

## Resource 1

Name: William Vernon House (c. 1708)

Location: 46 Clark Street  
Newport, RI 02903

Historical Significance:

The Vernon House, built in 1758, was headquarters for Rochambeau while his army was in Newport, July 1780 to June 1781, as well as that of his son, the *vicomte* de Rochambeau. Here Washington was a guest from 6 to 13 March 1781.



The Vernon House was listed as a National Historic Landmark on 24 November 1968, #68000005.

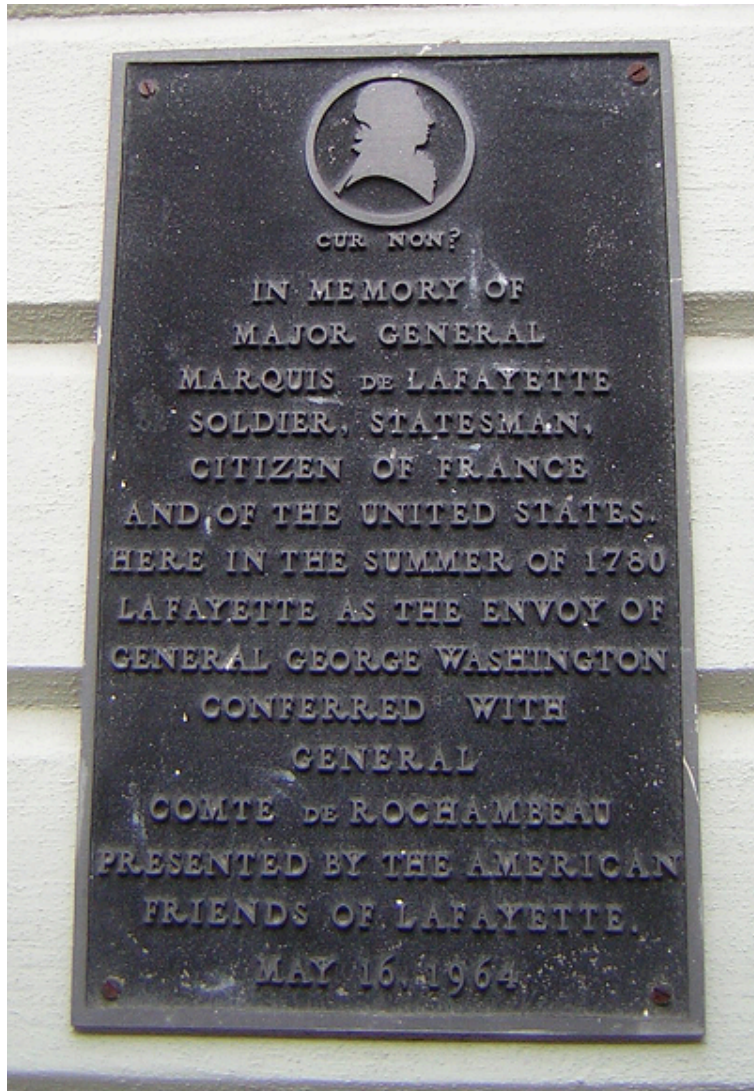


A plaque on the outside wall of the house commemorates Rochambeau's stay. It measure 36 inches high and 24 inches wide at the widest spot.

On 12 February 1781, Major Samuel Shaw wrote to W. Sargent, from New Windsor

*On our return to this place, the General (Knox?) and myself made a detour to Newport, where we passed a couple of days in a most agreeable manner. Nothing could exceed the politeness and attention of our good allies – they shewed us everything – and we on our part were pleased with everything – this you will say was very civil – but seriously everything as far as I was competent to judge appeared in the most perfect order. The flower of the British Army when in Boston did not shew a parade any way superior to what is every day exhibited in Newport. The officers are a set of the likeliest and most genteel men I ever saw. I am in love with an institution of Count Rochambeaus. He has a large room, perhaps 80 feet long and half the width, which is kept open from 9 o'clock in the morning till 11 at night. Here all the officers of the army assemble, together with such gentlemen of the town as please, and amuse themselves with cards, back gammon, chess, checkers and news papers, of all which articles there is ample supply. The old Count himself passes a good deal of time with them – plays cards with one – throws the dice with another, and converses with a third. This institution, at the same time it endears the General to his officers, (for it is by no means an established custom) has a happy tendency in promoting harmony and good fellowship. By this friendly collision the asperities and acute angles, as Yorick somewhere terms them, of human nature are wor away, and make room for the mutual intercourse of politeness and good offices.”<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Society Misc. Collection.



The plaque measures 19 1/2 inches high and is 12 inches wide.

