinerary was an easy task because Fishkill offers both historical and entertaining places to visit on a field trip. Starting at Sarah Taylor Park, students will enjoy the scenery and fresh air the park provides. We will all be able to take a class picture in the famous gazebo here! All of the restaurants included are child-friendly and will satisfy everyone's cravings no matter what the temperature is. The Hilton Garden Inn will provide a safe place for the students and teachers to unwind and reminisce about their exciting days! Four days in Fishkill will show these students everything that Fishkill has to offer!

The lesson plans that are for each key site are creative and fun for students to participate in. There are group activities and individual activities so every child will like them. These five sites are: the *Van Wyck Homestead Museum*, *Sarah Taylor Park*, *Mount Gulian*, *Trinity Church* and the *First Dutch Reformed Church*. One lesson plan involves becoming someone from the Revolutionary War period and creating a journal, another activity is to reenact scenes from the war, one puts the students as farmers from the time, we will do grave rubbings and talk about how churches were formed, and last we will draft our own building like we were creating it at the time they created the historic buildings in Fishkill. The students will have too much information to share with their parents by the time they are home!

The guidebook pages display everything you need to know about the key sites. These pages are an integral part to the field trip because they have important phone numbers for all five key sites in case plans change. Directions and descriptions are also included on these pages.

Copies of these pages will be handed out to chaperones or group leaders to ensure everyone will stay together and safe!

Next, the Wayside Signs sum up the important aspects of every key site we have chosen to visit. The students can visit these and begin to think about what we will be learning in class and what activity we will be doing at the location. This will help the teacher with beginning discussion questions to get the gears turning in the student's' minds. These beautiful displays are an easy way to involve everyone in the class in a discussion about the basics of the key sites.

Last, the Highway markers are extremely helpful because they are on Google Maps. They provide a visual of the site and encourage people on the highway to come visit the historical side of Fishkill. It will also bring people in to eat at the cafes and restaurants around the sites, which will help the economy of Fishkill. These highway signs are beautiful and easily seen from the highway, they include the seal of Fishkill and everything you need to know to get to your location.

All in all, Fishkill is a perfect place to bring students on a field trip. It has beautiful scenery and equally as beautiful historic landmarks. A slogan that many people use regarding Fishkill is, "A great place to live, a town where the people come first." I think this is very accurate of Fishkill because it has a beautiful community and was formed around churches and central buildings and the people had great relationships with each other from the formation of this town. This field trip will be AMAZING! Fishkill: where two waters meet and the fish compete!