

AMERICAN HERITAGE

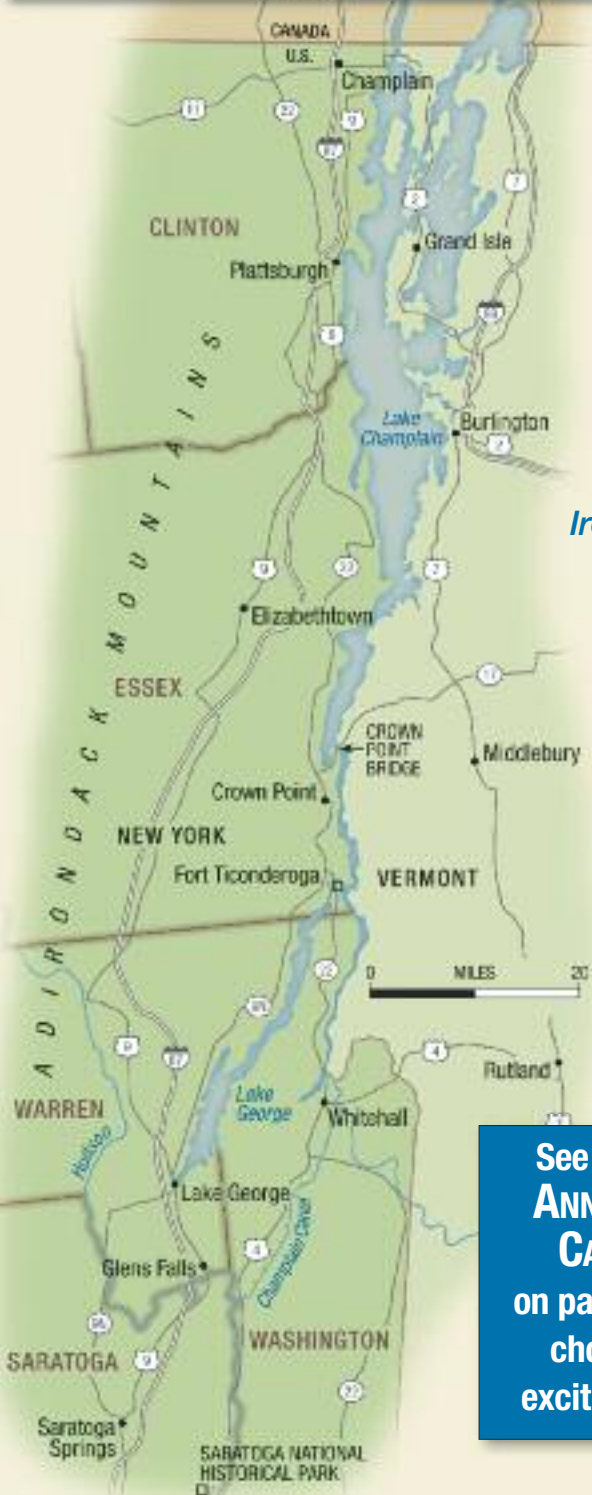


Guide to Historic Sites of the Hudson River & Champlain Region

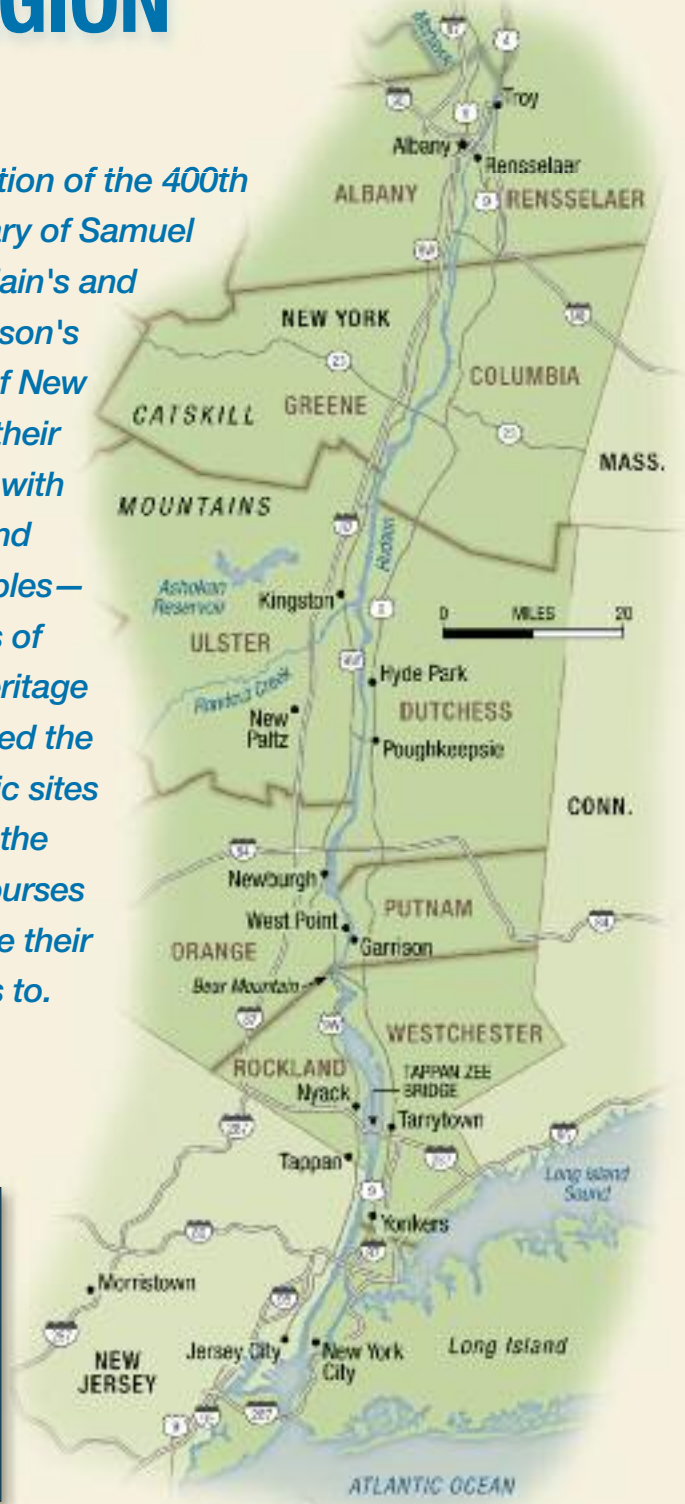


Great American Places®

NEW YORK'S HUDSON RIVER AND LAKE CHAMPLAIN REGION



In celebration of the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's and Henry Hudson's exploration of New York—and their encounters with Lenape and Iroquoian peoples—the editors of American Heritage have selected the top historic sites along the watercourses they gave their names to.



See our 400th ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR on page NY 10—chockfull of exciting events!

