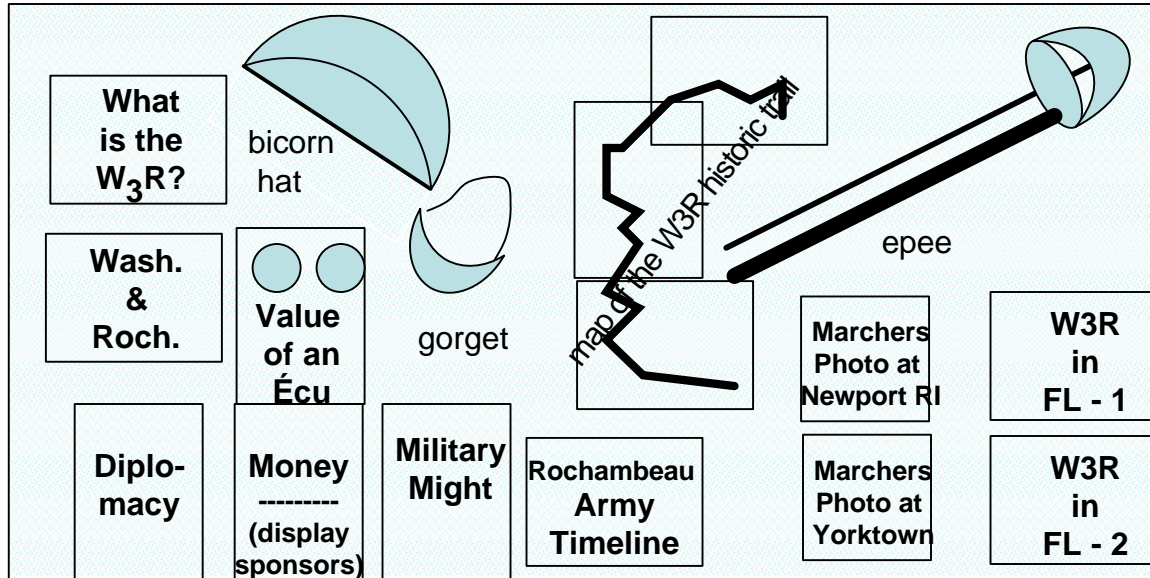


Remembering French assistance throughout the American Revolution, culminating in the Siege and Victory at Yorktown on October 19, 1781

Layout of items for the October 7-30, 2010 display at the W.T. Bland Public Library in Mount Dora FL



This drawing uses a scale of 1" scale = 12" real.

This display promotes understanding of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route -- a 680-mile trail from Newport RI to Yorktown VA -- designated by the U.S. Congress in 2009 as a National Historic Trail.

Bicorn Hat

Worn by an officer in Lauzun's Legion (French).

The red pom-pom indicates a grenadier unit
-- tall men who threw grenades.

The Continental troops wore tricorn hats
(with three places for the rain to drip out)

Gorget

Worn about the neck by officers.

This was a reminder of the armor worn in the
days before crossbows and muskets were used.
This one is stamped with the French coat of arms.

Epee

Worn by French officers in the field and at dances.

Double-edged, heavier than rapier used in fencing.

Regular troops used heavier, one-edge sabers.

Labels for the display items

The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route is a 680-mile path from Newport RI to Yorktown VA. It follows the route of the allied armies of the U.S. and France during 1781. Signage and exhibits will focus on French and Spanish assistance to the U.S. throughout the American Revolution, culminating in the Siege and Victory at Yorktown on October 19, 1781.

In 2009 the U.S. Congress designated the W₃R as a National Historic Trail, under the care of the National Park Service. The W₃R-US is a volunteer organization to help develop the trail.

This exhibit describes how France and Spain helped the U.S. achieve independence and describes how Florida was involved in winning the American Revolution

