



HUDSON RIVER VALLEY

Greenway
National Heritage Area



A Monthly Newsletter from the [Hudson River Valley Greenway](#) and the [Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area](#)

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What's New?



Board Meeting

On March 14th, 2007, the Hudson River Valley Greenway held a joint meeting of the Boards of the Communities Council, Conservancy, and the National Heritage Area at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany, NY. Albany County Executive Michael Breslin and City of Albany Mayor Jerry Jennings welcomed the Board members and meeting attendees. Additionally, Frank Dean, Director for the [Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor](#), gave a presentation that included planned collaborations with the Hudson River Valley and [Champlain Valley National Heritage Areas](#).

Items for business at this board meeting included designation of new Greenway Communities and grant awards. Greenway Community Grants were awarded to the City of Albany (Albany County) and the Town of Berlin (Rensselaer County) for the development of each community's comprehensive plan. Furthermore, Memorial Park in the Village of Nyack (Rockland County) was designated a Hudson River Greenway Watertrail Site.



Albany City Mayor Jerry Jennings addresses the joint boards

New Communities

The Hudson River Valley Greenway is pleased to welcome the Village of Grand View-on-Hudson in Rockland County as a newly designated Greenway community. The total number of Greenway Communities is now 238.

Greenway Conservancy Small Grants

Awards for the 2006 Greenway Conservancy Small Grants Program were also announced at the March Joint Board Meeting. This year's recipients were:

- Normansville Bridge Improvement Project (Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy)
- Locust Grove Estate Trail Map (Locust Grove Estate)
- Father's Trail Renovation (Unification Theological Seminary)
- Town of Fishkill Greenway Trails (Town of Fishkill)
- Winnakee Nature Preserve Sign (Winnakee Land Trust)
- Athens Recreational Land and Water Trails Program (Athens Comprehensive Planning Committee)
- Discovery Quests Trailhead and Bird Interpretation Platform (Museum of the Hudson Highlands)
- Hamptonburgh Preserve Enhancements (Orange County Land Trust)
- Hudson Fjord Hike/Bike Trail Capital Improvements Feasibility Study (Philipstown Greenway Committee)
- Rensselaer County Trail Vision Plan (Rensselaer-Taconic Land Conservancy)
- Ramapo River Greenway Trail (Town of Ramapo)
- Hudson River Trail at the Glasco Riverfront Park (Town of Saugerties)
- Rowley's Bridge Trail Rehabilitation and Maintenance (Village of Hastings-on-Hudson)

NHA Hosts Follow Up Workshop for Heritage Sites and Tourism Officials

On March 15th, the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area sponsored a follow-up session to its January 18th workshop. This interactive workshop was once again led by [Joe Veneto](#), a nationally known speaker on tourism, and was held at Locust Grove. Participants learned valuable tools and techniques designed to enhance visitor experiences, improve marketing efforts, and provide a competitive edge to stimulate site attendance.

The workshop concluded with a brainstorming session to discuss site collaborations and interpretations related to the upcoming 2009 Quadricentennial celebrations.



Joe Veneto discusses marketing techniques

HVAP Conference

The Greenway co-sponsored the 3rd Biennial Conference, *Agriculture in the Hudson River Valley: Success Stories from Our Own Backyard* on Friday, March 16 at Columbia-Greene Community College. Members of the public gathered to hear speakers address farm profitability, farmland protection, and agricultural economic development in the Hudson Valley. As a member of the steering committee for the Hudson Valley Agriculture Partnership, the Greenway welcomed this opportunity to work with New York State Agriculture and Markets Commissioner Patrick Hooker and others to present this conference.

Quality Community Conference

A Quality Communities Conference, "[Creating Walkable Environments](#)", will be held on April 17-18, 2007 at the Radisson Hotel in Corning, NY. The conference is sponsored by New York State Department of Health, NYS Department of Transportation, New York Department of State, and the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. The conference will provide participants with the tools to work together to create walkable communities in New York State, forging collaborative efforts among professionals in fields that include safety, land use, economic development, transportation, education, law enforcement, and health care.