ALBANY COUNTY

Historic Cherry Hill

Home to the Van Rensselaer-Rankin family—one of the clans known as the “Hudson River manor lords”—from 1787 to 1963, the Georgian-style estate contains more than 20,000 objects and 30,000 manuscript documents amassed over five generations. Visitors can take guided tours of the mansion or participate in programs, such as the “Behind-the-Scenes Murder Investigation Tour,” which examines the 1827 murder of John Whipple at Cherry Hill. (518) 434-4791 or www.historiccherryhill.org

Ten Broeck Mansion

Completed 209 years ago by Gen. Abraham Ten Broeck, the New York Militia commander at the Battle of Saratoga in the fall of 1777, the Federal-style home has since undergone two major renovations in the Greek and Victorian styles. Visitors touring the 12-room house can see family portraits, period furnishings, and walk the lush gardens. (518) 436-9826 or sites.google.com/site/tenbroeckmansion

USS Slater

Moored on the Hudson River, the 1,200-ton, Cannon-class vessel is the only World War II destroyer escort still afloat in American waters. Complete with original battle armament and configuration, the onboard museum spreads across four decks—more than 80 percent of the ship—and gives visitors a sense of a sailor’s daily life through the display of artifacts and memorabilia donated by sailors and their families. (518) 431-1943 or www.usslater.org

The Van Schaick Mansion

Situated at the strategic junction of the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers, the 18th-century brick mansion served as a military headquarters during the French and Indian War, the Revolutionary War, and the War of 1812. The restored, Dutch colonial house museum contains 18th-century furniture donated by Alice Shelp, a Van Schaick descendant, and features rotating collections from the New York State Museum. (518) 235-2699 or www.vanschaickmansion.org

Watervliet Arsenal

Completed in 1813, the nation’s oldest cannon manufactory supplied large-caliber



Historic Cherry Hill

Cherry Hill, once home to the Van Rensselaer-Rankin manor lords, now houses a museum filled with artifacts from early Albany history.

cannons in the War of 1812. A small museum features exhibits on the evolution of large artillery and the arsenal’s role in the war. Visitors can view 60- to 120- millimeter Abraham Tank mortars as well as a British 24 Pounder surrendered on October 7, 1777 at the Battle of Saratoga. (518) 266-5805 or www.dmna.state.ny.us/historic

CLINTON COUNTY

The Alice T. Miner Museum

Alice, the wife of railroad industrialist William H. Miner, purchased the 1824 stone house in the early 1920s as a place to store her collection of artwork of the Colonial Revival Movement, which flourished in the late 19th century. Collections include a display of miniature furniture—a gale legged table, chairs, and a chest—silhouettes, War of 1812 muskets, and historic scenes of the Battle of Plattsburgh. (518) 846-7336 or www.minermuseum.org

Battle of Plattsburgh Interpretive Center and War of 1812 Museum

On September 11, 1814, American Gen. Alexander Macomb stopped the British advance into the northern states at Plattsburgh, New York. The on-site museum contains original works of art related to the Battle of Plattsburgh and the War of 1812 along with rotating exhibits. A five-by-fifteen-foot diorama depicts the battlefield from September 6 through the 11, when British and American troops clashed on land and sea. (518) 566-1814 or www.battleofplattsburgh.org

Champlain Valley Transportation Museum

Located on the grounds of the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base, the museum contains examples of vehicles, boats, and railroad cars used in the Champlain Valley, including Native American canoes, barges, ferries, and a rare restored 1915 luxury Type 82 Lozier automobile, at one time the most expensive car in America. (518) 566-7575 or www.cvtmuseum.com

COLUMBIA COUNTY

Clermont State Historic Site

In 1777 British troops burned the home of fervent patriot Robert R. Livingston Jr., but his wife rebuilt it between 1779 and 1782 as an agricultural showplace. Guided tours of the estate’s formal gardens, bridle paths, and exhibition galleries leave from the visitors center. (518) 537-4240 or www.nysparks.com

FASNY Museum of Firefighting

Funded by the Fireman’s Association of the State of New York, the 50,000-square-foot museum features 90 historic fire engines, along with equipment, and memorabilia representing more than 300 years of local firefighting history. A new exhibit, *Lest We Forget: Honoring the Memory of the Firefighters of September 11, 2001*, features personal artifacts of 9-11 firefighters. (877) 347-3687 or www.fasnyfiremuseum.com

Martin Van Buren National Historic Site

Lindenwald, a 36-room, restored Federalist-style house, was home to President Martin Van Buren following his retirement in 1841. Visitors can take a ranger-guided tour through the house museum, which



FASNY Museum of Firefighting

This 1939 “Pathfinder” and more than 80 other vehicles are on display at Hudson, New York’s Museum of Firefighting.

contains original wallpaper and furnishings, as well as campaign memorabilia from Van Buren's presidency and thousands of other objects. (518) 758-6986 or www.nps.gov/mava

Olana State Historic Site

Hudson River School painter Frederic Edwin Church lived in the two-story, Persian-style villa between 1861 and 1900. Visitors can view the art that Church collected, including paintings by Martin Johnson Heade and Arthur Parton, and bronze, plaster, and marble pieces by sculptor Erasmus Dow Palmer. The villa also contains furniture and art that Church purchased during his trips to the Middle East and Europe. (518) 828-0135 or www.olana.org

Shaker Museum and Library

The museum celebrates Columbia County's strong heritage of Shakers, an 18th century religious sect most noted for the violent shaking that took place during worship, as well as the hymn, "Simple Gifts." Visitors can see Shaker furniture, textiles, tools, and agricultural machinery. (518) 794-9100 or www.shakermuseumandlibrary.org

DUTCHESS COUNTY

Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site

In the two-story, stucco cottage located on the 180-acre campus, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt helped run Val-Kill Industries, a furniture factory that provided rural men with work during the Great Depression. After Val-Kill closed in 1936, the cottage served as a retreat, and ultimately as her home after FDR's death. Visitors can now tour the cottage, the only National Historic Site devoted to a First Lady. (845) 229-5302 or www.nps.gov/elro

Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site

This 300-acre site includes Springwood, Roosevelt's life-long home, the first U.S. Presidential Library, a museum, gardens, and trails. The visitors center features a 22-minute introductory video. Ranger-guided tours of the historic home are available. A short bus ride takes visitors to Top Cottage, the home Roosevelt built as a retreat from Springwood. (800) 337-8474 or www.nps.gov/hofr



NYS Office of Parks & Recreation & Historic Preservation

Victorian artist Frederic Church incorporated Moorish arches and ornate Middle Eastern décor into Olana, his Catskill mansion.

