Dutchess County was formed in 1683 as one of the original counties of New York, in a bold move by English Colonial Governor Thomas Dongan to cut off New England expansion and confirm control of the Northeast by the Stuart monarchy. Our name honors Maria Beatrice D’Este, the Dutchess (old spelling) of York. Her husband James, the Duke, as proprietor and future King, named everything he controlled for relatives and friends. The sole inhabitants then were the Wappinger Indians.

By 1700 small settlements were growing where the Hudson and kills (Dutch for streams) met at Fishkill, Rhinebeck and Poughkeepsie, where the County seat was established in 1714. The river and King’s Highway (Rt. 9) were main arteries of travel, with our position mid-way between New York and Albany a logical stopping place. Stage routes and commerce increased with the advent of inns and small villages, and those roads became supply routes during the Revolution. First Fishkill and then Poughkeepsie were New York’s first capitals, and it was on July 26, 1788 at the Poughkeepsie Courthouse that New York delegates chose to ratify the US Constitution.

European immigrants flocked to the area at the dawn of the 19th c. and as personal fortunes grew, public institutions were endowed. The Hudson River Valley was reflected in the works of painters, writers, architects and landscape architects; sloops, steamboats, trains and trolleys connected even the most remote areas of the county.

During the 20th c. railroads surrendered to the family car, and the trauma of the Great Depression gave way to hope as Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt made Dutchess an experimental laboratory for New Deal ideas. Since World War II and the coming of IBM, our area has flourished with a revival of culture and education. Rediscovery of our rich and exciting past has become a public pursuit and we invite you to join in the journey.
SCENIC DRIVING TOURS

Directory

Check out our internet site at www.DutchessTourism.com

Tour 1
Explores the towns of Rhinebeck, Red Hook, and Milan. Rhinebeck boasts 35 miles of meadowland, small streams, and wooded hills with lovely mountain vistas. Tradition holds that Red Hook was named by Henry Hudson’s crew in 1509 for a hook-like configuration of land near where they anchored, covered by red foliage at that time of year. Milan, a rural and sparsely populated town, offers some of the most beautiful roads and scenic views found here.

Tour 2
Winds through the towns of Pine Plains, Northeast, Washington and Stanford. Pine Plains is the site of what may have been the country’s first Christian congregation of Native Americans, ca. 1742. The Town of Northeast, dating back to 1788, is where the quaint Village of Millerton is found. With farming its oldest industry, Stanford attracts visitors to its markets, ranches and wineries. The Town of Washington, named for General George Washington, hosted Revolutionary troops and Quaker meetings and schools.

Tour 3
Leads the traveler through the towns of Hyde Park, Clinton, and Pleasant Valley. In Hyde Park, Franklin D. Roosevelt made his lifelong home. Clinton, named for New York’s first governor, was settled in the early 1700s by New England Quakers. Mill sites along the little Wappinger Creek and the crossroad enterprises became the core of early hamlets. And in Pleasant Valley, a plank turnpike between Connecticut and Poughkeepsie provided farmers a route to Hudson River markets. The Wappinger Creek wanders among the town’s low hills.

Tour 4
Takes you through another part of the Town of Washington, this time leading eastward through the center of the Village of Millbrook, the hub of local government. Fertile soils in this area provide an agricultural home to both Cornell Cooperative Extension/Farm and Home Center and the Institute of Ecosystem Studies. The Town of Amenia, named by Dr. Thomas Youngh, a poet, is from the Latin “Amoena,” meaning pleasant place. It is the site of the annual World Peace Festival and home to Troutbeck, the former Spingarn Estate that hosted the first meeting of the NAACP.

Tour 5
Encompasses the City and Town of Poughkeepsie and the Town of LaGrange. The tour begins north of the city and winds into the town past the remaining farms and orchard of LaGrange. The City of Poughkeepsie courthouse, center of state government during the Revolutionary War, was the site of New York’s ratification of the US Constitution in 1788. The Town of Poughkeepsie is best known today as the home of IBM and Vassar College. Called “Freedom” when formed as a town in 1821, LaGrange was renamed in 1829 by enthusiastic patriots in honor of the Marquis de Lafayette’s farm in France.

Tour 6
Takes you on a journey through the towns of Union Vale, Beekman, Pawling and Dover. The tour begins in Union Vale, best noted for its Clove, a beautiful, narrow valley, then winds through Beekman, with its charming, old farm houses. The Town of Pawling, dating back to 1788, was home to newsman Edward R. Murrow and Lowell Thomas, and the Rev. Norman Vincent Peale. Dover, encompassing the hamlets of Dover Plains and Wingdale, was a stopover for New England cattle “drovers” on the way through the Harlem Valley.

Tour 7
Explores the towns of Wappinger, Fishkill, East Fishkill and the City of Beacon. The tour begins in the hamlet of New Hackensack, which was settled by Dutch farmers from New Jersey around 1750. It winds through the Village of Wappingers Falls, then south to Stony Kill and Mount Gulian, to Beacon, with vistas of the Fishkill Range and Mount Beacon. The tour encompasses the numerous historic sites clustered around the area of Fishkill and provides a view into the historic past of southern Dutchess County.

Tour 8

Check out our internet site at www.DutchessTourism.com

Tour 9

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Tour 10

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Tour 11

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Tour 40

Check out our internet site at www.DutchessTourism.com
Exploring the Hudson Valley and our own Dutchess County has been a high point in the travel of visitors for centuries. Countless writers, artists, and historians have found in our scenic and historic riches the inspiration for great works of art and literature.

Much of the adventure and fuel for creative thought that earlier explorers and travelers sought can be found by anyone in shorter trips along our historic and scenic byways.

**Co-Sponsors:** The Dutchess County Tourism Promotion Agency is grateful for the support of the co-sponsors of our Scenic and Historic Drive Tour Guide. Each business is spotlighted on the map of the appropriate drive tour and highlighted within the tour. We encourage you to patronize these businesses during your visit to Dutchess County.

A few words of caution and some directions will ensure a safe journey. Please respect private property and observe traffic and speed limit regulations. Tour times are approximate. Mileage is given between intersections. Pay particular attention to CR signs and street names in the directions along with mileages between the turns. Your trip meter should be reset to “0” at each direction change. Dutchess County Tourism Promotion Agency trailblazer signs and state markers are visible along routes, however they are limited. Visitors are urged to heed the tour directions and maps. Individual attraction signs and local markers also serve as directionals.

**Directions are in bold.** Mileage is given in miles and tenths of miles. In some tours the green type signifies an area where you may want to park your car and walk to see various sites. Allow extra time.

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**All tour directions use the following abbreviations:**

- **CR** for County Route
- **L** for left
- **?** for information
- **NR** for National Register listed sites
- **R** for right
- **PVT** for private property
- **I** or **Y** for intersections

Because basic tours take several hours each, we suggest return visits to explore these additional sites. Dutchess County Travel Guides and county brochures are available at Tourist Information Centers county-wide.

Telephone numbers in Dutchess County are primarily in the 845 area code, with the exception of Millerton and Pine Plains, where some numbers are in the 518 area.

*Where the map indicates “START” set your trip meter at “0” and begin. (Note that individual trip meters may vary slightly from mileage indicated.)*
Getting Here

From New York City: Follow signs from the Henry Hudson Pkwy. to the Sawmill River Pkwy. to the Taconic Pkwy. north. Exit at Rt. 52 or 55 east or west. Or, take I-87 north (New York State Thwy.) to Exit 17 at Newburgh to I-84 east to Rt. 9 north. Or, continue east on I-84 to the Taconic Pkwy. north. Or, continue east on I-84 to Rt. 22 north.

From Long Island: Cross the Whitestone Bridge to the Hutchinson River Pkwy. Take the Hutchinson to I-684 north to Rt. 22 north. Or, take I-684 north to I-84 west to the Taconic Pkwy. north. Or, continue west on I-84 to Rt. 9 north.

From Connecticut: Follow I-84 west to Rt. 22 north. Or, continue west on I-84 to the Taconic Pkwy. north. Or, continue west on I-84 to Rt. 9 north.

From New Jersey: Take the Garden State Pkwy., the Palisades Pkwy., or Rt. 17 to the New York State Thwy. north. Take Exit 17 at Newburgh to I-84 east to Rt. 9 north. Or, continue east on I-84 to the Taconic Pkwy. north. Or, continue east on I-84 to Rt. 22 north.

From Albany: Take the New York State Thwy. south to Exit 19 and follow signs to cross the Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge. Or, continue south on the New York State Thwy. to Exit 18. Take Exit 18 at New Paltz to Rt. 299 east to Rt. 9W south to cross the Franklin D. Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge, Rt. 44/55 east. Or, take Rt. 9 north or south after crossing the Franklin D. Roosevelt Mid-Hudson Bridge.

From Massachusetts: Take the Massachusetts Tnpk./I-90 to Rt. 22 south. Or, continue west on I-90 to the Taconic Pkwy. south. Exit at Rt. 199 east or west. Or, continue south on the Taconic Pkwy. to Rt. 44 east or west. Or, continue south on the Taconic Pkwy. to Rt. 55 east or west.

From Pennsylvania: Take I-84 east to Rt. 9 north. Or, continue east on I-84 to the Taconic Pkwy. north, exit at Rt. 55 east or west. Or, continue east on I-84 to Rt. 22 north.

Note: Vehicles with commercial plates are not allowed on any of the Parkways.
Travel through three beautiful Dutchess towns: Rhinebeck and Red Hook, bordering the Hudson, are among the earliest settled portions of the country; Milan, inland, presents a sparsely settled rural contrast.

**RHINEBECK** covers 34.9 square miles of meadowland, small streams and wooded hills with lovely mountain vistas. Principal centers are the village of Rhinebeck and hamlet of Rhinecliff, where the Sepasco Indian Trail meets the Hudson. Formed as a town in 1788, it had been settled since ca. 1686. Illustrious descendants of the early Dutch and English patentees include the Beekman, Livingston, Astor, Montgomery and Schuyler families. It is said the Beekman tenants, Palatine refugees from Europe's religious wars, named the town for their former home in Germany's Rhine Valley. From the annals of town “family” history have come some of our nation's greatest leaders and statesmen, including Revolutionary War hero General Richard Montgomery and Levi Parsons Morton, US vice president and governor of New York.

**RED HOOK** was part of Rhinebeck until 1812, and the 2 towns are geographically similar. In its 38.9 square miles there are 2 major centers: Red Hook Village inland and Tivoli on the river. Tradition holds that Henry Hudson's crew named the area in 1609 for a hook-like land configuration near where they anchored. The surrounding hills were covered by red foliage, therefore the name “Red Hook.” It developed as an agricultural economy centered on the “River Places,” huge countryseats dating back chiefly to the early patentees. Farming, fruit growing in particular, is still a mainstay of town economy.

**MILAN,** founded as a town in 1818 with 36 square miles, is inland of the river. It is one of the most rural and the least populated of all Dutchess towns, with no major center or even its own post office. Small hamlets grew up in the early 19th c. at Rock City and Lafayetteville. Although poor soils have discouraged large-scale agriculture, the terrain has great appeal. Some of the most beautiful roads and scenic views are found here.
**TOUR 1**

*(53 Miles, 2 Hours) START. ➔*

Tour 1 starts on Rt. 9 at the former Hillside Methodist Church, south of the Village of Rhinebeck.

1 **HILLSIDE METHODIST CHURCH (R).** A small, Gothic Revival fieldstone church built in 1855, now an antique store.

Continue north and drive 2.2 miles and bear right on Closs Dr. Drive 0.2 mile to stop sign. Bear left on Mill St. and drive 0.2 mile.

2 **JOHN BENNER STONE HOUSE (R).** Built ca. 1740 for the first Methodist services.

Continue across Rt. 9; Mill St. becomes Mill Rd. Drive 2.4 miles to Morton Rd.

3 **RHINEBECK CEMETERY (R).** On the right after the intersection note this non-sectarian cemetery, the resting place of Levi Parsons Morton (1824–1920), governor of New York (1895–96) and vice-president of the United States (1889–93).

4 **MILL RD.** Mill Rd. leads to the 16-Mile District, a contiguous landscape designated by the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation in 1980 as the first state historic-scenic landscape. This includes 18th and 19th c. natural and cultural landscapes, such as the American Romantic Style landscape, a distinctly Hudson Valley creation of landscape architect Andrew Jackson Downing. Unusual stone walls outline holdings of the Livingston and Beekman families, original patent holders; some properties are adapted for new purposes and other, privately owned residences are closed to the public.
**Turn right on CR 85, Morton Rd. and drive 2.4 miles to Hutton St.**

5 **WILDERSTEIN** (L). The Thomas Suckley estate features a magnificent Queen Anne structure with interior decoration by Tiffany and landscape by Calvert Vaux and AJ Downing. Morton Rd. leads to Rhinecliff, a hamlet settled shortly after 1686 and a key transportation point since the early 1700s. Tours. Call 845/876-4818 for (?).

**Turn left on Hutton St. to the Hudson River.**

View the Rondout Lighthouse and Catskill Mountains.

**Return to Charles St. and turn left. Continue on Charles St. Drive 1.0 mile to River Rd. (NYS marker on left).**

Note the town’s first houses built early 1700s.

**Turn left on CR 103, River Rd. Drive 3.3 miles to stop light on Rt. 199.**

6 **RIVER RD.** Designated as a scenic road within the Mid-Hudson Shorelands Scenic District, this route passes a number of famed river estates and estate-related out-buildings.

**Continue north to stop light and cross Rt. 199.**

**Continue on CR 103, River Rd. for 4.1 miles to Robbins Rd.**

7 **POETS’ WALK** (L). A romantic landscape park reflecting 19th c. American landscape design, featuring two miles of walking trails through woods and open fields, with rustic cedar pavilions.

8 **ROKEBY** (L). This working family farm, formerly called “LaBergerie,” was built in 1811 by General John Armstrong and his wife, Aida Livingston, and remains in the Livingston family.

9 **ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH** (R). A gray, wooden Carpenter Gothic structure.

10 **MONTGOMERY PLACE** (L). River Rd. continues to Annandale passing by Montgomery Place, the estate built by Janet Livingston Montgomery in 1805, after the death of Revolutionary War hero General Richard Montgomery. The main house, overlooking the Hudson, is one of the finest examples of Federal architecture in the Hudson Valley. Tours. Call 845/758-5461 for (?).

11 **ANNANDALE.** Annadale’s proximity to the Hudson made it a mill site from the mid-1700s, producing everything from flour and woolens to the last venture, ca. 1900, when W. H. Baker built a chocolate factory so successful, it had to move to larger quarters in Red Hook.

12 **BARD COLLEGE** (L). Now coed, Bard College was originally founded in 1860 as an Episcopal men’s school. In 1933 it was renamed for its founder, John Bard, grandson of Dr. Samuel Bard, physician to George Washington and Benjamin Franklin. A variety of architectural styles found within its boundaries includes the English Gothic Collegiate Chapel of the Holy Innocents, 18th c. Dutch vernacular stone farmhouses and a ca. 1900 Georgian Revival mansion.
Turn left on Robbins Rd. Drive 0.6 mile to return to River Rd.