## Resource 2

**Name:** Site of Charles Tillinghast House

**Location:** 243-245 Thames Street  
Newport, RI 02903

### **Historical Significance:**

The Charles Tillinghast house, built in 1715, provided quarters for French Intendant Benoît Joseph de Tarlé. *Commissaire des guerres* (Commissary of War) Jacques Pierre Orillard, *comte* de Villemanzy stayed there as well. It was demolished in 1972 or 1973.

### Resource 3

**Name:** Joseph Wanton House

**Location:** 25 Walnut Street  
Newport, RI 02903

**Historical Significance:**

This ca. 1770 house served as quarters for Major General Antoine Charles du Houx, *baron de Vioménil*, Rochambeau's second in command, and of his brother Joseph Hyacinthe du Houx, *comte de Vioménil*. Also quartered there were *baron de Vioménil's* aides-de-camp de Pangé and Brisout de Barneville, whose "Journal de Guerre de Brisout de Barneville. Mai 1780-Octobre 1781" was published in *The French-American Review* Vol. 3, No. 4, (October 1950), pp. 217-278.



The Wanton House is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.

## Resource 4

**Name:** Captain Mawdsley House

**Location:** 228 Spring Street  
Newport, RI 02903

**Historical Significance:**

During the winter of 1780-81, this was the home of French Major-General François *chevalier* Beauvoir de Chastellux, who was third in command of French forces. His *Travels in North America in Years 1780-81* Howard C. Rice, Jr., ed., 2 vols., (Chapel Hill, 1963) contain much valuable information on the American campaigns.



The Mawdsley House is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.



## Resource 5

**Name:** Jacob Rodriguez Riviera (Rathburn-Gardner-Riviera) House

**Location:** 8 Washington Square  
Newport, RI 02903

### **Historical Significance:**

Jacob Rodriguez Riviera (son of Abraham Riviera, uncle and father-in-law of Aaron Lopez) hailed from a "Marrano" family from Seville, Spain. He arrived in Newport via Curaçao in 1748 where he introduced the manufacture of spermaceti candle-making. Next to Aaron Lopez, Riviera occupied the highest position in the commercial, religious and social life of Newport's Jewish community. His daughter Sarah, married to Aaron Lopez, and his son Jacob owned the house at 8 Washington Square. During the winter of 1780-81, French Brigadier General Claude Gabriel de Choisy lodged here with an aide-de-camp identified with the name "Saumann". No such officer identified in Gilbert Bodinier, *Dictionnaire des officiers de l'armée royale qui ont combattu aux États-Unis pendant la guerre d'Indépendance* (Château de Vincennes, 1982).



The Rathburn-Gardner-Riviera House is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.

## Resource 6

**Name:** Moses Levy and Moses Seixas House

**Location:** 29 Touro Street  
Newport, RI 02903

### **Historical Significance:**

The Moses Levi house provided winter quarters to Pierre François de Bévillie, Rochambeau's *maréchal général des logis*, which translates as "Quartermaster General", who stayed here while in Newport from July 1780 to June 1781. In today's military, a quartermaster performs the functions of a French *commissaire de guerre* of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The *Quartermaster* staffs of the armies of eighteenth-century Continental Europe are the roots of the modern General Staff and performed General Staff duties.

The house is listed as Peter Buliod-Oliver Hazard Perry House (pre-1757) in NHR files. The Newport Restoration Foundation acquired the building in 1973 from the Salvation Army which had bought the property in 1914. It is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.





## Resource 7

**Name:** John Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House

**Location:** 17 Broadway  
Newport, RI 02903

### **Historical Significance:**

The oldest restored house in Newport (1675), has been the home of Colonial governors, Tories, patriots, Supreme Court Justices, and site of the Stamp Act riot of 1765. John Wanton purchased the house at public auction. His daughter, Polly, was well known among the French officers of the day, as attested to by the window pane that bears the inscription "charming Polly Wanton." Lieutenant Colonel George Henry Victor Collot, an *aide-de-camp* to Rochambeau, lodged here from July 1780 to June 1781 while in Newport. Governor of Guadeloupe in 1792, he came to the US as a British prisoner of war after the surrender of the island in April 1794. Paroled in Philadelphia in 1796, he was approached by Pierre Adet, the French minister to the United States, to survey the lands west of the Appalachian Mountains and investigate how they could be claimed for France. Having completed his journey along the Ohio and Mississippi, he returned to Paris from Louisiana in December 1796. Based in part on Collot's information, Napoleon acquired the Louisiana Territory from Spain on October 1, 1800, but sold it to the United States 2 1/2 years later.



The John Wanton Lyman Hazard House was listed as a National Historic Landmark on 9 October 1960, #66000016.

## Resource 8

**Name:** Francis Malbone House

**Location:** 392 Thames Street  
Newport, RI 02903

**Historical Significance:**

Lieutenant Colonel Guillaume Querenet de la Combe, second in command of Rochambeau's engineers, lodged there while in Newport, July 1780 to June 1781.



The Francis Malbone House is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.