National Trust Supports New York Projects

The Hudson Area Association Library received a \$2,500 award from the National Trust to hire Walter Sedovic Architects, in order to obtain an Architectural Master Plan to help guide future restoration and rehabilitation of the circa 1818 limestone Federal building in Hudson, New York.

Town of Woodstock

On March 13th, the Town Board of Woodstock adopted a Zero Carbon initiative that changes the town's energy-use policy. The initiative was passed with the aim of reducing the Town's emission of carbons that are believed to contribute to global warming. This initiative aims to increase the fuel efficiency of town vehicles, conform to guidelines of the Energy Star and U.S. Green Building Council programs, increase recycling, promote the development of renewable energy sources and adopt local land-use policies that reduce sprawl and preserve open space while creating walkable communities.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

Applications for the next round of [Greenway Communities Grants](#) will be due May 13th for our June Board Meeting. Applications received after this date will be considered for our October Board Meeting. Applications can be downloaded from the Hudson River Valley Greenway Website by clicking [here](#).

Other Grant Opportunities:

[2007 Community Development Block Grant Small Cities Program](#) Funding under the 2007 Annual Competitive Round may be used by municipalities for projects in three categories: Housing (rehabilitation, homeownership, private water/wastewater system assistance or construction of new affordable housing), Public Facility and Microenterprise. A community may propose a program that is "single purpose" in nature, addressing only a particular area of need or may propose a program that undertakes a strategy that deals comprehensively with the problems of a particular area. GOSC encourages communities to propose programs that are creative and innovative in addressing their needs. (April 9)



[Getty Campus Heritage Grants](#) assist colleges and universities in the United States to manage and preserve the integrity of their significant historic buildings, sites, and landscapes. (April 10)

[Getty Architectural Conservation Grants](#) support organizations throughout the world in their efforts to preserve buildings, sites, and designed landscapes of outstanding architectural, historical, and cultural significance. Planning Grants assist in the initial development of an overall conservation plan. Support is also available on a selective basis for the development of archaeological site management plans. Implementation Grants assist in the actual conservation of a building's historic structure and fabric. (April 10)



[Save America's Treasures](#) For preservation of nationally significant resources including districts, sites, objects, and features. The competitive matching program is administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities. (April 26)

[Preserve New York Grant Program](#) The Preservation League of New York State and the New York State Council on the Arts are pleased to offer the 2007 Preserve New York (PNY) Grant Program to municipalities and not-for-profit organizations undertaking historic structure reports, historic landscape reports and cultural resource surveys. Please note that you first must discuss your project with League Technical and Grants staff before you can receive an application. (May 1)

[Wetlands Conservation Act Standard Grants](#) To promote the long-term conservation of North American wetland ecosystems and the waterfowl and other migratory birds, fish and wildlife that depend on wetlands. (July 27)

[Conservation Trust grants from the National Geographic Society](#) For conservation and research programs that promote the sustainable use and preservation of the earth's biological, cultural, and historical resources. Grants of up to \$20,000 each to individuals who have conducted prior research or conservation work related to the proposed program. (Open)

[2007 Unified Funding \(UF\) process](#) Through the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR) and the NYS Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC). This Request for Proposals (RFP) describes capital programs and programmatic initiatives that will provide funds for a wide range of affordable housing and community revitalization activities including: new construction, substantial rehabilitation or moderate rehabilitation of rental or owner occupied housing; emergency repair; homebuyer assistance; façade and building renovation; streetscape enhancement, downtown anchor creation; accessibility modifications and tenant-based rental assistance. (Deadlines Vary)

[The Trust's National Preservation Endowment](#) offers several types of financial assistance to nonprofit organizations, public agencies, for-profit companies, and individuals involved in preservation-related projects. In 2005, through the National Preservation Endowment, the National Trust provided almost \$17 million in financial assistance and direct investment to support preservation in cities, towns, and rural areas all over the United States. If you would like more information on any of these grant programs, please contact the [National Trust Regional Office](#) nearest you. (Open)

[Google's In-Kind Advertising Services to Nonprofits](#) This program supports organizations that share the company's philosophy of community service worldwide in areas such as science and technology, education, global public health, the environment, youth advocacy, and the arts. (Open)