Staatsburgh State Historic Site

The 65-room Beaux-Arts mansion, renovated during the 1890s, was home to the Lewis-Livingston family line from 1792 until 1938. Located on the ground of the Margaret Lewis Norrie State Park, one of the Civilian Conservation Corps' signature projects of 1933, the home is filled with 17th- and 18th-century French-style furniture, oriental rugs, silks, and artwork. (845) 889-8851 or www.staatsburgh.org

Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site

The Gilded-Age, 54-room mansion, nestled on 211 acres overlooking the Hudson, was the seasonal home between 1895 and 1938 of Frederick Vanderbilt, a railroad industrialist, and his family. The 1898 home retains most of its original furnishings including the ornately carved wooden dining room ceiling. (845) 229-7770 or www.nps.gov/vama

Wilderstein Historic Site

Designed in 1852 by architect John Warren Ritch for real-estate investor Thomas Suck-



Edwin S. Grosvenor

At Fort Ticonderoga's annual reenactment of the largest battle in the French & Indian War in late June, a descendant of the victorious Marquis de Montcalm directs the French troops.

ley and his family, the Queen Anne-style house features an interior space designed by Joseph Burr Tiffany, Louis Comfort Tiffany's cousin. Three generations have left the 35-room mansion filled with books, letters, photographs, furniture, paintings, art objects, and other personal artifacts. (845) 876-4818 or www.wilderstein.org

ESSEX COUNTY

Crown Point State Historic Site

During the French and Indian War, Ft. Frederic served as a critical French bastion guarding against British incursions to the north. Destroyed by the retreating French in 1759, the British occupied the peninsula and built a new and much larger fort adjacent to the old one. The visitors center features exhibits on the fort's history and military artifacts from archaeological excavations. (518) 597-4666 or www.nysparks.com

Fort Ticonderoga National Historic Landmark and the King's Garden

The French began building Fort Carillon on the Ticonderoga Peninsula in 1755 as a means of maintaining military control over Lake Champlain. A relatively small garrison here defeated a much larger British force that attacked it in July 1758 during the French and Indian War. During the Revolution a bold attack by Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold brought the fort, now called Ticonderoga, into American hands. The powder magazine and warehouse now contain the new Deborah Clarke Mars Education Center, where visitors can attend lectures. The museum contains examples of the fort's extensive collection of firearms, powder horns, maps, and documents. Visitors can also tour the King's Garden, a recreation of the early-20th-century Colonial Revival gardens. (518) 585-2821 or www.fort-ticonderoga.org

John Brown Farm State Historic Site

Radical abolitionist John Brown and his two sons purchased the 244-acre farm in 1849, before leading an assault on the U.S. Arsenal at Harper's Ferry on October 16, 1859. Brown was buried at the farm after his trial, conviction, and execution for treason against the state of Virginia. The house has been restored to its condition at the time of Brown's death with some original furnishings. (518) 523-3900 or www.nysparks.com

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Travel & Tourism

2. Adirondacks – Lake Champlain Region: Explore New York's Adirondack Coast. Free travel guide to the historical and cultural center of Lake Champlain. 1-866-The-Lake, www.LakeChamplainRegion.com

3. American Heritage "A Weekend with Mr. Lincoln" May 29-31: Fascinating talks by leading historians including Harold Holzer and Roger Norton Smith; insider tours of the Smithsonian Lincoln exhibit, new Ford's Theatre Museum and restored Lincoln Cottage. Accommodations and meals at five-star Willard Intercontinental, where Lincoln stayed before his first inauguration. (240) 453-0900 x25, www.AmericanHeritage.com

4. American Heritage "North Through History" Cruise, Aug. 27-Sept. 5: Travel with leading historians on Holland America's luxury cruise ship *Eurodam*. The tour leaves New York August 27 with stops at historic sites in Newport, Boston, Mt. Desert, Halifax, Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island, Saguenay, and Quebec. (800) 707-1634, www.AHCruises.com

5. American Heritage "Presidents & Patriots Tour" October 16-24: Enjoy an intimate, ten-day trip to Virginia's most important historic sites with Richard Norton Smith (noted author, presidential scholar and PBS commentator), including Jamestown, Williamsburg, Mount Vernon, Monticello, Montpelier, Manassas, and Appomattox. Stay at historic hotels. (240) 453-0900 x25, www.AmericanHeritage.com

6. Carnton Plantation: Visit the Tennessee battle site called "The Gettysburg of the West." Beautifully restored plantation house, grounds and out buildings. Tours offered daily. www.Carnton.org

7. Colorado Tourism Office: From breathtaking natural beauty to rich history, Colorado's got it. For trip ideas, visit COLORADO.COM or call 1-800-COLORADO for your FREE vacation guide.

8. Elvis Presley Enterprises: Take your family on the Ultimate Rock 'n' Roll Experience when you visit Elvis Presley's Graceland in Memphis. (800) 238-2000, www.Elvis.com

9. Fort Ticonderoga: 100 Years of preservation, education and fun! A full season of events for the entire family available at www.FortTiconderoga.org. (518) 585-2821.

10. Fredericksburg Area Tourism: The Fredericksburg Area (City of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania and Stafford Counties) uniquely blends modern life with small town charm. Visit Washington's boyhood home, Ferry Farm, Belmont, 4,400 acres of Civil War battlefields; enjoy chef-owned restaurants and beautiful Lake Anna Winery. (800) 654-4118, www.VisitFred.com

11. Gettysburg, PA: Relive the history; experience the passion of Civil War history on the battlefield and in the historic town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. (800) 337-5015, www.Gettysburg.travel

13. 'Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area' (Frederick, Maryland Tourism): Civil War trails, Antietam, South Mountain and Monocacy battlefields, museums, events and more. (800) 999-3613, www.HeartoftheCivilWar.org

14. Historic Philadelphia: Philly's More Fun. While you're here, take advantage of the area's variety of shops, restaurants, activities and attractions. Visit GoPhila.com for more information.

Hudson River Valley: Follow the Hudson River Valley and Join in the Quadricentennial Celebrations. For more information, contact:

15. Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau: (800) 258-3582, www.Albany.org

16. Dutchess County Tourism: (800) 445-3131, www.DutchessTourism.com

17. Orange County Tourism: (845) 615-3860, www.OrangeTourism.org

18. Rockland County Tourism: (800) 295-5723, www.Rockland.org

19. Ulster County Tourism: (800) 342-5826, www.UlsterTourism.info

20. Westchester County Office of Tourism: (800) 833-9282, www.WestchesterTourism.com

21. Illinois Bureau of Tourism: Start planning your magnificent 3-Day Illinois Getaway today. Illinois. Mile after Magnificent Mile. 1-800-2-CONNECT, www.EnjoyIllinois.com

22. Missouri Tourism: Missouri. Close to home. Far from ordinary. Order your FREE 2009 Missouri Vacation Planner today at www.VisitMO.com, 1-800-519-3600 ext.80.

23. Morris County Visitors Center: 300 years of history that shaped America, only 30 miles from New York City; home of Morristown National Historical Park, our nation's first designated national park. www.MorrisTourism.org

24. Pennsylvania Civil War Trails – Dutch Country Roads: Discover Pennsylvania's Civil War stories along Dutch Country Roads in places like Carlisle, Chambersburg, Gettysburg, Hanover, Harrisburg, Wrightsville, and York. www.DutchCountryRoads.com

25. Roanoke Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau: Experience the splendor of a Blue Ridge Mountain Getaway! History, events, attractions, inns, unique shops and restaurants. Free guides and specials. (800) 635-5535, www.VisitRoanokeVA.com

26. Saratoga, NY: World-class horse racing, the performing arts, ten museums, a national battlefield, mineral springs, spas, culinary delights and much more. www.Saratoga.org/ah

27. The Fund for American Studies: Trace Freedom's defense on a WWII excursion to Britain and France: Explore battlefields and two key figures in U.S.-European relations, Alexis de Tocqueville and Sir Winston Churchill. Contact Ed Turner, 1-800-741-6964 or visit www.TFAS.org/travel

28. VisitFlorida: Sun, sand, historic sites and non-stop thrills await you. Let VISITFLORIDA.com experts help you find the best of Florida fun. 1-800-282-0769.

