

New York State Capitol Region Tour

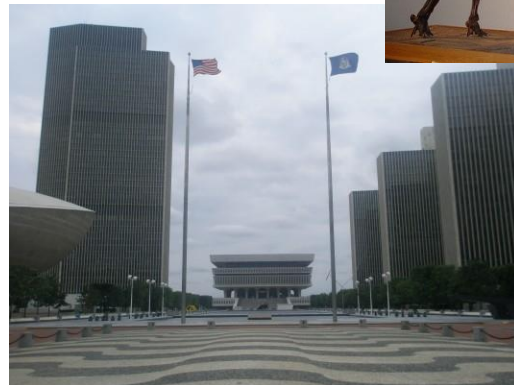
(Albany-Saratoga)

Troop 286

Cost \$70

November 9-11, 2013

Join Troop 286 for a trip to **New York State's Capitol Region**, November 9 to 11. The trip will include a *walking tour of downtown Albany* to see the New York State government's buildings, and more. The walking tour will include a stop at the *New York State Museum*. The trip will include a hike through the *Historic Saratoga Battlefield*, one of the pivotal battles of the American Revolution and where the leadership of a wounded Benedict Arnold provided the difference for an American victory earning him the title of the Hero of Saratoga. Finally we will visit *Howe Caverns*, where we will descend 156 feet below the Earth's surface into a six million year old cavern, carved by a subterranean river that continues to sculpt the cave today. We can see countless layers of sedimentary limestone, the floor of an ancient sea, and navigate the 500 foot serpentine passage known as the Winding Way, one of the world's best examples of underground water erosion.



Troop 286 Capitol Region Trip

The cost of this trip includes gas, tolls, cabin, food, admission cost for tours and awards.

Accommodations

We will be staying in the Winter Barracks at Camp Boyhaven in Saratoga Springs, NY. The Winter Barracks has a woodstove, cooking stove, and refrigerator.

CABIN CAPACITY: 30

LOCATION: Winter Barracks is the large red building directly behind (east of) the White House.

NEAREST PARKING: Winter Barracks parking lot accessed via the Camp entrance from Boyhaven Road just north of the White House

DROP-OFF ACCESS: Vehicles may park temporarily between the Garage and the Winter Barracks wood shed to unload. Alternatively, and preferably, Scouts may borrow "camp carts" to transport their food and gear from the parking lot.

KITCHEN FACILITIES: The cabin has a large kitchen equipped with a propane cook stove, large refrigerators and ample storage and counter space. There are no utensils; bring what you will need from home.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING AND OUTLETS: Yes

HEATING: Wood stoves (2)

FIREWOOD SUPPLY: Inside the cabin. Please replenish the supply from the camp woodshed before you leave. See Ranger for instructions.

WATER SUPPLY – WINTER: Running water in the sink (cold only)

NEAREST LATRINE: Next to the wood shed, thirty feet from the front door

NEAREST SHOWERHOUSE: New facility on Murray Lane north of the Parade Field or the recently renovated shower house behind Carter Hall

Day 1 – Saturday – November 9: Albany Walking Tour and New York State Museum

Albany Walking Tour - 400 years of Albany heritage will unfold on this walking tour. We will learn about people and events of historical importance, and will capture the beauty of Albany's architecture. Henry Hudson, an English explorer working for the Dutch, set sail on his ship *The Half Moon* in 1609. What was his destination? Asia. He was hired by the Dutch to find a shorter route from Europe to the silks and spices of Asia. The voyage ended here, however, near what later developed into the city of Albany. It was here that Henry was greeted by Native Americans, the Mohicans, and it was here that he found an abundant supply of beaver. Beaver fur was in great demand in Europe, but no longer widely available. Albany's location on the Hudson River has served it well over time, beginning with its development as a fur trading settlement to its development in industry, transportation and as the Capital of New York State.

New York State Museum - The New York State Museum in Downtown Albany explores the cultural and natural history of New York State. The Museum features approximately 10 new exhibits each year. Favorites include a full-sized Iroquois longhouse, working carousel and The Cohoes Mastodon. Temporary exhibitions are often developed with our own extensive collections or traveled from renowned museums across the country. Within our main halls, are the popular long-standing favorites including:

Ongoing Exhibits

- Adirondack Wilderness
- Ancient Life of New York: A Billion Years of Earth History
- Beneath the City: Albany Archeology
- Black Capital: Harlem in the 20s
- Cohoes Mastodon
- Fire Engine Hall
- Governor's Collection of Contemporary Native American Crafts
- Metropolis Hall
- Minerals of New York
- Native Peoples of New York
- The World Trade Center: Rescue Recovery Response
- Historic Working Carousel.
- Art for the People: Decorated Stoneware from the Weitsman Collection
- M&T Bank New York State Museum Earthquake Center

Current Exhibits

Russel Wright: The Nature of Design explores the work and philosophy of the renowned designer. The exhibition focuses on one of Wright's most pervasive preoccupations, which also has much relevance today: the relationship of humankind with the natural world.

An Irrepressible Conflict: The Empire State in the Civil War New York State's pivotal role in the war is the focus of this exhibition. As the wealthiest and most populous state, the Empire State led all others in supplying men, money, and materiel to the causes of unity and freedom. New York's experience provides significant insight into the reasons why the war was fought and the meaning that the Civil War holds today.

Weather Event focuses on Charles E. Burchfield's depictions of the weather south of Lake Erie, where the artist lived for most of his life. Individual weather events are examined through both an artistic and scientific lens.

