

The **NEW YORK** 
INDEPENDENCE TRAIL



I ♥ NY *History*

All Trails Lead To New York State

**The birth of our great nation
started in New York State**

New York State: The Crossroads of History

In colonial and revolutionary America, New York State was at the crossroads of the growing nation and history.

That is because the men and women who helped shape our modern world came to New York and crossed paths: Sagoyewatha, the chief of the Tuscarora Indian Nation, led his people north to New York to join the Iroquois Confederacy, and safety, peace and freedom.

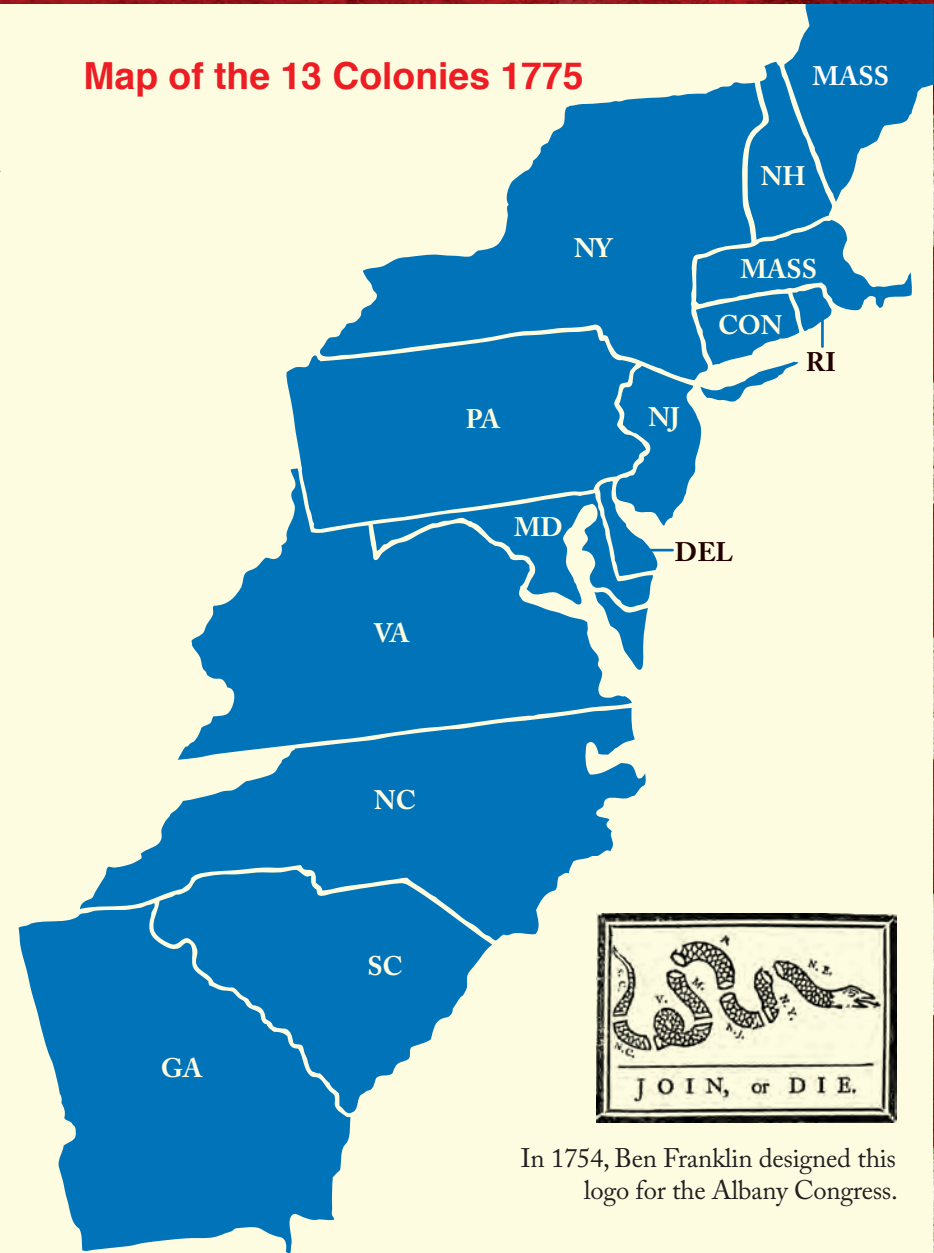
Inspired by a visit to the Iroquois Confederacy, Benjamin Franklin came to New York, the battleground of the continent, to issue a call for a colonial union to fight France, the first glimmer of the idea that became the United States. French General Montcalm marched his army south into New York, only to predict in defeat that the victorious Americans would no longer need Britain, and would seek independence. An obscure silversmith from Boston named Paul Revere served in New York against France as a young artillery officer and learned the leadership to help lead a revolution for representative government and democracy.