29. West Virginia Tourism: Come to West Virginia, the only state born of the Civil War and Outdoor Recreation Capital of the East. 1-800-CALLWVA, www.WVTourism.com

Publications

30. American Heritage's Invention & Technology: Explore and celebrate our nation's ingenious spirit through fascinating stories of the people whose imagination and inventive brilliance transformed the fabric of our world. (800) 627-4022, www.InventionandTechnology.com

31. Bantam Books: Visit www.BantamDell.com and subscribe, free, to our high-quality email newsletters featuring exclusive content and news about forthcoming adult nonfiction and fiction titles.

32. The Library of America: Washington, Jefferson, Paine, Hamilton, Madison, Franklin, Lincoln, Douglass, Grant, Sherman, Roosevelt, John Smith—get their writings in definitive collectors' editions. www.LOA.org

33. SUNY Press: SUNY Press makes available exceptional works for all readers and also showcases the diversity and abiding energy of the peoples, histories, and natural beauty of New York and the surrounding regions. www.SUNYPress.edu

34. University of Virginia Press: American History books for the scholar and the general reader. (800) 831-3406, www.upress.virginia.edu

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35. Premier Bathrooms: World's Largest Supplier of Walk-in Baths. Call today for your FREE color brochure. 1-800-578-2899, www.Premier-Bathrooms.com

Consumer Products & Services

36. Bradford Exchange: Collectibles. www.CollectiblesToday.com

37. Mystic Stamp Company: Yours Free – America's top U.S. Postage Stamp Catalog from Mystic Stamp Company, America's Leading Dealer, celebrating our 86th year in 2009. www.MysticStamp.com

38. Rosetta Stone®: The fastest way to learn a language. Guaranteed®. Choose from over 30 languages. (866) 347-1989, www.RosettaStone.com/ahs039

GREENE COUNTY

Hudson-Athens Lighthouse

The still-operational, 46-foot-tall Second Empire lighthouse, located between Athens and Hudson, guided cargo ships along the busy Hudson River beginning in 1874. Visitors can see the bunk in which the keeper once slept and examine modern navigational techniques used to guide ships around the dangerous shoals known as the Middle Ground Flats. (518) 828-5294 or www.hudsonathenslighthouse.org

Thomas Cole National Historic Site

Nineteenth-century American painter and founder of the Hudson River School of Art, Thomas Cole, lived at Cedar Grove from 1825 to 1848. Park rangers offer guided 40-minute tours of the home and studio. The Hudson River School Art Trail, located just 15 miles from the estate, winds through stunning woods and peaks of the Catskills that inspired his romantic landscapes. (518) 943-7465 or www.thomascole.org

NEW JERSEY

Historic Speedwell

Stephen Vail, owner of Speedwell Ironworks, purchased 275 acres here in 1733. Today, seven-and-a-half acres of the mid-19th-century original estate remain and contain a reconstructed factory building, the facility where Vail and Samuel Morse first tested the electric telegraph, a granary featuring exhibits on early farm machinery, and a 1849 carriage house. (973) 285-6550 or www.morrisparks.com



Ellis Island's Wall of Honor® contains the names of more than 700,000 immigrants that came to this country.

The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. (www.ellisland.org)

Morristown National Historic Park

The 1,697-acre park contains Ford Mansion, which served as Gen. George Washington's headquarters in early 1777 and again in the winter of 1779. The adjacent museum contains two museum galleries featuring a 25-minute film on 18th-century soldier life, and visitors can hike up Fort Nonsense hill nearby, where soldiers built a safe house in the spring of 1777 for defense against British attack. Jockey Hollow Visitors Center, located 5 miles from the fort, features a reconstructed Revolutionary soldier's hut and mural of the 10,000 troops that camped there during the winter of 1779. (973) 539-2016 or www.nps.gov/morr

NEW YORK COUNTY

Ellis Island

From 1892 to 1954, the nation's largest immigration station processed more than 12 million steamship passengers from all over the world. Housed in the 40,000-square-foot Great Hall, located 10 minutes from Battery Park or State Park by ferry, the museum features the history of American immigrants, including printed materials, interactive displays, oral histories, and genealogical records. (212) 363-3200 or www.nps.gov/elis

Governors Island

A half-mile south of the tip of Manhattan, the strategically-located 172-acre island served by turns as a naval fortress, military prison, and supply base for the United States between 1783 and 1996. Visitors can take guided walking tours, interact with living history characters, and rent bicycles to explore the island's scenic views. A 10-minute ferry ride leaves from the Battery Maritime Building every hour. (212) 825-3045 or www.govisland.org

New York Historical Society

New York's most distinguished historical society exhibits treasures from its 60,000-artifact collection at the Henry Luce III Center for the Study of American Culture on the Upper West Side. On permanent display are John James Audubon's watercolors for *The Birds of America*, Hudson River School masterpieces by Thomas Cole and Asher Durand, and 132 ornate, stained-glass Tiffany lamps from the Neustadt Collection. Visitors can also learn about New York's regional history and art



The Warner Collection of Gulf States Paper Corporation, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Thomas Cole's 1826 oil painting, Falls of the Kaaterskill, captures the rugged beauty of the Catskills not far from his Cedar Grove home.

through audio guides, information plaques, and interactive computer terminals. (212) 873-3400 or www.nyhistory.org

South Street Seaport Museum

Boasting 30,000-square-feet of exhibit space, the museum located on the East River waterfront in Lower Manhattan's 12-block historic district contains a 19th-century print shop, paintings by John Rubens Smith, whalebone carvings, over 1,000 ship models native to New York, and a 20,000 volume maritime library. Berthed at the pier outside are eight tall ships, including *Peking* and *Wavertree*. The 1885 schooner *Pioneer* offers two-hour cruises that leave from Pier 17. (212) 748-8786 or www.southstreetseaportmuseum.org

Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site

The Women's Roosevelt Memorial Association purchased the land and rebuilt Theodore Roosevelt's birthplace and boyhood brownstone home. Thirty-minute guided tours lead through the five period rooms, decorated with the original home's furnishings. Two museum galleries contain Roosevelt's personal belongings. (212) 260-1616 or www.nps.gov/thrb

ORANGE COUNTY

Constitution Island

Across from West Point sits the former island fortress site that served as the northernmost anchorage for the 80-ton Great Chain that stretched south across the river

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Ford Mansion, military headquarters for George Washington during the winter of 1779 -1780.