[Management Assistance Mini-Grant Program](#). Helps board and staff members and volunteer leaders develop new skills by providing financial support to hire consultants and to help defray professional-development costs. The foundation will finance no more than 80 percent of a project budget, and grants will not exceed \$10,000. (Open)

[Collaboration Grants](#) Applications for grants from the Dyson Foundation's Strategic Restructuring Initiative, which supports the collaboration of two or more organizations intent on establishing a continuing relationship in order to increase efficiency and service. Grants awarded in four categories: assessment, planning, integration, and enhancement. (Open)

[Historical preservation grants from the Travelers Conservation Foundation](#). Projects designed to conserve, protect, and restore sites of exceptional cultural, historic, or natural significance, and to promote public awareness of and participation in those conservation activities. Priority will be given to projects that are linked to tourism, that are endorsed by local tourism offices, and that have the potential for duplication in other communities. (Open)



Be on the look out for Environmental Protection Fund Grants:

- [NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Grants](#)
- [NYS Department of State Division of Coastal Resources Grants](#)
- [NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Grants](#)



Upcoming Events



- 4/01-8/12: [Earth and Fire](#): Join the Albany Institute of History and Art for this celebration of clay and ceramics, focusing on past and present artists and their works. (518) 463-4478
- 4/1-12: [Family Festival: Children's Spring Celebration](#): Celebrate with music, dance, games, and more! Enjoy family crafts, dancing, nature programs, and lots of great music at Mohonk. (845) 255-1000
- 4/1: [Christianity, Romanticism, and the Hudson River School](#): Join Cedar Grove and Dr. Diane Apostolos-Cappadona, Ph.D., to discuss the influence of religious beliefs on American culture, both in the 19th century and today. (518) 943-7465
- 4/3: [Spring Egg Hunt at the John Jay Homestead](#): Sponsored by the Town of Bedford Recreation Department. (914) 666-7004
- 4/5: [Daybreaks: Words and Images](#): Youngsters can visit the Neuberger Museum of Art to enjoy an afternoon of creativity and fun with a performance and hands-on art workshop. (914) 251-6113
- 4/7: [Columbia County Day at Boscobel](#): Admission is free to those living in Columbia County. (845) 265-3638.
-  [Family Art Adventure at the Neuberger Museum of Art](#): Featuring special gallery talks, hands-on art workshops, and local music. (914) 251-6113
- 4/11: [Meet the Artist at the Neuberger Museum of Art](#): Meet Marek Walczak, an artist engaged in how people participate in physical and virtual spaces. His work has been shown at the Whitney Museum and featured at 7 World Trade Center. (914) 251-6113
- 4/12: [Story Time at Philipse Manor Hall](#): Enjoy a storytelling program focusing on books about the colonial period. (914) 965-4027
- [FDR Remembrance Ceremony](#): Commemorating the death of Franklin Roosevelt in 1945. the event will be held in the Rose Garden of the Home of FDR National Historic Site. 1-800-FDR-VISIT
- 4/14: [Hudson Valley Ruins](#): *Hudson Valley Ruins*, authors Thomas E. Rinaldi and Robert J. Yasinsac speak at the Annual Meeting of the Putnam County Historical Society & Foundry School Museum. (845) 265-4010 x13
- [Daffodil High Tea](#): Join Wilderstein for this springtime event featuring a variety of tea sandwiches and other sweets. (845) 876-4818.
- [Amazing Amphibian Hike](#): Visit the Museum of the Hudson Highlands to learn how amphibians live and then explore wetlands and the forest (845) 534-5506, ext 204.
-  [Boscobel Seminar Series: Hudson Valley Stoneware & Redware](#): George Lukacs will speak about pottery manufactured in the Hudson Valley. (845) 265-3638 x115
- [Orange County Community Free Day at Dia: Beacon](#): Free admission to the museum to residents of Orange County. (845) 440-0100
- Making an Independent Film Workshop: Meet at the Downing Film Center to learn the aspects of making an independent film including writing, directing, producing/financing, and distribution. 1-866-433-1625.
- 4/15: [Irving Biographer to Speak at Sunnyside](#): Andrew Burstein, author of *The Original Knickerbocker* will give a lecture and reading of his work. (914) 631-8200.
- [Ringing in the Spring Concert](#): Visit the John Jay Homestead to hear a concert by the renowned handbell choir associated with the First Presbyterian Church of Katonah. (914) 232-5651