Sanford Gifford's Civil War chronicles the wartime experience of this New York State native and, who served during the war with the 7th Regiment, New York State Militia. The exhibit features three of Gifford's paintings from the collection of the New York State Military Museum in Saratoga Springs, as well as artifacts and images from the New York State Museum and New York State Library.

Day 2 – Sunday, November 10: Saratoga National Historic Park

The **Battles of Saratoga** (September 19 and October 7, 1777) conclusively decided the fate of British General John Burgoyne's army in the American War of Independence and are generally regarded as a turning point in the war.

Burgoyne's campaign to divide New England from the southern colonies had started well, but slowed due to logistical problems. He won a small tactical victory over General Horatio Gates and the Continental Army in the September 19 Battle of Freeman's Farm at the cost of significant casualties. His gains were erased when he again attacked the Americans in the October 7 Battle of Bemis Heights and the Americans captured a portion of the British defenses. Burgoyne was therefore compelled to retreat, and his army was surrounded by the much larger American force at Saratoga, forcing him to surrender on October 17. News of Burgoyne's surrender was instrumental in formally bringing France and Spain into the war on the American side.

The first battle, on September 19, began when Burgoyne moved some of his troops in an attempt to flank the entrenched American position on Bemis Heights. Benedict Arnold, anticipating the maneuver, placed significant forces in his way. While Burgoyne succeeded in gaining control of Freeman's Farm, it came at the cost of significant casualties. Skirmishing continued in the days following the battle, while Burgoyne waited in the hope that reinforcements would arrive from New York City. Militia forces continued to arrive, swelling the size of the American army. Disputes within the American camp led Gates to strip Arnold of his command.

Concurrently with the first battle, American troops also attacked British positions in the area of Fort Ticonderoga, and bombarded the fort for a few days before withdrawing. British General Sir Henry Clinton, in an attempt to divert American attention from Burgoyne, captured American forts in the Hudson River highlands on October 6, but his efforts were too late to help Burgoyne. Burgoyne attacked Bemis Heights again on October 7 after it became apparent he would not receive relieving aid in time. In heavy fighting, marked by Arnold's spirited rallying of the American troops (in open defiance of orders to stay off the battlefield), Burgoyne's forces were thrown back to the positions they held before the September 19 battle and the Americans captured a portion of the entrenched British defenses.

Visitors Center - offers a 20-minute orientation film, fiber-optic light map, timeline, artifact displays and bookstore.

The Saratoga National Historic Trail begins at the far edge of the lawn behind the Visitor Center. Most of the trail will follow the Wilkinson Trail; the Scout Annex Trail that extends from that will include several additional historical points, including the Benedict Arnold "Boot Monument", the headquarters of the British Army, and the traditional location of the British General Simon Fraser Burial Site. Some sections of the Trail consist of rough terrain. Other sections may be wet or muddy, especially in the spring or after heavy rain. Proper footwear is therefore advisable. Drinking water must be brought, as there is none available along the Trail. (A scout trail patch is available for completing the hike)

Day 3 – Monday, November 10: Howe Caverns, return home

Howe Caverns began to be slowly craft some six million years ago; long before even the ancient, extinct animal known as the woolly mammoth appeared on Earth. Age and beauty are not the only qualities that make our caverns unique. They also happen to be one of a very small number of mineral caves (living limestone cave) in the world. Long ago, the eastern part of New York State was covered by an arm of the Atlantic Ocean. Corals, sponges and many creatures similar to oysters, clams and snails were abundant in these waters. Many of these creatures built their shells from calcium carbonate, which they gathered from their watery home. As this sea life died, their empty shells and fine particles of dirt covered hundreds of feet of the ocean floor. At first, these deposits were very soft. As layers of new deposits fell to the bottom the pressure built up. The lower layers were pressed into a type of rock called limestone. As millions of years passed, the continent of North America rose slowly out of the ocean. This was during the Cretaceous period of Earth's early history some 65-136 million years ago. Because the limestone beds laid down by the sea creatures were softer than many rock formations (such as marble or granite), the rain water trickling down from the ground above soon began to erode the top layers. Small cracks opened up to the layers below, and the rain water dissolved its way through them, too.

In time, the small cracks grew to be large cracks through which underground streams flowed. And that is how the great cave formations and winding passageways of Howe Caverns were formed: over the course of millions of years, underground brooks and streams gently carved them out of the solid limestone deposits left behind by sea creatures eons before.

Howe Caverns exposes scouts to aspects of the natural world they can't experience anywhere else. In addition to learning about pre-historic seas, sedimentation and the power of erosion, boy scouts can participate in our scavenger hunt to earn a Howe Caverns patch. (A scout patch is available for those that participate in the scavenger hunt at Howe Cavern)

Schedule:

Day 1 – Friday

6:00 PM Depart Brighton Community Church
11:00 PM Arrive at Camp Boyhaven

Day 2 – Friday

8:00 AM Breakfast/Pack Lunch
9:00 AM Depart camp
10:00 AM Albany Walking Tour – First Part
12:00 noon Bag Lunch – Empire State Plaza
1:00 PM New York State Museum
3:00 PM Albany Walking Tour – Second Part
5:00 PM Return to Camp Boyhaven
6:00 PM Dinner at Camp
10:00 PM Snack
11:00 PM Lights out