Two Men, Two Nations, One Goal



Gen. George Washington

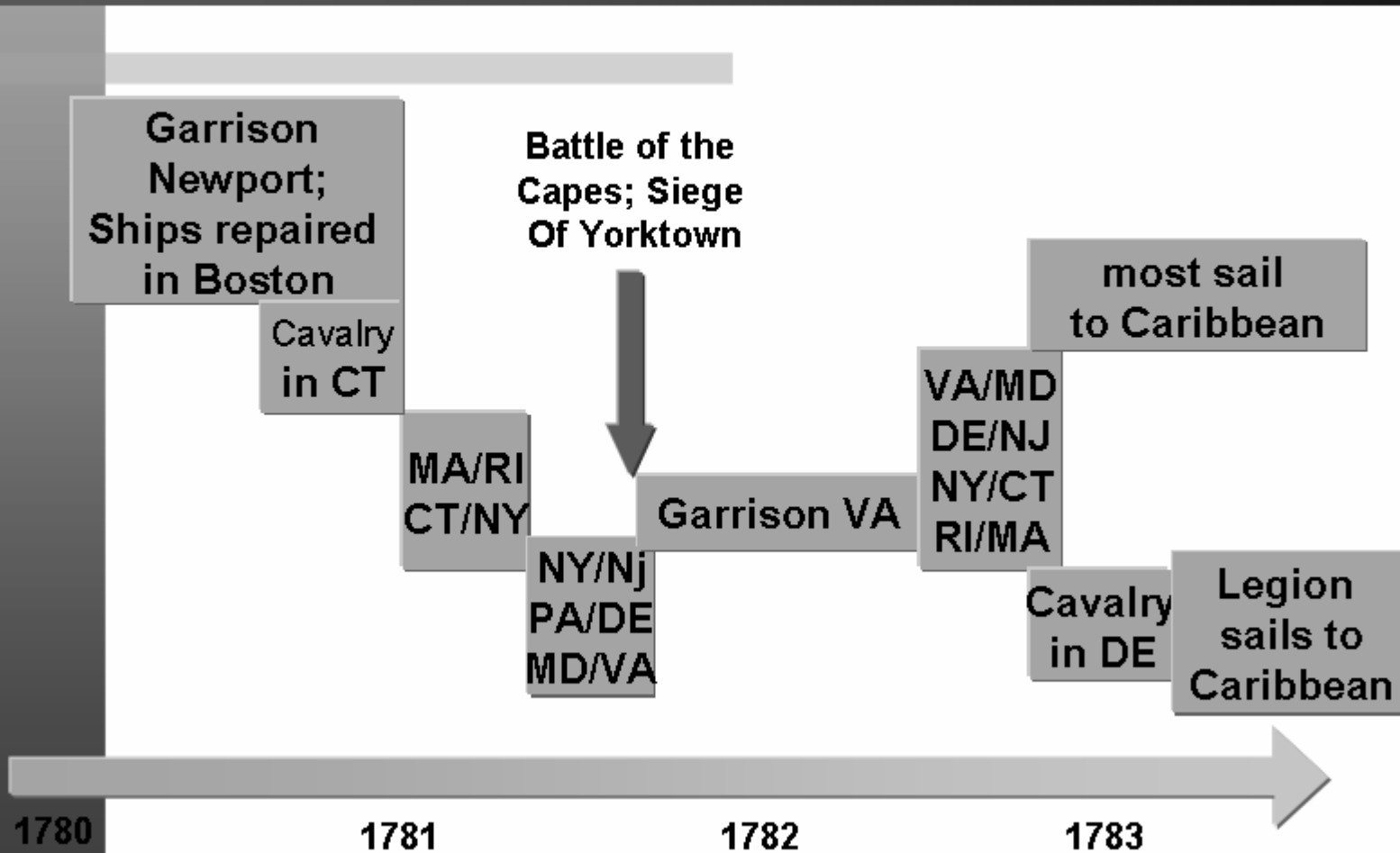
political?
courtier?
experienced?
strategic planner?
charisma?
integrity?
object of hatred?
lots of good luck?