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Funding for this project was provided in part through the Cooperative Marketing Grant Program of the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel and Tourism. www.visitnj.org
Washington Crossing the Delaware by Emanuel Leutze, 1851. The Metropolitan Museum of Art.



400th Anniversary Events Not to Miss!

Dozens of festivals, exhibits, parades, boat trips, and living history experiences will mark the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's and Samuel de Champlain's arrival in this history-rich region, which stretches 275 miles north from New York City to Plattsburgh near the Canadian border. The events featured here represent only a small fraction of the festivities, so we recommend that you log on to our website at heritagesites.us or www.exploreny400.com for more information. Please remember to call ahead as venues and dates can change. Enjoy!—The editors of *American Heritage*.

2/7 – 1/3/10, Hudson River Panorama:

400 Years of History, Art, and Culture – Albany

Albany Institute's exhibition features 200 historical artifacts, archival documents, and works of art. (518) 463-4478 or www.albanyinstitute.org

3/13 – 3/21, The Hudson River Quadricentennial Concert – Albany, NYC, Oswego, Peekskill

Three New York musician-composers will perform a blend of jazz, hip hop, and classical music written for the Quadricentennial with spoken word interludes. (212) 220-1459 or www.tribecapac.org

3/15 – 5/15, The Day Peckinpaugh – Albany to New York City

New York State Museum's 87-year-old *Day Peckinpaugh*, a 259-ft.-long riverboat, will motor down the Hudson River, docking frequently to let visitors see its exhibits about explorers Champlain and Hudson. (518) 474-5877 or www.nysm.nysed.gov

4/24 – 4/26, American Revolutionary Weekend – Morristown, NJ

A weekend of American Revolution-related special events at Morristown National Historical Park includes reenactments and living history demonstrations. (973) 984-2182 or www.nps.gov/morr

5/1 – 6/7, The Glory of Dutch Bulbs: A Legacy of 400 Years – Bronx

Inspired by the gardens of Amsterdam's Keukenhof Park, the New York Botanical Gardens will force more than 50,000 Dutch tulips, daffodils, and hyacinth bulbs. (718) 817-8700 or www.nybg.org

5/8 – 5/10, 61st Annual Tulip Festival – Albany

Albany celebrates the blooming of 100,000 tulips with Dutch heritage activities, including the Tulip Ball and scrubbing of streets, a ritual of traditional Dutch hospitality. (518) 434-2032 or www.albanyevents.org

5/9 – 9/30, Independence Parade & Garlic Festival – Saugerties

In honor of its Dutch heritage, Saugerties will host the Hudson River Garlic Festival, various outdoor art exhibits and concerts, and an Independence Day parade featuring historically-themed floats. (845) 246-8412 or www.village.saugerties.ny.us

5/9, 100 Voices with Albany Pro Musica: The River – Albany

Daron Hagen's new symphony, *The River*, brings the changing seasons along the Hudson River to music. (518) 465-4755 or www.albanysymphony.com

5/24 – 10/31, Tappan Zee Bridge Exhibit – Rockland County

The exhibit commemorates the opening of the Tappan Zee Bridge in 1955 and chronicles the subsequent transformation of the agricultural county into a New York suburb. (845) 634-9629 or www.rocklandhistory.org

5/25 – Sept., Catskill Outdoor Art Festival – Catskill

A Henry-Hudson-themed event features outdoor displays of more than 60 feline statues painted by prominent Hudson River Valley artists. (518) 943-0989 or www.welcometocatskill.com

5/29 – 5/30, Quadricentennial Watch Fires – Piermont Pier

At midnight, the Rockland County Veterans Service Agency will light bonfires along the Hudson River for 24 hours in honor of war veterans. (845) 638-5244 or www.rockland.org

6/5 – 6/13, River Day – Albany

In honor of Henry Hudson's voyage, a parade of 400 historic ships will sail from New York Harbor to the Albany Corning Preserve for a daylong celebration. (518) 434-1217 or www.exploreny400.com/riverday.aspx

6/13 – 1/10/09, Dutch New York: Hudson Valley Culture – Yonkers

The Hudson River Museum's new exhibit features paintings, photographs, and decorative arts of New York's Dutch heritage. (914) 963-4550 or www.hrm.org

6/14 – 7/19, Great Champlain-Hudson Sojourn

Participants kayak 340 miles from Canada to Manhattan, visiting heritage sites and community festivals along the Hudson River, Lake George, and the Champlain Canal. (518) 473-3835 or www.hudsongreenway.state.ny.us/ghrp

6/18 – 6/20, French-Canadian Heritage Festival – St. Albans, VT

Musical performances, historical exhibits, recreation, arts displays, and genealogy search demonstrations at Taylor Park explore francophone history in the Americas. (802) 524-5632 or www.envoyeamaison.org/st_albans.htm

6/20 – 6/21, Ethan Allen Days & Colonial Fair – Bennington, VT

Festivities at Colgate Park include a colonial fair and reenactments of battles fought by Vermont's Revolutionary War hero, Ethan Allen. (802) 362-1788 or www.hildene.org

6/20 – 6/21, Clearwater Festival: The Great Hudson River Revival – Croton-on-Hudson

The summer music festival features Pete Seeger, river sports, and tours of the replica sloop *Clearwater*, modeled after 18th- and 19th-century Dutch cargo vessels. (845) 454-7673 or www.clearwater.org

6/27, French & Indian War Grand Encampment – Ft. Ticonderoga

Thousands of reenactors assemble at Fort Ticonderoga where Champlain and his Algonquin allies fought Mohawk Indians on July 30, 1609. In addition to reenactments, historian John Ross, author of the upcoming *War on the Run: The Epic Story of Robert Rogers and the Conquest of America's First Frontier* (Bantam Dell 2009), will give a talk on Rogers' Rangers. (518) 585-2821 or www.fort-ticonderoga.org

7/2 – 7/14, International Waterfront Festival – Burlington, VT

The 11-day festival features music, film, comedy, and theatre. A parade and fireworks will be held on July 11th. www.champlain400.com

7/11 – 7/12, Quadricentennial Event – Schaghticoke

Schaghticoke's 18th-century Knickerbocker Family Mansion will host special military reenactments and programs on writer Washington Irving. (518) 692-2374 or www.knickmansion.com

7/25 – 7/26, The Namesake Celebration – Hudson

Hudson celebrates its namesake with a parade, tours of a replica of his ship, Half Moon, and fireworks in the Waterfront Park. (518) 828-3378 or cityofhudson.org

8/8 – 8/9, Native American Heritage Festival – Bear Mountain

More than 1,000 Native American artisans and educators gather for the festival, which features Indian food, music, art, and dancing. (718) 686-9297 or www.redhawkcouncil.org

9/12, Crailo Harvest Faire – Rensselaer

Old-fashioned agricultural festival features period reenactors, music, bateau rides, and a live oxen team. (518) 463-8738 or www.nysparks.com

9/19, Return of the Ship *Half Moon* to Albany

At the Hudson River Waterfront in downtown Albany, the New Netherland Museum offers tours of the replica of Henry Hudson's ship, which contains 17th-century navigational equipment and marine tools. (800) 258-3582 or www.newnetherland.org

