

**A GUIDE TO
THE HERITAGE TRAIL
OF
KINGSTON, NEW YORK
“THE FIRST CAPITAL OF NEW YORK STATE”**



A Brief History of Kingston	3
An Overview of Kingston’s Heritage Trail	4
Hiking Kingston’s Heritage Trail	5
Uptown-The Stockade & Fair Street Historic Districts	5
Destination 1 D&H Canal Heritage Corridor Trail Head	5
Destination 2 Dietz Stadium	6
Destination 3 Four Corners	6
Destination 4 Daughters of American Revolution Building	6
Destination 5 Stockade National Landmark District	7
Destination 6 Urban Cultural Park Visitors Center	7
Destination 7 Senate House & Senate House Museum	7
Destination 8 Old Dutch Church & Museum	8
Destination 9 Fred Johnston Museum	9
Destination 10 Academy Green Park	9
Midtown- Historic Broadway	10
Destination 11 Ulster Performing Arts Center	10
Destination 12 Midtown Recreation Center	10
Destination 13 Kingston High School	10
Destination 14 Carnegie Library	10
Destination 15 Old City Hall	10
Rondout- Chestnut Street & Rondout Historic Districts	11
Destination 16 Rondout Historic District	11
Destination 17 Kingston Visitors Center	11
Destination 18 West Strand Waterfront Park	11
Destination 19 Sampson Opera House	11
Destination 20 D&H Canal Heritage Corridor	11
Destination 21 Company Hill Path	11
Destination 22 Hudson River Cruises & Sailing	11
Destination 23 Boat Rides to Rondout Lighthouse	12
Destination 24 Ferry Service to Rhinecliff	12
Destination 25 Maritime Museum & Book Shop	12
Destination 26 Trolley Museum	12
Destination 27 Hasbrouck Park	12
Destination 28 Kingston Point Park	12
Destination 29 Kingston Point Beach	12
Credits & Acknowledgments	13
Directions & Parking	13
Hours of Operation for Trail Destinations	14
Useful Information	14
Local Sites	15
Reproducible Forms- Answer Sheet, Application for Awards, Map	Insert

A BRIEF HISTORY OF KINGSTON

USEFUL INFORMATION

Authorities

Emergency 911
Police (914) 331-2061
Fire (914) 331-1211

Medical Facilities

Kingston Hospital (914) 331-3131
Benedictine Hospital (914) 338-2500
Hurley Avenue (914) 339-CARE

Service Project Opportunities

Kingston Parks & Recreation
Forsyth Park- near Dietz Stadium (914) 331-1682
Hasbrouck Park- Rondout, Overlooking Hudson River, Excellent Nature Trail
Kingston Point Park- (914) 331-1682

Camping

Hidden Valley Lake – Kingston- (914) 338-4616
Pine Hollow Campground- Palenville (518) 678-2245

Religious Services

Baptist- New Central Baptist (914) 338-0589
Catholic- St. Joseph’s (914) 338-1554
 St. Mary’s (914) 331-0301
Episcopal- Holy Cross (914) 331-6796
Lutheran- Redeemer (914) 338-3323
Methodist- St. Marks (914) 339-1012
Presbyterian -First Presbyterian (914) 331-0633
Reformed-Old Dutch (914) 338-6759

LOCAL SITES

Walking Tours

Historic Stockade Walking Tour and Talking House Tour- Leaves from Urban Cultural Park. Phone Park at (914) 331-7517 or 9506, as well as (800) 331-1518. City Historian, Ed Ford available May – October at (914) 331-6535
Rondout Walking Tour (800) 331-1518

Volunteer Firemen’s Hall & Museum of Kingston- Located in the old Wiltwyck Fire Station built in 1857. 265 Fair Street, Kingston. Phone (914) 331-0866

Forsyth Park & Children’s Zoo adjacent to Dietz Stadium. (914) 339-3053

The D & H Canal Museum In the hamlet of High Falls in Ulster County, where a flight of five locks compensated for a drop of 70 feet in elevation, a museum and remnants of the old locks tell the story of the waterway, built largely by pick and shovel wielded by Irish immigrants. With maps, colorful dioramas, enlarged photographs, artifacts, and working models. The museum of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Society, housed in the former St. John's Episcopal Church. The Museum is on Mohonk Road, one block east of Route 213. The phone number is (914) 687-9311.