Day 3 –Saturday

7:00 AM Breakfast/Pack Lunch
8:00 AM Leave Camp
9:00 AM Saratoga National Military Park
10:00 AM Historic Trail Hike
12:00 noon Bag Lunch
1:00 PM Continue Historic Trail Hike
3:00 PM Driving tour of remainder of Saratoga Battlefield
5:00 PM Return to Camp
6:00 PM Dinner at Camp
10:00 PM Snack
11:00 PM Lights out

Day 4 – Sunday

7:00 AM Breakfast/Pack Lunch
8:00 AM Pack Gear
9:30 AM Leave for Howe Cavern
11:00 AM Arrive at Howe Cavern
1:00 PM Lunch
2:00 PM Depart for Home
6:00 PM Arrive Home

1 Albany Heritage Area Visitors Center

The Visitors Center is comprised of two historic buildings, the former Albany Pumping Station built in the 1870's, and a former townhouse built in 1852. Water was pumped from the Hudson River to the Pumping Station where it was filtered and pumped to Bleecker Reservoir. In the 1980's this historic district was renovated and the area became known as Quackenbush Square. The former townhouse and a segment of the Pumping Station became the home of the Albany Visitors Center.



2 Quackenbush House

The Quackenbush House is named after the family that occupied the building as a home for nearly 150 years. Peter Quackenbush, an avid brick maker, was the first family member to arrive to this area from Holland. The Quackenbush House is the second oldest building of Dutch architecture that still stands in Albany today. The section of the building closest to Broadway is the original section of Dutch architecture, c. 1730's, and may have been built from bricks molded at a brickyard located on this site. The rear portion of the building is Federal style architecture, dating to the late 18th century.

3 The Palace Theatre

The Palace Theatre opened in 1931 as one of the jewels of the RKO movie theatre chain, with a stage for live vaudeville acts between feature films. After surviving the advent of "talkies", it became the city's premier movie house until after WWII. The theatre is now a performing arts venue, and is home to the Albany Symphony Orchestra.