## Resource 9

**Name:** John Tillinghast House (c. 1758)

**Location:** 142 Mill Street  
Newport, RI 02903

**Historical Significance:**

Built in 1760, the John Tillinghast House (identified as Pardon Tillinghast property on the 1781 list), provided winter quarters to Captain Croublier d'Opterre and Captain Marie Louis Thomas, *marquis* de Gazarac, who served as aide-de-camp to his cousin the *baron* de Vioménil.



The John Tillinghast House is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.

## Resource 10

**Name:** William Giles House

**Location:** 30 Golden Hill Street  
Newport, RI 02903

**Historical Significance:**

Built pre-1777, it was home to Guillaume Cairol de Laziers, *major d'équipage*, the waggonmaster of Rochambeau's artillery and of Thomas Antoine de Mauduit du Plessis, *aide-major* of the artillery. Mauduit Du Plessis had served as a lieutenant colonel in the Continental artillery between 1777 and 1779 and distinguished himself at Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth.

The William Giles House is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.

## Resource 11

**Name:** Simon Pease House (c. 1700)

**Location:** 32 Clarke Street  
Newport, RI 02903

### **Historical Significance:**

The Simon Pease house provided lodgings for Commissary Ethis de Corny when in Newport. When in Providence, Corny lodged in a house owned by Major Nathaniel Greene of Woodstock, CT “on the north side of Westminster Street, east of Exchange Street”. In July 1780, Abimeleck Riggs was living in the house but since Riggs had “a very small family, who may be easily accommodated in some other house”, Ephraim Bowen was instructed “to find a convenient place” for Riggs and to “remove his family.”



The Simon Pease House was purchased by NRF in 1969 and restored in 1971. It is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.

## Resource 12

**Name:** Town Prison (c. 1722)

**Location:** 13 Marlborough Street  
Newport, RI 02903

**Historical Significance:**

Rochambeau's provost de Ronchamp stayed with John Honeyman in Plum Street, today's Pelham Street, close to the town prison, also on Plum Street.



The Town Prison is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.

## Resource 13

Name: Robert Stevens House

Location: 31 Clarke Street  
Newport, RI 02903

Historical Significance:

The Robert Stevens House, built 1742-55, provided quarters to Rochambeau's aides the *comte de Fersen* and the *marquis de Damas*.

There is a plaque commemorating the stay on the house. See F. U. Wrangel, ed., *Lettres d'Axel de Fersen a son père pendant la guerre de l'Indépendance d'amérique* (Paris, 1929).



The Robert Stevens House is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.



The wooden plaque measures 26 inches wide and 20 inches high.

The home of Rochambeau's other aides-de-camp, the *chevalier* de Lameth and Mathieu Dumas with Joseph Anthony in Spring Street is no longer standing.

On Dumas see Mathieu Dumas, *Memoirs of his Own Time* 2 vols., (London, 1839).



## Resource 14

**Name:** Henry Potter House

**Location:** 39 Clark Street  
Newport, RI 02903

### **Historical Significance:**

The Henry Potter House provided quarters to the *comte* de Lauberdière and Baron Closen whose diary was published by Evelyn Acomb, ed. *The Revolutionary Journal of Baron Ludwig von Closen, 1780-1783* (Chapel Hill, 1958). On Lauberdière see my "Lauberdière's Journal. The Revolutionary War Journal of Louis François Bertrand d'Aubevoye, comte de Lauberdière" *Colonial Williamsburg. The Journal of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation* Vol. 18 No. 1 (Autumn 1995), pp. 33-37, and "America the Ungrateful: The Not-So-Fond Remembrances of Louis François Dupont d'Aubevoye, comte de Lauberdière" *American Heritage* Vol. 48 No. 1 (February 1997), pp. 101-106.

This house is identified as Melville House (c. 1730-1755) in NHR files.



The Melville House is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.

## Resource 15

**Name:** Robert Lillibridge House (Pitt's Head Tavern, c. 1726)

**Location:** 77 Bridge Street  
Newport, RI 02903

**Historical Significance:**

The Robert Lillibridge House provided lodging for Supply Inspector Duval.



The Robert Lillibridge House is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.

## Resource 16

**Name:** Dr. Nicholas Tillinghast House (c. 1750)

**Location:** 134-136 Thames Street  
Newport, RI 02903

**Historical Significance:**

An administrative officer by the name of "Morion", identified as "Cashier" in the quartering list, quartered with Dr. Tillinghast. No such person is identified in Bodinier's dictionary.



The Dr. Nicholas Tillinghast House is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.

## Resource 17

**Name:** Constant Tabor House (c. 1750)

**Location:** 47 John Street  
Newport, RI 02903

**Historical Significance:**

Constant Tabor provided lodging for Storekeeper Martin during 1780/81.



The Constant Tabor House is listed on the NHR as part of the Newport Historic District.