13 RICHARD B. FISHER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS (L). Designed by internationally acclaimed architect Frank Gehry, the 110,000-square-foot world-class facility houses two theaters and four rehearsal studios for dance, theater, and music. Tours/performances. Call 845/758-7900 for (?).

Turn left on River Rd. Continue to Rt. 9G for 0.1 mile.

Turn left on Rt. 9G and drive 2.2 miles to CR 78, Broadway.

14 TIVOLI BAYS UNIQUE AREA AND SCENIC VIEWS (L). Rt. 9G near CR 79. Established as an estuarine resource area by the state in 1981, this area is the presumed site of Henry Hudson’s 1609 visit when Red Hook was named. Nature trails and hiking are available, and just beyond the parking area for Tivoli Bays is one of Dutchess County’s most spectacular views of the Catskill Mountains.

15 TIVOLI/MADALIN AREA (L), Rt. 9G and CR 78. This area, settled since the early 1700s, was an important early transportation center as a river link for stage routes from eastern Dutchess and Connecticut. It became a key railroad depot at the turn of the 20th c.

Turn left on CR 78, Broadway and drive 0.9 mile to Woods Rd.

16 TIVOLI VILLAGE CENTER. CR 78. Note the TIVOLI VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK (R); the OLD MADALIN BRIDGE over the White Clay kill (plaque on R); the former public elementary and high school at De Peyster Commons (R); and the brick WATTS DE PEYSTER FIREMAN’S HALL (L). Kaatsbaan International Dance Center, situated 1/2 block beyond Woods Rd. overlooking the Hudson River, features professional recitals, workshops and open rehearsals. Call for schedule 845/757-5106.

Turn right on Woods Rd., continue on Columbia County CR 6 and drive 2.8 miles to Rt. 9G.

17 CLERMONT STATE HISTORIC SITE (L). En route note ST. PAUL’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH (L), parish to a number of Livingston related families, some of who are interred in the graveyard. Clermont State Historic Park is the former estate of Chancellor Livingston, a drafter of the Declaration of Independence. While part of the park is in Dutchess, the house, built ca. 1730, is in Columbia County. Entrance on left. Tours. Call 518/537-4240 for (?).

Turn right on Rt. 9G and drive 1.7 miles to CR 78, West Kerleys Corners Rd. Turn left on CR 78, West Kerleys Corner Rd., and drive 2.8 miles to Rt. 9. Turn right on Rt. 9 and drive 0.4 mile to Old Post Rd. Then turn left on Old Post Rd. and drive 0.7 mile to CR 56.

18 ST. JOHN’S REFORMED CHURCH (L). A white Carpenter Gothic built ca. 1871 joins 18th and 19th c. houses, old cemeteries, farms and a tiny village green in Upper Red Hook. A state marker identifies the brick THOMAS HOUSE (L) as an important stage stop, headquarters of General Israel Putnam during the Revolutionary War.

Turn left on CR 56 and drive 6.0 miles to CR 50.

Observe a wealth of scenery. COKERTOWN offered coal storage for a railroad spur to Spring Lake resort, giving the area its name. FULTON HOMESTEAD (L), Turkey Hill area, has been maintained as a working farm since 1771 and offers spectacular views of the mountains east and west at 783 feet above sea level. Local tradition holds Torre Rock Rd. was the site where Tory fugitives met during the Revolutionary War. At the approach of CR 50, The ROELIFF JANSEN KILL and BRIDGE mark the northernmost border when Dutchess was formed in 1683.
Turn right on CR 50, Jackson Corners Rd. and drive 0.6 mile to Taconic Parkway.

19 JACKSON CORNERS AND GADDES STORE, (l) CR 56 at CR 50. Jackson Corners was an important stop on the Nobletown stage road to northern New England before the end of the 18th c. Gaddes Store (1773) was one of many inns along the route, spaced roughly ten miles apart so horses could be changed and passengers allowed to stretch. A few hundred feet into Columbia County leads to the Taconic Parkway.

Turn left on Taconic Parkway South and drive 4.6 miles to exit for Pine Plains/Red Hook.

20 TACONIC PARKWAY. One of the most beautiful in the US and now managed by the NYS Department of Transportation, it is part of a network of southeastern New York roadways, begun in the 1920s. Inspired by European historic road systems, in 1932 the first leg of the parkway extended into Dutchess under the authority of the Taconic State Park Commission. The name “Taconic” is said to have come from an Indian root word, translated as forest or forest clearing.

21 THOMAS CARVEL COUNTRY CLUB (l). Named for the founder of Carvel Ice Cream Stores, the club features a championship 18-hole golf course. Call 518/398-7101 for (?) Just beyond the country club is the 718-acre LaFayetteville Forest, a multi-use resource area for outdoor activities.

Exit Taconic right at Pine Plains/Red Hook Exit. Turn right on Rt. 199 West and drive 3.6 miles to light on Rt. 199.

(For a side trip, Wilcox Park, a short distance on Rt. 199 East, is 615 acres of forested hills, streams and a lake for swimming, boating and other activities. Call 845/758-6100 for (?)

22 WILCOX MEMORIAL HALL and MILAN TOWN HALL (R). A living monument to the Wilcox family, this white frame Neo-Colonial Revival, completed in 1966, is one of the most beautiful and well-appointed halls in Dutchess County.

23 ROWE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PARSONAGE, CEMETERY (l). Methodism was established in Milan in 1790 and the society’s first church built 10 years later. The present Greek Revival structure ca. 1838 is the only surviving church in the township.

24 BATTENFELD GREENHOUSES (l). Northern Dutchess greenhouses have provided the florists of New York with stock since the late 1800s, and Battenfeld Greenhouses have become a primary and specialized grower of anemone hybrids for the valley.

Bear right at light on Rt. 199 West and drive 3.8 miles to Rt. 9.

25 ROCK CITY. (l) Rt. 199 at 308. Taking its name from the rocky terrain, this area was a site of several 18th and 19th c. manufacturing enterprises, producing everything from textiles to whiskey. From here to Red Hook is the last leg of one of the oldest roads in the county. Note the RED HOOK GOLF COURSE with 18-hole championship course, restaurant and pro shop (l). Call 845/758-8652 for (?)

26 RED HOOK VILLAGE. Rts. 9 and 199. Park and walk to Village Center. A settlement since the mid 1700s, this area was once called Hardscrabble and later Lower Red Hook. Remnants of 18th c. farms and estates predate the village.

INN AT RED HOOK, www.theredhookinn.com, 845/758-8445. Stop at the 1841 Federal style Inn at Red Hook for your overnight stay or dine in there causally elegant restaurant, Roasted Garlic.

Turn left at intersection to Rt. 9 South. Drive 2.4 miles to Stone Church Rd.

27 QUITMAN HOUSE (L), Rt. 9. This 1798 parsonage was the birthplace of Brig. Gen. John A. Quitman, military hero (Mexican War) and US Senator (state marker).

28 LUTHERAN STONE CHURCH (R), Rt. 9. This 1786 structure replaces a log church ca. 1730 and housed a congregation dating back to the Palatine immigration of 1715.

Turn left on Stone Church Rd. opposite Lutheran Stone Church. Drive 1.5 miles to Norton Rd. Turn left on Norton Rd. to Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome entrance.

29 OLD RHINEBECK AERODROME (L). This site is home to World War I and pioneer Lindbergh-era aircraft (1900–1937). Displays, air shows and barnstorming rides in an open cockpit biplane.

Return to Rt. 9; turn left. Drive 2.9 miles to Village of Rhinebeck.

30 MILE MARKER 101 MILES TO NEW YORK (R). Rt. 9, near Wey’s Crossing. Red sandstone markers, erected along the King’s Highway after Benjamin Franklin became Postmaster General of the Colonies in 1752, gave mileage between Albany and New York City.

31 OLD RHINEBECK CEMETERY (L). Known as Wey’s Crossing, this was site of the original village of Rhinebeck, center of Palatine settlement. Its first church and churchyard were built ca. 1716.

32 DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS (L), Rt. 9. Fairs have been held at this site since the mid 1840s. Since 1919 the Dutchess County Fair has been held here annually the third week in August, attracting thousands of visitors from all over the Northeast.

33 VILLAGE OF RHINEBECK. Rt. 9. Park and walk the quaint village, enjoy the fine restaurants and visit the many boutiques and shops. Incorporated 1834, it has been the center of business and government since the early 1700s. Note WHITE’S CORNER (State Education Marker), the site of the Dutch Reformed Church built 1802; the POST OFFICE, a 1938 Roosevelt-era WPA project replicating the long-demolished Dutch farmhouse of Rhinebeck’s original patentees; the BEEKMAN ARMS (1766), purported to be one of America’s oldest inns and meeting place for historical greats from Washington to Roosevelt; and the DELAMATER INN, a Carpenter Gothic, gingerbread gem designed by Alexander Jackson Davis. Tourist Information Center opposite Beekman Arms (seasonal).

End of Tour.
Welcome to Pine Plains, Northeast, Washington and Stanford

With some of the most spectacular views in the US, this is farm country where growth occurred mainly due to 18th c. iron mines and 19th c. railroad expansion.

PINE PLAINS, spreading over 29.8 square miles, is said to be the site of the country’s first Christian congregation of Native Americans, converted by Moravian missionaries ca. 1742. During the 19th c. the hamlet became a major railroad center for local agriculture, industry, and mining. Established as a town in 1823, dairy farming is the main industry and Pine Plains hamlet the principal center. Other centers include Pulvers Corners and Bethel. Stissing Mt. is the most visible landmark.

NORTHEAST was established 1788, its boundaries were established through the Oblong Treaty with Connecticut (1731). A rugged 18th c. turnpike strengthened links to New England, connecting mines to Hudson River transport. Fertile valleys made agriculture the prime industry, but after 1850 Millerton was also a major railroad junction for 3 northeastern lines. Farming is still the major industry, although the area is recognized for its beauty, history and climate. The Village of Millerton is the main population center; town centers include Shekomeko, Coleman Station and Northeast.

WASHINGTON is the largest Dutchess town at 61.47 square miles, established 1788. Named to honor Gen. George Washington, it is believed Revolutionary troops encamped under a huge cottonwood tree near Washington Hollow during the war. By 1900 New England Quakers organized meetings and schools here, with town streams supplying power for local mills. Rolling hills attracted the wealthy and prominent to build estates and encouraged tourism. Fertile soils and the breeding of horses and Aberdeen Angus cattle make it an agricultural center. The Village of Millbrook, a 19th c. railroad center, is now the hub, and other hamlets are South Millbrook, Lithgow, Little Rest, Washington Hollow and Mabbettsville.

STANFORD celebrated its bicentennial in 1993 and includes the beautiful foothills of the Fishkill Range. Measuring 50.1 square miles, farming is its oldest industry, with area streams powering a number of small mills during the 1800s. Tourism has contributed to the economy, attracting visitors to wineries, farm markets and ranches. The Chauncey Stillman Estate “Wethersfield” opened its grounds and art collection to the public in the 1990s. The linear hamlet of Stanfordville was a railroad center in the 19th c. Hunn’s Lake and Bangall are also hamlets.
TOUR 2

(62 Miles, 2.5 Hours) START. ➡
The tour starts at the (l) Rt. 199 off the Taconic Parkway. Drive 1.0 mile to the entrance of Wilcox Park. Rt. 199 was the route of the Salisbury Turnpike, an 18th c. stage and transportation route from Connecticut to the Hudson River.

1 WILCOX PARK (R). The route from the Taconic Parkway passes Wilcox Park, a public county park.

Drive 5 miles to Lake Rd. Turn right on Lake Rd. and drive 3.1 miles to Route 82, bearing left around Stissing Lake.

2 STISSING MOUNTAIN (R), 1403 ft. high, is used as an observation/fire tower. Those hearty enough to brave the access trail (R) can see the entire Hudson Valley on a clear day.

Lake Rd. bypasses Pine Plains hamlet, skirting the shores of three lakes, headwaters of the Wappingers Creek: Thompson Pond, a “forever wild” nature preserve and registered national landmark since 1974; Twin Island Lake, once called “Mud Pond”; and Stissing Lake. Trees frame a view of STISSING MT. (L).

Turn right on Rt. 82 South and drive 1.7 miles to Strever Farm Rd.

3 MASHOMAC FISH AND GAME PRESERVE (R). A former dairy. Early roads known by name linked farms to markets.

Turn left on Strever Farm Rd. and drive 0.3 mile to Bethel Cross Rd. Bear left on Bethel Cross Rd. and drive 0.6 mile to Carpenter Hill Rd.

Stissing Mountain

FINISH
4 MORAVIAN MONUMENT (Y). Constructed in 1859 in memory of Christian missionaries who tried to convert Shekomeko Indians.

Turn left on Carpenter Hill Rd. and drive 0.5 mile to stop sign, CR 83. Turn left at stop sign and drive 1.8 miles to Rt. 82.

This area was home to the family of 18th c. historian Isaac Huntington.

5 ROWE FAMILY BURIAL GROUND (R), part of the Old Round Top church cemetery, was settled ca. 1740 by Lutherans in Bethel Hamlet.

The road passes homes of early families, who built the town and local industry.

Turn right onto Rt. 82. Drive 0.6 mile to light.

6 WILBER CLOCK TOWER (L) is a familiar landmark. STISSING HOUSE (L), still a restaurant, began serving the public in the 18th c.; marker opposite records the first Stissing Log House Tavern (1782) (L). The hamlet of Pine Plains invites exploration of off-route sites, shops, restaurants. Street parking.

Cross at light to CR 83A and drive 0.2 mile to Maple St. Turn right on Maple St. and drive 0.4 mile to Rt. 199.

Pine Plains is said to mark a Pine Grove that served as a Mohican burial ground. State Marker (L).

Turn left on Rt. 199 and drive 6.1 miles to CR 60, Winchell Mt. Rd.

7 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (L) was established ca. 1835 by Dr. Benjamin Wilber.

8 HARRIS/HUSTED HOUSE (R), ca. 1770 (Marker), a red frame salt box set back from the road is undergoing restoration by the Little Nine Partners Historical Society in Hammertown. This town was the industrial center from the late 1700s to the mid-1900s, boasting the HUSTED TANNERY and HARRIS SCYTHE WORKS. Powered by the Shekomeko Creek, the factory was operated by a noisy trip hammer system that gave the area its name. HAMMERTOWN BARN (L), part of the industrial complex, is now a gift shop.

9 PULVERS CORNERS. Named for William Pulver, this tiny farm hamlet had its own post office, store, hotel and a Union church in the 19th c. It is now distinguished by fine vernacular architecture of the Federal and Victorian eras and lovely views.

Turn left on CR 60, Winchell Mt. Rd. Drive 1.7 miles to Irondale Rd.

10 WINCHELL MT. James Winchell settled here ca. 1760. Marker (R) at turn denotes the “Northeast Pine Plains Line” set in 1823. The Winchell Mt. Cemetery area at the crest commands breathtaking scenic views.

Turn left on Irondale Rd. Drive 0.2 mile to Rt. 22 (Caution).

