



Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

July 2012



We've gone digital!

Announcing the official NPS website for the
Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail!

Please visit: www.nps.gov/waro

and

'Like' us on Facebook to stay up-to-date on all
Washington-Rochambeau NHT news:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Washington-Rochambeau-Revolutionary-Route-National-Historic-Trail/126419804105006>

The NPS website section called, "Things to Do," will act as a tourism guide to the NHT where potential tourists will be able to select the state in which they are planning to travel, and view a list of sites and destinations along the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. **We ask your help in telling us which sites you would like to see included from your state!**

The sites should be **open to the public**, and can be federal, state, local, non-profit, or privately owned. They should have some connection thematically to the NHT (18th century, the War for Independence, historical figures, etc.) and/or the site could be a natural/scenic or recreational area that visitors may enjoy along the way. The site must fall along, or be reasonably close to, the route of the NHT. To be included, the site must have a website to which we can link. Please send your list of destinations and their corresponding websites directly to Samantha Driscoll at samantha_driscoll@nps.gov.

Joe DiBello
Superintendent
joe_dibello@nps.gov
215-597-1581

Samantha Driscoll
Preservation Planner
samantha_driscoll@nps.gov
215-597-2334

Phil Correll
Program Manager
phil_correll@nps.gov
215-597-1280

200 Chestnut Street
3rd Floor
Philadelphia PA 19106



NPS: A Call to Action

The National Park Service is nearing its 100th Anniversary in 2016. National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis has announced A Call to Action to move the NPS into a new century. A Call to Action calls for creative and innovative ways to interpret, experience, communicate, protect, and educate the parks, trails, sites, and resources of the National Park Service.

See the plan A Call to Action at:
http://inside.nps.gov/calltoaction/pdf/C2A_report.pdf

The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail will work with communities along the route to:

- Reach new audiences to tell the story of Generals Washington and Rochambeau, the allied armies, and the people impacted by this event
- Connect the national, state, local parks, trails, heritage areas, and greenways on the route and add cultural resource preservation and interpretation to the natural and recreation resources along the route
- Offer rich, interactive, up-to-date content in a user-friendly web platform that supports online and mobile technology including social media

NHT News

Phil Correll drafted a cooperative agreement for administering the \$23,000 Challenge Cost Share project to help stabilize the Odell House, Rochambeau's headquarters in NY. The agreement is between the NPS, the Hudson River Valley Greenway, and the owners, the NY chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. We had some unforeseen difficulties and will have to delay obligating the funds until next fiscal year. This will allow a bit more time to clarify project details, respective roles, and responsibilities.

On July 23, Joe DiBello and Samantha Driscoll met with the American Revolution Center's President and CEO Michael C. Quinn and ZeeAnn Mason, Senior Vice President for Marketing and Communications. The Museum of the American Revolution, to be built at 3rd and Chestnut Streets in Philadelphia, will tell the full story of the American Revolution and explore its ongoing legacy, providing context to the many regional and national museums that present key aspects of our Nation's founding era. We discussed the Washington-Rochambeau NHT, and the fact that the allied forces led by Washington and Rochambeau paraded down Chestnut Street, directly where the museum will be located, over the course of September 2-4, 1781 on their way to Yorktown. We discussed the role of the NHT and we will link our websites as first step in developing our partnership.

To learn more go to: <http://www.americanrevolutioncenter.org/>
See the Museum of the American Revolution featured on the CBS Evening News here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iqfAO7o4ggE&list=UU8p1vwwWtl6T73JiExfWs1g&index=5&feature=plcp>



To tell the story of the Battle off the Capes in Virginia, we are exploring the feasibility of moving the difficult to access commemoration of Admiral De-Grasse at Fort Story to a more prominent location for all to see. Nicole Yancey of the W3R is initiating discussions with Williamsburg regarding trail waysides and marking. Dan Smith, Superintendent of Colonial National Historical Park, has researched past ownership and dedication of the statues. He has found that we are able to move the commemoration, only if a suitable place can be found and we can secure the funds needed. The NHT team will explore options for financial and technical assistance, as well as ways to enhance the NHT statewide.

In response to a request from Acquetta Anderson, National Chair, Benjamin Harrison Society Friends Washington Rochambeau NHT, we have drafted a General Agreement which is under review by our regional partnership office. The draft will be provided to the BH Society Friends Washington Rochambeau NHT for their review in the coming weeks.

Phil Correll has purchased passport stamps for the NHT. Passport stamps for the Washington-Rochambeau NHT are available at the Colonial National Historical Park Visitor Center in Yorktown, VA and we hope to distribute the others at locations along the trail. Please let us know if you are interested in having brochures and the passport stamp at your location.

We would like to compile photos of all Washington-Rochambeau NHT events, past and future. Please send any photos you would like included to Samantha Driscoll at samantha_driscoll@nps.gov. You can register for a free Flickr account. Once registered, you will be able to comment on all photos. We ask your help in using the comment section to caption the images and tell more about the place, people, or event!

Please see photos of past events at:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/washington-rochambeau/>

Announcements

National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program 2012 Grant Awards

More than \$1.3 million in National Park Service grants will be used to help preserve, protect, document, and interpret America's significant battlefield lands. The funding from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) will support 27 projects at more than 75 battlefields nationwide. This year's grants provide funding for projects at endangered battlefields from the Pequot War, King William's War, the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, World War II and various Indian Wars. Awards were given to projects in 17 states or territories entailing archeology, mapping, cultural resource survey work, documentation, planning, education and interpretation. Priority was given to those groups submitting applications for nationally significant battlefields.



We have checked the 2007 American Battlefield Protection Program Report to Congress for sites associated with the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. We are happy to report the Washington-Rochambeau Route is listed as a Class A “road, trail, and waterway needing further study.” The associated site of the Chesapeake Capes is listed as a Class A “naval and maritime site needing further study” as well as a Class A “battlefield needing further study.” There are various battlefields, locations of altercations, and historic sites along the Washington-Rochambeau NHT which may qualify for a 2013 Battlefield Preservation Grant.

Please contact us to discuss projects, sites, or proposals that you think may qualify. We would be happy to assist and support you in preparing an application. To learn more about this very important opportunity, please visit: <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/abpp/>

Google Maps of the NHT Auto Route

The NPS website is now up and running, allowing us to have a more accessible format for the Google Maps of the NHT Auto Route. Please follow this link to the ‘Directions’ page of the NPS site:

<http://www.nps.gov/waro/planyourvisit/directions.htm>

Our ‘Directions’ page has a link for each state of the National Historic Trail. Click on the state and you will be directed to the Google Maps.