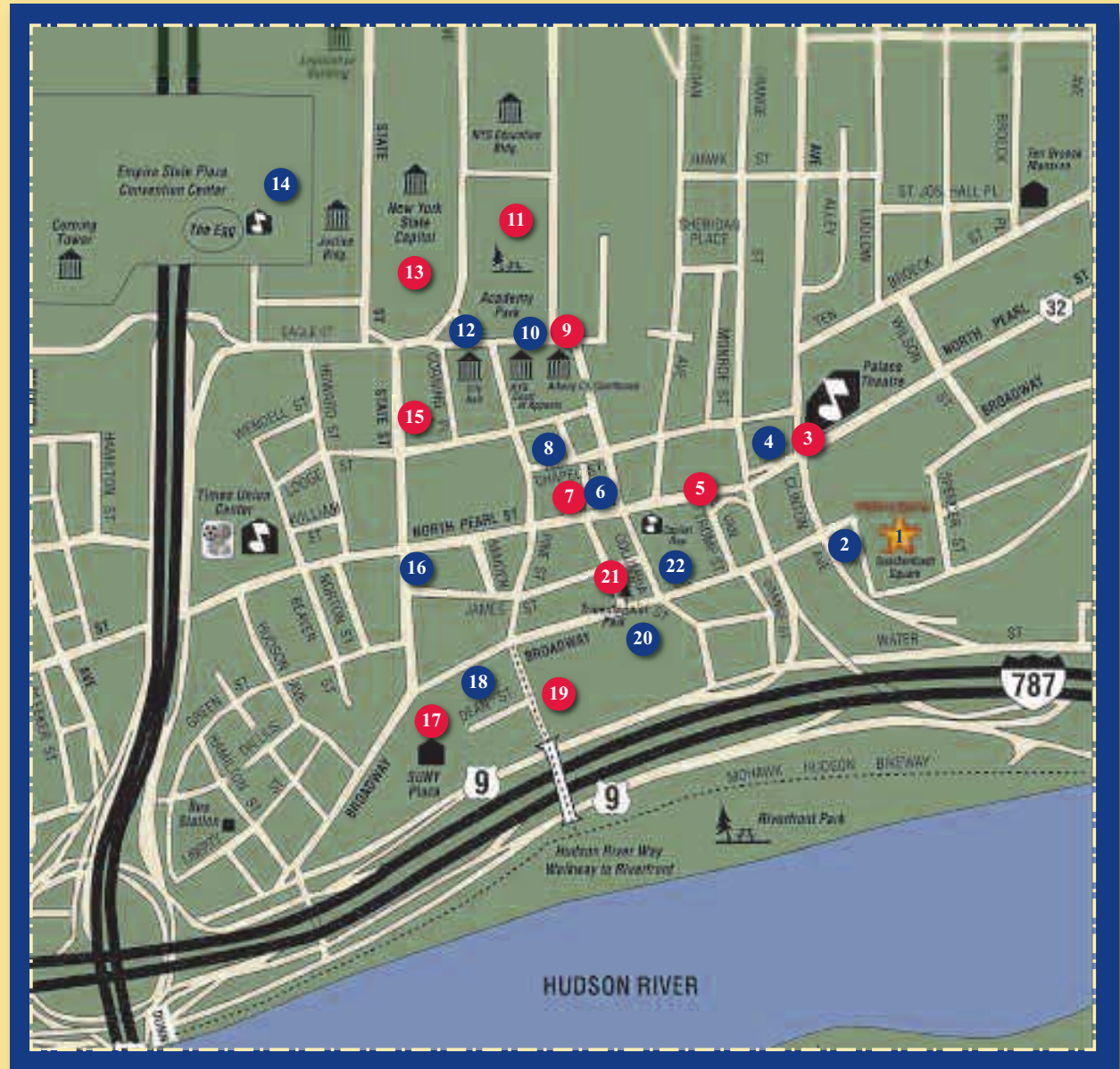
4 Clinton Square

Clinton Square was named after Governor DeWitt Clinton, sponsor of the Erie Canal. The Canal connected the waters of Lake Erie in the west to the Hudson River. Today, the New York Canal System consists of the Erie Canal and 3 branches, the Champlain, the Oswego, and the Cayuga-Seneca canals. At Clinton Square, take note of an 1832 structure of Federal-style architecture located to the far left of this row of buildings. It was here that Herman Melville, famous author of the classic book *Moby Dick*, lived for a short time during his youth.



5 The First Church

The congregation of the First Church in Albany, part of the Reformed Church in America, was established in 1642. It is the second oldest congregation in New York State. The fourth and current building was built in 1798 under the design of renowned New York State architect, Philip Hooker. The Hour-Glass Pulpit inside the sanctuary of the church is the oldest pulpit in the United States, imported



the telegraph, electrical motor and telephone while discovering magnetic induction at the Albany Academy. The City School District of Albany now occupies the building.

12 Albany City Hall

Albany City Hall was constructed between 1880 and 1883 by the design of Henry Hobson Richardson. The Carillon, the first municipal carillon in the



16 State Street Banks

The growth of banking in Albany in the early 19th century was due to the city's progress in commerce and transportation and the location of state government. Banks lined both sides of State Street. Albany is still an important regional financial center. As you proceed down State Street, notice the exquisite architecture. Of particular note is 69 State Street, originally home to the New York State Bank. The façade of



from Holland in 1656. Also on display is the 1720 Charter of Incorporation, the Weathercock from the previous "blockhouse" church and the Sarah Faye Sumner Memorial Window which is the work of Louis Comfort Tiffany.

6 The Kenmore Hotel

The Kenmore Hotel was built between 1876 and 1878, and was one of the finest hotels in Albany. The hotel nightclub, The Rain-Bo Room, hosted big bands on the travel circuit and was a favorite spot of notorious gangster and bootlegger, Legs Diamond. The Kenmore was rehabilitated and converted to offices in the 1980's.

7 Steuben Street

At the corner of Steuben Street stands the Steuben Athletic Club, formerly the YMCA. The architects of this building, Fuller and Wheeler of Albany, became known nationally as specialists in this type of building structure and were consulted on the construction of the YMCA in Paris, France. Begin your ascent along Steuben Street and notice the white line painted on the walkway signifying the protective stockade wall that once surrounded Albany. This line was painted in 1986 during Albany's Tricentennial. Albany became a city in 1686. Note the cobblestones that line Steuben Street. The stones were used to even out cargo weight on ships that brought goods to Albany's port during the 19th century.



8 St. Mary's Church

The structure you see today is the third St. Mary's church, dedicated in 1869. When St. Mary's congregation was established in 1796, it became the second oldest Roman Catholic parish in New York State, superseded only by St. Peter's in Lower Manhattan. At the top of the bell tower is a weathervane of Angel Gabriel. Inside the church, frescoes by Italian artists date 1891-1895.



9 Albany County Courthouse

The Courthouse, completed in 1916, is constructed of granite and limestone in Neo-Classical design. Built on a slope, there are four stories at the front of the building and six in the back.

10 The Court of Appeals

The Court Of Appeals, New York State's highest court, was completed in 1842. The architecture is Greek Revival. The courtroom, designed by renowned architect Henry Hobson Richardson, is constructed of carved-oak and was moved to this building from the New York State Capitol.



11 Academy Park

Academy Park is named after Albany Academy, the school that originally occupied the building in the center of the park. The building is today officially known as the Joseph Henry Memorial, named after the Academy's best known professor, who pioneered

United States, was equipped in 1927 with 60 bells. It is still played today. The statue located in front of City Hall is the likeness of General Philip Schuyler, whose mansion is located in Albany. Schuyler was quartermaster general of the Northern Department of the Continental Army during the American Revolution.

13 New York State Capitol

Construction of this building began in 1867 and was completed in 1899 at a staggering cost of \$25 million, or approximately a ½ billion U.S. dollars in current day standards. The Capitol was designed by leading architects of the day, Thomas Fuller, Leopold Eidlitz, Henry Hobson Richardson and Isaac Perry. The architecture varies from Italian Renaissance to Romanesque to French Renaissance. One of the most prominent features of the building interior is the Great Western Staircase, also known as the Million Dollar Staircase, designed by Henry Hobson Richardson. The staircase took fourteen years to complete, features 444 steps and reaches 119 feet high. Guided tours of the Capitol are conducted by the Empire State Plaza Visitor Center.



14 The Empire State Plaza

The Empire State Plaza was the vision of Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller. It is situated on what was once 40 city blocks. The outdoor plaza is built upon three levels of parking and a concourse of shops and cafeterias. All of the buildings at the Plaza are faced with marble except for the concrete, spherical performing arts center affectionately referred to as The Egg. Corning Tower, a 42 story tower and the tallest on the plaza, is named for Albany's long-time mayor, Erastus Corning. On the 42nd floor is a public viewing area. A modern art collection, the New York State Museum, Library and Archives, and a convention center also reside at The Plaza. The New York State Museum is open daily. The Plaza Visitor Center, located on the concourse level, offers guided tours of the New York State Capitol and the Empire State Plaza, as well as self-guided audio tours.