HOURS OF OPERATION FOR TRAIL DESTINATIONS

The following Heritage Trail Destinations do not have hours of operation or admission fees. They are either outdoor sites or buildings which are can only from the outside:

Destination 1	D&H Canal Heritage Corridor Trail Head
Destination 2	Dietz Stadium
Destination 3	Four Corners
Destination 5	Stockade National Landmark District
Destination 10	Academy Green Park
Destination 12	Midtown Recreation Center
Destination 13	Kingston High School
Destination 14	Carnegie Library
Destination 15	Old City Hall
Destination 16	Rondout Historic District
Destination 18	West Strand Waterfront Park
Destination 19	Sampson Opera House
Destination 20	D&H Canal Heritage Corridor
Destination 21	Company Hill Path
Destination 27	Hasbrouck Park
Destination 28	Kingston Point Park
Destination 29	Kingston Point Beach

The following sites have specific hours of operation or admission fees as follows: NOTE: SCOUTS DO NOT NEED TO ANY FACILITY WITH LIMITED HOURS OF OPERATION OR ADMISSION FEES IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THEIR QUESTIONNAIRE OR EARN THE KINGSTON HERITAGE TRAIL AWARD

Destination 4	Daughters of American Revolution Building Green Street, Kingston. (914) 338-8327. By appointment only
Destination 6	Urban Cultural Park Visitors Center Stockade Visitors Center- 308 Clinton Ave. (914) 331-9506
Destination 7	Senate House & Senate House Museum 296 Fair Street, Kingston. (914) 338-2786, Mid April-Oct, Wed-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1pm-5pm.
Destination 8	Old Dutch Church & Museum
Destination 9	Fred Johnston Museum 63 Main Street, Kingston. (914) 339-0720. May-Oct; Sat-Sun only 1pm-4pm. Flat Admission \$3.00
Destination 11	Ulster Performing Arts Center 601 Broadway (914) 339-6088 or 331-1613
Destination 17	Kingston Visitors Center (800) 331-1518
Destination 22	Hudson River Cruises & Sailing (800) 843-7472
Destination 23	Boat Rides to Rondout Lighthouse Contact Maritime Museum at (914) 338-0071
Destination 24	Ferry Service to Rhinecliff No longer available
Destination 25	Maritime Museum & Book Shop Rondout Landing (914) 338-0071
Destination 26	Trolley Museum East Strand. (914) 331-3399 May-Oct: Open weekends & Holidays.

In 1609, Henry Hudson sailed his *Half Moon* passed the future Dutch settlement of Kingston. In 1652 the Dutch settled in Kingston. They had seen the fertile flood plains of the Esopus Creek and, in 1653, purchased land from the Esopus, Indians.. On the hill overlooking the flood plains, they built houses in a village that they first called Esopus, and later Wiltwyck (Dutch for "wild woods").

After the settlers had several small skirmishes with the Esopus Indians, Peter Stuyvesant, Governor of the Dutch colony, brought soldiers up and built a stockade for the settlers to live in. The palisades stood eight feet above the ground and protected what is now an area of about eight square blocks. In 1664, Wildwyck, then part of an English colony, was renamed Kingston. For the next century or so, Kingston was a quiet country town, farming wheat nearby and shipping it eastward along the Hudson.

During the American Revolution Kingston was known as "the Breadbasket of the Revolution" since local farmers provided Washington's troops with wheat and other food supplies. In September of 1777, John Jay and other leading patriots met in Kingston to declare the province a sovereign state and establish the first New York State Senate. Kingston became New York State's first capital. In October of 1777, General William Clinton brought British forces up the Hudson on the way to meet Burgoyne coming down from Canada. It was an opportunity to punish Kingston. Landing at nearby Kingston Point, Clinton's forces marched on the village and burned every house in the village but one. The residents fled to Hurley, a smaller village several miles away. Clinton never joined Burgoyne, who was defeated at Saratoga, and the war turned in favor of the newly independent and soon-to-be-confederated states. The residents of Kingston returned from Hurley and rebuilt almost all of the stone houses that had been burned. Many of these houses can be seen today.

Prior to 1828, much of the produce raised by Kingston's farmers was hauled a mile south to the Rondout Creek, and then shipped down the Hudson to New York City. Though the British had been supplying America's fledgling industries on the eastern seaboard with bituminous coal, the War of 1812 caused America's supply to be cut off, creating a crisis. From 1828 to 1898, mules pulled barges laden with anthracite coal along river valleys from northeastern Pennsylvania to Eddyville on the Rondout Creek near the villages of Kingston and Rondout. The landing on the Hudson quickly became a village named Rondout. The canal operated successfully until the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company made a unique transition in 1898 into a railroad company, becoming America's oldest continuously operating transportation company.