In the Battle of New York, Britain nearly defeated George Washington and the American Revolution, but Washington rallied his battered army and set a standard for dedicated, selfless public service that remains the ideal of democracy everywhere.

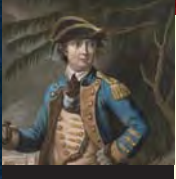
A young African-American, James Forten, came to New York as a British prisoner of war, and escaped to fight for the freedom and equality promised in the Declaration of Independence by founding the American Anti-Slavery Society. Margaret Corbin came with her husband to New York, eager to serve, too, only to fall wounded in a desperate battle.

Those crossroads and crossed paths also brought great villains like Benedict Arnold, who gave his name to treason and treachery. Coming to New York helped shaped them all, and they in turn left a heritage behind that helped shape our world, and the values of freedom, democracy, equality, public service, and inclusion in a national community.

Map of the 13 Colonies 1775



In 1754, Ben Franklin designed this logo for the Albany Congress.





Fort Ticonderoga, Ticonderoga, NY



The men and women on these pages sacrificed their lives, their children and families, their farms and fortunes, to fight for Freedom, Equality, Democracy, and the Rule of Law. They brought the settlers and natives of a vast continent into one new nation called the United States. They came from all the colonies to New York, where their struggle reached a climax in our greatest victory, and our darkest hours.

They had a dream of a country that would be, as Abraham Lincoln said of the American Revolution in his Gettysburg Address, a nation of, by and for the people, and a new birth of freedom. It would be a country that gave opportunity and better way of life to the average man and woman so that they could be successful, not just the privileged few. Making average people successful made the country successful, and the most powerful nation in the history of the world. This dream of a better way of life was a gift to all of humanity, a dream millions of people voted for by using their feet to come to America, the greatest referendum in the history of the world.

July 1776: the Continental Congress declared American Independence. French General Montcalm had prophesied that independence twenty years earlier. But the greatest military force of the 18th century had already sailed for New York City. Over 200 ships, carrying 20,000 of the finest professional soldiers in the world, was ready to wrestle control of New York from General George Washington, and the men (and women) of his ill-trained, ill-equipped, and unprepared Continental Army. The survival of the Revolution was at stake.

When that vast force arrived in New York Harbor, General Washington and his army fought one holding action after another in Brooklyn, Harlem Heights, White Plains, Fort Mifflin, finally falling back and fleeing across the Hudson River to New Jersey. It was the greatest defeat in American history. But Washington kept the Continental Army together, and it survived to fight another day.

The following year, 1777, the Royal Army seized **Fort Ticonderoga, NY**, the American Gibraltar. It was America's darkest hour. All seemed lost. But the patriots rallied to win the Battle of Saratoga, the most important battle in American history, and turned the tide of the war. But the sacrifices were terrible and heartbreaking. The Army that won at Saratoga afterwards marched south in a freezing rain, without winter uniforms, with little or nothing to eat, to Valley Forge where many died of disease. The Army, and commanders like Washington and Henry Knox, would later base their operations in New York.

Starvation and disease was responsible for the largest Revolutionary War grave site in the nation at The Prison Ship Martyrs Monument in Brooklyn's Fort Green Park. American prisoners of war like privateer James Forten were jammed into prison ships, where they sickened and died. Others, like Margaret Corbin, were maimed for life. The Revolution split families. Benjamin Franklin secured his son William a position as Royal Governor of New Jersey. When the Revolution came William stayed loyal to the Crown. Father and son never spoke again.

Victory came and General Washington disbanded his army at the New Windsor Cantonment, in New Windsor, NY. But Washington returned to New York City's Federal Hall on Wall Street, the first capital of the new federal government, to take the Oath of Office as the first President of the United States. That new government was America's ultimate victory.

In 1654 a group of Jewish families fled persecution in Brazil and landed at the Battery on Manhattan Island, seeking refuge. That act established New York's heritage of tolerance and welcome. They were the first of many generations of people who came to New York either as colony of Holland, a British Royal Province, or one of the new United States, long before Lady Liberty raised her torch beside freedom's door.

They all came to New York, from all the Thirteen Colonies, and around the world. In New York, the struggle of famous people like Washington and Franklin, and unknown and forgotten Americans like Margaret Corbin and James Forten, knew both its brightest and darkest hours. It is in New York where they prevailed to create a new United States and ideals of freedom, democracy and equality that would enlighten the world.