15 St. Peter's Church

Anglican services were first held in Albany in 1708, primarily for British soldiers. Construction of the present day St. Peter's Church was completed in 1860. Of particular note on the exterior of the bell tower are three prominent gargoyles, each weighing three tons and each extending eight feet beyond the walls of the tower. The interior of the church is decorated with works by leading artists of the day including the rose window over the State Street entrance, designed by the Tiffany Company.



the original building was erected in 1803. This building is the oldest bank building in the city of Albany and the oldest building in the United States erected for and continually used as a banking house.

17 State University of New York

What once was the administrative offices of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad is now occupied by the State University of New York. The gothic style building was constructed between 1914 and 1918 at a time when Albany was a busy river port as well as a major railroad center. The copper weathervane at the top of the central tower is a replica of *The Half Moon*, Henry Hudson's ship. To the right of the D&H building is the former ticket office for the Hudson River Day Line, one of America's most successful steamboat passenger lines that provided regular service between Albany and New York City.



18 James T. Foley U.S. Courthouse

The James T. Foley U.S. Courthouse opened in 1934 and originally served as a post office, courthouse and customs house. Federal offices, including the courthouse, still occupy the space. The building is an excellent example of Art Deco design which incorporates modern design with ornate decorative detail. Eagles, standing 8 feet tall and produced from a 17 ton Vermont marble block, are carved above the two main entrances. A frieze encircles the building showing the activities of the postal service, customs, and courts.

19 Hudson River Way

The Hudson River Way is a pedestrian walkway connecting Albany's historic downtown to the banks of the Hudson River. One of the most significant features on the bridge is its illustration of Albany's history through a series of paintings. A self-guided walking tour brochure of the Hudson River Way is available at the Albany Visitors Center.

20 Union Station


Union Station originally served as the passenger station for the NY Central and Hudson River, the Boston and Albany, and the Delaware and Hudson railroads. The station received 96 trains per day in 1900 and 121 per day during World War II. The station closed in 1968.

21 Tricentennial Park

Tricentennial Park was dedicated in 1986 to mark the city's tricentennial. The statue at the center of the park is the Albany Seal of the City, which represents Albany's history of trade and commerce. The word Assiduity at the center of the statue means 'diligence', which characterizes the city's original colonists and reflects the development of Albany over the last 400 years. Tricentennial Park is also home to a memorial to former Albany Mayor, Thomas M. Whalen III.

22 600 Broadway

This building formerly housed offices of the United Traction Company, which operated Albany's streetcar system. Building construction was completed in 1900. Architect Marcus T. Reynolds designed the building in Beaux-Arts style.

 **Return to Albany Visitors Center!**

Saratoga

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



National Historical Park
New York



“I have always thought Hudson’s River the most proper part of the whole continent for opening vigorous operations. Because the course of the river...is precisely the route that an army ought to take for the great purposes of cutting the communications between the Southern and Northern Provinces, giving confidence to the Indians, and securing a junction with the Canadian forces.”

—Gen. John Burgoyne, 1775

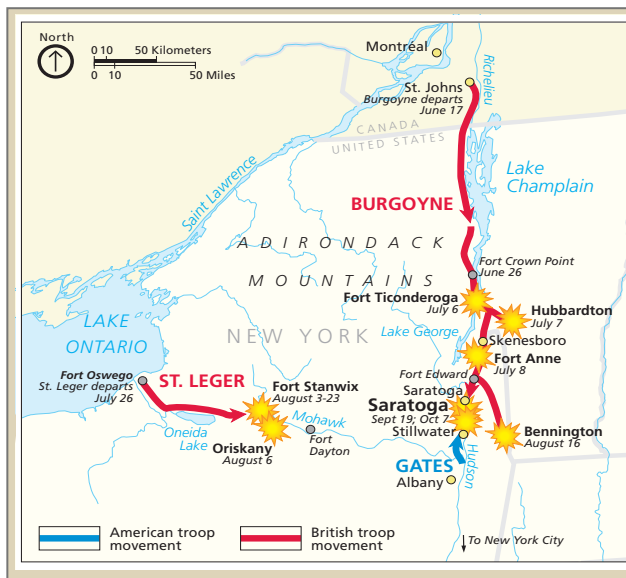
The Campaign of 1777

British Gen. John Burgoyne believed in the Hudson River as a strategic highway through the northeast from the moment he arrived in America in 1775. His northern campaign plan of 1777 was to move his army south from Canada via the Lake Champlain-Hudson River route to Albany. A smaller force under Col. Barry St. Leger was expected to support this by marching east from Lake Ontario into the upper Mohawk Valley. Burgoyne and St. Leger would meet at Albany and join forces with Sir William Howe’s sizeable army in New York City. Together they would destroy the rebellion.

But Howe had other ideas. Leaving only a small force under Sir Henry Clinton in New York, he planned to move against the patriot capital at Philadelphia via Chesapeake Bay. Colonial Secretary Lord George Germain approved this, believing that Howe would return to New York in time to cooperate with Burgoyne. Howe was then already at sea and committed to the Philadelphia campaign when Germain’s approval reached him. This meant that if Burgoyne needed help from New York City during his invasion from Canada, few troops would be on hand to help him. Burgoyne left St. Johns (now St. Jean), Canada, on June 17, 1777. His

total force included 4,000 British regulars, 3,200 German auxiliaries from Braunschweig and Hessen-Hanau, 250 Canadian and loyalist soldiers, 400 Iroquois and Algonquian warriors, and about 1,000 noncombatants and camp followers. His first major objective, Fort Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain, fell on July 6 after a four-day siege. Moving south through Skenesboro and Fort Edward, the British were impeded by rough terrain and Gen. Philip Schuyler’s delaying tactics. As commander of American troops in the Northern Department, Schuyler was charged with halting Burgoyne’s invasion.