11 IRONDALE was an early industrial complex devoted to milling and ore processing. Ore beds uncovered north of present day Millerton fed furnaces of the Millerton Iron Co. (1854).

Turn left to Rt. 22. Drive 1.9 miles to CR 62, Rudd Pond Rd. Turn right on Rudd Pond Rd. and drive 3.4 miles to Simmons St., Village of Millerton.

12 RUDD POND. Campsites with showers, beach, boat rentals, children’s play area, cross-country skiing, fishing, and forest land.
Turn right on Simmons St. to Village Hall (R). Drive 0.2 mile to Dutchess Ave. Turn left on Dutchess Ave. Drive 0.1 mile to Main St. Turn right on Main St., then bear left on Main St. and drive 0.2 mile to turn-around at Railroad Plaza.

13 MILLERTON VILLAGE was incorporated in 1875. Park and walk to sites and shops along Main St. Tourist information at GILMOR GLASS, 2 Main St. Settled earlier, as a result of the extension of the NY and Harlem RR planned by Sidney G. Miller, for whom the village is named. The first RR station, erected in 1851, was replaced in 1911 by the present structure, now centerpiece of new commercial development.

The COLEMAN STATION HISTORIC DISTRICT, an intact farmscape reflecting the evolution of community farm practices, includes Colonial revival “Hiddenhurst” and the 1780 Ezra Clark House, both (NR). Roadside farms, like DAISI HILL, feature corn, pumpkins, flowers and seasonal produce.

Turn right on Downey Rd. Drive 1.5 miles to Rt. 22. (stop sign)

14 HARLEM VALLEY RAIL TRAIL (pass under it). Twelve miles of scenic paved walking, rollerblading, biking and cross-country skiing trails from Wassaic to Millerton in Dutchess County. (Caution) at underpass (I) with Mill Rd.

To left of stop sign is NORTHEAST BURYING GROUND, whose earliest stone dates to 1801.

At stop sign turn right on Rt. 22 and drive less than 0.1 mile to CR 64. Turn left on CR 64, McGhee Hill Rd. Drive 3.7 miles to CR 83. Bear right at (I) with Silver Mt. Rd. Follow CR 64 past Scribner Rd. Bear right at Charlie Hill Rd.

15 SILVER MT AND CHARLIE HILL RDS. The crest of this long hill was a favorite spot of FDR. In summer varying shades of green indicate specific crops. In fall the trees are a splash of bright yellows and reds. Dutch Belted cattle and other unusual livestock breeds graze near the road. It offers views, east and west, of sunrise and sunset. The crest on Silver Mountain known as Sunset View was one of FDR’s favorite spots for a picnic.

Turn left at the (Y). Drive 7.9 miles to Rt. 44. Bear left on CR 83 at Separate Rd. into Smithfield hamlet.

16 SHEKOMEKO hamlet, named for the native people of the area, was a 19th c. industrial center of milling and lead and silver mining. Now its major industry is agriculture; its main business the SHEKOMEKO GENERAL STORE (L). DUNROMIN FARMS (L) (PVT) breeds horses. BOCKEE/WHEATON BURIAL GROUND/SQUARE CEMETERY, 1776 (L) marks a 19th c. neighborhood called Federal Square, for a general store of the same name.
17 GREEK REVIVAL SMITHFIELD CHURCH (L), 3rd on the same site since 1750, was built 1847. A great oak that stood across the way in the burying ground until the 1990s was the pulpit for the famous Methodist evangelist George Whitefield, who spoke to hundreds of the faithful here in 1770 at the height of the Great Awakening Revival. Scenic views. White fences and grazing horses identify the hamlet as a center of equestrian related activity. The brick 18th c. main house of former “SMITHFIELD FARMS” is (L) on a hill overlooking pastures.

Turn right on Rt. 44, the old Sharon Turnpike. Drive 1.9 miles to Millbrook School Rd. Turn right on Millbrook School Rd. Drive 1.7 miles to Leavitt Rd.

18 TREVOR ZOO (R) is a favorite destination for many public school elementary classes in the area. It is part of the MILLBROOK SCHOOL, a private co-educational secondary school est. 1931 as a boys’ prep school. The school has been used as background in several major films. CAUTION. Drive slowly. Visitors wishing to tour the campus should check at the Main Building. Call 845/677-3704 for (?).

Turn right on Leavitt Rd. 0.1 mile to CR 86. Turn left on CR 86. Drive 0.8 mile to Pugsley Hill Rd. Turn right on Pugsley Hill Rd. Drive 1.3 miles to entrance to Wethersfield.

19 WETHERSFIELD. The former Chauncey Stillman estate is noted for its gardens, stables and art collection. Call 845/373-8037 for (?).
Turn around and drive 1.3 miles back to CR 86.
Bear right on Bangall/Amenia Rd., CR 86. Drive 4.1 miles to CR 65.

This scenic road leads to the hamlet of Bangall. Ryder Pond wetlands are home to a variety of wildlife and thousands of birds including Canadian geese for which motorists may need to wait at unmarked goose crossings. Prantlack Farms (L) is among a growing number of horse breeders in the county.

20 CAGNEY FARM (R). Scenic views surround a modest stone ranch house, the former home of screen immortal, James Cagney. Caution, steep, curving hill.

Turn left on CR 65. Drive 0.5 mile to Rt. 82. Go straight on Rt. 82.

21 BANGALL. Park near the former RR STATION (L) at (l) of CR 65 and 87. The red frame COUNTRY STORE (R), a 19th c. general store, is now famous for its deli and super special sandwiches. Bangall grew in the late 18th and early 19th c. around a mill and inn/stage stop. It later became a passenger and freight center of the Newburgh, Dutchess and Conn. RR. The Georgian style BULLIS HALL (L), ca. 1815 (NR), a bed and breakfast is at the (Y) opposite the long two-story former inn at the road edge. Other attractions around the small green/VETERAN’S MEMORIAL PARK (L) include shops, the STAGE STOP INN (L), which features Cagney memorabilia, and the 1915 country post office owned by the STANFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY (R). 500 ft. east on CR 65 toward Hunn’s Lake is the Greek Revival BANGALL METHODIST CHURCH (R) (1843) and picturesque village homes. *(Off route) CR 65 East passes Roseland Ranch, a year round resort. Call 800/431-8292 for (?).

Drive 0.8 mile to CR 19.

22 STANFORDVILLE, a 19th c. commercial/milling hamlet which borders Rt. 82 was a hub of the Poughkeepsie, Hartford and Boston RR. Town government is housed in the former STANFORD UNION FREE SCHOOL (L). Enterprises like the GRANGE (R) chartered 1896, catering to an agricultural community, are in evidence year round, but local produce stands appear in the summer. Bulls Head Rd. on right intersects with Rt. 82 between ca. 1900 vintage frame commercial buildings.

Turn right on Bulls Head Rd. Caution.

The final leg of the tour is a narrow rural lane that passes over the WAPPINGER CREEK (L) at the site of a mill which variously processed grain paper and cotton.

Drive 4.9 miles to Taconic State Parkway.

23 BULLS HEAD/OSWEGO QUAKER MEETING HOUSE (R). Quakers established meetings in Stanford at the end of the 18th c.

End of Tour
Welcome to Hyde Park, Clinton and Pleasant Valley

This route begins in Hyde Park, a familiar area to visitors, but soon breaks away from the river into the hills of Clinton and Pleasant Valley. Be sure to stop and visit the many historic sites throughout the area.

HYDE PARK was named for Edward Hyde, Lord Cornbury, eccentric provincial governor of New York, who in 1705 presented a parcel of land along the river to his secretary, Peter Fauconnier. Hyde's name was given to an estate on that property and later to the town. The town, formed in 1821, covers an area of varying terrain compressed into 37.4 square miles. Rock outcroppings separate eastern hills from the river. Swift kills, or creeks, sites of early mills, slice its length dotting the landscape with picturesque ponds and water views. Hyde Park, Staatsburg and East Park are the principal centers. The town is world-renowned as the home of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, descendants of old, Dutch-English “River families,” original landholders and developers of the valley.

CLINTON was named for George Clinton, New York's first governor. It was organized as a municipality 2 years before New York State established the original townships in 1788. Clinton was larger in its formative years and is the parent body from which Hyde Park and Pleasant Valley were carved. New England Quakers first settled here in the early 1700s. Mill sites along the Little Wappinger Creek and crossroad enterprises became the core of early hamlets: Frost Mills, Schultzeville, Clinton Hollow, Hibernia and Clinton Corners. The town's 37.6 square miles are now mainly devoted to agriculture, horse, sheep and cattle raising.

PLEASANT VALLEY According to folklore, settlers first spying the valley were said to exclaim, “It is a pleasant valley.” The Wappinger Creek wanders between the town's low hills, watering the land and providing good fishing and manufacturing power in the village of Pleasant Valley. Salt Point is the only other sizeable community. Also established in 1821, much of the town's 32.2 square miles is devoted to dairying and fruit growing. In early days a plank turnpike between Connecticut and Poughkeepsie provided farmers a route to Hudson River markets. The first Dutchess County Fair, held in 1841, was an annual event in Washington Hollow until the turn of the c. It is still held the third week of August at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck.
(34 Miles, 2 Hours) START.

Tour 2 begins on Rt. 9 in Hyde Park, at The Culinary Institute of America north entrance.

1 THE CULINARY INSTITUTE OF AMERICA (CIA). Training ground for world-class chefs. Founded as The New Haven Restaurant Institute in 1946, its first class numbered 16 returning World War II veterans. Steady growth brought the Institute in 1972 to the former St. Andrew-on-Hudson Jesuit Seminary in Hyde Park. Every 3 weeks a new class begins training for Bachelor and Associate degrees. Four restaurants and a bakery are open to the public. Reservations needed for campus restaurants. Call 845/471-6608 for reservations.

Drive 1.7 miles north on Rt. 9 to entrance of FDR National Historic Site; note monumental gateposts, cut stone, rubble-filled walls.

2 FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT HOME, PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM, HENRY A. WALLACE VISITOR CENTER (L). Estate of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd President of the United States. “Springwood,” the family home where he was born in 1882, was often the northern White House where he hosted heads of state. He and wife Eleanor are buried in the Rose Garden. Since his death in 1945, the house and property have been managed as a National Historic Site by the National Park Service (NPS). The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, first of 11 presidential libraries and part of the National Archives, houses documents, manuscripts, photographs, tapes, films and artifacts relating to FDR and Eleanor. Built of fieldstone and inspired by Hudson Valley Dutch farmhouses, the facility is
an important research library for Roosevelt-era scholars and the museum appeals to history buffs of all ages. The Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center, opened in 2003 and named for the former Secretary of Agriculture (1933–40) and Vice-President during FDR’s third term, enables visitors to purchase tickets at one location for all local NPS sites. It features multipurpose rooms for conferences, state-of-the-art audio-visual facilities, an auditorium and a new museum store. The Historic Hyde Park Trail connects 8.5 miles of hiking trails between this site and others along the Hudson River. Admission. Tours. Call 845/229-9115 (home) or 800/FDR-VISIT (library) for (?).

Continue north on Rt. 9 and drive 0.6 mile to mile marker.

Mile marker on the west side, embedded in the stone wall that reads, “87 miles to New York City, 5 miles to Po’keepsie.”


3 BERGH-STOUTENBURGH HOUSE (R). Diagonally across from the marker is a small fieldstone house, 1 of only 2 remaining, built mid-18th c. when the town was settled. It is now Edo Sushi Restaurant.

ROOSEVELT INN OF HYDE PARK, www.rooseveltinnofhydepark.com, 845/229-2443. The Roosevelt Inn, a family business celebrating 30+ years of operation, is a quaint comfortable inn with an air of old-world hospitality that guests will enjoy.


Proceed north 0.6 mile to Hyde Park village center.

4 VILLAGE CENTER (Harvey to Market Streets). Delightful 19th c. houses are found in a 4-block area. THE HYDE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (L), was built 1940 during the Roosevelt administration. The JAMES ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL LIBRARY (1927) (L), was given to the town by Sara Delano Roosevelt to honor her husband. The TOWN HALL (L) was built in 1968. Farther north is the HYDE PARK POST OFFICE (1940) (R), a WPA structure and personal project of FDR. Victorian commercial buildings mark this as the original business center. The REFORMED DUTCH CHURCH (R) was built 1826 by the congregation formed 1790.

Drive 0.2 mile north to entrance to Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site.

5 VANDERBILT MANSION NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE (L). In 1895, Frederick W. Vanderbilt, grandson of “Commodore” Cornelius Vanderbilt, purchased the property and redesigned a Beaux-Arts limestone palace and filled it with art treasures from around the world. Until the 1930s, lavish parties and balls were held here summer and fall, with guests drawn from America’s wealthiest families and European nobility. In 1940 it became a National Historic Site. Admission. Tours. Call 845/229-9115 for (?).

Drive 0.4 mile north to St. James Episcopal Church.

6 ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH (R). St. James is sometimes called “the President’s church” because FDR was a member and vestryman of this congregation, formed 1811. President and Mrs. Roosevelt brought King George VI and Queen Elizabeth of Britain here for services during their 1939 visit to the United States and Canada. Destroyed by a fire in 1984, it is now reconstructed. Visitors welcome.

Drive 1.6 miles to Anderson School.

7 ANDERSON SCHOOL (L). A school for children and young adults with special needs. The house was named Mansewood because it was the original “Manse” of the parish of St. James in Hyde Park.

Drive 0.9 mile. Turn left at (Y) with Old Post Rd. Caution.

8 MARGARET LEWIS NORRIE STATE PARK & MARINA (L). One of 5 state parks in Dutchess County, it borders the Hudson parallel to the hamlet of Staatsburg. The NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Taconic Region, operates the site. The property includes educational/recreational facilities, a yacht basin, picnic and overnight camping grounds, children’s play areas and a network of marked trails. The center, museum and fresh water aquarium are housed in a fieldstone structure built at the water’s edge. Call 845/889-4100 for (?).

Drive north on Old Post Rd. 0.7 mile.

9 HAMLET OF STAATSBURG. Thought to be the earliest settlement in Hyde Park, this hamlet along Old Post Rd. was developed around commerce generated by farms and estates.
The narrow lane, lined by trees and stone walls, passes the former UNION FREE SCHOOL (L), wooden barns with unique trefoil and quadrifoil windows, Victorian-era houses and a former stage stop. The former Bodenstein ice tool factory (L) and a cluster of earlier stores and an inn stand near the town fire house (L) and post office (L). On the (R) side of the road is a sandstone mile marker. ST. MARGARET’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH (R), nearby, is a mid-19th c. English Gothic adaptation noted for its French medieval stained glass windows, a gift of Ogden Mills. The original home of the congregation, a small, Carpenter Gothic structure, now houses the HAMLET LIBRARY (R).

Drive 0.5 mile north to entrance to Staatsburgh State Historic Site.