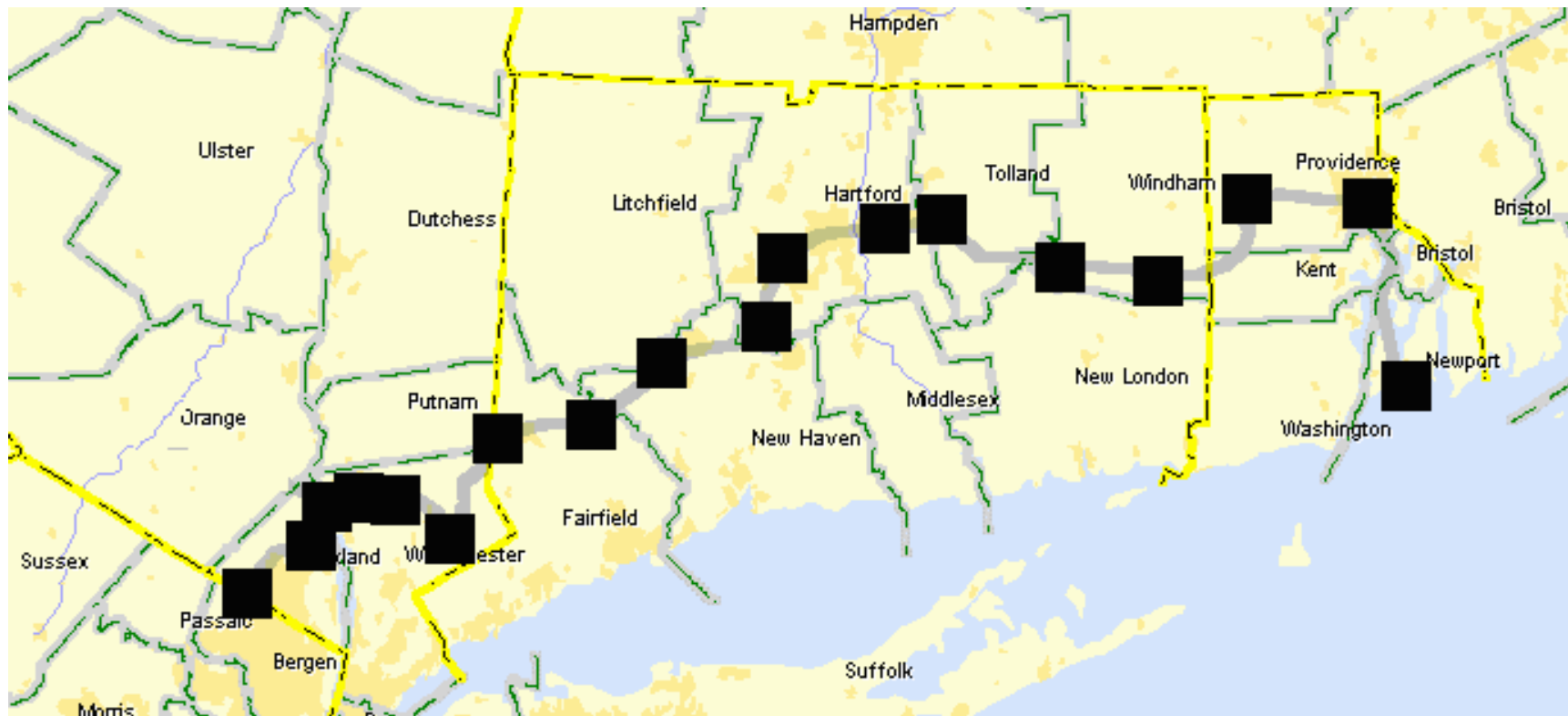


Gen . Rochambeau

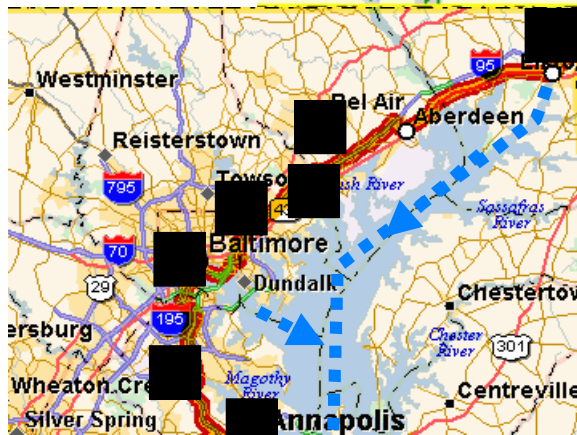
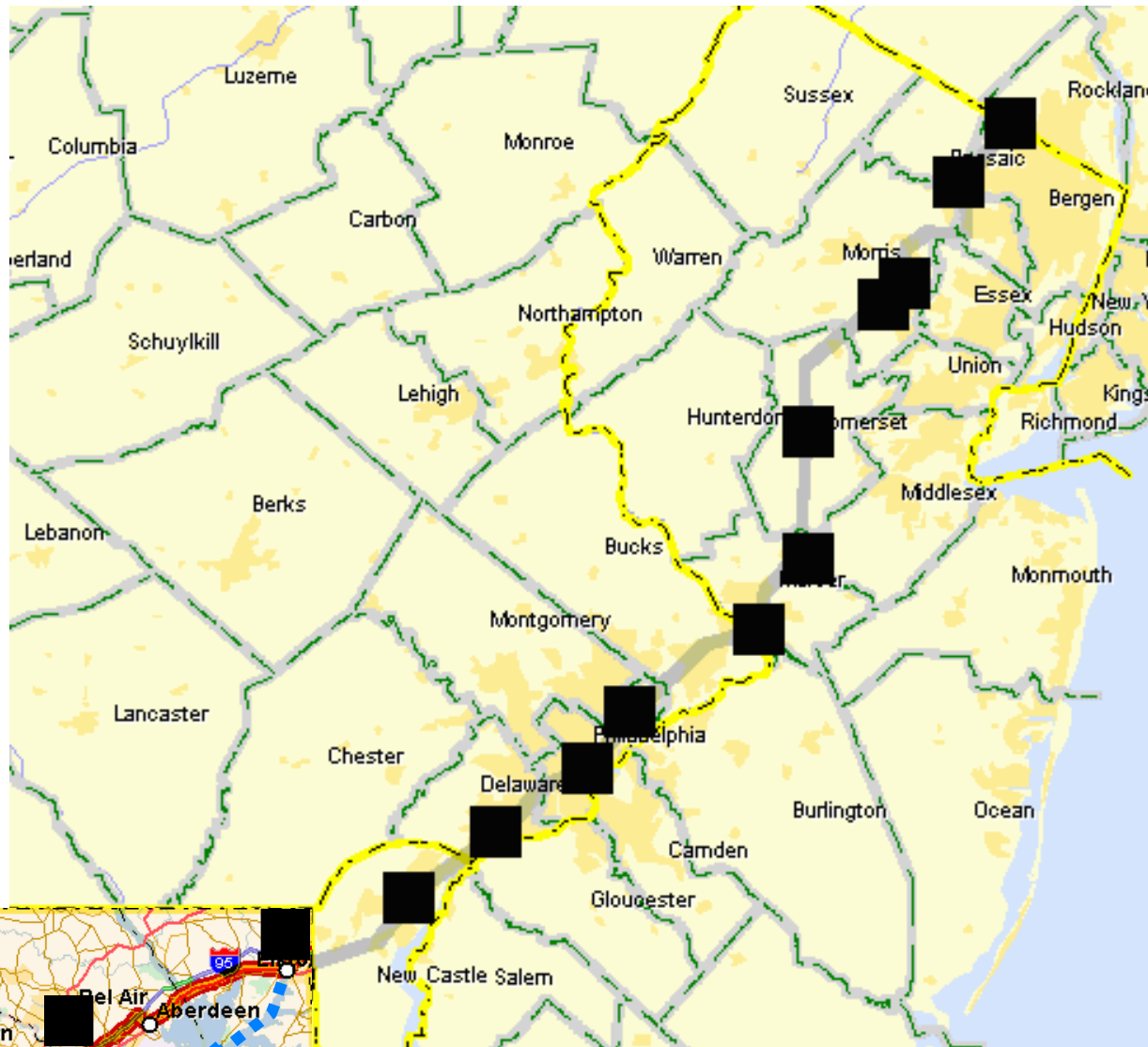
**born to moderate wealth and position
filled with ambition; inventive; persistent
married well, spent years with family
showed valor; wounded or narrow escape
respected throughout the nation; resigned**

French Expeditionary Schedule





Gen. Rochambeau arrived at Newport RI with 5,000 troops on July 10, 1780. On June 18, 1781, some 4,000 French troops marched out of Providence RI to join the Continental Army north of New York City. After six weeks probing the British defenses there 6,000 allied troops marched south toward Yorktown VA.



The infantry and cannon went by transport ships to James City VA from Elkton, Baltimore, and Annapolis MA on the Chesapeake Bay.



Senior officers (on horseback) and hundreds of baggage wagons followed land routes through MD and VA. The transport ships with soldiers and cannon landed at James City, near Yorktown.

Enjoy the W3R in Florida!

In 2004 and 2006 Floridians supported the development of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route through donations in support of the long-distance re-enactment marches (Newport RI to Dobbs Ferry NY, and then on to Yorktown VA). The W3R-US is a national umbrella organization for state W3R groups that support the National Park Service and develop W3R resources for research, education, and recreation.