1. Fort Isle-aux-Noix/ Fort Lennox

Fort Lennox National Historical Site of Canada. The launching site for the invasion of the United States by French General Montcalm and British General John Burgoyne.

1 61st Avenue, Saint-Paul-de-l'Écluse-aux-Noix, Quebec (888) 773-8888 | <http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/lhn-nhs/qc/lennox/ne/ne1.aspx> | 45.78242; 14.528243; -73.168242; 5.528243

2. Crown Point Historic Site, Crown Point

Fort built by British troops in 1759. Patriots occupied fort in 1775. Large stone ruins remain.

Rt. 185 off Rt 22, Crown Point. (518) 597-3666 | <http://www.lakechamplainregion.com/cphistoricsite> | 44.0287, -73.4295

3. Fort Ticonderoga, Ticonderoga

Called the Gibraltar of North America, Fort Ticonderoga controlled the passageways between Lake George and Lake Champlain. The 1758 Battle of Carillon, a great French victory, was North America's bloodiest battle until Civil War. Seized by Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold in 1775, its loss to the British in 1777 was a staggering blow to the Americans that set up the decisive Saratoga Campaign. Extensive grounds, museum and tours of the preserved fort. Large twice a year re-enactments.

Rt. 74, Ticonderoga (518) 585-2821 | www.fort-ticonderoga.org | 43.841389, -73.388056

4. Birthplace of the U.S. Navy, Whitehall

Gen. Benedict Arnold built and sailed this country's first fleet, earning Whitehall the claim of "Birthplace of the U.S. Navy."

Whitehall Turnpike, off Rt 22S, Whitehall (518) 499-0716 | www.whitehallchamber.com/skenesborough_museum.htm | 43.3912, 73.4943

5. Fort William Henry, Lake George Village

Reconstructed Fort William Henry, site of siege and massacre made famous in James Fenimore Cooper's Last of the Mohicans. Nearby ruins of stone Fort George and battle site.

Rt. 9, Lake George Village (518) 668-5471 | www.fwfhmuseum.com/index.html | 43.420278, -73.711111

6. Coopers Cave, South Glens Falls/Glens Falls

Cave in the middle of Hudson River was the setting of a scene in James Fenimore Cooper's French & Indian War novel Last of the Mohicans. Viewing platform is open to the public.

River Street & Rt. 9, South Glens Falls (518) 793-1455 | <http://www.sgfny.com/Coopers-Cave.htm> | 43.305556, -73.641111

7. Rogers Island Visitors Center, Fort Edward

Britain's largest base during the French & Indian War was birthplace of Capt. Robert Rogers' Rangers. Artifacts on display.

11 Rogers Island Drive, off Rt. 197 Fort Edward (518) 747-3693 | www.rogersisland.org | 43.261667, -73.585556

8. Old Fort House Museum, Fort Edward

Built in 1772, the Old Fort House was headquarters to both British and American generals in the Revolutionary War. Artifacts and displays of 18th century life.

29 Broadway, Fort Edward (518) 747-9600 | www.fredward.com/History/OldFort/oldFort.htm | 43.261111, -73.580833

9. Schuyler House, Schuylerville

Country home of General Philip Schuyler was rebuilt in 1777 and is open for tours in season by the National Park Service.

1068 Rt. 4, Schuylerville (518) 664-9821 | www.nps.gov/sara/f-sara.htm | 43.095785, -73.582016

10. Saratoga National Historical Park & Monument

The most important battle site in the Western Hemisphere, the Battle of Saratoga ranks as one of the 15 most decisive battles in world history. The patriots' epic victory here in 1777 prevented the new nation from being dismembered, turned the tide of the war, and led France to ally itself with the new United States. Visitor's center with museum and theater with film presentation. Self-guided tours over extensive road circuit. 155 foot tall obelisk monument in nearby Victory.

Rt. 4, Stillwater (518) 664-9821 | www.nps.gov/sara | 42.998889, -73.6375

11. Bennington Battlefield State Historic Site, Walloomsac

In August 1777, Hessian and British troops on a supply raid were routed by New England militia. Considered the turning point of the Saratoga Campaign. Self-guided tour and displays.

Rt. 67 Walloomsac (518) 279-1155 | <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/historic-sites/12/details.aspx> | 42.938611, -73.304444

12. Peebles Island State Park, Waterford / Van Schaick Mansion, Cohoes

Fortifications built to prevent the fall of Albany in case of a British victory at Saratoga. Van Schaick Mansion across the river was a military headquarters. Walk, hike and picnic in park.

Park (518) 237-8643 | Van Schaick Mansion (518) 235-2699 | www.vanschaickmansion.org | 42.782, -73.686

13. Old Stone Fort Museum, Schoharie

Exhibits and costumed interpreters tell the story of church that was fortified during the Revolutionary War. Museum and grounds with restored buildings.