10 STAATSBURGH STATE HISTORIC SITE (L). The Ogden & Ruth Livingston Mills estate is a contiguous parkscape that almost surrounds Staatsburg. A massive stone wall leads to iron gates that lead to the main house. This is one of the few estates whose river view is uninterrupted by the railroad tracks. Generations of the same family lived here from 1792 when Morgan Lewis, New York State’s third governor, purchased the land, until 1938 when Mills heirs gave the property to the State. The 65-room mansion, third on the site, was redesigned and enlarged for Lewis’ great-granddaughter, Ruth Livingston, and her husband, financier Ogden Mills. This imposing Beaux-Arts structure was a country retreat. Operated by NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Tours. 845/889-8851 for (?).

11 DINSMORE GOLF COURSE (R). Said to be the nation’s second oldest private golf course, the original 9-hole course was used by the River families for their games and tournaments. Brick buildings near the road are part of the Mills’ farm complex. Now a public course. 845/889-4082 or 3126 for (?).

Drive 0.9 mile. Turn right on Rt. 9 south.

The route circles south to the DINSMORE GOLF COURSE, IRONWOOD GRILLE RESTAURANT (R) and parking area where one can see one of the most beautiful views of the river and mountains in the entire valley.

Drive 1.5 miles. Turn left on CR 37, North Cross Rd. Drive 1.4 miles to Rt. 9G. Turn left on Rt. 9G opposite Connelly Dr. Drive 1.3 miles to CR 14, Hollow Rd. Turn right on CR 14.

12 THE DEWITT HOUSE (R) (PVT). Built ca. 1773 by John DeWitt, Revolutionary War officer and delegate to the Ratification Convention in 1788. The former BATTENFELD STORE (L), opposite, and the mill site beyond were the business center.

Drive 1.2 miles. Bear right at the church.

13 PLEASANT PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH at the (Y) is a hamlet landmark. This white frame Greek Revival structure dates from the organization of the congregation in 1837. 18th and 19th c. farms line the road to the Hollow and Hibernia Mills, a main, east-west artery in this area.

Drive 2.7 miles to Clinton Hollow.

14 CLINTON HOLLOW, one of several hamlets in the town built up around commerce and industry at crossroads and waterways retains its 19th c. appearance. The GENERAL STORE (L) has operated since 1829. Several present-day houses that hug the road were originally intended for other purposes, i.e. a blacksmith shop. The MILL POND (R) on Salt Point Creek remains from a grist mill built in 1773.

Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right on CR 18, Centre Rd. Drive 3.3 miles. Turn left at (I) CR 18 and NYS 115, Salt Pt. Tnpk.

Center Rd. leads from Salt Point to Schultzville, two 19th c. hamlets. It passes the TOWN OF CLINTON RECREATION PARK (R) and parallels Little Wappinger Creek, a tributary of the WAPPINGER CREEK (View) (R).
15 SALT POINT. A transportation center for grains and cattle. Two traditions account for the name. The first holds that Indians and early settlers set out “salt licks” to attract deer. The second recalls a cattle drover’s trick of fattening herds on the way to market by feeding cattle salt before their final fording, increasing sale weight by adding water. Today farms are devoted to horse, cattle and sheep breeding.

**Drive 1.7 miles past Taconic Parkway entrance. Continue on Salt Point Tnpk. 0.7 mile.**

16 CREEK MEETING HOUSE (L). In the late 1700s Quakers settled in the area and began construction of the building now occupied by the UPTON LAKE GRANGE (L). Completed in 1782, the fieldstone CREEK MEETING HOUSE (L), home of the Clinton Historical Society, is identified as a Quaker site by separate entrances for women and men and by the adjacent burial ground, one of the oldest in the county. Exhibits. Call 845/266-5494 for (?)..

17 ALBRECHT’S DAIRY (R) Main house ca. 1797. An early structure on approach to the village.

**Drive 0.2 mile to St. Paul’s Episcopal Church.**

18 ST. PAUL’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH (L), located across the highway from Albrecht’s, is little changed since it was built in 1842.

**Drive 0.2 mile to Wappinger Creek and bridge.**

19 VILLAGE OF PLEASANT VALLEY. Quakers and Presbyterians from New England and Long Island first settled here in the 1740s where the Wappinger Creek was easily forded. Late 18th c. maps refer to a “great bridge,” and open bridge near the fording site, south of the present structure. A covered bridge built over the creek was replaced in 1841 and 1911. This area is the site of former textile mills.

**Continue 0.2 mile to Pleasant Valley Presbyterian Church.**

20 PLEASANT VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND (L). The congregation, formed 1765, constructed its first church in 1770. The present, brick Greek Revival structure was built in 1848. The adjacent burial ground contains many early stones.

**Turn right at light on CR 71, West Rd. Drive 1.0 miles to West Road School.**

21 WEST ROAD SCHOOL (L). In former years Pleasant Valley was a farm and railroad center and a summer vacation retreat. Sawmill Plaza was the site of THE RAILROAD STATION for the Poughkeepsie and Eastern RR (1870). The station was removed in 1990 to the school grounds.

**Drive 0.3 mile. Turn left on Rt. 115, Salt Pt. Trpk.**

Along Salt Point Turnpike farmhouses and farm buildings reclaim the landscape and cattle graze nearby.

**Drive 3.1 miles on Rt. 44 West to Albrecht’s Dairy.**
Drive 0.7 mile. Turn right on CR 16, Quaker Ln. Drive 3.8 miles to Crum Elbow Meeting House.

22 CRUM ELBOW MEETING HOUSE (R), a simple, 2-story white frame structure with separate doors for the sexes, dates back to the late 1700s when Friends settled the eastern hills of Hyde Park, then part of Clinton. A narrow porch with milled supports was added mid-19th c. The burial ground contains many early stones.

Turn around and drive 0.9 mile to CR 41. Turn right on CR 41. Drive 0.1 mile to Camp Victory Lake.

23 CAMP VICTORY LAKE (R). A nonprofit Christian camp, owned and operated by the Northeastern Conference of Seventh Day Adventist for the express purpose of providing a safe, atmosphere for young people of all races, religions and faiths.

Continue on CR 41. Drive 2.6 miles to East Park to Rt. 9G. Turn left on Rt. 9G south at the light.

Until the 1930s, Rt. 9G was a quiet country road bordered on both sides by violet greenhouses and family farms.

Drive 0.1 mile to William Stoutenburgh Stone House.

24 WILLIAM STOUTENBURGH STONE HOUSE (R). This Dutch vernacular, stone farmhouse, probably the oldest in the town, was home to generations of the Stoutenburgh family, ca. 1750.

Drive 1.7 miles south on Rt. 9G to entrance of Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site at Val-Kill.

25 ELEANOR ROOSEVELT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE AT VAL-KILL (L). The name translates to “stream of falls”. This 180-acre wooded plot on the Fallkill was a favorite Roosevelt family picnic spot. In 1924 FDR deeded it to his wife and friends to build a weekend retreat. The first building on the site, Stone Cottage, was inspired by 18th c. Hudson Valley Dutch farmhouses. Val-Kill Industries, a crafts training and rural economic development experiment, began and ended here in a simple stucco building called “the factory” that eventually was remodeled into Eleanor Roosevelt’s home, now a museum. In 1977 Congress passed legislation creating the first National Historic Site in American history dedicated to a president’s wife. Tours. Call 845/229-9115 for (?) .

Drive 0.1 mile and go past former Val-Kill Tea Room.

26 VAL-KILL TEA ROOM (L). In the 1930s and ‘40s this restaurant contained a weaving shop and showroom. The Tea Room was an adjunct to Val-Kill Industries featuring examples of fine crafted furniture, pewter and handwoven items. After the factory closed in 1936, the Tea Room continued as a private business.

Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right on CR 40A, St. Andrews Rd., to Rt. 9.

Land previously owned by the Jesuits was deeded to the County in 1974 to build a connector road between Rt. 9G, Violet Ave., and Rt. 9, King’s Highway.

End of Tour
WASHINGTO N, est. in 1788, at 61.47 sq. mi. is the largest in area of Dutchess’ 20 towns. Named to honor Gen. Washington, unsupported local legend pictures his Revolutionary troops encamped under a huge cottonwood tree near Washington Hollow during the war. Before the end of the 19th c. history records peaceful New England Quakers organizing meetings and schools here. In the 19th c. town streams supplied the power for local mills. Its rolling hills, commanding beautiful views of the Hudson Valley, attracted the wealthy and prominent to build estates and encouraged tourism. Fertile soils and an important role in the breeding of horses and Aberdeen Angus cattle make it an agricultural center and home to both Cornell Cooperative Extension/Farm and Home Center and the IES Cary Arboretum. The Village of Millbrook, a 19th c. railroad center, is now the hub of local government, business and culture. Other hamlets are South Millbrook, Lithgow, Little Rest, Washington Hollow and Mabbettsville.

AMENIA, one of Dutchess’ first 9 towns, is said to have been named by Dr. Thomas Young, a poet, from the Latin, “Amoena,” meaning “pleasant place.” It was know locally in the 19th c. as “the milky way” for its many dairies. The first settler, sea capt. Richard Sackett, petitioned the crown for permission to purchase 7,500 acres near Washiac (Wassaic) in 1703. Palatines from Germany, French Huguenots and New Englanders seeking land and religious freedom were its earliest families. Settlements grew in the 19th c. spurred by travel along the Harlem Valley by road and rail. A 19th c. economy based upon iron and agriculture gave way in the 20th c. to state services, soil mining and a new wave of agriculture, including animal breeding and viticulture. In the early 20th c. revolutionary thinkers like Luther Burbank, W.E.B. DuBois and Lewis Mumford gathered at the Spingarn Estate, now “Troutbeck”. Today Amenia annually hosts a World Peace Festival. Amenia hamlet is the center of this 41.10 sq. mi town. Other communities include South Amenia, Amenia Union, Leedsville, Smithfield and Wassaic.
(52 Miles, 2 Hours) START. ⬤

This tour begins at Route 44 East exit off of Taconic Parkway. Drive 1.8 miles to Rt. 44A.

1 CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF DUTCHESS COUNTY (L). Provides educational programs for youth, adults, families and communities while enhancing the economic, social, agricultural and natural resources of Dutchess County. Call 845/677-3488 for (?)

Turn left on Franklin Ave. Drive 0.8 mile to Rt. 44 East.

2 INSTITUTE OF ECOSYSTEM STUDIES (L) est. 1971 (1924 acres) line the road. Free visitor permits are at Gifford House Visitor and Education Center (L). Nature trails, gardens, exhibits, classes. Call 845/677-5359 for (?)

3 ORVIS SANDANONA SHOOTING PRESERVE (L) or (R) is the oldest permitted shooting club in the US, now used as a venue for the Orvis Shooting and Flyfishing Schools. Call 845/677-9701 for (?)

Turn right on Harts Village Rd. Drive 0.6 mile to Franklin Ave.

4 HARTS VILLAGE, named for the Hart family, was the town’s economic center until the mid-19th c. Phillip Hart’s carefully restored Georgian frame home (R) (NR) (PVT) is set back. The village was the hub of industry powered by water from numerous falls in the deep gorge along Mill Brook. Hart’s grist mill, 1755, enlarged by Phillip Hart in 1790, was the first, followed by fulling, dye cutting, saw, cotton and flour mills.

Turn right on Harts Village Rd. Drive 2.6 mile to Millbrook

5 MILLBROOK VILLAGE flourished as a result of local businessmen such as George H. Brown, owner of the United States Condensing Co. (est. 1864), who brought in the Newburgh, Dutchess & Columbia RR in 1869. Park in lots or along streets. Tree-lined Franklin Ave. invites strollers to galleries, antique shops, bookstores, restaurants and attractions such as the TRIBUTE GARDENS (R), a gift of Mrs. Oakleigh Thorne, dedicated to WWI and II veterans. The THORNE BUILDING (L), now a branch of Dutchess Community College and intended as a school and cultural center, became the reason for Millbrook’s incorporation as a village in 1895, as the donors could only give to a legal municipality. GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, opposite (R) was est. 1871.

6 DANHEIM (straight ahead), the 2,500 acre former estate of C.F. Deitrich. Its romantic Bavarian-influenced architecture in the 1960s was the dramatic background for the mind-altering activity of Dr. Timothy Leary. Today it is once again a quiet (PVT) country residence.

Turn right on Rt. 44 East. Drive 4.7 miles to CR 57.

Route passes through old hamlets. MABBETTSVILLE was originally called “Filkintown” for land owner Henry Filkin, one of the Nine Partners Patentees (1697). Note the TOWN PARK (R). ALLYN’S RESTAURANT AND CAFE (R), where fine food and tourist information are available, was originally a Methodist church. Call 845/677-5888 for (?)
Scenic views (L) frame LITHGOW, an 18th c. farm hamlet est. 1760 as the country seat of David Johnstone. Its name was inspired by a family home in Linlithgow, Scotland. It is at the eastern end of the misnamed “SHUNPIKE” from Hibernia. Shunpikes traditionally were developed to avoid toll roads but this 18th c. short cut predates the Dutchess Turnpike.

**Turn left onto CR 57. Drive 3.3 miles to Bangall Rd. Turn right and drive 0.5 mile to Wing’s Castle.**

![Wing's Castle](image)

**WING’S CASTLE.** A unique architectural site, this Hudson River stone castle was built by using salvaged materials from antique buildings. Tours available. Call 845/677-9085 for (?).

**Return to CR 57. Turn right on CR 57. Drive 0.5 mile to Wing Rd. Turn right on Wing Rd. to Millbrook Vineyards and Winery.**

**MILLBROOK VINEYARDS AND WINERY.** A critically acclaimed 130-acre estate winery. Open year-round, complimentary and informative tours offer an insider’s view of the entire winemaking process. Call 845/677-8383 or 800/662-WINE for (?).

www.millbrookwine.com. Take a break from driving with a guided tour and wine tasting. World-class wines paired with amazing views are a treat for all the senses.

**Return to CR 57. Turn left on CR 57 and drive 3.8 miles to Rt. 44 East. Turn left on Rt. 44 East. Drive 4.8 miles to Rt. 22.**

**DE LA VERGNE HILL.** A mile-long “S” curve on the turnpike was called the “Devil’s Elbow”, but the scenery is spectacular. At the turn there is a view of 3 states: New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts. SILO-RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB (R), an 18-hole public golf course and restaurant, was developed in 1992 from cornfields and pastures around Squabble Hole, one of two 19th c. ore pits filled with water. (Access from Rt. 22) Call 845/373-9200 (?).

**Turn left on Rt. 343 and drive 1.7 miles to CR2. Turn right on Leedsville Rd., CR2.**

**TOUR 4**

**10 AMENIA.** This unincorporated village, formerly Paine’s Corners, grew at the crossing of the Turnpike, the Great Rd. to NY and the NY & Harlem RR. Park and walk to shops/restaurants at the intersection of Rts. 44 and 22. The 19th c. AMENIA ISLAND CEMETERY (L) on Rt. 343 sits within a lively business hub housed in Victorian commercial buildings. Mechanic St. (R) off of Rt. 343 leads to the Town Hall, the site of the former Harlem RR station and the HARLEM VALLEY RAIL TRAIL (R), that features scenic paved walking, rollerblading, biking and cross-country skiing trails, links towns, villages and state parks from Amenia to Copake Falls in Columbia County. The POST OFFICE (L) building dates to 1865. The Greek Revival former BAPTIST CHURCH on Rt. 22 South, ca. 1851, is now a gift shop (R).

