



Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

March 2012



Photo of Odell house in 2007 found at <http://www.gather.com/viewArticle.action?articleId=281474977140549>

Recent NHT Events

We are pleased to inform you that the Odell House, Rochambeau's headquarters, in Westchester County, New York is to receive federal matching financial assistance for the assessment and stabilization of the structure in the amount of \$23,325 and technical assistance from the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail. This project was chosen as part of the National Park Service (NPS) Challenge Cost Share Program, a portion of which is dedicated to National Trails. This project will help the trail connect people and communities to national, state, and local parks, trails, heritage areas, greenways, and cultural resource preservation. The assessment and stabilization would be the first phase in what will be the overall restoration and use of the Odell House as a site to interpret America's War for Independence and the NHT.

The Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) grant in conjunction with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and Hudson River Valley Greenway has been transferred to the NPS by the Federal Highway Administration. The \$300,000 project will be used for designing, installing, and determining locations for directional signage and wayside

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exhibits for the Washington-Rochambeau NHT in New York and support the development of maps and brochures, like the NPS unigrid brochure, for the NHT in NY. The Washington-Rochambeau NHT, working through the NPS Harpers Ferry Center and with our NY and Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area partners, will carry out the project.

Joe attended an address by Jini Jones Vail Author of *Rochambeau: Washington's Ideal Lieutenant A French General's Role in the American Revolution* on March 10 hosted by Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route-NJ in Princeton, NJ.

On March 22, we met with the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Water-trails Network (CBGN), the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, and the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail to coordinate activities along the Captain John Smith NHT, Star-Spangled Banner NHT, Potomac Heritage NST and the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT, all of which share resources and have significant water trail components.

On April 14, 2012 Joe DiBello will attend the Spring W3R-US board meeting in Princeton NJ. While this meeting is happening, see the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area newsletter for a series of activities taking place in the area.

http://www.morristourism.org/rev_times_weekend.php

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 event!

Please see photos of past events at:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/washington-rochambeau/>



NPS: A Call to Action

The National Park Service is nearing its 100th Anniversary in 2016. National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis has announced the plan 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 is embracing this plan as we work with communities along the route. **Please share your thoughts, ideas, and proposals with us** as we work together on these three goals:

Connecting People to Parks, Action 3: History Lesson

“Expand the meaning of parks to new audiences and provide an opportunity for communities to learn more about their heritage by conducting history discovery events, using oral histories and other methods, ...”

We will look for ways in 2012 to reach new audiences to tell the story of Generals Washington and Rochambeau, the allied armies, and the people impacted by this event. We have had many successful events in 2011 that helped get the word out, but we must build on and expand the reach of our message.

Connecting People to Parks, Action 5: Parks for People

“Enhance the connection of densely populated, diverse communities to parks, greenways, trails, and waterways to improve close-to-home recreation and natural resources conservation.”

The Washington-Rochambeau NHT connects many of the largest metropolitan areas on the east coast and connects many national, state, local parks, trails, heritage areas, and greenways on the route. We can use this opportunity to explore innovative ways to connect communities and cultural resource preservation and interpretation.

Advancing the NPS Education Mission, Action 17: Go Digital

“Reach new audiences and maintain a conversation with all Americans by transforming the NPS digital experience to offer rich, interactive, up-to-date content from every park and program. To accomplish this we will create a user-friendly web platform that supports online and mobile technology including social media.”

The Washington-Rochambeau NHT will have an official NPS website up and running in early 2012, followed by Facebook and Twitter presence, and a blog for highlighting events, stories, and discussion of the NHT. We hope to develop an interactive map of the entire NHT.



Announcements

The 40th Anniversary of World Heritage Convention with UNESCO Director General Bokova March 15, 2012

During a town hall with local tourism and business leaders in Philadelphia, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar emphasized the importance of international tourism to economic growth and job creation. The visit coincided with the 40th anniversary of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) World Heritage Convention, an international treaty that seeks to recognize and protect the world's most significant places, such as Independence Hall, for future generations. Today's visit comes as part of the Obama administration's initiative – launched in January – to create a new national tourism strategy focused on creating jobs by becoming even more welcoming to guests from here at home and from all over the globe. As part of this initiative, Secretary Salazar and Secretary of Commerce John Bryson are working to develop recommendations for a National Travel and Tourism Strategy to promote domestic and international travel opportunities throughout the United States with a particular focus on strategies for increasing tourism by promoting visits to our national treasures, such as Independence Hall. Joined by UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova, National Park Service (NPS) Director Jon Jarvis, U.S. Congressman Chaka Fattah, Independence National Historical Park Superintendent Cynthia MacLeod, and Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife & Parks Rachel Jacobson, Salazar and officials discussed with attendees the different avenues in which to better promote and attract tourists to the area and increase the share of the international travel market.

The American Revolution Center named Michael C. Quinn as President and CEO

Michael C. Quinn will join the organization as president and CEO effective April 1, 2012. Quinn will oversee all aspects of the development of The Museum of the American Revolution, to be built in the historic area of Philadelphia.

Please update your records with our new contact information. Staff telephone numbers remain the same.

