

YHPC Meeting: May 19, 20 and 21, 2023

Attendees: Lynn Briggs, Tom McLoughlin, Christine Sisler, Garrett Sisler

Volunteers: Students from Westchester County Historic Preservation Certificate Program: John McMenimon, Kathy Keane, Yvonne Tortensson, Domenick and Theresa Dinardo

One Agenda Item Only / Public Outreach Program: Follow the French: Rochambeau Festival, AKA Yorktown Grange, 99 Moseman Avenue, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Discussion:

May 19 – Preparatory Before Event:

1. Organized logistics and set up space for eleven exhibitors (see Program Agenda: short and run of show attached)
2. Assisted the exhibitors in the setup of their individual popup tents and display materials
3. Assisted set up and logistics for Revolutionary War Brigade Forces: Brigade of the Revolutionary War and Le 85eme Regiment de Saintonge
4. Set up main pavilion for kick off ceremony (flag arrangement, podium, chairs, decorations)
5. Interfaced with the Yorktown Grange leaders to ensure compliance with protocols and readiness of operational facilities (main room set up, exhibit hall set up, audio, refuse, fire safety, food service, parking, animals)

May 20 – Day of Event

1. Oversaw all exhibitors in set up and compliance with site protocols and safety
2. Welcomed all dignitaries and guests, overseeing parking
3. Executed the six hour event program, including remarks from head of French Defense to the United Nations, two military guests, four state and local municipal leaders, two military brigades, and local animals

May 21 – Day After the Event

1. Packed up all exhibitor equipment, supplies and pop up tents in exhibitor hall
2. Assisted revolutionary war brigades break down their camps and pack up
3. Cleaned up the site grounds (fire wood, debris, exhibitor hall and main pavilion)
4. Transported flags from the main pavilion
5. Completed close-out readiness review with Yorktown Grange leaders

II. Agenda Topics

Budget Status

Public Outreach Programs (only for May 19, 20 and 21, 2023)

Fund Raising and Grants

Proposed Homes of Historic Distinction

Proposed Landmarks/Student Research Projects

Certificates of Appropriateness

Bronze Markers

CLIO

Public Relations

HPC Website / Facebook

Other Business

Today's Program

Follow the French: Rochambeau Festival

Rochambeau Park, 99 Moseman Road, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Location of one of the five Camp 16 locations in 1781

- 10:00am Rochambeau Park Opens
- 10:15am Encampment Setup Explanation – Dr. Robert A. Selig, W3R Scholar and Historian
- 10:45am Encampment Demonstration – Living History Education Foundation
- 12:00pm Kick Off Ceremony – Welcome Dignitaries and Guests
- Greetings from France, Brigadier General Vincent de Kytspotter, Head of French Defense Mission to the United Nations
- Senator Andrea Stewart – Cousins, Majority Leader, New York State Senate
- Senator Peter Harckham, 40th District, New York State Senate
- Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg, 95th District, NY State Assembly
- Supervisor Thomas Diana, Town of Yorktown, New York
- 12:30pm Pass and March, Revolutionary War Brigade Forces
Brigade of the Revolutionary War and Le 85^{eme} Regiment de Saintonge
- Story of the Franco-American Alliance
French Officer, Diplomat Benjamin Franklin, General Washington, General Rochambeau, Major General Chastellux
- Perspectives: Generals Washington and Rochambeau, Brigadier General Vincent de Kytspotter, Head of French Defense Mission to the United Nations
- 12:45pm Yorktown to Yorktown Proclamation, Lynn Briggs
- 12:55pm Review of Troops: Forces, Commanders and Dignitaries
- 1:00pm Close of Kick Off Ceremony, Break for Lunch
- 1:30pm Encampment Setup Explanation – Dr. Robert A. Selig, W3R Scholar and Historian
- 2:00pm Encampment Demonstration – Living History Education Foundation

3:00pm Combined Battalions Drill and Tactical Weapons Demonstration

3:30pm Indispensable Allies Presentation, Comte de Rochambeau and Marquis de Chastellux

4:00pm Close Event

Exhibitors:

1. Yorktown Heritage Preservation Commission/Yorktown 250
2. Washington - Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association – New York
3. Hunt's Tavern, Camps 16 and 38 (now Freyer's Florist)
4. Yorktown Historical Society
5. Daughters of the American Revolution
6. Diplomat Benjamin Franklin's Office
7. Robert Erskine, General Washington's Mapmaker
8. First Oval Office (George Washington's Field Office)
9. French Commanders, General Rochambeau and Major General Chastellux
10. John C. Hart Memorial Library
11. Copper Beach Junior High History Club

There will be photo opportunities for students, guest families and their children with General Washington, General Rochambeau, Major General Chastellux, Diplomat Benjamin Franklin, Mapmaker Robert Erskine and the other dignitaries.

Period Animals:

Draft horses (who will demonstrate role they played for the French troops), herd of goats and other period animals will be available for photo opportunities for guest families and their children.

Food and Beverage:

Guests will purchase food and beverages and be able to wander the spacious grounds while interacting with our dignitaries, Revolutionary War military leaders, members of the French, Continental and British forces, and exhibitors, exchanging stories about Rochambeau, Washington and the French and Continental armies.

Attribution: French Officer, Joe Ryan; Diplomat Benjamin Franklin, Jack Sherry; General George Washington, Michael Grillo; General Rochambeau, Rob Buccheri, Major General Chastellux, Keith Reilly

Overview of French Army Encampments – Yorktown, New York

Hunt's Tavern, a local watering establishment built in 1767, now Freyer's Florist, was the location of both forward and return encampments.