**Turn left on Rt. 22 North. Drive 0.8 mile to Old North Rd.**

The business center is marked by the stone mansard-roofed M & T BANK complete with 1906 fountain/horse trough memorializing Dr. Joseph R. Guernsey. Past the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (R) ca. 1855 congregation est. 1748, is AMENIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (R), built on the site of Amenia Seminary, a private Methodist co-ed secondary school and college, est.1835. Victorian era houses and old trees line the road to new businesses at the village edge.

**Turn right and drive 0.2 mile straight onto Mygatt Rd. Drive 0.7 mile to stop sign at Rt. 343. (Ignore directional sign at this intersection)**

A cast iron “curve warning” sign from a long past highway dept. still serves travelers to negotiate an even older road system that passes stone walls sheltering AMENIA BURYING GROUND (R), ca. 1750, and the shell of a tiny, red one-room INDIAN ROCK SCHOOLHOUSE (L).

**Turn left on Rt. 343 and drive 1.7 miles to CR2.**
11 TROUTBECK COUNTRY INN (R). Formerly a gathering place for the literati and liberals of the Twenties, this gentle, upscale 600-acre English estate hosts weddings, conferences and country inn visitors.


Drive 5.1 miles on CR 2 through Amenia-Union, to CR 3.

Note the 2 story Dutchess Colonial 1760 HENDRICK WINEGAR HOUSE (R). Next on left is the ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH (L), a painted brick Gothic Revival that features Tiffany windows. Past the church is the AMENIA UNION HISTORIC DISTRICT that encircles HITCHCOCK CORNERS, a 19th c. crossroads straddling the Connecticut border.

Go straight on CR 3. Drive 1.0 mile to CR 81. Go straight on Firehouse Rd. Turn left on Firehouse Rd. Drive 0.3 mile to CR 81.

WASSAIC HAMLET at the northern edge of Harlem Valley was a major industrial hamlet and a center of the dairy industry, where, in 1853 Gail Borden opened the nation’s first plant for condensing, pasteurizing and bottling milk. MAXON MILLS (R) is built around a 19th c. hotel near the RR line beyond. The red brick BORDEN COMPLEX, now PAWLING CORP. (R), is near WORKER ROW HOUSING (R). South of the hamlet was a Revolutionary War steel works along the Wassaic Creek near the turn.

Turn right on CR 81. Drive 0.8 mile. Turn right at (I) of CR 81 and CR 3, continuing on CR 81. Drive 0.3 mile to Rts. 22/343 South. Turn left to Rts. 22/343 South. Drive 2.9 miles to Rt. 343.

12 WASSAIC STATE FOREST MULTIPLE USE AREA (L) parallels the route offering 488 acres for hunting, fishing, hiking, camping. Former WASSAIC DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER (L), est. during the Depression Era as a state training center for the mentally disabled, housed up to 3500. *(Off route) The World Peace Center, site of a folk/peace festival, is on CR 4, off CR 105 behind the Developmental Center. This area, known locally as “Sinpatch”, references behavior of 19th c. residents.

Bear right on Rt. 343 to Millbrook. Drive 9.8 miles to Tyrell Rd.

Dover Turnpike, Rt. 343, leading over the Fishkill range, was a branch of the Dutchess Turnpike, a toll road.

13 DUTCHESS DAY SCHOOL (R). founded in the 1950s by a group of parents interested in offering their children the advantages of a small-school environment in the Millbrook area.

14 NINE PARTNERS SCHOOL & MEETING HOUSE (R) (NR) (Marker), est. 1780, (cemetery along Church St.) was the site of Orthodox and Hicksite Quaker “Separation” (1828). This area, called Mechanic, was settled ca. 1750 by Quakers who organized the Meeting. East of the Meeting House was Nine Partners School, the first Quaker co-ed boarding school in America, est. 1796, an ancestor of Oakwood School in Poughkeepsie. The MILLBROOK GOLF AND TENNIS CLUB (PVT) is site of WILLETS ACADEMY (R), where distinguished Quaker educators, Jacob and Deborah Willets, taught.

15 FLAGLER MONUMENT, the gift of estate owner Harry Harkness Flagler. HALCYON HALL (R), a late 19th c. resort, became the main building of Bennett School, est. 1907 as a women’s junior college and closed in the 1970s.

16 THORNDALE (R) (PVT) ca. 1848, noted for its gardens, is owned by descendants of Isaac Thorne, a Quaker who settled here ca. 1725.

Turn left on Tyrell Rd. Drive 0.4 mile to stop sign. Bear slight left and quick right, continuing on Tyrell Rd. Drive 0.8 mile to entrance of Innisfree Garden.

17 INNISFREE GARDEN. A unique contribution to garden art featuring design influenced by a Chinese style dating back 1,000 years. There is a 40-acre lake surrounded by cliffs, low hills, waterfalls and streams. Call 845/677-8000 for (?)

Turn around and drive 1.2 miles back to Rt. 44. Turn left on Rt. 44 and drive 1.6 miles to entrance to Taconic Parkway.

End of Tour
Welcome to Poughkeepsie and LaGrange

The route begins north of the City of Poughkeepsie on the Hudson, winding into the town and past the remaining farms and orchards of LaGrange. Poughkeepsie was settled in 1687 after a patent was issued to Robert Sanders and Myndert Harmense. The city and town are governed separately.

CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE measures 4.78 square miles. The first settlement, near the Falkill, retained its Wappinger Indian name, UPPUQUI-IPIS-ING, meaning “reed-covered lodge by the little water place.” Pronounced Poughkeepsie by Europeans, it became the Dutchess County seat in 1714. The courthouse built at the corner of Main and Market streets was the center of state government during the Revolutionary War years and was the scene on July 26, 1788, of New York’s ratification of the US Constitution. In 1799, the hamlet became a village and in 1854, a city. Boosters like Mayor Harvey Eastman (1871–74, 77, 78) made the city a civic and cultural center.

TOWN OF POUGHKEEPSIE encompasses 38.68 square miles and includes the centers of Arlington, Fairview, Rochdale, New Hamburg and part of the Village of Wappingers Falls. Major waterways are the Falkill, Casperkill, and Wappinger Creeks. Formed 1788, the town surrounds the city, extending into the Hudson. Early Dutch and English farmers settled near the river along the creeks, or “kills,” in Dutch. Proximity to the river and the King’s Highway soon made it the county center of commerce, government and transportation. It is the hometown of Governor George Clinton and painter/inventor Samuel F.B. Morse.

LAGRANGE spreading over 40.8 square miles, features the principle centers of Billings, LaGrangeville, Titusville, Arthursburg, and Freedom Plains. Its main waterways are the Sprout Creek and Wappinger Creek. Originally part of the Rombout and Beekman patents, during the American Revolution, this area saw Burgoyne’s defeated troops march through here on the way from Massachusetts to Virginia. Called “Freedom” when formed as a town in 1821, patriotic enthusiasts renamed it LaGrange in 1829 for LaFayette’s farm in France. Former dairy farms and orchards now sprout suburbs.
(45 Miles, 2.5 Hours) Start ➝

Tour 3 begins on Rt. 9, north of City of Poughkeepsie at the Main Gate of Marist College, (I) of Rt. 9 and Fulton St. Head south on Rt. 9.

1 MARIST COLLEGE (Main gate). Visitors welcome to grounds, galleries, and public programs. The main campus entrance is near the LOWELL THOMAS COMMUNICATIONS CENTER (R) (1987) and is dedicated to broadcasting pioneer Lowell Thomas. Two tiny VICTORIAN BRACKETED STONE AND BRICK GATEHOUSES (R) from the early 20th c. nestle among newer buildings (R). Students pursue business and liberal arts studies. Marist’s growing reputation in NCAA Division I college sports is evidenced in the modern MC CANN RECREATION CENTER (R) (1977) overlooking the Hudson, beyond the football field. Call 845/575-3000 for (?).


Drive 0.6 mile and turn right on Water St. Drive 0.2 mile and go straight at stop sign. Turn right across bridge and make left. Drive 0.2 mile to Mid-Hudson Children’s Museum.

2 POUGHKEEPSIE RAILROAD BRIDGE (straight ahead). Proposed by entrepreneur Harvey Eastman to connect Pennsylvania coal with New England, it was the first bridge to span the Hudson between NYC and Albany. Measuring more than 1 mile long and 212 feet high, it is no longer in use since a fire in 1974.

3 MID-HUDSON CHILDREN’S MUSEUM (R). Provides hands-on experience with permanent and rotating exhibits that combine science and art for children up to age 12. Call 845/471-0589 for (?)

4 OLD PIANO FACTORY (L) (NR). A historic wedge-shaped brick building with panoramic views of the Hudson River. The building is one of Poughkeepsie’s few remaining examples of 19th c. industrial architecture.

Drive 0.1 mile.

5 SCENIC VIEWS OF THE HUDSON RIVER AND WARYAS PARK (R). This was formerly a neighborhood of 19th c. immigrant, blue-collar workers and shopkeepers, from England, Ireland and Germany. WARYAS PARK (R) is named for the late Victor C. Waryas, a popular city mayor. Playground, picnic area, boat launching. Kaal Rock Park, under the FDR MID-HUDSON BRIDGE, comes from the Dutch, “Caul Rugh,”
the name of a high lookout point near the bridge where traders once watched for sloops. Riverside parking, trails, picnic benches.

6 FDR MID-HUDSON BRIDGE (R). A steel suspension bridge built during the administration of Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt. Opened August 1930, it marked the end of ferries and the beginning of the NYS Bridge Authority.

7 POUGHKEEPSIE RAILROAD STATION (L) (NR). Erected in 1918 and modeled after NYC’s Grand Central Station, it had fallen into disrepair and disuse in the 1960s. Carefully restored, it provides a thriving mode of transportation for Metro-North RR and Amtrak.

Drive 0.1 mile to Main St. Turn left and drive 0.4 mile to Cunneen-Hackett Cultural Center

8 CUNNEEN-HACKETT CULTURAL CENTER (L). Victorian buildings host dance, music, drama and lectures; art gallery promotes local artists. Call 845/486-4571 for (?)..

Drive 0.3 mile to Academy St. Turn right on Academy St. and drive 0.1 mile to Cannon St. Turn right on Cannon St. Park your car and walk this part of the tour.

PARKING FOR CITY SITES WALKING TOUR (L) or (R) of the commercial district: shops, restaurant, hotel and sites in bold or caps below.

9 BARDAVON 1869 OPERA HOUSE (R). The oldest operating theater in New York State and the 12th-oldest in the country showcases performances by the Hudson Valley Philharmonic as well as a spectrum of main stage shows that entertain families and young people.

From the Bardavon cross Market St. and 1 block north is the DUTCHESS COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

From the DUTCHESS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, continue north to the UNITED STATES POST OFFICE. Roosevelt personally laid the cornerstone on October 13, 1937. This National Historic Landmark has five distinctive murals of historic occasions in local, state and national history, including the Ratification of the United States Constitution by New York. Diagonally across the street on the east side of Market St. is the POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL, the third oldest newspaper in the nation, founded 1785. The building that currently houses the newspaper was built in 1943 after much consultation with Franklin D. Roosevelt on the Dutch fieldstone architecture.

10 UNION STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT. To visit this area, turn left from the Courthouse and walk down Main St. to the crossing light with Rts. 44/55 West. Cross at the light and turn left, walking south one block to Union St. This was formerly a neighborhood of 19th c. immigrant, blue-collar workers and shopkeepers from Europe. Carefully restored, vernacular residences date from the late 18th to mid-19th c.

Return to car. Drive 0.2 mile to Market St. Turn right on Market St. Drive 0.1 mile to Main St. Turn left on Main St. and drive 0.5 mile to Rt. 9 entrance ramp. Turn left on ramp to Rt. 9 South. Drive 1.2 mile to South Ave. exit. Exit at South Ave. Drive 0.1 mile to stop sign. Continue straight at stop sign and drive 0.4 mile to (Y) with Rt. 9. Drive 0.7 mile to Locust Grove.
11 POUGHKEEPSIE RURAL CEMETERY (R). In 1852, Matthew Vassar and a select committee chose the former Smith Thompson farm “Rust Plaets” (Dutch for resting place), near the old Livingston family plot, as a cemetery site. Beautiful landscaped grounds and outbuildings reflect rural cemetery movement aesthetics that were dedicated November 2, 1853. Tradition holds the marshy area east of the cemetery to be “the little resting place” that named Poughkeepsie. Grounds open daily. Please respect cemetery rules.

12 LOCUST GROVE, SAMUEL MORSE HISTORIC SITE (R) (NR). In 1847 Samuel F. B. Morse, portrait painter and inventor of the telegraph, purchased the Henry Livingston Jr. estate. Architect Alexander Jackson Davis remodeled the house as a Tuscan Villa while Morse developed the gardens in Andrew Downing’s style. In 1975 owner Annette Young left the estate as a public historic site and nature sanctuary. Art, furniture, Morse/Young memorabilia collections, special programs. Tours. Call 845/454-4500 for (?).

Drive 1.5 miles to IBM Rd., CR 48. Turn right on CR 48 at light.

13 FORMER KASPARUS WESTERVELT HOUSE, NOW CAPPUCINO’S BY COPPOLA’S (L). Built ca. 1744 as a Dutch farmhouse, it has served as a residence, inn and restaurant at the busy intersection of the former Post Rd. and former Milton ferry path.

Drive 0.2 mile to light; turn right and follow curve as road becomes NY 113, Spackenkill Rd. Drive 2.6 miles to Boardman Rd.

14 POUGHKEEPSIE IBM PLANT BUILDING 002 (L). Shortly before WWII, Frederick Hart began negotiating with Thomas Watson, future CEO of IBM, to locate property for a factory. In 1941, IBM forerunner, the Munities Manufacturing Co., settled into the former Delapenha “pickle factory.” In 1942, came a merger with IBM. In 1947, when constructed, Building 002 was the area’s largest manufacturing plant.

15 OAKWOOD SCHOOL (R) is a co-educational secondary school run by the New York Yearly Meeting of Friends. Begun as a Quaker school in Millbrook in 1796, it was incorporated as Oakwood Seminary in 1876 and has been at this site since 1920.

16 JOSEPH WESTERVELT HOUSE (R) (PVT). The other Westervelt home, a Pre-Revolutionary Dutch stone farmhouse, was built by Kasparus’ cousin Josephus here in the Spackenkill area. An Indian called by the Dutch “Speck” gave the place its name. “Speck zyn Kill” translates to Speck’s creek.

Turn left on Boardman Rd. Drive 1.7 miles to Rt. 376.

17 POUGHKEEPSIE DAY SCHOOL (R). New York City attorney Andrew Boardman formed the estate ca. 1870 from 14 farms. Brooklyn manufacturer Clarence Kenyon purchased it in 1909 and in 1913 hired Percival M. Lloyd to design the Mediterranean style mansion. It is now the Poughkeepsie Day School, founded in 1934 as a private day school with philosophical ties to Vassar College.