145 Fort Road, Schoharie (518) 295-7192 | <http://www.schohariehistory.net/aboutOSF.html> | 42.6773, -74.30225

14. Johnson Hall State Historic Site, Johnstown

Built by Sir William Johnson, the Royal Superintendent of Indian Affairs For North America, Johnson Hall and its matched stone blockhouses were sites of major gatherings between the powerful Iroquois Nation and colonial authorities, including Franklin.

Hall Avenue, Johnstown (518) 762-8712 | <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/historic-sites/10/details.aspx> | 43.015, -74.382778

15. Fort Klock, St. Johnsville.

A fortified stone house was site of Battle of Klock's Field. Includes historic homestead, Colonial Dutch Barn, blacksmith shop, 19th century schoolhouse.

7203 Route 5, St. Johnsville (518) 568-7779 | <http://www.fortklockrestoration.org> | 42.984997, -74.650278

16. Fort Stanwix National Monument, Rome

Site of an important treaty conference between the British and the Iroquois. At nearby Battle of Oriskany Americans routed Tories and their Indian allies.

112 E. Park St., Rome, NY (315) 338-7730 | <http://www.nps.gov/fost/index.htm> | 43.210338 / -75.457701

17. Shakowi Cultural Center, Oneida Indian Nation

Museum and cultural center. The Oneidas were allies of the patriots during the American Revolutionary War. Learn about the Oneida's role and the Iroquois Confederacy.

Rt.5 to 46 to 5 Territory Rd, Oneida Indian Nation, Oneida (315) 829-8801 | <http://www.oneidaindiannation.com/culture/26686159.html> | 43.042257, -75.618116

18. Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site, Albany

Built in 1761, manor house of Gen. Philip Schuyler, a delegate to the Continental Congress. Site of the marriage of Alexander Hamilton and Elizabeth Schuyler.

32 Catherine Street, Albany (518) 434-0834 | <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/historic-sites/33/details.aspx> | 42.639722, -73.760556

19. Crailo State Historic Site, Rensselaer

18th century Dutch house and museum of Dutch settlement. Guided tours and a visitor center. The center of an French & Indian War encampment, the song Yankee Doodle Dandy was traditionally written here.

9 1/2 Riverside Ave, Rensselaer (518) 463-8738 | <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/historic-sites/30/details.aspx> | 42.635478, -73.749625

20. Clermont State Historic Site, Germantown

Home of Robert Livingston Jr., signer of the Declaration of Independence and like Gen.Schuyler, one of the old Dutch Patroons. Museum and visitors' center.

One Clermont Avenue, Germantown. (518) 537-4240 | <http://www.friendsofclermont.org> | 42.085833, -73.919444

21. Old Senate House Historic Site, Kingston

Limestone building built by Dutch settlers in 1676 housed the first meeting of New York's State Senate in 1777. Visit the nearby museum.

296 Fair Street, Kingston (845) 338-2786 | <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/historic-sites/18/details.aspx> | 41.935057291500001, -74.0187447574

22. Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, Hyde Park, Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site, Val-Kill

Although not a Revolutionary or French and Indian War site, the homes of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt are "must visits" in the Hudson Valley. Guided tours, Presidential Library and Museum, the grounds, gardens, and trails.

4097 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park | 41.767208, -73.935556 | Val-Kill, Rt. 9G in Hyde Park | 41.796912 -73.942623 (845) 229-9115 | <http://www.nps.gov/hofr/>

23. Washington's Headquarters, Newburgh

General George Washington's final headquarters. Here Washington rejected the idea that he should be king and ended Newburgh conspiracy, preventing military control of the government.

Liberty and Washington Streets, Newburgh (845) 562-1195 | <http://www.nysparks.com/historic-sites/17/details.aspx> | 41.498611, -74.007778

24. New Windsor Cantonment, Vails Gate

Reconstruction of Continental Army's largest and final base. In season costumed staff demonstrate musket drills, blacksmithing, military medicine and other 18th century skills.

NY-300S/Industrial Way, Vails Gate (845) 561-1765 | <http://www.nysparks.com/historic-sites/22/details.aspx> | 41.475620136000003, -74.065919152299998

25. Knox's Headquarters, Vails Gate

Restored home used as headquarters of Continental Army artillery commander Major General Henry Knox. Tours and presentations on 18th century life.

