wo hundred twenty-five years ago, the Hudson River Valley was the major theater of the Revolutionary War, what George Washington referred to as the "Key to Victory." Each year through 2008, the region will observe Patriots' Weekend to commemorate and celebrate the War for American Independence. Patriots' Weekend, 2006 will highlight the 225th anniversary of the campaign in 1781 by General George Washington and the Continental Army and General Jean Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur, comte de Rochambeau and his French Expeditionary Corps first to lay siege to General Sir Henry Clinton's army in New York City and later to surround the main Southern British army under General Charles Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia.

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"The March to Victory—The Crossing at King's Ferry"

On August 14, 1781, once Washington acquiesced to Rochambeau's plan to move against Lt. Gen. Charles Lord Cornwallis's army in Virginia, they both quickly set their armies in motion. Starting on August 18th the French retraced the steps of their original march through New York through North Castle (*Mt. Kisco*), crossed the Croton River at Pine's Bridge, camped

at Hunt's Tavern (*Yorktown*) and then Verplanck's Point. The American army, some 2,700-strong, marched from Philipsburg (*Greenburgh*) along the Hudson River crossing the New Jersey Line and Hazan's Regiment at Dobbs Ferry on August 19 and the rest at King's Ferry on August 20-21. From August 21-26, some 4,200 French soldiers crossed the Hudson River at King's Ferry to Stony Point.

THE Ludson Viver Valley Institute
A T M A R I S T C O/L L E G E

The Hudson River Valley Institute (HRVI) at Marist College is the center for the study of the Hudson River Valley, serving as the central hub of information about the region that gives the Institute its name. Its mission is to study and to promote the Hudson River Valley. As the academic arm of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, HRVI is increasing public awareness about the significance of America's First River in the history of New York and the United States. By providing educational resources, including the *Hudson River Valley Review*, HRVI serves heritage tourists, scholars, elementary and secondary school educators, environmental organizations, the business community, and the general public seeking to know more about the region that has been called "the Landscape that defined America." The Hudson River Valley Digital Library serves as an online resource and portal to other information from libraries, historical societies, and historic sites.

Dr. Thomas Wermuth, *Director* • Dr. James M. Johnson, *Executive Director* • Christopher Pryslopski, *Program Director* Hudson River Valley Institute • Marist College, 3399 North Rd., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-1387 • www.hudsonrivervalley.org



Friday, August 25, 2006

VERPLANCK, NY, Firehouse, 238 8th Street

The Charlotte Cunneen-Hackett Charitable Trust Lecture in Hudson River Valley History sponsored by the Hudson River Valley Institute, the Cortlandt Historical Society, and the Town of Cortlandt

7:30 P.M. "The Franco-American Encampment at Philipsburg and the Crossing of the Hudson, 6 July to 23 August 1781," Dr. Robert A. Selig, Project Historian, the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route. (The Cortlandt Historical Society will serve light refreshments after the lecture.)

(Please make your reservations for the lecture by calling (914) 739-0823 or writing Kingsferry@aol.com.)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2006

OLD CEMETERY AT VAN CORTLANDTVILLE, CORNER OF OREGON ROAD AND LOCUST AVENUE, VAN CORTLANDTVILLE

9:30 A.M. Memorial service for the French soldiers who died in Van Cortlandtville sponsored by the Van Cortlandtville Historical Society and the Old Van Cortlandtville Cemetery Association. Madame Chantal Chauvin, Deputy Consul General of France in New York, will be the honored guest.

VERPLANCK'S POINT,

VERPLANCK AND STONY POINT BATTLEFIELD, NY

10:00 A.M. Site opens to public; 18th century soldiers' camp and military activities all day. Music demonstration at the Overlook. Public and media meet General Washington and General Rochambeau

10:30 A.M. Drill and Tactical Weapons Demonstration1:00 P.M. Re-dedication of the New York State marker at the Post-Hannock House

2:00 P.M. Re-creation of the crossing of the Hudson River by the French and American armies; Generals Washington and Rochambeau oversee troop movement to Stony Point from Steamboat Dock and speak to public and media.

3:00 P.M. Drill at Verplanck's and Stony Point



5:00 P.M. Military Retreat; camp closes to public until evening

8:00 P.M. People of the Brigade

8:30 P.M. Period music at the Gazebo

9:00 P.M. Fireworks at Steamboat Dock; camp closes to public after fireworks

Sunday, August 27, 2006

VERPLANCK'S POINT, VERPLANCK, NY

9:30 A.M. Site opens to public; 18th century soldiers' camp and military activities all day; morning divine services at the Overlook

10:00 A.M. Music demonstration at the Overlook

11:00 A.M. Drill and Tactical Weapons Demonstration

11:30 A.M. Ladies Tea at the Gazebo; boat display in the Hudson River

1:00 P.M. Naval and Land Tactical Weapons Demonstration

2:00 P.M. Memorial for soldiers killed at Fort Lafayette

3:00 P.M. Military Retreat; camp closes to public

SUFFERN, NY

3:00 P.M. Special Film Presentation at the Historic Lafayette Theatre

5:00 P.M. March the W3R to Suffern Village Hall (Start at Route 202, proceed along Washington Avenue to Village Hall)

5:30 P.M. Festive Commemoration and Re-Dedication of the Suffern French Army Camp Marker, Washington and Lafayette Avenues



HUDSON RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA THE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY INSTITUTE TOWN OF CORTLANDT & MARIST COLLEGE CHARLOTTE CUNNEEN-HACKETT CHARITABLE TRUST M&T BANK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION







The mission of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area is to recognize, preserve, protect and interpret the nationally significant cultural and natural resources of the Hudson River Valley for the benefit of the nation. To learn more about the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, visit www.hudsonrivervalley.com.



Brigade of the American Revolution Samuel Adams, The Boston Beer Company The Charlotte Cunneen-Hackett Charitable Trust

Cortlandt Historical Society

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Emanuel

1st New York Continental Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution

Hudson River Valley Greenway

Hudson River Valley Institute

Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

King Marina

The M&T Bank Charitable Foundation

Mabee Farm (Schenectady County Historical Society)

Marist College

Old Van Cortlandtville Cemetery Association

The Palisades Interstate Park Commission

Town of Cortlandt

Town of Ramapo

Van Cortlandtville Historical Society

Viking Boat Yard

Village of Suffern

The Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.

Hudson River Valley Institute Marist College 3399 North Road Poughkeepsie, New York 12601-1387



The Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College, the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, the Brigade of the American Revolution, the Town of Cortlandt, Town of Ramapo, and the Palisades Interstate Park Commission Present:





Washington & Rochambeau in New York AUGUST 25-27, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE

www.hudsonrivervalley.org

www.Brigade.org

Art: "Soissonnais Regiment 1781" Courtesy of David R. Wagner • http://www.davidrwagner.com/