18 OUR LADY OF LOURDES HIGH SCHOOL (L). This parochial school is housed in former IBM plant buildings.

Turn left on Rt. 376. Drive 0.2 mile and follow signs to Rt. 44/55, bearing right on Raymond Ave.
19 VASSAR COLLEGE (R) (NR). Founded by Poughkeepsie brewer Matthew Vassar in the 1850s. PUBLIC PARKING is on right. BELLE SKINNER HALL OF MUSIC, built 1932, was inspired by a medieval French village. MAIN GATE, built 1905, connects FREDERICK THOMPSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY with TAYLOR HALL and the FRANCES LEHMAN LOEB ART CENTER. On the campus grounds are the CHAPEL, with Tiffany stained glass windows, and POWERHOUSE THEATRE. Visitors welcome to campus, public programs. Maps and program information available from the Press and Information Office. Call 845/437-7000 for (?).

Lagrangeville was developed mid-19th c. around the Central New England RR.

Turn left on Rt. 82. Drive 1.5 miles to Rt. 55. Cross Rt. 55 and drive 1.6 miles to Barmore Rd.

Rt. 82 roughly parallels the trail along which Gen. Gates marched Burgoyne’s defeated British troops to the Hudson after the Battle of Saratoga in 1777. The hamlet of Billings grew up around the intersections of Rts. 55 and 82. During the heyday of the Dutchess & Columbia RR, the Locust Farm Company bottling plant and milk stop was here.

Turn left on Barmore Rd. Drive 1.7 miles to Skidmore Rd.

20 ARLINGTON. During the American Revolution, Bull’s Head Tavern gave the area east of the city its first name. Considered undignified, the name was changed ca. 1900 to Arlington.

Drive 1.0 mile. Turn right on Rt. 44/55 east. Stay in right lane after turn and continue east on Rt. 55. Rt. 55 is one of the oldest east-west roads in the county. Drive 2.4 miles to Noxon Rd., CR 21. Turn right on Noxon Rd. Drive 5.1 miles.

Records showing the Noxons as officials and property owners before the American Revolution list Bartholomew Noxon as refusing to sign the “Revolutionary Pledge of Association” circulated in 1775. Noxon St. in Poughkeepsie also bears the name. THE TITUSVILLE AREA was named for Elias Titus who built a woolen mill nearby in 1828 on the site of the Phelps grist mill on the Wappinger Creek. ROCK CUT (both sides) illustrates for geology students the process of folding that took place 400 million years ago. Red and green coloration indicates the presence of oxygen when sediments were collecting.

Turn left at stop sign on Skidmore Rd. Drive 0.7 mile. Turn left on Velige Rd. Drive 0.5 mile to Rt. 55 (unmarked). Turn right and drive 0.3 to Taconic Parkway north. Turn right on Taconic Parkway. Drive 1.1 miles to James Baird State Park.

21 FORMER J.W. STORM HOME (L) (PVT). Rambling 19th c. frame structures that grew with families were often home to prosperous farmers. Huge old sycamores stand near the banks of the Jackson Creek in the pasture (R).

Turn left into James Baird State Park. Follow internal road system through intersections to parking area, restaurant and turnaround.

22 FORMER SWADE FARM COMPLEX (R) (PVT). Remaining outbuildings express farm work. Barn shape shows Dutch influence in low-pitched roof. CORNCRIB (near house) design allowed air circulation and protected grain from dampness.

FREEDOM PLAINS, built ca. 1826, included blacksmith shops, tavern, general store, and post office. It was designated as town center in the 1970s.
26 FREEDOM PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (L) The congregation, formed in 1827, met in a barn until the lumber for the church arrived by sloop from Albany in 1828.

Turn right on Freedom Rd., CR 47. Bear right and continue on Freedom Rd., CR 47. Drive 1.7 miles to Mountain Rd.

Freedom, the original name of the town in 1821, was also given to the old road to Oswego. Farms along the route date from the 18th c. Working farms today include orchards, dairies, vegetable and feed growers.

Bear left on curve to Mountain Rd. Drive 0.4 mile to Overlook Rd., CR 46. Turn left on Overlook Rd., CR 46. Drive 2.9 miles to DeGarmo Rd., CR 43.

27 FORMER SLEIGHT (SLEGHT) FARM (R) (PVT). A house on the site of this stone and brick one and a half story house, built ca. 1765, was replaced in 1798. Victorian touches were added a c. later by a Dutch family from Kingston who settled here before the American Revolution.

28 THE FORMER AYRAULT FARM (R). Now LEWIS COUNTRY FARMS, this farm specialized in cattle breeding in the 19th c. when in 1870 it produced the 4 largest beef cattle ever raised on an American farm.

Turn right on DeGarmo Rd., CR 43. Drive 0.8 mile to Rt. 44.

THE WAPPINGER CREEK, named for the Wappinger Indians, divides LaGrange from Poughkeepsie at the crossing. In the 1960s the farm land (L) became Arlington American Legion Post #1302, the former Palen/Platt home.

Turn left on Rt. 44.

Rt. 44 began as Filkintown Rd., a path from Poughkeepsie to the Connecticut border. In 1806 it was improved as a log paved toll road. ADAMS FAIRACRE FARMS is on right.

Drive 2.5 miles to N. White St. Turn left on N. White St. Drive 0.1 mile to Main St. Turn left on Main St. Drive 0.5 mile to Innis Ave.

29 CLINTON HOUSE (R), at the (I) with Main St., is a Dutch Colonial/Georgian stone house, known formerly as the Clear/Everitt house and home to the Dutchess County Historical Society. Built in 1765, it burned and was rebuilt in 1783 by army masons. Tradition holds it to have been George Clinton’s headquarters during the American Revolution. Exhibits. Research library by appt. Call 845/471-1630 for (?)

30 GLEBE HOUSE (L). A small brick house museum, built 1767, as a farm/rectory (or Glebe) for Christ Episcopal Church. Open by appt. Call 845/471-1630 for (?)

Turn left on Innis Ave. Drive 1.2 miles to light. Turn left on Salt Point Tnpk. and drive 0.3 mile. Turn right and follow to stop sign. Turn right on Creek Rd. Drive 1.2 miles to Cottage Rd.

31 DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE (L). Visitors welcome to Main Campus, public programs and the art gallery. In 1957 Samuel W. Bowne Memorial Hospital on the former Pendell farm became the campus for the 2-year college offering associate degrees in liberal arts and technical fields. As part of the state university system, the college is supported in part by Dutchess County. Call 845/431-8000 for (?)

Turn left on Cottage Rd. and drive 0.6 mile to Violet Ave. Turn left on Violet Ave.

32 VIOLET AVENUE SCHOOL (R). One of 3 native fieldstone schools built during FDR’s presidency, influenced by his interest in Hudson Valley architecture. 19th c. violet greenhouses for New York City markets gave the road its name.

Drive 0.6 mile to Fulton St. Turn right on Fulton St.

33 CHILDREN’S HOME (R). Founded 1847 as a private charity, this institution now provides shelter and services to dependent children of distressed families.

Drive 1.1 miles to Marist College.

End of Tour.
Our tour takes us through 4 towns in the southeastern corner of Dutchess. Framed by the Fishkill and Taconic ranges, much of this area’s early history is linked to boundary disputes with New England. In the 19th c. growth was spurred by the development of rail service that now encourages tourism and commuting.

UNION VALE, measuring 38.10 sq. mi., was separated from Beekman and Freedom (now LaGrange) in 1827. Its most striking feature is the beautiful Clove, a narrow valley broken by small streams between the 2 low mountain ranges. Most residents either farm or work outside the town. Local government is currently housed in the former dairy barn of Tymor farms, now a park and nature preserve.

BEEKMAN consists of 30 sq. mi. Farms are giving way to suburban growth clustered about the centers of Poughquag, Greenhaven, Beekmanville and Clove Valley. Settled by Dutch families, it was one of the county’s original towns, established in 1788, named for Patentee Henry Beekman. Charming old farmhouses and lakes that once were ore mines pre-date the current town economy. Poughquag is the center of government and the town park and recreation center are nearby.

PAWLING, also established in 1788, encompasses 48.10 sq. mi. The Oblong or Quaker Hill was settled ca. 1730 by Quakers from New England who abolished slavery before the Revolution. In 1778 the village was Washington’s headquarters, and its countryside has lured many notables including newsmen Edward R. Murrow and Lowell Thomas, actor James Earl Jones, and the Rev. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale. Hamlets include Holmes, Hurd’s Corners, Quaker Hill and Whaley Lake.

DOVER, settled in the early 1700’s and established 1807, measures 51.60 square miles and was originally part of Pawling. White marble outcroppings may have inspired its name for the white cliffs of Dover. Cattle drovers made Dover Plains a stop on the way from New England through the Harlem Valley and the discovery of iron deposits and marble beds added variety to an early agricultural economy. The population is clustered around the hamlets of Dover Plains and Wingdale.
(54 Miles, 3 Hours) START. ➡️
The tour starts at the (l) of the Taconic Parkway and Route 55 East.

Drive 1.4 miles to Rt. 82 North. Turn left and drive 5.6 miles to Verbank Village Rd.

1 VERBANK METHODIST CHURCH AND CEMETERY (R), the former Vail burying ground, est. in the 1870s.

Turn left on Verbank Village Rd. Drive 0.6 mile to Milewood Rd.

VERBANK VILLAGE hamlet grew around George Ellsworth’s mill, ca. 1742, on the Sprout Creek. Houses bordering the road date from the 18th and 19th c. The intersection has been the town’s business center since the earliest years, boasting a hotel/inn, general store, several mills and a blacksmith shop.

Turn left and drive 0.1 mile to Rt. 82. Turn right on Rt. 82. Drive 0.4 mile to Tompkins Rd. Turn left on Tompkins Rd. and drive 0.5 mile to N. Smith Rd. Turn right on N. Smith Rd. Drive 1.3 miles to Rickes Rd.

2 SKY ACRES AIRPORT (R). A favorite stop for small, private plane owners was opened in 1965 on a former farm.

3 OSWEGO MEETING HOUSE AND CEMETERY (L) (NR). The building dates from ca.1828, but the first meeting, an offshoot of the Oblong Meeting in Pawling, was held in 1758. The cemetery, in early Quaker tradition, contains many unmarked graves as well as simple stones. 19th c. maps show a number of houses and a Friends boarding school nearby. (Marker).

Turn left on Rickes Road. Drive 0.7 mile and bear left on CR 89.

4 SCENIC VIEW (pull-off) on Rickes Road for scenic view. Rural eastern Dutchess lures hunters and fishermen. Well-kept barns are a clue to farms mainly devoted to dairy farming, stock breeding and feed raising.
Drive 1.4 miles to North Clove Rd., CR 9 Turn right and drive 3.2 miles to (L) of CR9 & CR 24.

5 ABEL TREE FARM (PVT) (both sides of road) at Abel Pond grows Christmas trees.

6 UNION VALE GRANGE #887 (L). Active since 1900. The TOWN GARAGE (R) was a WPA project. North Clove at the northern end of the valley is a tiny farming community.

Turn right on CR 9. Drive 3.0 miles to CR 21.

7 THE CLOVE SIGN marks the earliest settled portion of the valley, ca. 1738. Clove Spring, source of the Fishkill Creek, iron deposits, and good farmland attracted settlers, creating a busy hamlet in the 19th c. that served local iron mines and furnaces. Many early farms are now within the property of the neighboring Clove Valley Rod and Gun Club.

8 SCHOOLHOUSE (L). A split rail fence (R) marks the stone house built by Palatine Nicholas Emigh ca. 1740, lovingly restored in its original setting near the spring.

9 CLOVE CEMETERY (L), est. 1858, is opposite VALLEY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH (R), ca.1871, near CHRISTIE POND (L).

At traffic circle bear right on CR 21. Drive 1.1 miles to Duncan Rd.

10 SKIDMORE HOUSE (R) (PVT) was built ca.1838 by a prosperous mill owner. In this era it was owned by Jean Webster, (Mrs. Glenn Ford McKinney) Mark Twain’s niece, who created the “Daddy Long Legs” book and film.

Turn left on Duncan Rd.

11 TYMOR PARK AND TYMOR FOREST consisting of 500 acres, were deeded to the Town of Union Vale by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Connor in 1971 as a town park and recreation center. Limited use is provided outside groups by special permit. Contact Park Manager 845/724-5460 for (?).

Drive 1.4 miles to Dorn Rd. Turn left on Dorn Rd. Drive 0.8 mile to Furnace Rd. Turn right and drive 0.4 mile to stop sign at CR9 (unmarked).

12 BEEKMAN FURNACE (L) in the 19th c. processed 700 tons of ore annually from Union Vale mines. The impressive remains of the CLOVE SPRINGS IRON WORKS (L) or (R) (PVT) identify recent development as part of an early industrial site.

Turn right, drive 0.4 mile to Recreation Rd. Turn left on Recreation Rd. Drive 1.2 miles to Beekman-Poughquag Rd., CR 7.

13 TOWN OF BEEKMAN RECREATION PARK (R).

14 DALTON FARMS (L), a housing development, formerly part of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. estate.

Turn right on Beekman-Poughquag Rd., CR 7. Drive 0.6 mile to Beekman Rd., CR9.

15 BARTON ORCHARDS (L) is one of many farms in the area that offers an opportunity to pick the best of the crop at the moment it is ripe.

Turn left on Beekman Rd., CR 9. Drive 0.6 mile to Green Haven Rd., CR 8.

BEEKMANVILLE HAMLET was settled ca. 1710. The HOTEL (R), a stage stop on the road to Fishkill, in recent years has become an arts center. 18th and 19th c. buildings, now private homes, were once a forge, a former MEETING HOUSE (L) and SCHOOLHOUSE (R).

Turn left on Green Haven Rd., CR 8. Drive 1.8 miles to Rt. 216.
16 GREEN HAVEN CORRECTIONAL FACILITY (R). Visible across the fields, the facility was constructed by New York State just prior to WWI, when it was used by the federal government during the war.

Turn right on Rt. 216. Drive less than 0.1 mile to Green Haven Rd. Turn left on Green Haven Rd. Drive 0.1 mile to entrance of church. Enter church driveway and turn around.

17 MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH (R), built ca. 1902 on land near the school donated by the Shelton family.

Return to the (I) of Rt. 216 and Green Haven Rd. Turn right on Rt. 216. Drive 2.6 miles to CR 7.

18 SUGAR MAPLE FARMS (L) breeds champion thoroughbreds. Miles of white fencing mark its boundaries underscoring gorgeous scenic views. The farm made its mark in the world of racehorse breeding with Champagneforashley, named for one of the owner’s daughters and a favorite to win the 1990 Kentucky Derby. A last minute injury ended his meteoric career.

Turn left on CR 7. Drive 0.3 mile to stop sign. Continue straight on Church St. and drive 0.3 mile to Rt. 55 East.