County Rd 74/Forge Hill Rd, Vails Gate (845) 561-5498 | <http://www.nysparks.com/historic-sites/5/details.aspx> | 41.453618851900004, -74.04775177599996

26. United States Military Academy, Constitution Island and the Warner House, West Point

The West Point military academy was the site of several forts used during the Revolution and a great chain used to block the river to British warships. Nearly betrayed by Benedict Arnold to the British. An active military base, guided tours only: public museum adjacent to visitor's center outside Thayer Gate.

(845) 938-2638 | www.usma.edu/

A boat trip across the Hudson from the U.S. Military Academy takes you to a Revolutionary War fort and the historic 17-room Warner House with period furnishings.

Rt. 218 Highland Falls (845) 446-8676 | www.constitutionisland.org/index.html | 41.3927, -73.9584

27. Fort Montgomery State Historic Site, Fort Montgomery

Fort Montgomery and Fort Clinton prevented British forces from advancing up the Hudson. Visitor center, self-guided tours, trail and footbridge connect the forts.

690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery (845) 446-2134 | <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/historic-sites/28/details.aspx> | 41.323889, -73.986944

28. John Jay Homestead, Katonah

John Jay served as President of the Continental Congress, Governor of New York, Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court and co-wrote Treaty of Paris with Franklin ending Revolutionary War.

400 Jay Street (State Route 22), Katonah (914) 232-5651 | <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/historic-sites/4/details.aspx> | 41.250278, -73.658611

29. Stony Point Battlefield, Stony Point

In the last major battle in the north, General Anthony Wayne led midnight attack on British garrison, seizing the fortifications.

Rt. 9W S to Park Road & Battlefield Road (845) 786-2521 | <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/historic-sites/8/details.aspx> | 41.2410903922 -73.976373496999997

30. DeWint House, Tappan

An outstanding example of Hudson Valley Colonial Dutch architecture, here Washington and his staff negotiated the final withdrawal of British troops from New York City.

20 Livingston Avenue, Tappan (845) 359-1359 | <http://www.co.rockland.ny.us/planning/historic/historic2.htm> | 41.019722, -73.946667

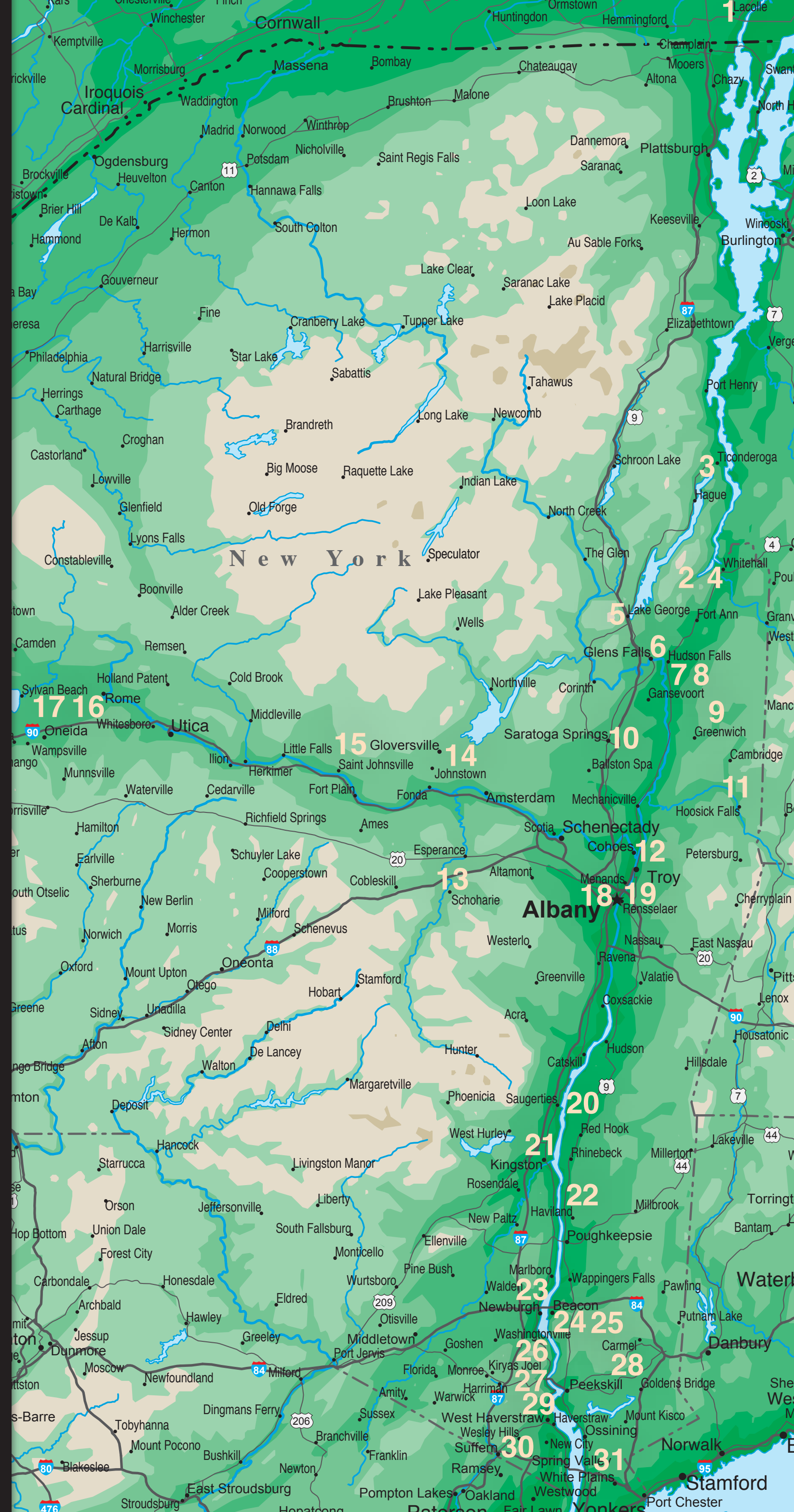
31. Elijah Miller House, North White Plains