In 1872, the thriving village of Rondout combined with the considerably more staid village of Kingston into the City of Kingston, and the new City Hall was built on the main road that connected them.

In 1966, with the help of a newly-formed Friends of Historic Kingston, the city designated certain buildings and districts as historic landmarks. By 1995, the city had four historic districts. In its first landmarks ordinance, Kingston created a Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission and designated as a local historic district the area within the lines of the stockade fence where the first settlers had lived. The [Stockade District](#) is now listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. In 1979, the city designated the former village of Rondout, which is also listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. In 1988, the [Chestnut Street Historic District](#), overlooking the Rondout District and containing the former homes of the more affluent Rondout residents, was listed in the State and National Register of Historic Places. In 1992, the [Fair Street Historic District](#), containing the former homes of affluent uptown residents built in the latter part of the 19th century, was designated a local historic district.

AN OVERVIEW OF THE HERITAGE TRAIL

The Rip Van Winkle Council of the Boy Scouts of America promotes the Kingston

Heritage Trail. Using the Heritage Trail developed by the Kingston Urban Cultural Center, its historic sites and brochures, the council's aim is to provide an opportunity to experience and learn about Historic Kingston within the context of the Boy Scouts Historic Trails Program. Many individuals and organizations have contributed to the Heritage Trail, and we have "Done our Best" to acknowledge their contributions within this guidebook. The council has contributed to the trail by consolidating information from several sources, developing an guidebook intended to educate hikers, and developing a trail patch and medal to recognize completion of the activity.

The Heritage Trail is 4 & 1/2 miles long. The stockade and Fair Street district total 3/4 mile. Broadway is 2 miles long. The Rondout District excluding Kingston Point is 1/2 mile. Kingston Point is 1&1/4 miles from the Maritime Museum. Local artist F. Torgdumnsen has drawn maps which are an excellent means of displaying the route to your scouts. They are located at 4 locations in Kingston:

The Visitors Kiosk IMMEDIATELY after the toll booth after exiting Thruway.
Peace Park at North Front & Crown Streets in the stockade district.
Outside UPAC in Midtown

The Visitors Kiosk near the flagpole at the end of Broadway in Rondout.

Based upon your group, the weather, and available time you may chose either to walk the entire trail, or to walk the uptown area before driving to the Rondout area, stopping briefly to visit city hall. Units can hike the trail in either direction. We recommend starting in the Stockade District and then going through Fair Street, down Broadway, through the Chestnut District and completing your tour in Rondout. This is organized in that fashion. Units can easily change the sequence but should familiarize their scouts to the changes.

This trail is intended to provide you with a rewarding and enjoyable educational experience. We recommend that you read this guidebook prior to your participation along the trail. It contains important information which will help you gain an understanding of the area. It also serves as a guide to help you along the way. Finally, it serves as a reference book to use indefinitely.

Throughout your preparation for and actual hike you will be asked several questions about the sites you will see. In order to receive your Kingston Heritage Trail Award you must complete the questions to the best of your ability. If you can't find the information, let your unit leaders know. They in turn will let us know so that we can correct our trail for those who follow.

The numbering system we use for this guidebook is the same as the numbering system the Kingston Urban Cultural Center map we are using.

This guidebook has information about Emergency Services, Camping Facilities, Religious Services, Hours of Operation and Admission Fees for all "Destinations", Points of Contact for completing BSA Historic Trails Service Projects, and other Local Sites. Please use this information when planning your trip.

Units will submit tour permits and Application for award of the BSA Historic Trails Award through their local council.

For more information on the historical significance of those sites registered under the National Register of Historic Sites you may want to use the internet site www.ci.kingston.ny.us

HIKING KINGSTON'S HERITAGE TRAIL –

KINGSTON'S URBAN CULTURAL PARK

Kingston's historic buildings and districts form an important part of Kingston's

CREDITS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We acknowledge the grateful assistance of the following organizations who provided much of the information in this guidebook. All was received through their brochures and web pages. Additionally, we wish to thank Ed Ford, the city historian for his assistance.