Heritage Spotlight

[New York State Capitol](#)



The capitol was constructed between 1867 and 1899 and was inspired by the City Hall in Paris, France. However, this 5-story granite building took five architects to complete and represents a variety of styles. The exterior offers just a hint of the opulence inside, for which architects Leopold Eidlitz and Henry Hobson Richardson were primarily responsible. Eidlitz designed the building's largest room, the Assembly Chamber, as well as the Assembly and Senate Staircases. Richardson, then America's most renowned architect, was responsible for the Senate Chamber, Hallway, and the Great Western Staircase.

The restored skylight above the staircase now shines a natural spotlight on this impressive feat of design and craftsmanship. Also to be seen are the 25 murals created by William deLeftwich Dodge that fill the domed Governor's Reception Room. The works depict everything from Henry Hudson's first contact with Native Americans to New York troops serving in World War One.


Free guided tours begin at the Empire State Plaza Visitor Center in the Main Concourse. Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m., and 3 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. (518) 474-2418.

Community Spotlight

[City of Albany](#)

Strategically located along the western bank of the Hudson River, the City of Albany is the capital of New York State and forms the "Capital District" with nearby cities of Troy and Schenectady. Albany is the fourth oldest continually-inhabited city in the United States and the second oldest state capital. The [Pine Bush](#), located at the far edge of the city, is the only sizable inland pine barrens in the United States and is home to many endangered species.

4/19: [Romance in the Sky at Mohonk](#): Join astronomer Bob Berman for an exploration of this year's planets and what science has learned in the past ten years. (845) 255-1000

4/20-22:  2007 Annual Workshop & Barn Tour: Join the National Barn Alliance for a conference which will explore topics of barn stabilization and restoration, barn surveys and forming preservation groups. Participants will also learn about historic barn types in the Hudson River Valley. 1-800-653-2276


4/21: [Boscobel Seminar Series: Hudson River Painters of the 1825-1875 periods](#): Join Sister Sylvia Bielen, Professor of Art at Mt. St. Mary College, for this discussion. (845) 265-3638 x115

[Open Hearth Cooking Workshop at Van Cortlandt Manor](#): Experience first-hand the pleasures of 18th-century cooking by using period "receipts" and methods to prepare a delicious meal. (914) 631-8200 x618

4/21-22: [Sheep to Shawl at Philipsburg Manor](#): This event features Scottish border collies displaying their sheep-herding skills, and demonstrations on the 18th century processes of sheep-shearing, dyeing wool, and weaving cloth. (914) 631-3992.

[Earth Day Celebration at Museum of the Hudson Highlands](#): Make crafts from recycled products, take a guided hike, and explore biodiversity of our planet by visiting our live animals. (845) 534-5506.

4/22: [Student Poetry Contest](#): In celebration of National Poetry Month, Philipse Manor Hall will host a student poetry contest and reading. (914) 965-4027

4/28:  [2007 Sandhurst Competition at West Point](#): This inter-company competition will require participants to perform a series of challenging military tasks. Participants include United States Service Academies, 6 select University ROTC teams, the United States Military Academy Preparatory School team, and international teams from Britain's Royal Military College (RMC).

[April Gallery Talk at Dia: Beacon](#): Claire Barliant, New York-based independent curator and Associate Editor of *Modern Painters*, will talk about the work of Louise Bourgeois. (845) 440-0100 x44

[Boscobel Seminar Series: Fashion in the Federal Period](#): Dr. Lourdes Font, professor at the Fashion Institute of Technology will speak. (845) 265-3638 x115

[The Great Hudson River Sweep](#): Join the Museum of the Hudson Highlands and help clean the river. (845) 534-5506 x207

4/28-29: [Hands-on Heritage Crafts at Van Cortlandt](#): Featuring spinning, weaving, candle-making, coopering, tinsmithing, hewing wood, quilting, butter churning, cheese-making, blacksmithing, and more. (914) 271-8981.