Used by Gen., Washington as command post during the Battle of White Plains. Museum and artifacts of early farm life.

140 Virginia Road in North White Plains (914) 864-7000 | <http://www.westchestergov.com/Parks/NatureCenters05/WashingtonsHeadquarters.htm> | 41.059167, -73.770278



The **NEW YORK** INDEPENDENCE TRAIL
PLAN YOUR JOURNEY



THEY ALL CAME TO NEW YORK STATE

Names Highlighted in **RED** are the most important sites to see. Numbers correspond with location on map.



32. Valentine Varian House, Bronx

The site of six skirmishes between America and British forces, this 1758 fieldstone farmhouse was occupied by Hessian, British and American troops. Tours and exhibits.

3266 Bainbridge Avenue at East 208th Street, Bronx
(718) 881-8900 http://www.historichousetrust.org/item.php?i_id=29
40.877222, -73.879722

33. Van Cortlandt House Museum, Bronx

The oldest building in the Bronx, built 1748 in the Georgian style by Frederick Van Cortlandt, a leading New York Dutch merchant family. Fully restored and furnished to the period, the house was used during the Revolutionary War as a headquarters by Rochambeau, Lafayette, and Washington as battles swirled around it.

244 St./Van Cortlandt Park, Bronx | (718) 543-3344
<http://www.vancortlandthouse.org> | 40.89, -73.896389

34. Fort Tryon Park/ Bennett Parks, Washington Heights, Manhattan

British and Hessian troops seized Fort Washington in a disastrous defeat for the Americans. Stones outline fort site in the southern portion of park.

Fort Washington Avenue, Pinehurst Avenue, 183rd Street and 185th Streets. | http://www.nycgovparks.org/sub_your_park/historical_signs/hs_historical_sign.php?id=6419 40.852778, -73.9375

35. Morris-Jumel Mansion. Washington Heights, Manhattan

Headquarters for both sides in the American Revolution. Landmark of the Battle of Harlem Heights, Washington's first victory. Later guests included John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton.

Jumel Terrace, 65 Jumel Terrace, a short block which extends from West 160th & West 162nd Streets, Manhattan. (212) 923-8008
<http://www.morrisjumel.org> | 40.834528, -73.938611

36. Hamilton Grange National Memorial, Manhattan

The home of Alexander Hamilton, aide to Gen. Washington, first Secretary of the Treasury and architect of American economy. Saint Nicholas Park in Manhattan.

414 West 141st Street, near Convent Avenue and CCNY campus. Recently moved, restored house to reopen in 2011. | (212) 825-6888 | <http://www.nps.gov/hagr/index.htm>
40.822375, -73.948297

37. Fraunces' Tavern Museum, Manhattan

Now a restaurant and colonial history museum, opened as a tavern in the 1760s and served as a meeting place for revolutionaries. Washington delivered his famous farewell address here.

54 Pearl Street, New York | (212) 425-1778
<http://www.frauncestavernmuseum.org> | 40.703333, -74.011111

38. Federal Hall National Memorial, Manhattan

Site of New York City's first City Hall, a federal style building located here was home to the first U.S. Congress. Site of George Washington's inauguration. A museum located in the historic 1842 Greek Revival Customs House offers a variety of exhibits.