Kingston Urban Cultural Center
Senate House & Museum
Old Dutch Church
Fred Johnson Museum & The Friends of Historic Kingston
Maritime Museum
Trolley Museum
D&H Canal

DIRECTIONS

Driving to Kingston: From NYC or Albany: Kingston is at exit 19 on the New York State Thruway. After exiting, take the Washington Avenue route toward the uptown business district or Colonel Chandler Drive toward the downtown Rondout districts.

By Bus Trailways offers a number of buses each day between the Port Authority Terminal in New York City and uptown Kingston.

By Train Train service requires some amount of driving to reach the station at the Kingston end. AMTRAK trains run frequently between Grand Central in New York City and Rhinecliff across the river from Kingston and from Penn Station and Poughkeepsie, a 25 minute drive from Kingston.

By Air: Stewart Air Terminal near Newburgh is a 40 minute drive from Kingston. Albany is an hour's drive north of Kingston. Many airlines fly into New York City airports, two hours' drive from Kingston.

PARKING

Stockade District

Kingston Shopping Center Signs near Dietz Stadium & Senate House
Dietz Stadium/ Forsyth Park
Senate House

Midtown- VERY LIMITED

Behind Kingston High School when not in session
Behind City Hall & Kingston Hospital

Rondout

Urban Cultural Center
Trolley Museum
Kingston Point

Powell.

QUESTION #25 _____ Merchant Marines died in the battle for the Atlantic.

Destination 26 Trolley Museum

Founded in 1955, the museum is on the original site of the Ulster & Delaware Railroad. In addition to static displays of trolley, subway, and rapid transit cars, an excursion ride runs 1 & 1/2 miles from the foot of Broadway to picnic grounds on the shore of the Hudson River.

FROM THE TROLLEY MUSEUM YOU CAN DRIVE TO HASBROUCK PARK OR WALK/HIKE 1 & 1/4 MILES TO KINGSTON POINT

Destination 27 Hasbrouck Park

A Beautiful park: it has a nice nature trail which offers service project opportunities, camping, and an excellent overlook of the Hudson.

Destination 28 Kingston Point Park

QUESTION #28 The park was dedicated to William “_____” Tubby for his volunteer service to helping maintain this beautiful park October 31 1994

Destination 29 Kingston Point Beach

QUESTION #29 Kingston Point Beach is dedicated to CPL Joseph Guido, CPL Louis Perry and CPL _____ who served in WWII and Korea

[Urban Cultural Park](#), an ongoing program supported by the State of New York. With a theme emphasizing Kingston and Rondout's role in the state's transportation history. The Urban Cultural Park in Kingston includes two Visitors Centers with museums (at 308 Clinton Avenue in the Stockade District; at 22 Broadway in the Rondout District). The Park designates the Broadway thoroughfare as a corridor connecting the two parts of Kingston.

Uptown-The Stockade & Fair Street Historic Districts

The Stockade Historic District (bounded by Clinton Avenue, North Front Street, Green Street, and Wall Street) was a home for settlers as early as 1652, becoming the third settlement in the Dutch colony. An eight-block area within the perimeter of the 17th century palisades that [Peter Stuyvesant](#) ordered to be built, the Stockade District can be seen best on foot after parking your car within the area. It includes 21 Dutch-style stone buildings, several built prior to 1700, that are still in use. At the corner of Crown and John Street, stone buildings stand on each corner. In one of them was the 18th-century Kingston Academy, whose students included a future governor, Dewitt Clinton. The most visible building in the Stockade area is the Old Dutch Church. Across from the Old Dutch Church is the Ulster County Court House, built in 1818.. At the corner of North Front and Clinton, you can visit the Senate House.

The Fair Street Historic District is a locally designated historic district that extends from St. James Street to Franklin Street. Walking to the south on Fair Street outside the Stockade District, you will encounter an outstanding example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style at the St. James Methodist Church (1893). In another block, at St. James and Fair, stands a strongly pillared Greek Revival home (about 1840). Continuing down Fair Street, now in the Fair Street Historic District, is a long facing row of residences built from the 1850 period as uptown Kingston became somewhat more industrial and prosperous. Along this long block of Fair Street are significant examples of the period architectural styles, including Italianate, Second Empire, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival.