The HAMLET OF POUGHQUAG is a charming community dating from the late 18th c. The Whaley Creek powered saw, grist and fulling mills during the 19th c. The main street, the Beekmanville-Poughquag Rd., is graced with small Federal Era residences showing Victorian touches. Note the Greek Revival style of the POUGHQUAG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND CEMETERY(L), est. 1840. Beekman’s Revolutionary War hero was Col. James Vanderburgh, whose homesite is marked.

Turn right on Rt. 55 and drive 0.7 mile to Pleasant Ridge Rd. Turn left on Pleasant Ridge Rd. Drive 1.2 miles to Quaker Cemetery. Turn around and return to Rt. 55.

19 QUAKER CEMETERY (R). The cemetery of the Apoquague Preparative Meeting, est. 1771, is visible behind a low stone wall.

Turn left on Rt. 55. Drive 1.7 miles to Old Rt. 55. Turn left on Old Rt. 55. Drive 2.7 miles to Lakeside Drive. Turn left on Lakeside Dr. Drive 1.0 mile to Charles Coleman Blvd.


THE OLD PAWLING/BEKKMAN TURNPIKE over Pawling Mt. was a privately owned toll road from 1824 to 1906. Historic Marker (L) (PVT) indicates the former entrance to WEST MT. MISSION, founded in 1906 to assist the rural poor of West Pawling, closed in 1950.

20 EDWARD R. MURROW MEMORIAL PARK (L). Adjacent to the site of Emery Cole’s Grist Mill, the town park honors the memory of the legendary journalist.

21 TOWN OF PAWLING RECREATION PARK (L) is the site of the former YMCA complex.

Turn right on Charles Coleman Blvd. Drive 0.9 mile to West Main St.


22 DUTCHER HOUSE (R). A former hotel/commercial building built in 1884 by Mayor John Dutcher that still boasts charming shops.

23 VILLAGE OF PAWLING. Park here to view Victorian houses and old trees that line the way of village roads. The coming of the railroad in 1849 turned the rural Pawling Station into a busy manufacturing, dairy transport, and resort center. The Railroad Station of the Metro-North Harlem Line replaced the original that burned in 1989. Visible across the railroad tracks is Memorial Ave., with trees honoring WWII servicemen (Marker), and the PAWLING CHRONICLE office, est. 1870 as “The Pawling Pioneer” by historian Phillip Smith.
Turn left on West Main St. Bear right at (Y) on curve to East Main St., which curves past the Eastlake style PAWLING CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH (L) ca. 1879. Drive 0.8 mi. to Rt. 22.

24 PEALE CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING (L). The Center Museum interprets the lives of world-renowned religious leaders Norman Vincent and Ruth Stafford Peale. Call 845/855-5000 for (?)

25 JOHN KANE HOUSE (NR) (L). This building served as Washington’s headquarters from Sept.-Nov. 1778 over Tory Kane’s objections. The Historical Society of Quaker Hill and Pawling, est. 1910, maintains the house as a local history repository and museum. The Lowell Thomas rooms bring to life the career of a radio pioneer. Call 845/855-9316 for (?)

26 DUTCHESS GOLF COURSE (R). This site was the home of William Prendergast, leader of the Anti-rent War in 1766. Established 1890, this 9 hole public course is one of the oldest in the country. Call 845/855-9845 for (?)

27 SLOCUM CEMETERY (L). Burial ground of the family which acquired the confiscated Kane property after the Revolution.

At light on Rt. 22 go across Rt. 22, which becomes Quaker Hill Rd. Drive 2.7 miles to Church Rd.

28 PURGATORY HILL (L) (Marker), the less celestial part of Quaker Hill, was the site of a Revolutionary War encampment and Great Ox Roast held in 1778 commemorating the anniversary of victory at Saratoga.

29 OBLONG MONUMENT (R). Outlined by locust trees buffering an early cemetery, structure marks the boundary established by Goves. Dongan (NY) and Treat (CT) in 1683, confirmed by the Treaty of Dover in 1731.

Turn right on Church Rd. Drive 0.5 mile to Quaker Hill Rd., CR 66.

This area is noted for its extraordinary scenic views.

30 CHRIST CHURCH AT AKIN HALL/GROUNDS (R). This site memorializes Lowell Thomas and NY Gov. Thomas E. Dewey (1943-55), with monuments and a grove. This pastoral scene frames former Mizzentop Hotel (R) (Marker), a premier resort from 1880-1933.

Turn left on CR 66. Drive 3.0 miles to CR 68.

31 AKIN FREE LIBRARY AND NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM (R), (NR). These eclectic Victorian stone buildings were est. 1898 by Quaker Albert Akin. The Historical Society Quaker materials and Gunnison mineral and natural history collection form the interpretive core. Call 845/855-5099 for (?)

While on CR 66 at 1.6 miles on Meeting House Rd. is Quaker Hill, the area settled by New England Quakers credited with forming the Oblong Meeting ca. 1741 and outlawing slavery before the Revolution. The MEETING HOUSE, est. 1764, was appropriated in 1778 by Washington’s troops as a military hospital. (200 ft. on right on Meeting House Rd. No outlet, park on CR 66). QUAKER HILL CEMETERY (Marker).

Turn left on CR 68. Drive 2.8 miles to Hurd’s Corners Rd. Turn right on Hurd’s Corners Rd. Drive 1.5 miles to Rt. 22/55.

Hurd’s Corners was named for the Hurd family, prominent citizens of the 19th c. hamlet of Campbellsville. Note family monument (R).

32 APPALACHIAN TRAIL. A 2100+ mi. footpath from Maine to Georgia, completed in 1937 and administered by the National Park Service, crosses here. Call 845/454-4936 for (?). The Harlem Line of Metro-North RR offers limited stops at train station due west just across Rt. 22. Call Metro-North 800/METRO-INFO for (?)

Turn right on Rt. 22/55. Drive 2.5 miles to Rt. 55.

Historic structures are located at the former Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center (R).
Bear right on Rt. 55.

33 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (L). Established 1757. Cemetery is opposite church.

Drive 0.9 mile to (l) with CR 6. Turn right on Rt. 55 and continue 0.9 mile to Webatuck Craft Village.

34 WEBATUCK CRAFT VILLAGE (L). Quaint shops house craft studios, galleries and a 1747 inn/furniture showroom. Food service is available at the Buttonwood Cafe, or picnic along the stream. Call 845/832-6601 for (?).

Turn around and drive 0.9 mile to (l) with CR 6. Turn right on CR 6. Drive 5.6 miles to Rt. 22.

35 TEN MILE RIVER (R), a favorite fishing area, is a meandering stream fed by the Swamp River that empties into the Housatonic. SCENIC VIEWS (L) along Ten Mile River.

36 OLD DROVERS INN (L), a stop for cattle drovers, was opened by John Preston 1750 in the low stone wing. The addition ca. 1805 is noted for the unique barrel vaulted ceiling of the upper long room in which riotous 19th c. public meetings were held. Taproom, award winning restaurant and inn open year round. Call 845/832-9311 for (?).

37 SCENIC VIEW (R). Hudson Valley artist Asher Durand painted a similar view in 1848. The epic “Dover Plains, Dutchess County, New York” is in the collection of the Smithsonian.

Turn right on Rt. 22. Drive 1.0 mile to Mill St. Turn right on Mill St. Drive 0.2 mile to Market St. Park here and walk.

38 DOVER PLAINS HAMLET. Located on “the Great Rd. from NY” was settled in the late 18th c, but experienced its biggest growth ca. 1850 during the era of the railroad. Federal style TABOR WING HOUSE (NR) (R), est. 1815 and owned by the Town of Dover Historical Society, houses the town library and the society collection. The J.H. KETCHAM HOSE CO., opposite, and the Jr. High School, located 3.7 mi. south of hamlet, have remarkable local WPA era art landscape collections. Maple Lane (R) unmarked at the light leads past the SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH, est.1794, to the RAILROAD DEPOT, a stop on the Harlem Line.

Return to Mill St. Drive 0.2 mile to Rt. 22. Turn right on Rt. 22.

39 DOVER STONE CHURCH. Pequot Chief Sassacus is said to have hidden in the cave called Dover Stone Church, escaping English soldiers after the massacre at New London. The site is near the hamlet for future opening. Call Town Hall 845/832-6111 for (?).

Turn right on Rt. 22 to (l) Rt. 343.

End of Tour
WAPPINGER takes its name from the Wappinger Indians who lived in Dutchess along the Hudson, settled in the 18th c. and established as a town in 1875. It measures 27.05 square miles and includes the Village of Wappingers Falls, New Hackensack, Hughsonville, Chelsea, Myers Corners, and Stringham Mill. The Wappinger and Sprout Creeks, as well as the Hudson River and King’s Highway (Rt. 9), made the area appealing for early industry. Grain and timber mills became commercial and population centers, eventually replaced by larger and more diverse industry. Farms gave way to suburbia and shopping malls along the old King’s Road, today a multi-lane highway.

FISHKILL is named for the creek that drains its area, in Dutch meaning Fish Creek. Established in 1788, it measures 35.36 square miles. Centers: Fishkill Village, Glenham, Brinckerhoff and Dutchess Junction. Waterways: Fishkill and Clove Creeks. European squatters began settling here in the late 17th c. The terrain provided a rallying point for Washington’s forces during the American Revolution. Farming, milling and mining were early industries with textiles taking advantage of the area’s waterpower in the 19th c. The terrain provided a rallying point for Washington’s forces during the American Revolution. Farming, milling and mining were early industries with textiles taking advantage of the area’s waterpower in the 19th c. Today, industry is technology and research-based.

BEACON is named for its nearby mountain landmark and was created as a city in 1913. The city measures 5.5 square miles with Fishkill Creek its main waterway. The ferry to Newburgh was a key transportation link during the American Revolution. Mt. Beacon, visible for miles around and used for “beacon” fires that warned of troop movements during the Revolution, saw manufacturing growth and developed as an attraction in the 19th and 20th c. Beacon’s leaders recognize its beauty, history and architecture as most important assets.

EAST FISHKILL was divided out of Fishkill in 1849. Measuring 53.10 square miles, its centers are Hopewell Junction, Stormville and Wiccopee. Waterways: Fishkill and Sprout Creeks. Sparsely settled, this was the home of the last Sachem (leader) of the Wappinger, Daniel Nimham, and was on the route of Sybill Luddington’s ride to call out revolutionary forces against the British in 1777. East Fishkill remained a farming community until IBM began to develop its semiconductor manufacturing plant on Rt. 52, in the 1960s.
The landscape now sprouts apartments, directional and site signs on Park St.

Drive 0.2 mile on East Main St. Turn right on Mesier Ave. Drive 0.1 mile, then turn left on Park St.

Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left at end of block on Spring St. Drive 0.1 mile to East Main St.

The only real village green in Dutchess County has been a public park since ca. 1891 when Henry Mesier sold it to the village for $5000. Annual events focus around the band stand and benches along shaded paths. The BREWER-MESIER HOMESTEAD (L) (NR) was built by Nicholas Brewer ca. 1740 and later purchased by Peter Mesier. Victorian details disguise the 18th c. fieldstone core. Once the site of a riotous 3-day revolutionary era “Tea Party” over taxes.

(45 Miles, 2.5 Hours) START.

The tour begins in the Town of Wappinger on Rt. 376 at the service entrance to the Dutchess County Airport.

1 NEW HACKENSACK REFORMED CHURCH BURIAL GROUND (L). Formed in 1765, members built their first house of worship in 1766 on land given by Joris Brinckerhoff. The WORONOCK HOUSE RESTAURANT (R) is a former inn dating to the mid-1700s. Successive renovations mask earlier vernacular architecture.

Drive 0.4 mile on Rt. 376. Turn right on CR 104, New Hackensack Rd., at light. Route sign visible after turn. Drive 2.9 miles on CR 104 to Rt. 9.

2 DUTCHESS COUNTY AIRPORT AND TERMINAL (R). The “New Hackensack Airport,” opened in 1932 as an emergency landing strip and served as a training field for the United States Military Academy at West Point during WWII. Used for local private plane flights. General aviation services available: flight school, fuel, regional transport, executive helicopters and charters.

The landscape now sprouts apartments, houses and businesses, but remnants of walls and gateposts survive.

Turn left on Rt. 9. Drive 0.1 mile and turn right on East Main St.

3 JOSEPH W. MCDONALD MEMORIAL PARK (L) marks the entry to the Village of Wappingers Falls on East Main St. Joseph W. McDonald, son of a former village treasurer, is MIA from the Vietnam War. The park honors all who sacrificed in the conflict.

Drive 0.2 mile on East Main St. Turn right on Mesier Ave. Drive 0.1 mile, then turn left on Park St.

4 MESIER PARK (NR) (L). The only real village green in Dutchess County has been a public park since ca. 1891 when Henry Mesier sold it to the village for $5000. Annual events focus around the band stand and benches along shaded paths. The BREWER-MESIER HOMESTEAD (L) (NR) was built by Nicholas Brewer ca. 1740 and later purchased by Peter Mesier. Victorian details disguise the 18th c. fieldstone core. Once the site of a riotous 3-day revolutionary era “Tea Party” over taxes.

5 GRINNELL LIBRARY (R), 6th oldest public library in the state, was formed 1867. Its Stick style Victorian home was constructed 1887, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Irving Grinnell.

Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left at end of block on Spring St. Drive 0.1 mile to East Main St.
Turn left on East Main St., Rt. 9D. Caution.

6 ZION EPISCOPAL CHURCH (I). The first in the village ca. 1833, this late Gothic Revival was constructed of brownstone from Benjamin Clapp’s local quarry.

Continue 1 block. Turn right at light on Rt. 9D, South Ave.

7 FORMER US POST OFFICE (NR) (L) and Village Architecture on Rt. 9D. A WPA Colonial Revival post office modeled after the 18th c. Brewer-Mesier house. Henry Billings’ lobby murals depict scenes from town history. Rt. 9D south of the village, once called Mesier Lane, conveys 19th c. architectural history through varied styles.

Drive 1.3 miles south on Rt. 9D to CR 28.

8 HUGHSONVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (L) was built as a mission ca. 1843. Hughsonville is a 19th c. commercial/transportation hamlet settled by the Wm. Hughson family ca. 1795. Fields frame Federal houses and shops that cling to the roadside. The Albany Post Rd. and trail to New Hamburg crossed here, linking river landings to inland markets. The tiny business district formerly housed a tannery, tinsmith and carpenter.

Turn right on CR 28. Drive 0.4 mile to Wheeler Hill Rd.

9 OBERCREEK (R) (both sides of road), composed of parts of the VAIL AND WILLIS ESTATES (PVT), ca. 1855, is maintained as farm and open space by preservationist owners. Hughsonville to Wheeler Hill is a quick trip back in time past Federal era residences into farm and estate lands.

Bear left at the curve on Wheeler Hill Rd. Drive 0.6 mile to Old Troy Rd. Bear left at (I) Old Troy Rd. on Wheeler Hill Rd. Drive 0.4 mile to entrance to Carnwath Farms.

This lane was part of a network of trails leading to Farmers Landing, a commercial dock near the Wappingers Creek, begun by William Verplanck ca. 1740. Wheeler Hill Rd. curves left.