26 Wall Street, New York | (212) 825-6888
www.nps.gov/fehal | 40.707222, -74.010278

39. St. Paul's Chapel, Manhattan

The oldest standing church in NYC, Hamilton drilled in its church yard, Washington attended a ceremony during his inauguration. Also a pivotal site witnessing the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

Church Street between Fulton and Vesey Streets. (212) 233-4164
<http://www.trinitywallstreet.org/congregation/spc>
40.711394, -74.009947

40. Statue Of Liberty, Battery Park & Museum of the American Indian, Manhattan

Statue was a gift from France commemorating the Declaration of Independence and France's role in the Revolutionary War. Purchase round-trip ferry tickets at Castle Clinton National Monument in Lower Manhattan.

(212) 363-3200 <http://www.nps.gov/stli/index.htm>
Castle Clinton site of colonial and Revolutionary War fort. Branch of the National Museum of the American Indian in old customs house on the Northeast side of the park.
<http://www.thebattery.org/> | 40.703717, -74.016094

41. Conference House, Staten Island

1680 fieldstone manor house was the site of the 1776 Staten Island Peace Conference between Franklin, John Adams, Edward Rutledge and Britain.

Satterlee Street, Tottenville, Staten Island | (718) 984-0415 http://www.nycgovparks.org/sub_about/parks_divisions/historical_houses/hh_conference_house.html
40.502861, -74.253778

42. Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument, Fort Greene Park, Brooklyn

The largest Revolutionary War grave site in the nation, the monument marks a crypt for more than 11,500 prisoners of war who died aboard British prison ships.

Myrtle Avenue, Cumberland Street, DeKalb Avenue, Brooklyn
http://www.nycgovparks.org/sub_your_park/historical_signs/hs_historical_sign.php?id=13308 40.691897, -73.975474

43. Old Stone House Interpretive Center, Brooklyn

Reconstruction of a 1699 Dutch farmhouse from original materials that was center of the largest battle of the Revolutionary War, the 1776 Battle of Brooklyn.

(718) 768-3195 | <http://theoldstonehouse.org> | 40.672958, -73.984625

44. General William Floyd House National Historic Landmark, Mastic

Manor house of William Floyd, a signer of Declaration of Independence.

245 Park Drive in Mastic Beach 631-399-2030
<http://www.nps.gov/fiis/planyourvisit/williamfloydestate.htm>
40.769167, -72.8225



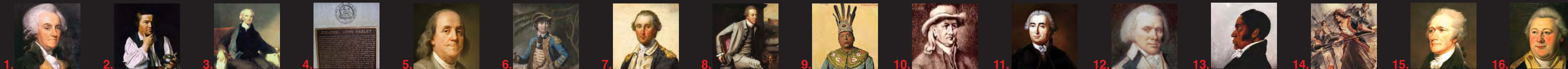
THEY ALL CAME TO NEW YORK STATE to form a “new birth of freedom” - Abraham Lincoln

Numbers listed in **blue** correspond with sites listed on maps



The signing of
The Declaration of Independence

Numbers correspond with the historic figures listed



1. William Franklin (14, 19, 37, 38)

Of New Jersey flees to New York

William Franklin, the last Royal Governor of New Jersey and Benjamin Franklin's son, fled across New York Harbor to Manhattan. There he helped lead a savage series of forays against patriot forces up and down the Hudson River and the Arthur Kill river flanking Staten Island. But a raid across the river followed by a scandalous hanging damaged his reputation, and he was eventually forced to flee New York to Britain.

2. Paul Revere (5, 19)

Of Massachusetts comes to Fort William Henry

Paul Revere, of the famous Midnight Ride, came to New York as a young artillery officer in the French and Indian War. After enlisting, he marched first to Albany, NY, then to Fort William Henry at the foot of Lake George, where he trained his men, fought Indians and disease, and gained experience he would put to good use during the Revolutionary War.

3. Charles Carroll (3, 9, 18, 37)

Of Maryland comes to New York

Charles Carroll of Maryland, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and America's leading Catholic politician, traveled New York's entire Hudson-Champlain corridor to Canada with his cousin Father John Carroll in an effort to persuade French Canadians to join the American Rebellion. The effort failed, but Carroll wrote a vivid journal of his trip that remains the best account of traveling on early New York's trails and waterways.

4. John Haslet (42, 43)

Of Delaware comes to Brooklyn to fight

Many figures in America before and during the Revolution came to New York, but few came the way John Haslet of Delaware did: to find and fight the famous Robert Rogers of Roger's Rangers, and win.

5. Benjamin Franklin (14, 19, 37, 38, 41)

Of Pennsylvania begins The Nation's Trails To New York

Realizing a new war with France was coming, Benjamin Franklin, Deputy Postmaster General of the Colonies, came to New York for the Albany Congress to propose a new plan of union to the other colonies, the first hint of the great United States that he would eventually help establish.