START THE TRAIL AT THE TRAIN ON WASHINGTON AVENUE

Destination 1 D&H Canal Heritage Corridor Trail Head

The Delaware and Hudson Canal was a 108-mile, man-made waterway, an engineering feat of pre-industrial America. From 1828 to 1898, mules pulled barges laden with anthracite coal along river valleys from Honesdale in northeastern Pennsylvania to Eddyville on the Rondout Creek near the villages of Kingston and Rondout. From here, it was shipped on barges down the Hudson to New York City and up the river to Canada. The canal was conceived in 1823 by William and Maurice Wurtz, two Philadelphia dry goods merchants who had purchased large tracts of land in northeastern Pennsylvania rich in anthracite coal deposits. Though the British had been supplying America's fledgling industries on the eastern seaboard with bituminous coal, the War of 1812 caused America's supply to be cut off, creating a crisis. The canal proposed was four feet deep, 32 feet wide, contained 108 locks, 137 bridges, 26 basins, dams, and reservoirs, and cost an estimated 1.2 million dollars. The Canal operated successfully until the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company made a unique transition in 1898 into a railroad company, becoming America's oldest continuously operating transportation company.

QUESTION #1 _____ As you hike the Kingston Heritage Trail you will follow the trail signs. The signs for the Kingston Heritage trail are light _____ with white lettering.

PROCEED EAST ON WASHINGTON AVENUE UNTIL IT INTERSECTS WITH NORTH FRONT STREET- THE STADIUM IS ON YOUR RIGHT (SOUTH)

Destination 2 Dietz Stadium

Dietz Stadium is memorializes US Army Staff Sergeant Robert Dietz of Kingston who was awarded the Medal of Honor for gallantry in World War II. His award citation follows:

DIETZ, ROBERT H .

Rank and organization: Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, Company A, 38th Armored Infantry Battalion, 7th Armored Division. Place and date: Kirchain, Germany, 29 March 1945. Entered service at: Kingston, N.Y. Birth: Kingston, N.Y. G.O. No.: 119, 17 December 1945.

Citation: He was a squad leader when the task force to which his unit was attached encountered resistance in its advance on Kirchain, Germany. Between the town's outlying buildings 300 yards distant, and the stalled armored column were a minefield and 2 bridges defended by German rocket-launching teams and riflemen. From the town itself came heavy small-arms fire. Moving forward with his men to protect engineers while they removed the minefield and the demolition charges attached to the bridges, S/Sgt. Dietz came under intense fire. On his own initiative he advanced alone, scorning the bullets which struck all around him, until he was able to kill the bazooka team defending the first bridge. He continued ahead and had killed another bazooka team, bayoneted an enemy soldier armed with a panzerfaust and shot 2 Germans when he was knocked to the ground by another blast of another panzerfaust. He quickly recovered, killed the man who had fired at him and then jumped into waist-deep water under the second bridge to disconnect the demolition charges. His work was completed; but as he stood up to signal that the route was clear, he was killed by another enemy volley from the left flank. S/Sgt. Dietz by his intrepidity and valiant effort on his self-imposed mission, single-handedly opened the road for the capture of Kirchain and left with his comrades an inspiring example of gallantry in the face of formidable odds.

QUESTION # 2 Dietz Stadium was dedicated on May 30th _____, to Kingston's Medal of Honor recipient and all the men and women who made the _____ in all our victorious wars.

WALK DOWN NORTH FRONT ST., TURNING RIGHT ON CROWN ST. PROCEED 1 BLOCK AND STOP AT THE INTERSECTION OF CROWN & JOHN ST

Destination 3 Four Corners

This is the only intersection in America where four 18th century buildings still stand. Go to the southwestern most building at this intersection.

QUESTION # 3“This house was the first building used as Kingston Academy when founded in _____, partially burned by British Troops October 16th 1777.

CONTINUE DOWN CROWN STEET HALF A BLOCK., STOPPING AT THE STOP #4

Destination 4 Daughters of American Revolution Building

Read the plaque on the front of the building

QUESTION #4A “As a memorial to those heroic citizens of Kingston because of whose Patriotism the village was burned by the British Forces under the command of _____ on the 16th of October 1777 this tablet is erected by one of the members of the Wiltwyck Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution on the 16th day of October 1914.”

FOLLOW THE SIGNS ALONG THE ROAD OR GO THROUGH THE PARKING LOT TO THE 1818 COURTHOUSE ON WALL STREET.

and later styles

Destination 16 Rondout Historic District

QUESTION #16 The flagpole is dedicated “In Memory of All who _____ at sea

PROCEED UP BROADWAY TO THE VISITORS CENTER

Destination 17 Urban Cultural Park Visitors Center

CROSS BROADWAY AND VISIT THE PARK ON THE WATERFRONT

Destination 18 West Strand Waterfront Park

The West Strand is a row of 19th century buildings.