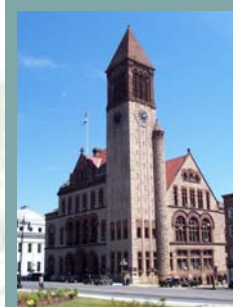
4/29: [Washington's Arrival at Newburgh](#): Visit Washington's Headquarters for this historic reenactment of the arrival of George Washington in the Valley featuring speakers, battles and period military exercises. Sponsored by the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area (631) 585-4009

[Dutchess County Day at Mt. Gulian](#): Residents of Dutchess County will be allowed free admission (845) 831-8172

Originally known by native Americans as Penpotawotnot, Albany's colonial ties began with Henry Hudson's exploration in September 1609. In 1624 the Dutch East India Company built Fort Orange, a fur trading post, and by 1652 the area was incorporated as the village of Beverwyck. In 1664 the English took the land and renamed the village "Albany" to honor the Duke of Albany.



Governor Thomas Dongan formally chartered Albany in 1686 and appointed Pieter Schuyler as mayor. In 1754, Benjamin Franklin and other colonial leaders met in Albany to draft the [Albany Plan of Union](#). Although never adopted, the document is considered a precursor to the US Constitution. In 1797, Albany was designated capital of New York State. With the advent of the steamboat, railways, and nearby canal development, Albany quickly became a transportation center.



Today Albany is a center for politics and education in New York State. Higher education institutions include Albany Law School, the College of Saint Rose, Maria College of Albany, Sage College of Albany, Albany College of Pharmacy, Albany Medical College, Excelsior College, and the University at Albany. The city also plays a vital role in the regional ["Tech Valley"](#) initiative and is home to many national and international entities.

Albany's cultural amenities include galleries, arts venues and museums as well as summer concerts and festivals. The city contains some of the finest examples of American architecture and includes works by Richardson, Fuller, and Eidlitz. Significant features include historic [Center Square neighborhood](#), [Washington Park](#) (designed by Vaux and Olmstead, architects of Manhattan's Central Park), the Empire State Plaza, and the State Education Building. Residential neighborhoods throughout the city retain their pedestrian-friendly orientation.

Albany was designated an ["All American City"](#) in 1991 and is currently identified as a top city in the fields of technology and nanotechnology. With numerous amenities for residents and visitors, Albany offers something for everyone.

Opening Dates for National Heritage Area Sites

4/1: Sunnyside: Irving Estate Boscobel Storm King Art Center Van Cortlandt Manor Union Church of Pocantico Hills Cherry Hill U.S.S. Slater Saratoga National Battlefield	4/7: Senate House & Museum
	4/15: Stony Point Battlefield Washington's Headquarters New Windsor Cantonment
	4/23: Gomez Mill House
	4/31: Hudson River Maritime Museum

Upcoming Greenway and National Heritage Area Events

- 7/1-11: [Great Hudson River Paddle](#): An opportunity to paddle nearly 150 miles from Albany to New York City, combined with festivals in several riverfront communities
- 7/13-20: [Ramapo 2007](#) Biennial Conference of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. Includes hikes, excursions, and workshops.
- 8/14-19: [Great Hudson Valley Pedal](#): A five-day, 200-mile bicycle tour from Albany to New York City through the magnificent and historic Hudson Valley.
- 9/15-16
23,29-30 [Hudson River Valley Ramble](#): Highlighting the scenic, natural, cultural and historic resources that earned the region its designation as a National Heritage Area.
- 11/13-14: New York Heritage Development Conference: Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area in partnership with Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor and New York State Heritage Area Association.

Did You Know...

Did you know that Mayan ruins could once be found on the [Historic Cruger Island](#), a Hudson River island off Red Hook?