9/19 – 9/20, Stuyvesant Quad Celebration – Stuyvesant

Two-day celebration features the Peoples Parade, geology talk with Prof. Robert Titus, 17th-century-costumed reenactors, and fireworks over the Riverview Park. (518) 758-6248 or www.stuyvesantny.us

9/26, Hudson 400 Celebration – Albany

Albany's Corning Preserve will offer 17th-century food, living-history demonstrations, and music and dance performances. (518) 434-2032 or www.albany.com



U.S. Army Photo

In full dress gray, West Point cadets march over The Plain, the campus center since the Academy's inception in 1802.

to Fort Arnold during the Revolutionary War, preventing British warships from sailing upriver. Visitors can hike the 280 acres of wooded trails and visit the 250-year-old Warner mansion that was home to Anna Warner, author of the hymn “Jesus Loves Me,” and her sister, Susan, who wrote *The Wide, Wide World*. (845) 446-8676 or www.constitutionisland.org

Gomez Mill House

In 1714, after fleeing the Spanish Inquisition, the Sephardic Jew and fur-trader Luis Gomez, built the colonial Dutch fieldstone blockhouse, which remains the earliest surviving Jewish residence in North America. Visitors can tour the two-story home, examine exhibits of decorative arts and furnishings used by prior owners, and view the ruins of a Native American ceremonial structure here before Gomez built his home. (845) 236-3126 or www.gomez.org

Museum Village

Monroe, New York, contains a 30-acre living history town that includes the replicas of a 19th-century post office, schoolhouse, drugstore, and 22 other buildings. Reenactors demonstrate the routine tasks of daily 19th-century rural life through candle-making, weaving, and blacksmithing exhibitions. (845) 782-8247 or www.museumvillage.org

New Windsor State Cantonment Site

A year after the British surrendered at Yorktown, Gen. Washington established winter quarters at New Windsor for his 7,000 troops to await news from the peace negotiations in France. Reenactors in period dress demonstrate musket drills, black-

smithing, and military medicine. Nearby stands the National Purple Heart Hall of Fame, memorializing the first award of the American Badge of Merit, a purple cloth Washington gave to three soldiers. Exhibits and archived interviews detail the stories of Purple Heart recipients. (845) 561-1765 or www.nysparks.com

United States Military Academy at West Point

The nation's oldest military academy lies on the grounds of the historic Fortress West Point on the Hudson, 50 miles north of New York City. Each year 1,000 new graduates join the Long Gray Line commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants in the U.S. Army. The visitors center provides information about a self-guided tour through the West Point Museum, which contains collections of West Point's military history. (845) 938-2638 or www.usma.edu

Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site

While headquartered at Jonathan Hasbrouck's Newburgh farmhouse in August 1783, George Washington rejected an offer of American kingship and rode south to placate his angry soldiers brewing conspiracy against the fledgling American government. Visitors can tour the seven-acre grounds, which offer a scenic view of Beacon Mountain, the Hasbrouck home, and the Tower of Victory, commemorating Washington's cease fire order in 1783. (845) 562-1195 or www.nysparks.com

PUTNAM COUNTY

Boscobel House & Gardens

Built by businessman States Dyckman in 1808, the Federal-style house originally stood in Montrose, until it was moved to Garrison during the mid-20th-century. The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival takes place on the 45-acre grounds during the summer. (845) 265-3638 or www.boscobel.org

Manitoga/The Russel Wright Design Center

Manitoga—“Place of the Great Spirit” in Algonquin—became the name of industrial designer Russel Wright's modern estate in 1961. Visitors can tour Wright's famous Dragon Rock studio and hike the four miles of walking trails. (845) 424-3812 or www.russelwrightdesigncenter.org

RENSELAER COUNTY

Bennington Battlefield

On August 16, 1777, the Continental army under Gen. George Washington delivered a significant defeat to the British army under Gen. John Burgoyne, which was attempting to capture military supply stores nearby. In Bennington, Vermont, four miles east of the New York border, visitors can climb a 306-foot stone monument commemorating the important victory. (518) 686-7109 or www.nysparks.com

Burden Ironworks, RiverSpark Visitors Center

The 19th-century iron works and industrial complex, wedged between the Hudson River and Wynantskil Creek, housed the 250-ton Burden Water Wheel, the most powerful vertical water wheel of its kind ever built. The visitors center contains an interactive exhibit about the famous wheel and the iron industry. The walking RiverSpark Tour leads through seven industrial communities, which were all once thriving centers of the iron and textile industries. (518) 270-8667 or www.troyvisitorcenter.org

Crailo State Historic Site (Fort Crailo)

Completed in the early 18th century, the two-and-a-half story brick manor house of the influential Van Rensselaer family sits at the center of what was once a 700,000-acre estate, the first and only successful Dutch patroonship established in America. British and American troops camped here during the French and Indian and Revolutionary Wars, and legend has it that British army surgeon Richard Schuckburgh composed “Yankee Doodle” while quartered upstairs. The museum will re-open this summer with new exhibits featuring artifacts from excavations of nearby Fort Orange, a Dutch trading fort dating from 1624. (518) 463-8738 or www.nysparks.com

Oakwood Cemetery, Uncle Sam's Grave

More than 60,000 Troy area residents, including “Uncle Sam” Wilson, the 18th-century meat-packer who served as the inspiration for America's national symbol, are interred at this 400-acre rural cemetery with sweeping views of the Hudson Valley.



Saratoga National Historical Park

The American victory over Gen. John Burgoyne's British forces at Saratoga in late 1777, marked a crucial turning point in the Revolutionary War.

Visitors can also explore the preserved 19th-century Victorian gatehouses and gothic chapels. (518) 272-7520 or www.oakwoodcemetery.org

ROCKLAND COUNTY

Bear Mountain Bridge and Tollhouse

When completed in 1924, the 1,641-foot-long edifice was the largest suspension bridge in the world, and paved the way for the larger George Washington and Golden Gate Bridges. The Tudor-style tollhouse, located on the Hudson River's west shore at the bottom of Camp Smith Trail, provides tourist information for Bear Mountain's parks. (914) 734-1087 or www.townofcortlandt.com

DeWint House

Gen. George Washington used the house as his military headquarters on four separate occasions, most notably to authorize Maj. John André's execution. The Grand Lodge of New York Masons, of which Washington was a member, meticulously restored Rockland County's oldest structure to the Colonial Dutch style in which it was built; the Lodge also maintains exhibits and artifacts that relate to Washington and André. (845) 359-1359 or www.dewinthouse.com

Historical Society of Rockland County

Comprised of four structures, a 7,200-square-foot museum of Rockland history and three restored farm structures—the 1832 Blauvelt House, barn, and carriage house—the society facilitates exhibits on

Haitian and Irish immigrant heritage, tours, and craft and cooking demonstrations that recreate 19th-century Anglo-Dutch colonial life. (845) 634-9629 or www.rocklandhistory.org