August 21-22, 1781: On the forward march to Yorktown, Virginia, General Rochambeau's Army set up five encampments surrounding Hunt's Tavern (Camp 16). The main army camped on either side of Baldwin Road. A second camp was located on the southern side of Hallock's Mill Road. Two other encampments were on the east and west side of Hanover Street. The fifth camp was monitoring the road south to Pine's Bridge across the Croton River (now known as Rochambeau Park / Yorktown Grange Fair Grounds).

September 17- October 20, 1782: On the return march, Rochambeau's Army again set up encampments surrounding Hunt's Tavern (Camp 38). The first was located on the north side of Baldwin Road, near Crompond Road. A second encampment was on the north slope of French Hill. The third camp was situated on the north side of Hallock's Mill Road, by Parker Lane. Comte de Rochambeau used the home of Captain Samuel Delavan as his headquarters, a short distance from the tavern. The fourth camp was located south in Croton Heights, in what is now known as Hilltop Hanover Farm.

As of May 19, 2023

Run of Show Agenda - Lynn Briggs, 914-400-7722, Yorktown Heritage Preservation Commission, May 20th -Follow the French: Rochambeau Festival, Rochambeau Park, Yorktown Grange Fair Grounds, 99 Moseman Road, Yorktown Heights 10598

| Time | What | Who | Minutes | Notes |
|-------|--|--|---------|--------------------------------------|
| AM | | | | |
| 10:00 | Rochambeau Park Gates Open / Exhibitors Open / Animals Ready to Greet | Josh Davies, Grange Project Manager | 0 | Loud speaker announcement |
| 10:15 | Encampment Setup Explanation | Dr. Robert Selig, W3R Scholar and Historian | 30 | Stage area Loud speaker announcement |
| 10:45 | Encampment Demonstration | Joe Ryan, President, Living History Education Foundation, Living History Teachers | 45 | Grange Fair Grounds |
| PM | | | | |
| 12:00 | Kick Off Ceremony Welcome Dignitaries and Guests/Expectations for Day | Lynn Briggs, Host Chairman, Yorktown Heritage Preservation Commission/Yorktown 250; Chairman, New York State Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Organization: Brief welcome and introductions of distinguished guests and visitors: French Defense Mission to United Nations, Souvenir Francais, Rochambeau descendant, New York State and Local officials, members of the Brigade of the American Revolution and 85 th Regiment of Saintonge, Blumberg Farm, Rochambeau Park volunteers, Community nearby residents | 1 | Stage |
| 12:02 | French National Anthem: La Marseillaise | Loud speaker plays | 2 | Loud speaker control Main building |

| | | | | |
|-------|---|--|---|------------------------------------|
| 12:05 | American National Anthem: Star Spangled Banner | Loud speaker plays | 2 | Loud speaker control Main building |
| | | Lynn Introduces | | |
| 12:08 | Greetings from France | Brigadier General, Vincent de Kytspotter, Head of the French Defense Mission to the United Nations (on behalf of Consul general Jérémie Robert) | 5 | Stage |
| | | Introduction | | |
| 12:13 | State Senate Remarks | Andrea Stewart-Cousins, NY State Senate Majority Leader | 2 | Stage |
| | | Introduction | | |
| 12:16 | State Senate Yorktown District Remarks | Peter Harckham, 40 th District, NY State Senate | 2 | Stage |
| | | Introduction | | |
| 12:19 | State Assembly Yorktown District Remarks/Proclamation | Dana Levenberg, 95 th District, NY State Assembly | 2 | Stage |
| | | Introduction | | |
| 12:22 | Local Remarks | Thomas Diana, Yorktown Supervisor | 2 | Stage |
| | | | | |
| 12:28 | Pass, March Revolutionary War Brigade Forces | French: Dana Rock, Commander British and Continental: John Lopez, Commander | 3 | At the stage/front |
| | | | | |
| 12:30 | Introductions: Tell the Story of Franco-American Alliance Present Arms each Single volley: Brigade Forces after all introduced | Lynn Briggs, Context French Officer, Moderator, Joe Ryan Benjamin Franklin, Jack Sherry General Washington, Michael Grillo Comte de Rochambeau, Rob Buccheri | 1 | Meeting setting |
| | French officer leads the conversation | | | |
| | | | | |

| | | | | |
|-------|--|--|----|-----------------------|
| 12:40 | At the end of the conversation, French perspectives: Washington and Rochambeau | Brigadier General, Vincent de Kytspotter, Head of the French Defense Mission in New York | 5 | |
| 12:45 | Reading of Yorktown, New York and Yorktown, Virginia – Proclamation | Lynn Briggs Context and Reading | | Stage |
| 12:55 | Review of Troops: Forces, Commanders and Dignitaries At conclusion: Fire with Joy (Feu de Joie) | Joe Ryan Commander , John Lopez, Dana Rock | | Near the stage |
| 1:00 | Close Kick Ceremony -Break for lunch | Lynn Briggs Afternoon program announcement | 1 | Stage |
| | <i>Lunch</i> | | | <i>Food Building</i> |
| 1:30 | Encampment Set Up Explanation | Dr. Robert Selig, W3R Scholar and Historian | 30 | |
| 2:00 | Encampment Demonstration | Joe Ryan, President, Living History Education Foundation, Living History Teachers | 45 | Near stage area |
| 3:00 | Combined Battalions Drill and Tactical Weapons Demonstration | Dana Rock, Commander, French Forces John Lopez, Commander, | 30 | Grange fair grounds |
| 3:30 | Power Point Presentation: Indispensable Allies | General Rochambeau, Robert Buccheri Major General Chastellux, Keith Reilly | | Main building (white) |
| 4:00 | Close Event | Lynn Briggs, Host | | Loud speaker announce |

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