Time and the tide of events now began to run against Burgoyne. St. Leger halted his advance down the Mohawk Valley to besiege Fort Stanwix. In the Battle of Oriskany on August 6 he stopped American militia marching to aid the fort. But learning that a strong force under Gen. Benedict Arnold was on its way, St. Leger raised the siege and retreated to Canada. More serious was the fate of a detachment Burgoyne sent to Bennington. On August 16, Gen. John Stark’s and Col. Seth Warner’s New England troops shattered this force, inflicting 900 casualties.



Despite the setbacks, Burgoyne severed communications with Canada and risked all on a push to Albany. His army crossed to the Hudson's west bank at Saratoga (now Schuylerville) in mid-September and continued advancing south. Four miles north of Stillwater, he came upon the 8,000 Americans commanded by Gen. Horatio Gates, who had replaced Schuyler. The Americans were dug in on Bemis Heights, a strong position where the road to Albany squeezed through a defile between the hills and the river, as U.S. 4 does today.

American artillery on the heights and in redoubts along the Hudson commanded both river and road. Col. Tadeusz Kosciuszko, a Polish military engineer serving with the Americans, had chosen and fortified the site. Burgoyne's heavily burdened army had to go between the hills and the river, risking destruction, or drive the Americans from the fortified heights. The British general chose to attack.

The Battles of Saratoga

On September 19 the British advanced on the American camp in three columns. Two headed through heavy forests covering the region; the third, made up of mostly German troops, marched down the river road. Seeing Burgoyne's army in motion, American scouts notified Gates, who ordered Col. Daniel Morgan's corps of Virginia and Pennsylvania riflemen to track the British march. About 12:30 p.m., some of Morgan's men brushed with the advance guard of Burgoyne's center column in a clearing—**Freeman Farm**—about a mile north of the American camp.

The ensuing battle ranged back and forth over the form for over three hours. Then, as outnumbered British lines wavered under deadly American fire, German reinforcements arrived from the river road. Hurling themselves at the American right, Burgoyne steadied his breaking line, gradually forcing the Americans to withdraw. Burgoyne held the field but was stopped a mile north of the American lines, his army badly bloodied. Shaken by his victory, he ordered his troops to

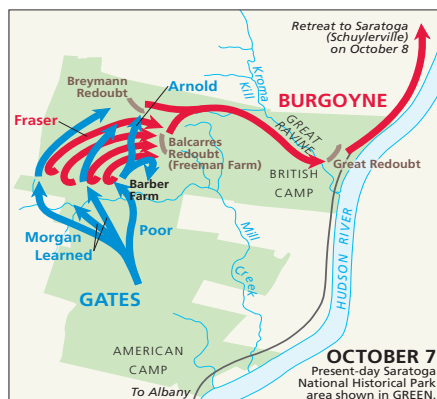
dig in near Freeman Farm and await support from Clinton, who promised to send troops north to aid Burgoyne. He waited nearly three weeks, but received no further word from Clinton.

Burgoyne's plight was now critical. He faced a growing American army, with no hope of help from the south. His supplies were running out, and his army weakened daily. He chose to risk a second battle. On October 7 he ordered a reconnaissance-in-force to test the American left flank. Ably led, and supported by eight cannon, 1,700 men moved out of the **British camp**.

Marching 1,300 yards to the southwest, the troops deployed in a clearing on

Poor. Repeatedly the British line was broken, then rallied, and both flanks were hit hard and driven back. Gen. Simon Fraser was mortally wounded as he rode among his men to encourage them to make a stand and cover the developing withdrawal.

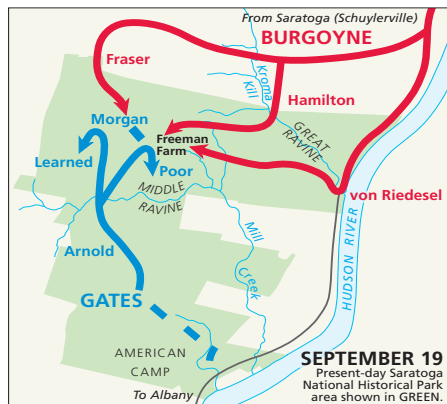
Before the enemy's flanks could be rallied, Gen. Benedict Arnold—effectively relieved of command after a quarrel with Gates—led Learned's brigade against the German troops holding the British center. Under fierce pressure from all sides, the Germans joined the withdrawal into fortifications on Freeman Farm. In the hour of fighting, Burgoyne lost eight cannon and over 400 officers and men.



Flushed with success, the Americans thought victory was near. Arnold led one column in a series of savage attacks on the **Balcarres Redoubt**, a powerful British fort built on Freeman's Farm. Failing repeatedly to carry this position, Arnold wheeled his horse and, dashing through both armies' crossfire, spurred northwest to the **Breymann Redoubt**. Arriving as American troops began to assault the fortification, he joined the final surge overwhelming the German soldiers defending it. Entering the redoubt he was wounded in the leg. Had he died there, posterity would have known few brighter names than Benedict Arnold.