- Read (on the W3R-US website) the history of how France and Spain aided the U.S. during the American Revolution, lists source books and has links to online resources.
- Tour the W3R using auto routes posted on the W3R-US website. We plan to add bicycle tour information (cue sheets) and city walking tours.
- Participate in commemorations of allied involvement in the American Revolution on Alliance Treaty Day (Feb 6, 1778), Pensacola Victory Day [May 8, 1781], Treaty of Paris Day (September 3, 1783), and Yorktown Day (October 19, 1781).
- Visit nearby historic sites related to allied involvement in the War for Independence in Pensacola FL [Fort George Memorial Park], Cape Canaveral FL [plaque and cannon], and Savannah GA (Pulaski Monument and the Haitian Memorial Monument).



*2008 commemoration of the last naval battle of the War for Independence in U.S. waters, which took place off **Cape Canaveral FL** on March 10, 1783, when several British frigates attacked a U.S. frigate and a treasury ship. The battle ended when a French ship-of-the-line appeared on the scene and frightened off the British.*



In 2006 #2, 4, and 5 above marched the entire 680 miles of the W3R from Newport RI to Yorktown VA. They plan to do it again in 2011.

The Washington-Rochambeau Route of Florida (W3R-FL)



We coordinate the activities of historical, lineage, and civic organizations in Florida to commemorate the aid given by France and Spain to the U.S. during the War for Independence and to support the development of the 680-mile W3R National Historic Trail -- Newport RI to Yorktown VA.

www.w3r-us.org

Promoting Heritage Today

The **National Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association** (W3R-US) is a non-profit [501(c)3] corporation dedicated to identifying and preserving the documents, routes, and associated historic sites and to helping the public enjoy and understand the W3R. Since 1999 the W3R-US has helped focus and coordinate the efforts of individuals and of like-minded history, lineage, and government groups in developing the W3R as a public resource.

Following a six-year National Park Service study Congress designated the W3R as a **National Historic Trail** in March of 2009.

The W3R-US welcomes your interest, your participation in W3R activities, your donations, and your membership in a chapter of the W3R-US



Re-enactors of French troops, Newport RI 2006

France and Spain in Florida

Spanish adventurers **Ponce de Leon** and **Hernando de Soto** explored Florida in 1513 and 1540. In 1564 **French Huguenots** (Christian Protestants) established a permanent post at Fort

Caroline on the St. John's River, near present-day Jacksonville FL. The king of Spain sent conquistadors to found St. Augustine FL in September, 1565, and to eliminate the French threat to Spanish shipments of gold.

Foreign control of Florida was transferred from Spain to Great Britain in 1763 (after the French and Indian War) in exchange for control of Havana, Cuba. In 1781 the British fort at **Pensacola** (Florida) was held by fewer than 1,500 British, Hessian, and Loyalist soldiers, with 400 Creek and 100 Choctaw warriors as allies.

In March 1781 Spanish Field Marshal **Bernardo de Gálvez** besieged Pensacola with an allied Spanish-French force of some 7,000 Spanish and French troops.

The Spanish force included dozens of warships and transports carrying the Louisiana militia and soldiers from many Spanish regiments: Aragon, Cataluna, Crown, Guadalajara, Hibernia, King, Louisiana, Mallorca, Navarra, Prince, Sorio, and Toledo.

French Adm. **Monteil** led a force of four ships-of-the-line (*Palmier*, *Deston*, *Intrepide*, and *Triton*) and two frigates (*Andromaque* and *Licorne*) and four transports with 700 soldiers from several regiments: Agenois, Cambresis, Gationois, Orleans, Poitou, and -- from the Royal Corps of Artillery -- the 52d (La Sarre) and 83d (Angoumois) regiments. The French ground forces were led by capitaine de vaisseau de Botderu.

On May 8 an explosion in one of the British powder magazines killed many of

the defenders. Two days later the allies captured Pensacola. The French portion of the allied force immediately departed to join Adm. de Grasse; several months later they participated in the siege and victory at Yorktown, Virginia.

Casualties -- British: 105 killed and wounded, 1,100 captured, 300 paroled; Indian: unknown; Spanish: 78 killed, 198 wounded (including Gálvez); French: unknown.

Ref. **Washington's Second Front**, by Ralph Cramer, Sr. [Florida Society SAR]



National Park Service map of allied troop movements during mid-1781, ending with the siege and victory at Yorktown VA.

For information about the W3R group now being formed in Florida contact

phone: _____

Email _____