Well, not real Mayan ruins. The false Mayan ruins built on Cruger Island, which, as it turns out, is not a real island, were constructed by an architect with Mayan artifacts brought back from Central America for the Cruger family. The ruins are no longer on the Island, the stones were eventually removed and are in the Museum of Natural History in New York City.



Cruger Island is actually a peninsula that extends from mainland Red Hook and lays claim to a rich history. In 1820, the island and access to the island was acquired from the Van Rensselaer family by John Church Cruger, son and grandson of the mayors of New York City. The ruins of the Cruger family house remain in the middle of the island, where it was occupied into the early 20th Century. The island has since been bought, along with some adjoining land, by the Ward Baking Co. The company built Ward Manor, which is on the Bard College campus, as a retirement home for their employees.

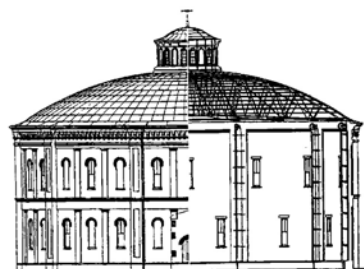
Now, as part of the Tivoli Bays and the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve, the island is enjoyed by people who canoe out to the island to hike on a network of trails and picnic.

Have some good Hudson Valley Trivia you'd like to share with everyone? [Let us know!](#)

Featured Website

[Society for Industrial Archaeology \(SIA\)](#) - The Society seeks to preserve, interpret and document the nation's industrial heritage. The website for the Society presents a variety of tools and techniques designed to help accomplish that goal. Through its scholarly journal and quarterly newsletter, available online, the Society presents up to date information on the latest trends and developments in the field. Upcoming events and conferences are identified to provide continuing education while a consultant directory and local chapter information assist individuals working to preserve and interpret their industrial resources.

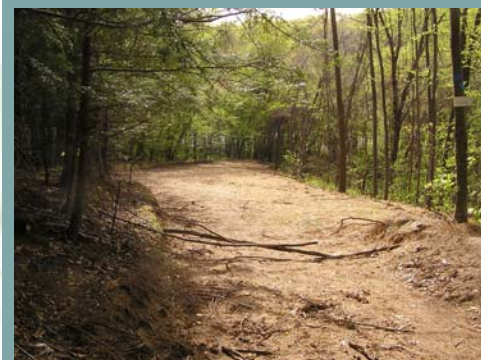
Many of the resources identified by the Society are located within the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and include the Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge (one of the world's oldest cantilever bridges), [West Point Foundry](#), and the [Burden Iron Works](#). Furthermore, the 1873 Troy Gas Light Company Gasholder House has served as the logo for the Society for Industrial Archaeology since the Society's inception. (www.siahq.org)



SIA Logo (Troy Gasholder Building)

Trail Spotlight

[Esopus Bend Nature Preserve](#)



The Esopus Bend Nature Preserve lies less than a mile from the Hudson River along the Esopus Creek. Located in the Town and Village of Saugerties, this 156-acre preserve was historically used for agriculture but has been allowed to revert to a natural state over the last several decades. The diverse landscape includes lowland meadows and wetlands as well as sloping forests. The main trail, a former carriage road, follows a Lower Devonian limestone ridge. Drainage channels and swales weave throughout the preserve, adding to its ecological complexity.

The Esopus Creek Conservancy manages the Preserve with a dedicated group of board members and volunteers. By rehabilitating worn and severely eroded trails, clearing new paths, building bridges and blazing trails, the group has improved access to the preserve and it is now a safe and inspiring place for the public to enjoy and learn about the natural world.

In 2005 the Esopus Creek Conservancy was awarded a Greenway Conservancy Grant to help fund rehabilitation efforts. The construction of two foot bridges has added to trail's accessibility and the protection of fragile stream banks. With work on the Preserve's trails nearing completion, the Esopus Creek Conservancy is now pursuing [Greenway Trail](#) designation.


The Esopus Bend Nature Preserve trails are an important recreational resource for community and the region. The Greenway looks forward to designating these trails as an official part of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Trail System!

Quadricentennial Countdown



641 Days

www.exploreny400.com



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And the National Heritage Website at www.hudsonrivervalley.com