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Public input for 2013 Virginia Outdoors Plan

Planners with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation are inviting residents are invited to share their ideas for outdoor recreation and land conservation needs. The following are among the topics relevant to the Northern region: Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, Journey Through Hallowed Ground, ongoing regional connections and trail development, local and regional conservation needs, especially opportunities to preserve rural and agricultural lands, active recreation needs and opportunities, state scenic rivers and scenic byways and existing water trails, including Occoquan, Potomac and Captain John Smith and lets not forget, the Washington Rochambeau NHT. Anyone may submit written comments. Email comments to janit.llewellyn@dcr.virginia.gov, or write to: VOP Comments, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, 203 Governor St., Suite 326, Richmond, VA 23219.

Delaware State Historic Preservation Plan 2013-2017

In order to solicit information for use in drafting Delaware's 2013-2017 statewide historic-preservation plan, the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs will be holding five public meetings at locations across the state in late-February and early-March 2012. Members of the public who are not able to attend one of the public meetings may instead submit written comments to the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, 21 the Green, Dover, DE 19901; or via e-mail at preservationplan@state.de.us.

Webinar: Best Practices for Developing Interpretive Panels for Trails

The American Trails Webinar Series brings you "Telling a Better Story: Best Practices for Developing Interpretive Panels for Trails" that will be held Thursday, April 26 at 10:00 a.m. Pacific. The focus is on strategies for captivating your trail audience with provocative, well designed interpretive panels. Get practical advice for developing theme-based messages, establishing budgets, selecting images and design elements, understanding how visitors learn, writing interpretive text, and preparing files for production. Presenters are environmental education consultants Jennifer Rigby and Erica Fielder. Learn more at: <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/wildlife/Webinar-Interpretive-Panels-Trails.html>



Reminder: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR) Community Conservation Partnership Grant Round Open, Workshops Set

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources opened the 2012 application period for the Community Conservation Partnerships Program Grants administered by the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation. The primary open application period officially began on January 11 and ended at 4 p.m. on April 4. For more information:

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/c2p2programguidance/index.htm>
<http://www.paoutdoorrecplan.com/>

Historic Trails Workshop “From Line on a Map to Real on the Ground” Socorro, New Mexico May 14-18, 2012

Registration is NOW OPEN!

Full Workshop Package (Monday-Thursday)+ Meals Package = \$340
or ONLY Thursday May 17 Large Landscapes Program + Meal = \$100
Please register as soon as possible but no later than **Friday, April 27th.**

Trails Apprentice Scholarships and Travel Scholarships
Some funding is available to cover the cost of Trails Apprentices ages 18-25 to travel to and attend the workshop. Some funding is available for Travel scholarships to attend the workshop. Contact Julia Glad at PNTSCommunications@gmail.com if you know of a young adult who might like to participate.

Workshop Description

“From Line on a Map to Real on the Ground”

This workshop on National Historic Trails (NHTs) has several objectives:

- To understand how the National Trails System Act governs the establishment, preservation, and development of national historic trails;
- To imagine and develop a vision for the preservation and development of a NHT;
- To understand how national historic trails can relate to America’s Great Outdoors (AGO); and
- To begin developing an action agenda linking NHTs to AGO.

Starting with two field exercises during the first two days, this workshop will allow participants to holistically examine and understand issues concerning the documentation, preservation, and development of national historic trails for public use on two historic routes through the historic city of Socorro and the little-changed Bosquecito Road. The exercises will engage participants in



a fun, challenging, intensive, and structured effort, with lessons and experiences applicable to all NHTs. One session will also give nonprofit trail groups a chance to brainstorm how to strengthen their organizations.

Day three will broaden our discussion to current policy initiatives, such as AGO and its emphasis on “Large Landscapes.” It will be held at the nearby Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge. We will examine trail corridor preservation strategies being developed by the Bureau of Land Management, the nexus between national trails and national wildlife refuges and a number of opportunities for historic trail preservation in AGO. We will also use several case studies to explore ways historic trails are being protected from (and damaged by) energy production projects. We will end the day with a tour of the Refuge before returning to Socorro.

National Trails Day June 2, 2012

National Trails Day® (NTD) is the America’s signature annual trail awareness event, coordinated by the American Hiking Society (AHS). It occurs on the first Saturday of June to inspire the general public and trail enthusiasts nationwide to discover, learn about, and celebrate trails. Hosting a NTD event can benefit you and your partner organizations by:

- Generating excitement about your trails
- Motivating volunteers to help
- Facilitating new partnerships on local, state, and national levels.
- Spreading NTD success stories through hundreds of media outlets.

This year National Trails Day® falls on Saturday, June 2, 2012. However, event hosts have the option of choosing a different day to observe NTD if it better suits their program. Here is a simple “how-to” guide for hosting a National Trails Day® event on your land or in your area. More detailed information is available at www.AmericanHiking.org



Google Maps of the NHT

[Click on the state for map](#)

Massachusetts

Rhode Island

Connecticut

New York

New Jersey, Corridor 1

New Jersey, Corridor 2

Pennsylvania

Delaware

Maryland

Virginia

Washington DC