The Old '76 House

Frequented by Gen. George Washington and other famous patriots of the Revolutionary War, the tavern also served as the point of detainment for Benedict Arnold's British co-conspirator, Maj. John André, before his execution. More than 200 years later, the tavern serves ales, steaks, and entrees at tables resting by the original fireplace and bar. (845) 359-5476 or www.76house.com

Stony Point Battlefield and Lighthouse

At midnight on July 16, 1779, Brig. Gen. Anthony Wayne and his 700 Continental troops seized a British fortress at Stony Point, 25 miles north of Manhattan, following one of the most daring bayonet charges of the Revolutionary War. The 45-acre state park contains trails leading to earthworks, a small museum, and the 1826 Stony Point Lighthouse, the oldest of its kind on the Hudson River. (845) 786-2521 or www.nysparks.com

SARATOGA COUNTY

Grant Cottage State Historic Site

On July 23, 1885, shortly after completing his memoirs at the four-room Adirondack cottage, President Ulysses S. Grant died of throat cancer. The rooms and their furnishings remain nearly untouched since his residence. Visitors can view his personal items, deathbed, and floral arrangements from the funeral. (518) 587-8277 or www.nysparks.com

National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame

Located directly across from the Saratoga Race Course, home to the oldest thoroughbred horse race in the U.S., the 17,000-square-foot museum celebrates America's legendary jockeys, trainers, and horses. Visitors can experience the interactive "Ready to Ride" exhibit that simulates racing from a jockey's point of view, and see trophies, uniforms, and other memorabilia spanning three centuries of equestrian sport. (518) 584-0400 or www.racingmuseum.org

Saratoga National Historical Park

In the fall of 1777, the Continental Army delivered a crippling defeat to the British at Saratoga, an action that cemented America's pivotal alliance with France. The visitors center on the grounds of the four-square-mile battlefield contains a theater showing a 20-minute orientation film, a fiber-optic map, and displays of military artifacts. Just north in the town of Victory, visitors can survey the park from atop the Saratoga Monument, a 155-foot granite obelisk built 100 years after the battle. (518) 664-9821 ext. 224 or www.nps.gov/sara

Saratoga Spa State Park

Renowned for its curative mineral springs, Saratoga County has attracted tourists since the mid-19th century. Visitors can relax in restored European-style bathhouses once frequented by the nation's elite, and explore the 2,200-acre park's many spas and natural geysers. The park is also home to the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, where the New York City Ballet and Philadelphia Orchestra hold regular outdoor performances during the summer. (518) 584-2535 or www.saratogaspastatepark.org



NYS Office of Parks & Recreation & Historic Preservation

A living history interpreter demonstrates the use of a musket ball mold at Stony Point Battlefield.

Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center

Congressman Hugh White's 1830 Greek-revival homestead, located near the Champlain Canal Towpath, contains two Victorian period rooms, the George and Annabel O'Connor Library for Local History, and an exhibition on local history spanning from the town's beginning as a Dutch trade center to its emergence as an important gateway from the Hudson River to the Champlain Canal in 1823. (518) 238-0809 or www.waterfordmuseum.com

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SARATOGA
COUNTY



ULSTER COUNTY

Delaware and Hudson Canal Museum

Nearly 4,000 artifacts, maps, models, paintings, and documents relating to the canal's 185-year history are on display in the 19th-century Gothic Revival chapel, including a wall-sized map of the 108-mile canal and portraits of Delaware and Hudson president John Wurts and New York governor Dewitt Clinton. An adjacent one-half mile nature trail, known as the Five Locks Walk, leads to locks 16 through 20 of the original canal.

www.canalmuseum.org

Empire State Railway Museum

Early-20th-century photographs, films, and equipment at 127-year-old Phoenicia Station present the history of railroads and their role in the Catskill region's development. Visitors can tour the inside of a Delaware and Hudson Railway baggage car, or view the restoration of a 19th-century locomotive, Engine 23. The station is the northwest

terminus of Catskill Mountain Railroad's Kingston-Phoenicia line, which offers scenic rides of the region in vintage coach cars. (845) 688-7501 or www.esrm.com

Hudson River Maritime Museum

New York's only museum devoted to Hudson River maritime history, located in a boat shop on the historic Kingston harbor, features indoor and outdoor exhibits, including maps, a five-foot-long model of the Staten Island ferry, maritime antiques, such as ice yachts and a steam hoisting engine, and the still-operational 19th-century tugboat *Mathilda*. Guides offer seasonal daily boat rides to the 94-year-old Rondout lighthouse. (845) 338-0071 or www.hrm.org

Saugerties Lighthouse

Completed in 1869 at the mouth of Esopus Creek, the Coast Guard lighthouse was abandoned in 1954 and later restored by the Saugerties Lighthouse Conservancy in 1990. Today, the 46-foot-tall lighthouse is accessible by a one-half mile nature trail; its keeper offers personal tours of the lighthouse and its two guest rooms (if not occupied).



Long a beacon for Hudson riverboats, Saugerties Lighthouse has now become a bed & breakfast.

A museum room features models of 19th-century steamships and a film on the lighthouse's history and restoration. (845) 247-0656 or www.saugertieslighthouse.com

VERMONT

The Bennington Museum

The 28,000-square-foot museum, which owns more than 60,000 artifacts from southern Vermont and the surrounding area, contains the Grandma Moses Gallery, the largest collection of Mary Robertson's (Moses's) paintings of nostalgic rural American life in the country. Visitors can view her self-decorated 18th-century tilt-top table, which she used as an easel, and the original, relocated schoolhouse that she attended. The Battle of Bennington exhibit documents the American victory over the British in 1777 through rare military artifacts, such as the Battle of Bennington Flag, one of the oldest battle flags in existence, and Vermont-manufactured firearms. (802) 447-1571 or www.benningtonmuseum.org

Chimney Point State Historic Site

Presidents Thomas Jefferson and James Madison frequented the modest tavern, which was completed in the mid-1780s. By the 19th century, the property had evolved into a hub of commerce, including a farm, post office, ferry service, and store. Today, the tavern houses a museum containing one of the nation's earliest complete tap

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rooms, an intact post office, and rotating exhibits on the settlement of the Lake Champlain region. (802) 759-2412 or www.historicvermont.org

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

Located at Basin Harbor off Lake Champlain, the museum contains artifacts from some of the 200 documented shipwrecks in Lake Champlain. Visitors can see a handcrafted bateau modeled after the watercraft used by Robert Rogers in the French and Indian War, and watch a 15-minute video about the Battle of Valcour Island in 1776. Opened in 2001, the Maritime Research Institute is the research center for the museum, and contains the Conservation Laboratory, which is responsible for the treatment of recovered artifacts. (802) 475-2022 or www.lcmm.org

Mount Independence State Historic Site

Built by American patriots across Lake Champlain from British-held Fort Ticonderoga in 1775, Fort Independence fell when British General John Burgoyne's troops attacked it in the summer of 1777. Today, marked trails provide scenic views of Lake Champlain as well as access to the remains of barracks, hospital, batteries, and a small monument where the fort used to stand. The visitors center provides a video history and displays military artifacts from archaeological excavations. (802) 948-2000 or www.historicvermont.org

The Shelburne Museum

More than 150,000 works of art are on display at the 45-acre museum campus, spread throughout 39 exhibition buildings. Twenty-five of the buildings date from the 18th- and 19th-centuries, such as the lighthouse from Colchester Reef on Lake Champlain, Shelburne village distillery, built in 1800 which is now home to the internationally known collection of quilts, and the restored 220-foot steamboat



The restored 220-foot steamboat, Ticonderoga, is a highlight of the Shelburne Museum.