QUESTION #18 The Mansion House on Broadway was once a 100 room stage stop for travelers and _____

Destination 19 Sampson Opera House

The Sampson Opera House was built in 1875.

QUESTION #19 From the turn of the century until 1974 it was used for the editorial and printing offices of which newspaper? _____

Destination 20 D&H Canal Heritage Corridor

See description of Canal corridor at Destination #1

Destination 21 Company Hill Path

QUESTION #21 During the canal period from 1830-1900, Company Hill led from the D&H Canal's _____ office to the main office on the Promontory.

Destination 22 Hudson River Cruises & Sailing

QUESTION #22 The Black and Red Tugboat _____ is on display outside the Maritime Museum

Destination 23 Boat Rides to Rondout Lighthouse

Destination 24 Ferry Service to Rhinecliff

Between the 1840's and 1920's ferries were used to transport people and vehicles across Rondout Creek.

QUESTION #24 The last ferry was the “Skilly Pot” Dutch for _____, apt for its speed and appearance.

Destination 25 Maritime Museum & Book Shop

Dedicated to the Merchant Marines who helped supply Allied Forces in WWII. The Exhibit Hall combines photographs, artifacts, and fascinating descriptions to maritime stories. Recent exhibits have focused on sunken ships and abandoned boats, brickyards, and ice harvesting. In the yard you have the opportunity to see the bell from the Steamship *Mary*

CONTINUE SOUTH ALONG BROADWAY TO DESTINATION 12

Destination 12 Midtown Recreation Center

Built in 1889 this building was an armory for the 120th Infantry Regiment and the 156 Field Artillery Regiment of the NY Volunteers until the "new armory" was built on Manor Ave in 1931. A plaque from this building is displayed at the flagpole at the current armory. Soldiers from this armory served in the Spanish-American War and World War One

Destination 13 Kingston High School

Kingston High School was built in 1915. It was located half way between Kingston, whose children attended Kingston Academy; and Rondout, whose students attended Ulster Academy.

QUESTION #13 How tall is the flagpole in front of Kingston High? _____

Destination 14 Carnegie Library

The Carnegie Library was built in 1903 at a cost of \$30,000. Andrew Carnegie donated money to have several "Carnegie Libraries" built across the country. Any community could build a Carnegie Library if it agreed to provide maintenance and upkeep fees which were estimated to be 10% of the buildings cost annually.

QUESTION #14 In agreeing to support a Carnegie Library Kingston promised to provide \$ _____ annually to its upkeep.

Destination 15 Old City Hall

The Old City Hall on Broadway was used from 1876, shortly after it was built, until the 1970s when the City moved into a newer building in lower Rondout. It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

QUESTION #15A The monument in front of city hall is dedicated "To the Soldiers and Sailors of the county of Ulster in the war for the Union 1861-1865 (by) Their Grateful Fellow _____"

QUESTION #15B At the base of this monument is a seal of the city of Kingston inscribed with the motto: "Guard the _____"

PROCEED DOWN BROADWAY STOPPING AT THE VISITORS KIOSK & FLAGPOLE NEAR THE RONDOUT

Rondout- Chestnut Street & Rondout Historic Districts

The Rondout Historic District includes much of the former Village of Rondout that combined with Kingston in 1872. It sprang up within several years in the 1825-35 period when the new [Delaware and Hudson Canal](#) was being built and coal from Pennsylvania began to pass through to the Hudson. As the canal traffic increased, workers arrived and homes and commercial businesses were built along the slope upward from the Rondout Creek. As the decades passed, Rondout took part in new industries that exploited natural resources and river transportation: brick-making, cement-making, bluestone shipping, and ice-making.

The Chestnut Street Historic District As Rondout grew, a number of the affluent businessmen and professional people built homes at the top of the hill on Chestnut Street. The first house on the street (about 1850) was that of James McEntee, who came to Rondout as the resident engineer for the canal company; his son, Jervis, a painter of the Hudson River School also lived here. Among surviving houses are those of Henry Samson, a leather tanner; James Van Deusen, who made patent medicine; and George Coykendall, head of the city's trolley line. The architecture spans American styles from the Italian Villa style through Colonial Revival

Destination 5 Stockade National Landmark District

On this site, George Clinton was sworn in as New York State's first Governor and John Jay as the first state Chief Justice. From this courthouse in 1821, former slave Sojourner Truth gained her son's freedom from slavery in Alabama.