Barber Farm. Most of the British front was posted in open fields, but the topography made both flanks vulnerable to surprise attack. The Americans now knew Burgoyne's army was moving. About 3 p.m. they attacked in three columns under Colonel Morgan, Gen. Ebenezer Learned, and Gen. Enoch

Darkness ended the fighting, saving the British from immediate disaster. That night Burgoyne left his campfires burning and withdrew his troops behind the **Great Redoubt** protecting the high



ground and river flats at the battlefield's northeast corner. The next night, October 8, after burying Fraser in the redoubt, the British began retreating north. They had suffered over 1,200 casualties in three weeks; American losses were fewer than 500.

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There an American force, grown to nearly 17,000 men, surrounded the exhausted British army.

After a miserable rainy, muddy march, Burgoyne's troops took refuge in a fortified camp on the heights of Saratoga. There an American force, grown to nearly 17,000 men, surrounded the exhausted British army. Faced with such overwhelming numbers, Burgoyne

surrendered on October 17, 1777. Under the terms of the Convention of Saratoga, Burgoyne's depleted 6,000-man army marched out of its camp "with the Honors of War" and surrendered its arms along the Hudson River's west bank.

One of the most decisive victories in American and world history had now been won.

Touring Saratoga Battlefield

Use this guide, along with the maps and exhibits in the visitor center and interpretive markers on the battlefield, to better understand the Battles of Saratoga. The auto tour starts near the visitor center at the parking area's south end. It covers 10 miles and has 10 tour stops. If your time is limited, be sure to see Neilson Farm, Barber Wheatfield, and Balcarres Redoubt.

1) Freeman Farm Overlook In 1777 the ground east of this open field was leased and farmed by John Freeman, a loyalist who went north and joined the British invasion force. The major fighting on September 19 took place on his farm. There, Morgan's riflemen opened the battle around noon by firing on the advance guard of Burgoyne's center column from their posts near the Freeman House.

2) Neilson Farm (the Summit) Before and after the battles John Neilson farmed these heights. He joined the American troops to oppose Burgoyne's advance. Today his restored home looks much as it did when Generals Arnold and Poor used it for quarters in 1777. Posts outline the fortified American lines. Sites of General Gates' headquarters and the American field hospital are about a half mile to the south.

3) American River Fortifications (Bemis Heights) Col. Tadeusz Kosciuszko, a Polish military engineer and volunteer in the patriot cause, directed construction of this powerful position. It proved key to American strategy against Burgoyne in 1777. Patriot infantry and cannon posted here, supported by batteries along the near riverbank, closed off the Hudson Valley route to Albany and forced the British to attempt to attack the American line at the summit on September 19.

4) Chatfield Farm An American outpost on this ridge, the site of Jessie Chatfield's farm in 1777, spotted the British movement toward the Barber Farm on October 7. Middle Ravine lies beyond the ridge in front of you. American and British pickets exchanged musket and rifle shots across the ravine just before the second battle began.

5) Barber Wheatfield Here and in the field farther west (beyond the first row of trees) on October 7 the Americans intercepted the 1,500 British and German soldiers advancing southwest in an attempt to reconnoiter the American left. After an hour of fierce fighting, Burgoyne's troops retreated to fortifications on Freeman Farm. British Gen. Simon Fraser was mortally wounded while trying to rally his men northeast of here.

6) Balcarres Redoubt (Freeman Farm) was a log-and-earthen work stretching about 375 yards long. Named for Lord Balcarres, commander of British light infantry, this was the strongest fort built by the British following the September 19 battle. On October 7 the British flanking column withdrew here after being driven from the Barber Farm. The redoubt is outlined by posts.

7) Breymann Redoubt, outlined by posts, was a single line of breastworks about 100 yards long and seven to eight feet high. It guarded the British right flank as well as the road to Quaker Springs. It was named for Lt. Col. Heinrich Breymann, whose German troops were stationed here. Nearby Boot Monument commemorates Benedict Arnold's leg wound, received here just as Americans captured the position.