10 CARNWATH FARMS (R), the former Willis/Rives Estate, ca. 1850. The villa is set in an A J Downing inspired landscape, enclosed by formal stone walls. Caution. Limited sight distance ahead.

Continue on Wheeler Hill Rd. for 0.6 mile to stop sign. Keep right.

The road rises sharply to the top of the Van Wyck Ridge where there are scenic vistas east and south.

Turn right at the bottom of Wheeler Hill on unmarked Old State Rd. Turn right on North River Rd., 200 feet farther. Drive 1.6 miles on North River Rd. to Bank St.

11 SCENIC RIVER VISTAS (R) near Chelsea open along the road that was part of the early network linking farms to river. The Aqueduct from the Catskills to NYC, a public works project completed ca. 1937, passes through here.

12 THE CHELSEA YACHT CLUB (R), founded 1870 by the Collyer family of yachtsmen and sloop captains, reflects the popularity of water and ice yachting. 19th c. river families lived in homes similar to the bracketed Victorian houses (L). Chelsea hamlet, named for the short-lived Chelsea Paper Mill, was first known as Carthage Landing or Low Point. Its history connects river commerce, recreation and the railroad that came through in 1850.

At the stop sign at Bank St., continue 0.2 mile straight ahead. Turn left at the 2nd Market St. sign. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left on Liberty St. to view two NR buildings. Drive 0.1 mile to stop signs on Broadway Ave.

13 ST. MARK’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH (L), ca. 1866, exemplifies Upjohn inspired parish churches built from Gothic Revival pattern books. The brick CHELSEA FIRE DISTRICT and POST OFFICE (L) next-door were constructed in 1875 as a schoolhouse.

Turn right at stop sign on Broadway. Drive 1.3 miles to Rt. 9D.

The road from Chelsea passes through farmland. Northeast at the light is the Baxertown area, where families of black freedmen lived.

Turn right at light on Rt. 9D. Drive 2.6 miles to Hudson View Park entrance.

Public lands line the road. On the (L) are scenic vistas of the Fishkill Range and Mt. Beacon, where folktales claim that Francis Rombout stood to outline his vast grant.
14 STONY KILL FARM ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER (R) is the former farm/estate of James Delancy Verplanck, descendant of Rombout patentee Gulian Verplanck. The Federal style MANOR HOUSE was built in 1843. Verplanck heirs held the manor intact from 1685 until 1942 when it was transferred to the State as a farm and environmental education center. Call 845/831-8780 for (?). The oldest structure at Stony Kill, WASHINGTON HOUSE (R), a stone Dutch farmhouse, is said to have housed troops during the American Revolution. Castle Point, a point on the river here, was chosen as the name for the Veteran’s Hospital built by the federal government in 1924. Its 479 beds were intended for disabled tubercular veterans from the Hudson Valley Region.

15 DUTCHESS STADIUM (L), is home to the Hudson Valley Renegades baseball team, the Class A minor league club of the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

Turn right at Hudson View Drive. Turn left 100 feet on Lamplight St., which becomes Sterling St. Continue through apartment complex to turnaround by house.

16 MOUNT GULIAN (R) (NR) (Marker). The Gulian Verplanck family homestead is a 1976 reconstruction of the original Dutch Colonial stone house built ca. 1730, damaged by fire in 1931. It was headquarters of Gen. von Steuben during the American Revolution and the birthplace of the Society of the Cincinnati, an organization of citizen-soldiers from Washington’s officer corps. Call 845/831-8172 for (?).

17 HAMILTON FISH SR. NEWBURGH-BEACON BRIDGE (R) is a through cantilever truss and continuous truss design, 7855 feet in length. Opened as a single span by the NYS Bridge Authority in 1963, it was increased in capacity by a 2nd span in 1980.

18 SOUTHERN DUTCHESS COUNTRY CLUB (R) (I) with Verplanck Ave. The clubhouse has at its center “Stone Cot,” a Dutch farmhouse, built ca. 1740 by the Van Voorhis family. In the 19th c. it was owned by John Peter De Windt, who developed Fishkill Landing as a port. The club was founded 1902.

Continue on Rt. 9D. Turn right on Beekman St. Drive 0.6 mile to Dia: Beacon entrance.

19 SITE OF THE NEWBURGH-BEACON FERRY (R). Pre-bridge, upper and lower landings were busy ferrying points connecting New England with the Middle Atlantic states. A ferry charter was granted by King George II to Alexander Colden in 1743. Peter Bogardus’ ferry began in 1765. Seasonal row boats were superseded by 19th c. year-round passenger/freight vessels, capable of breaking ice. From the 18th c. when Mme. Brett’s Frankfort Storehouse opened, the riverbank has been devoted to commerce, and after 1850, railroading. Until the 1960s the area held a mix of industrial buildings, worker housing and 19th c. Victorian residences. Urban renewal replaced much in the ‘80s with new housing and a park, the site of year-round Beacon Sloop Club activity at the dock and train station.
Scenic vistas of Newburgh Bay, first called Fishkill Bay, are visible from Spy Hill, a revolutionary lookout point. Breakneck Ridge and Storm King Mt., south, mark the Hudson Highlands.

**20 DIA:BEACON (R).** The Dia Art Foundation’s renowned collection opened in 2003. This 300,000 sq. ft. facility, an old paper factory, is home to art from the 1960’s to the present. Noted artists include Andy Warhol, Josephy Beuys, On Kawara, Agnes Martin and Richard Serra. Admission. Tours. Call 845/440-0100 for (?).

**21 MT. BEACON,** visible ahead, is the 2nd highest peak in the Highlands. The steepest incline railway in the world, 2364 feet long, was installed there by Otis Elevator in 1901. It rose 1540 feet to a casino/hotel at the top and was a popular vacation area for two generations until fire and safety factors closed the line. The tracks are still visible. Hikers enjoy the trails here.

**22 MADAME BRETT HOMESTEAD (NR) (R).** The oldest house in the county (1709) is a unique frame Dutch vernacular farmhouse. The home of Catharyna and Roger Brett, pioneers in Southern Dutchess, it reflects family fortunes through 7 generations. Cared for by the Melzingah Chapter of the D.A.R. since 1954, it is operated as a house museum with collections of furnishings, clothing and documents. Tours. Call 845/831-6533 for (?).

**23 HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER (NR) (L),** designed in 1872 by Richard Morris Hunt as the Howland Circulating Library, was a community gift of General Joseph Howland. When the library moved to a modern facility on Main St. in 1978, the brick and stone Stick Chalet style structure was adapted as a cultural center. Tours. Call 845/831-4988 for (?).

Main St. shops typify late 19th/early 20th c. American commercial architecture. Techniques using steel framing made it possible to build multi-storied brick buildings. Cast iron decoration around windows and doors meant easy maintenance. An arts renaissance of galleries and antique stores has revitalized the area.

**24 TALLIX INC. (R) opened in the former Green Fan plant ca. 1989 casting molds for large sculptural pieces for a world market. Modern statuary graces the front lawn. Known for casting da Vinci’s Il Cavallo, the FDR Memorial, Korean War Memorial, both in Washington, DC. Call 845/838-1111 for (?).**

**25 GROVEVILLE (R) (NR)** is a rare remaining example of 19th c. mill housing near A.T. Stewart’s carpet factory, 1873. After the factory closed, other industry supported the community with small changes to its design.
26. **FISHKILL HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR)** from Jackson St. to Rapelje Rd. contains residential and commercial vernacular architecture of the 18th, 19th and 20th c. The 18th c. **JOHANNES SWART HOUSE AND STORE (L)**, sold 1808 to Joseph Jackson, is the core of the Mid-Hudson Medical Group. A fire on Dec. 1, 1873 destroyed the central business district, including civic buildings and early records. The red brick, mansard-roofed, 2nd Empire style **JORDAN LEIGH BUILDING (R)**, built 1857 as a bank, until recently was the town hall. Village offices and police department are housed in the renovated, brown-shingled Victorian **VAN WYCK VILLAGE HALL (L)**, built a year before the village was established in 1899. The gift of Henry DuBois Van Wyck, who married an actress, the hall began as a theater.

27. **FIRST REFORMED CHURCH, BURIAL GROUND (L) (NR)**

The church is the earliest house of worship in the county. The congregation, formed 1716, began building in 1725 with help from Catharyna Brett, whose body rests under the pulpit. During the Revolution the NY Provincial Congress met here as it formed a new government. The church became a Tory prison, where Enoch Crosby, the American secret agent who inspired Cooper's, "The Spy," was imprisoned. At war's end ca. 1785, the devastated building was rebuilt and expanded. The steeple, dating from this era, is a village landmark.

Cross Rt. 9 and continue on Rt. 52 east. Drive 1.7 miles to (I) on Rt. 52. Stay in right lane.

28. **TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH (R) (NR).** The frame, Georgian style "English Church," was built before the Revolution in 1769 by a congregation formed 1756. Good relations with the Reformed Dutch congregation helped its members through the war years when anything English was unpopular. The church was used briefly for meetings of the NY Provincial Congress in 1776 and for a military hospital during the war.

The “Old Road to Brinckerhoff and Wiccopee”, Rt. 52 led inland to 18th c. settlements on lands sold from the Rombout/ Brett holdings. Brinckerhoff hamlet grew around a family store and mill nearby.

29. **DERICK BRINCKERHOFF HOUSE (L).** Built ca. 1719, the large white, 2nd Empire still owned by the same family, began as a modest cottage. During the Revolution, Lafayette recuperated from pneumonia here and was also headquarters for Gen. McDougall’s 1st New York Regiment.

Bear right on Rt. 52 at light at (I). Drive 2.4 miles to CR 31, Palen Rd.

30. **NIMHAM MONUMENT, (center island) (L).** Daniel Nimham, last Sachem of the Wappinger, was a friend of Catharyna Brett. He fought heroically in the American Revolution, was injured at the Battle of Cortland Ridge and died with his son in the Battle of Kingsbridge. It is thought they are buried in an unmarked soldiers cemetery near the Van Wyck/Wharton house, south of Fishkill Village.

The route passes over the meandering Fishkill and its tributaries frequently. Fishkill Hook Rd. (R) leads to the hamlet of Wiccopee, visible (R) from Rt. 52. Originally called Johnsville for its 1st Dutch settler, Johannes Swartwout, it was renamed for Indians who lived nearby. During the Revolution this area was “neutral,” unprotected by either side and plagued by raids of “cowboy” bandits.

31. **HUDSON VALLEY RESEARCH PARK (R),** the former East Fishkill IBM Semiconductor Plant, built 1963, was the world’s largest development and manufacturing plant of its type. Employing thousands, it changed the face of this community.

Turn left at light on CR 31, Palen Rd. Drive 1.5 miles to North Kensington Dr.

This road was named for a prominent local family of farmers and businessmen. Cole Palen founded the famed Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome museum of antique flying machines.

Turn left on North Kensington Dr. Drive 0.2 mile to Brinckerhoff/Pudney/Palen House.
32 BRINCKERHOFF/PUDNEY/PALEN HOUSE (L). This Dutch Colonial, gambrel-roofed house dates from the late 18th c. It is being restored by the East Fishkill Historical Society to reflect periods of its development. The house and a carriage house, donated by IBM from the demolished Van Wyck/Jay House, are used as a community resource.

Turn around at house. Return to Palen Rd. Turn left. Drive 0.9 mile to Rt. 82 and turn left on Rt. 82 over rail line at light (L). Drive 0.9 mile and turn right on CR 28 West, Old Hopewell Rd. Drive 1.2 miles to CR 94, All Angels Hill Rd. Turn right on CR 94, All Angels Hill Rd. Drive 2.5 miles to CR 93, Myers Corners Rd.

33 WHITE’S CORNER (R). The tree lined road to Hopewell leads past developed farmland to White’s Corner, known as Spanks Corners until 1934. The White farm (R) at the corner was originally the property of Peter DuBois, who in 1729 purchased the land from Gulian Verplanck. His early stone house is part of the present structure.

Across the Hudson Valley from All Angels Hill is one of the most breathtaking SCENIC VISTAS (L) of the Catskills in the county.

34 WWII MEMORIAL (L), at Myers Corners, was sculpted by Richard Maslowski, cast in Beacon’s Tallix Foundry and dedicated in 1993. Local farmer John Myers gave the 4 corners its name in the 19th c.

Turn right on CR 93, Myers Corners Rd.

Tucked away in the trees along the route are several 19th c. farmhouses.

Drive 1.4 miles to Rt. 376. Turn right on Rt. 376 (sign past the turn).

35 STRINGHAM MILL (L). William Verplanck chose this as the site on the Sprout Creek for a flour mill ca. 1730. The mill, in ruins by 1900, was in Fishkill before town boundary changes placed it in Wappinger.

Fishkill Plains is a 19th c. farm hamlet.

Drive 1.2 miles to (L) with CR 29, bear right on Rt. 376 at the light.

VAN WYCK JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL is on the (L).

36 DOGWOOD KNOLLS GOLF COURSE (L), est. 1937, is a scenic championship 9-hole course, set among low hills. Call 845/226-7317 for (?).

Drive 2.1 miles to Rt. 82. Turn right at light on Rt. 82. Drive 4.3 miles to Rt. 52.

37 HOPEWELL JUNCTION (R). Although settled a c. earlier, Hopewell Junction experienced major growth with the coming of the Central New England & Newburgh and Dutchess & Connecticut Railroads, which made it a major freight junction. The road turns quickly through a series of busy intersections that a generation ago crossed rail lines whose tracks have been removed. Now a commercial center for the surrounding suburbs, it retains architectural traces of its earlier past.

Bear right on Rt. 52. Drive 1.7 miles to Rt. 9. Turn left on Rt. 9. Drive 1.1 miles to Snook Rd. Turn left on Snook Rd. to entrance of Van Wyck Homestead.

HAMPTON INN - FISHKILL, www.hamptoninnfishkill.com, 845/896-4000. Hampton Inn located at Rt. 84 and Rt. 9 North. Providing guests a free hot breakfast, heated indoor pool, high speed Internet access, and friendly personal service.


38 VAN WYCK HOMESTEAD (L). The home of Cornelius Van Wyck, built ca. 1730, was the site of drama during the American Revolution. As the headquarters of Gen. Putnam and the center of a major encampment and supply depot for the north, its walls sheltered Jay, Hamilton, Washington, Von Steuben and Lafayette. It was also the site of the mock trial of Enoch Crosby, immortalized in James Fenimore Cooper’s “The Spy.” Operated by the Fishkill Historical Society. Tours. Call 845/896-9560 for (?).
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For information on local history contact:
*DUTCHESS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PO Box 88, Poughkeepsie NY 12602. 845/471-1630.

For information on attractions, restaurants, accommodations, events, antiquing, outdoor recreation, agricultural delights contact:
*DUTCHESS COUNTY TOURISM PROMOTION AGENCY
3 Neptune Rd., Poughkeepsie NY 12601. 845/463-4000 or 800/445-3131.
www.DutchessTourism.com
Dutchess County Travel Guide,
Bike Tours and other seasonal Events Calendars are available.

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