QUESTION #5A Sojourner Truth was a famous slave of _____ County who was born in Hurley.

QUESTION #5B Maj Gen George Clinton of Ulster was Governor for _____ terms

PROCEED NORTH ALONG WALL STREET UNTIL YOU REACH FRONT STREET. TURN RIGHT AND PROCEED TO THE SENATE HOUSE. CONTINUE THROUGH THE PARKING LOT, CROSS CLINTON AVE AND VISIT DESTINATION #6

Destination 6 Urban Cultural Park Visitors Center

An 1830s Federal-style house at 308 Clinton Avenue. This is the stockade district's visitors center.

RE-CROSS CLINTON AVE AND VISIT THE SENATE HOUSE AND MUSEUM

Destination 7 Senate House & Senate House Museum

Amid the turmoil of a British military invasion in the fall of 1777, the elected representatives of rebellious New Yorkers met in Kingston to form a new state government. Here they adopted the system, comprising a senate, assembly, governor, and judiciary that survives today. The assembled delegates risked their lives and property by being so openly disloyal to the British Crown. Along with the permanent residents of Kingston, all were forced to flee for their lives when the British attacked and burned Kingston on October 16th 1777. British Major General John Vaughan justified his destruction of the city because it was "a nursery for almost every villain in the country." The stone houses of Kingston, however, proved as durable as the desire for independence. Dwellings were repaired and occupied by succeeding generations living under the laws and freedoms of the new state and nation.

To recognize the role that the Senate House played in the Revolution, the state acquired the property in 1887 as its second historic site. The Senate House quickly became a vital community museum, exhibiting a diverse collection of artworks, documents, and historical objects donated by local residents. A two-story Museum Building was constructed in 1927 to house and display this burgeoning collection. In the Museum Building are important landscapes of John Vanderlyn's such as his *Niagara* paintings; classical works such as *Ariadne*; portraits, correspondence, and drawings; and sketches for many of his monumental works such as the panoramic view of *Versailles* (Metropolitan Museum of Art) and the *Landing of Columbus* (Rotunda of the Capitol in Washington, D.C.). The boundaries of the Senate House have been expanded to include two adjacent properties: an 1830s Federal-style house at 308 Clinton Avenue, and the Loughran House, an elegant 1873 Italianate house at 296 Fair Street.

QUESTION # 7A "Col. Wessel Ten Broeck Born at Westphalia 1635 Erected this house about _____ wherein the first senate of the state of New York met after the adoption of the first constitution 1777 until the burning of Kingston October 16 1777"

QUESTION #7B The Senate House Museum was: "Erected by the State of New York cornerstone laid by his excellency _____ Governor of the State on the 150th anniversary of the organization of the first legislature at Kingston September 10 1927."

NOW GO WEST ALONG JOHN STREET UNTIL YOU INTERSECT WALL STREET.

TURN LEFT AND PROCEED A BLOCK AND A HALF WHERE YOU WILL SEE THE CHURCH

Destination 8 Old Dutch Church*Error! Not a valid filename.*

The Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Kingston, N.Y., familiarly known as "Old Dutch," is the sixth oldest Reformed Church in America with a continuous ministry and worship on practically the same ground.

The original settlers of Esopus were primarily Dutch, but also included English, French Huguenot, German, and Norwegian residents. Early religious services were held in homes, conducted by a Vorleser (lay reader), who read scripture and delivered sermons. Sometimes, by special grant, he could even baptize and marry, but could not offer communion. In 1659, the Dutch settlers requested an ordained minister from the Classis of Amsterdam. The first minister or "Domine", Hermanus Blom, arrived and administered the first communion to 17 members on December 26, 1660. There is no record of any church building until 1678 when the congregation built a "handsome new church, 60 feet long and 45 feet wide." The new church was built of stone and stood on the northeast corner of Main and Wall Streets. Its stained glass windows bore the Dutch coat of arms. In 1721 and 1752, the building was further enlarged. In 1777, along with the rest of Kingston, the church was burned. The gutted church was restored by 1790 and stood until demolished in 1836. By 1832, a larger building was needed for the growing congregation. A brick church was erected on the opposite corner and served for 20 years. This building was sold and subsequently used as an armory during the Civil War. Eventually, it became St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church.