6. Benedict Arnold (2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 16, 26)

Of Connecticut comes to New York

A young Benedict Arnold ran away from home to join the militia and witnessed the survivors of the Massacre of Fort William Henry in 1756. Did his early experience in New York and his resentment of the French set him on the path of treason later in life when he attempted to betray West Point.

7. George Washington (23, 24, 30, 31, 33, 34, 37, 38)

Comes to New York

In the Summer of 1776 George Washington of Virginia commanded the Continental Army's defense of New York City. He was driven out and his army nearly destroyed. He spent the rest of the Revolutionary War looking for a chance to retake New York. But he eventually returned for the greatest triumph of all: to be sworn in as the first President of the United States.

8. Ralph Izard (37, 38)

Comes to New York for love, war and politics

Ralph Izard, of South Carolina, came to New York to marry Alice De Lancey, but their family was split apart when he and his father-in-law wound up on opposite sides of the American Revolution.

9. Sagoyeworth (14, 16, 17)

Leads The Tuscarora north to safety in New York

Fleeing war, persecution and terror in North Carolina, Tuscarora Chief Sagoyeworth, led a war weary band of the Tuscarora Nation north to the Royal Province of New York and safety with the Iroquois Nation, where the Tuscarora would later join with the Oneidas in fighting for the American Revolution.

10. Stephen Hopkins (19)

Joins Franklin at two Congresses

A man with humble roots but a broad and progressive vision, Stephen Hopkins came to the Albany Congress from Rhode Island to join in advocating a colonial plan of union. He later became one of only two men, with Benjamin Franklin, to sign both that document and the Declaration of Independence.

11. French General Montcalm (3, 5)

Of Quebec comes to New York

For a great victory, but sees a larger dimension. French General Montcalm came to New York to win great victories for France, but he was increasingly troubled by the kind of war he was forced to fight. A true visionary, he foresaw a different, more peaceful future for North America and an independent United States.

12. William Few (37, 38)

Came to New York for The First Congress and stayed

William Few helped win the war in the Georgia, attended the Constitutional Convention and then was elected to represent Georgia at the First Congress in New York City. But then New York claimed his heart and he eventually returned to New York for good.

13. James Forten (42)

Survives his trip to New York and Imprisonment on the infamous HMS Jersey

At 15, a young African-American named James Forten, signed on as a privateer, only to be captured and imprisoned in a notorious hell hole and at the prison ship HMS Jersey in Wallabout Bay in Brooklyn, NY. Forten survived, became a successful businessman and helped found the American Anti-Slavery Society.

14. Margaret Corbin (26, 34)

Came to New York to fight

Margaret Corbin followed her husband John and his Pennsylvania artillery regiment across the Hudson River to the Battle of New York. When he fell fighting to defend Fort Mifflin overlooking the Hudson River, she kept firing his cannon until she was severely wounded. Was Margaret Corbin the real life model of the legendary Molly Pitcher?

15. Alexander Hamilton (9, 18, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39)

From New York

Alexander Hamilton lived the ultimate New York story: a driven, extraordinary life, coming to New York as a penniless child to rise to the very heights of power, achievement and position, and conceive policies that helped make New York the economic center of the world.

16. Henry Knox (3, 24, 25, 26, 34, 37, 38)

Henry Knox came to New York to bring the big guns of Ticonderoga to drive the British from Boston. His epic trek so impressed Washington he made Knox his artillery commander. General Knox returned to New York to command and help build West Point, before settling down in Maine after the war.



Testimonials



Governor Andrew Cuomo
Independence Trail President, Frank Garofalo

“We are proud to support The New York Independence Trails objectives of educating New Yorkers and promoting New York’s heritage tourism industry. The New York Independence Trail highlights one of New York’s most untapped and unappreciated resources, its history. We commend your efforts to spur economic development and education through unique and interesting means. Your compilation of information from the Revolutionary War and French & Indian War periods is an incredible resource. Thank you again for all you have done.”

- Ryan Naples, Director of Operations for Andrew Cuonmo



Senator Betty Little along with a few grandchildren

“Senator Betty Little, a former teacher and grandmother of thirteen, says the New York Independence Trail brings history to life.”

-Daniel E. Mac Entee, Director of Communications

The **NEW YORK** **INDEPENDENCE TRAIL**

The New York State Independence Trail is a non-profit organization. It is your link to our past, designed for the enjoyment of all children, families, historians and educators.

For More Information please visit:
www.independencetrail.org
or call: 518.793.4842