Ticonderoga, the only walking beam side-wheel passenger steamer still surviving. (802) 985-3346 or www.shelburnemuseum.org

WARREN COUNTY

Chapman Historical Museum

Located in the 1865 Victorian Delong House, the museum focuses on the history of Glens Falls and the southern Adirondacks. The Stoddard Gallery contains approximately 3,000 photographs by Seneca Ray Stoddard of Adirondack landscapes and communities. (518) 793-2826 or www.chapmanmuseum.org

Fort William Henry Museum

Built in 1755 during the French and Indian War as a staging point for sorties against French Fort Carillon, the British stronghold fell to French forces in 1757 and was destroyed. The subject of Cooper's *The Last of the Mohicans*, the battle ended with the murder of some surrendered British soldiers by Native Americans. Rebuilt for tourists in the 1950s, the fort devotes three barracks to the exhibition of artifacts from the on-site archaeological excavation. Guided tours and living history events offer children the opportunity to wear 18th-century-style uniforms and participate in military drills. (518) 668-5471 or www.fwhmuseum.com

The Hyde Collection

Paper mill owners Louis and Charlotte Hyde furnished their Italian Renaissance house with 2,800 paintings, sculptures, and pieces of decorative arts by Cézanne, Picasso, van Gogh, Eakin, Homer, and Ryder. Highlights from the collection are Degas's bronze *Horse at Trough* and a sketch of the *Mona Lisa* attributed to Leonardo da Vinci, viewable by appointment. (518) 792-1761 or www.hydecollection.org

Submerged Heritage Preserve Program

Eight warships from the French and Indian War in the 18th century lie more than 25 feet beneath the surface of Lake George, scuttled by their British crews in 1758. Among them, marked by buoys and open to divers, are seven of the 900 bateaux used during the British attack on Fort Carillon in the summer of 1758, as well as the 50-foot-long radeau *Land Tortoise*, the oldest intact war vessel in North America. (518) 897-1276 or www.dec.ny.gov/lands/315.html

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Tiger Hill Studios/Historic Hudson Valley

John D. Rockefeller's Renaissance Revival mansion, Kykuit, presides over terraced sculpture gardens at Pocantico Hills.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Rogers Island Visitors Center

The island served as a base camp for the famous irregular fighter Maj. Robert Rogers and his Rangers during the French and Indian War. The visitors center houses exhibits documenting the Native American occupation, the history of nearby Fort Edward, and the Little Wood Creek Archaeological Site, once a Native American village area. (518) 747-3693 or www.rogersisland.org

Skene Manor

In 1874 New York Supreme Court Judge Joseph Potter built the three-story Victorian Gothic-style manor out of sandstone quarried from Skene Mountain. Converted into bar and restaurant in 1946, the home and gardens are open for tours. (518) 499-1906 or www.members.tripod.com/skenemanor

WESTCHESTER COUNTY

Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts

The 90-acre former estate of attorney and investment banker, Walter Rosen, hosts world-class music concerts year-round. The open-air Venetian Theatre, among three on-site performance venues, is home of the annual Caramoor International Music Festival. Southeast of the theatre is the Rosen House summer villa containing entire rooms imported from European palaces, which serve as galleries for a lavish collection of Renaissance, 18th-century,

and Eastern art. (914) 232-5035 ext. 221 or www.caramoor.org

Hudson River Museum & Glenview Mansion

The two-floor, restored 1876 mansion contains an extensive collection of 19th- and 20th-century American art, including works by Hudson River School painters Jasper Cropsey and Albert Beirstadt. Contemporary collections spill into the 15,000-square-foot addition. The Andrus Planetarium is also on site. (914) 963-4550 or www.hrm.org

Kykuit, the Rockefeller Estate

An eight-minute shuttle ride north from Philipsburg Manor takes visitors to Kykuit, the six-story, 40-room mansion of John D. Rockefeller. After viewing a 10-minute presentation on the Rockefeller family history, visitors can choose one of four guided tours, including the three-hour Grand Tour through the interior, containing original paintings and sculpture by Auguste Rodin, Alexander Calder, and Pablo Picasso among others. Nearly three times the size of the mansion, the barn contains a collection of carriages and antique cars such as a 1924 Ford Model T. (914) 631-9491 or www.hudsonvalley.org

Lyndhurst

The sprawling Gothic manor was previously home to former New York City mayor William Paulding, Jr. and robber baron Jay Gould, who built the nation's first steel-framed conservatory on its lawns. Visitors may wander the narrow halls lined with vaulted windows and 19th-century landscapes, or rest under the shade of linden trees in the 67-acre park designed in the English naturalist style. (914) 631-4481 or www.lyndhurst.org

Philipsburg Manor

In the late 17th century, the Anglo-Dutch Philips family of merchant-farmers established the manor in present-day Tarrytown, New York, acquiring 23 enslaved Africans to operate its holdings. Today, actors recreate a northern manor slave's daily life, emphasizing daily chores, methods of resistance, and the few means of recreation available. Guided tours of the manor house and working grist mill are available. (914) 631-3992 or www.hudsonvalley.org

Sleepy Hollow Cemetery

Founded in 1849, the 90-acre cemetery contains the final resting places of its many luminaries, including Andrew Carnegie, Walter Chrysler, William Rockefeller, Elizabeth Arden, Leona Helmsley, and Washington Irving. Across the street, a sculpture of the Headless Horseman pays tribute to Irving's enduring legacy. (914) 631-0081 or www.sleepyhollowcemetery.org

Union Church of Pocantico Hills

In 1963, David Rockefeller commissioned Marc Chagall to produce nine biblically-themed stained glass windows to flank the nave of the family church. The church also contains the last work of French artist Henri Matisse, the eight-petalled rose window above the chancel. Visitors can sign up for guided 30-minute tours. (914) 332-6659 or www.hudsonvalley.org

Washington Irving's Sunnyside

Washington Irving, author of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," lived in the early 19th-century stone colonial Dutch cottage from 1835 until his death in 1859. The riverfront home contains a large collection of the author's possessions, including his writing desk and book collection. Guides in Victorian dress provide 45-minute tours of the dining room, study, kitchen, bedrooms, and the 10-acres of pastoral grounds that blossom with wildflowers in the spring. (914) 591-8763 or www.hudsonvalley.org



Tom O'Connell/Historic Hudson Valley

Washington Irving's whimsical cottage hosts the Artists-on-the-Hudson program in May.