The current church building in the congregation's history was designed by a well-known architect of his day, Minard Lefever, and built in 1852 of native bluestone. The building cost \$33,361.39. The stained glass window behind the pulpit was designed and executed by Louis Comfort Tiffany and installed in 1891. It depicts *The Presentation in the Temple*. The praying angel was designed by a German sculptor, Carl Burbel, and took first prize for bronze work at the Chicago's World Fair of 1893. The flying angel was designed by Italian sculptor, Oronga Maldarelli. The Moeller organ is one of the largest in the Hudson Valley. The original steeple, the top of which fell during a severe windstorm the year following its completion, was 22 feet higher than the present one, which is 217 feet in height. When lighted, the spire can be seen for miles around. The bell still hanging in the tower and sounding the call to worship was purchased in Amsterdam, Holland, in 1794. Tradition has it that the bell was cast from molten silver and copper donated by people presenting their children for baptism.

In the Churchyard to the left of the front entrance walk is the monument to George Clinton, first Governor of New York State and Vice-President of the United States under Presidents Jefferson and Madison. Originally buried in the Congressional Cemetery in Washington, D.C., his body was brought here in 1908 and interred within sight of the Court House steps where he had been inaugurated Governor in 1777. Standing on the northeast corner of the churchyard is the statue of "Patriotism," presented by Brigadier General George Sharpe to honor the men of the 120th N. Y. Infantry in the Civil War. The red sandstone tablets set in the outer wall of the church are from the old Middle Dutch Church in New York City. Built in 1729, but since demolished, it was used as a prison during the Revolution. *From notes compiled by Mary L. Hilton for the One Third Millennium Celebration in 1992.*

QUESTION # 8A The statue of "Patriotism" is dedicated "To the undying renown of the _____ of the 120th Infantry, New York Volunteers "one of the 300 Fighting regiments" in the war for the union by the colonel of the regiment 1896."

QUESTION #8B The large plaque on the front of the church was placed there "In

commemoration of the visit of _____ to Kingston on the 16th of November 1782."

VISIT THE GRAVE SITE OF GEORGE CLINTON

QUESTION #8C George Clinton was the First Governor from _____, and Vice-President of the United States from 1804-1812.

CROSS WALL STREET AND YOU WILL SEE THE FRED JOHNSTON MUSEUM

Destination 9 Fred Johnston Museum

The museum is a treasury of 18th and 19th century furnishings and decorative arts. The Sudam-Van Leuven House is now owned and operated by the Friends of Historic Kingston.

QUESTION #9 Built by Senator John Sudam about 1812. _____ and Martin van Buren were entertained here.

RECROSS WALL STREET AND PROCEED PAST THE OLD DUTCH CHURCH. CONTINUE ON PEARL STREET UNTIL IT INTERSECTS CLINTON AVE. YOU ARE AT DESTINATION 10.

Destination 10 Academy Green Park

Academy Green, southeast and just outside the Stockade District toward Midtown and Rondout, was the site of Kingston's secondary school, the Kingston Academy, until the present high school was built in 1915. On this site, Peter Stuyvesant signed a treaty with the local Indians in 1660, ending the first Esopus Warnow look over this small park. Statues of Peter Stuyvesant, George Clinton, and Henry Hudson were recovered from a New York City office building, and given to the city of Kingston by Emily Crane Chadbourne on June 4th 1959.

QUESTION #10A What is unique about Stuyvesant's right leg? _____
QUESTION #10B What is Clinton holding in his right hand? _____
QUESTION #10C What is Hudson holding in his left hand? _____

PROCEED SOUTH ALONG BROADWAY FOR .6 MILES TO DESTINATION 11

Midtown- Historic Broadway

Midtown was built when the villages of Kingston and Rondout merged in 1872. The high school and city hall were placed half way between the two villages.

Destination 11 Ulster Performing Arts Center

The Ulster Performing Arts Center was built in 1927 as the Broadway Theatre. [The Broadway Theater at the Ulster Performing Arts Center \(UPAC\)](#), for many years a vaudeville and movie theater, is now an area cultural center. It is now a national Landmark. The map on the sidewalk helps orient visitors to the area.

QUESTION #11 The front of the UPAC building is supported by _____ huge pillars