8) Burgoyne's Headquarters The path here leads to the site of Burgoyne's

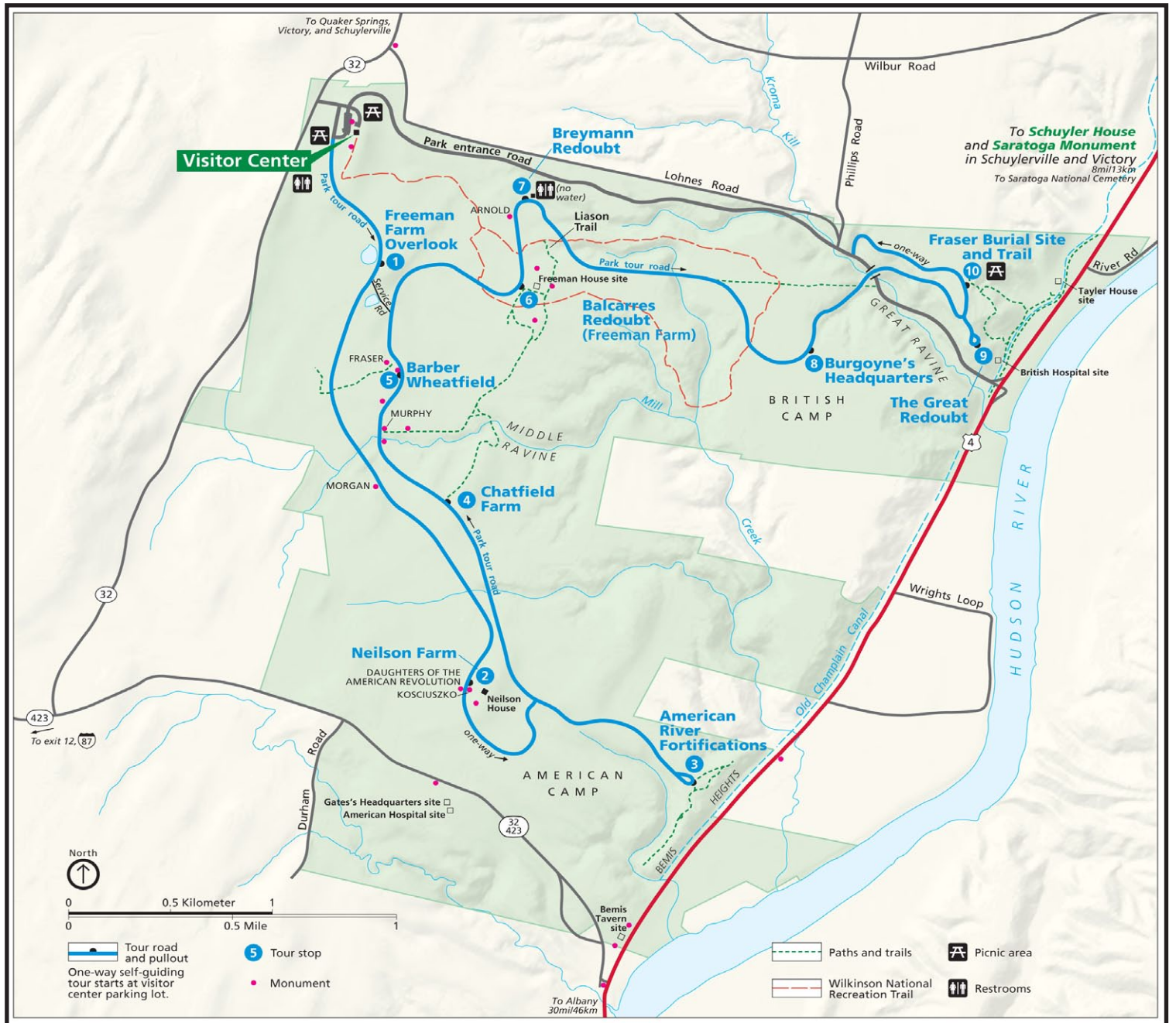
headquarters. At the time of the battles it consisted of large marquees or tents. Set up after the action of September 19, it was the center of British command and camp life between the two battles. Burgoyne chose the location because of a nearby spring.

9) The Great Redoubt was the strongest of three hilltop forts built by the British along bluffs overlooking the river. It guarded their hospital, artillery park, Indian and American loyalist camps, food stocks, boats, refugees, and floating bridge. Burgoyne withdrew his army to this vicinity during the night of October 7.

10) Fraser Burial Site and Trail A one-mile loop trail passes the traditional site of the grave of General Fraser, who was mortally wounded during the second Battle of Saratoga. Beyond the gravesite, the trail continues to the sites of the British hospital, artillery park, baggage area, and Taylor House, where Fraser died. (Parts of the Old Champlain Canal may also be seen along the trail.) Note: The loop trail is fairly steep. Persons with physical limitations should take this into consideration before using it.

This ends your tour of the Battlefield Unit. To reach the Old Saratoga Unit (Schuyler House and Saratoga Monument), travel eight miles north of U.S. 4.

For Your Safety Please be careful as you tour the park. Watch out for stinging insects, especially near the exhibits. Unpaved trails are rough, and poison ivy is common. **Always check for ticks after walking.** Winter visitors: please be alert to occasional severe weather conditions.





Schuyler House



Saratoga Monument



Victory Woods

Schuyler House—This estate was the country home of Gen. Philip Schuyler both before and after the battles. The British burned the original house and its outbuildings to keep Americans from using them for cover during an attack. The present house, erected in 1777 shortly after Burgoyne’s surrender, was the center of Schuyler’s extensive farming and milling operations.

Saratoga Monument— This 155-foot memorial, completed in 1883, commemorates Burgoyne’s surrender to Gates on October 17, 1777.

Victory Woods—Cold, damp, weary, half-starved and nearly out of ammunition, Burgoyne’s army made their main camp here in the week before their surrender. Visitors can explore the site on a half-mile, accessible pathway with several interpretive signs.

Saratoga National Historical Park is one of over 390 parks in the National Park System. To learn more about parks and National Park Service programs in America’s communities, visit the official National Park Service website at www.nps.gov

Directions and Open Times and Hours The park entrances are 30 miles north of Albany, N.Y., on U.S. 4 and N.Y. 32. The visitor center is open daily except Thanksgiving, December 25, and January 1. Schuyler House, Saratoga Monument, and Neilson House are open seasonally. Call the visitor center for times of operation. The park tour road is open from early April to November 30, weather permitting.

Accessibility The park welcomes service animals and is fully accessible with the following exceptions: The Wilkinson Trail, the walkway to the lower area of Stop 10, the second floor of the Schuyler House, and the upper levels of the Saratoga Monument (an electric lift provides access to the monument’s interior base level). Note that accessible walkways at Stop 2 and are somewhat steep.

For more information
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