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Saratoga

National Historical Park

GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2004



Saratoga National Historical Park, Stillwater and Saratoga, New York

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Dedication

A National Park Service general management plan is truly a collective effort. The planning process itself encourages wide-ranging participation and consensus building. A plan like this one for Saratoga National Historical Park contains the contributions of many people in both the public and private sectors, Park Service and non-Park Service.

Although this general management plan does not have, and indeed should not have, a single author, there is one person who was indispensable to its success. That person is recently retired Superintendent Doug Lindsay. A plan may be written and assembled by others, but it is the commitment of the park superintendent that really determines whether it will succeed.

With calm leadership, Superintendent Lindsay took the long view and never wavered in his commitment to this plan. More than ten years' experience at Saratoga gave him the perspective to see how rapidly things were changing and convinced him of the urgent need to prepare for new problems that were coming over the horizon.

In charge of a military site, Superintendent Lindsay displayed the steady qualities of a victorious commander. He never lost sight of his objective, was not disturbed by unimportant skirmishing, and had confidence in his subordinates. By trusting junior officers with important responsibilities, he encouraged them to develop their abilities to the fullest. If Burgoyne had had more of these qualities, he might have reached Albany!

This general management plan, finalized just as Superintendent Lindsay was retiring in 2004, represents his legacy to the park and to the National Park Service. With great appreciation, we are pleased to dedicate this published version to Doug Lindsay.

**Saratoga National Historical Park, 1777:
A Revolutionary War Stronghold**

"...English captains, officers, and men, also Brunswick chasseurs who were assigned there, grasped and pulled on the lines to maneuver the guns. The entire line of these regiments once again formed a front. My cannons, by means of their faithful assistance, were suddenly on the height. The cartridges were carried up in the men's arms and placed beside the guns, and as soon as I mounted the terrain, I quickly fired twelve or fourteen shots, one after the other, at the enemy standing under a full fire at about a good pistol shot distance from me..."

— George Pausch: Hesse Hannau Artillery





Looking toward the Future

A Word from the Superintendent

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For those who stayed with the entire process of preparing this general management plan, I'm sure there were times when the procedure seemed quite lengthy. However, as a new manager on the scene, I can assure you that the effort was worthwhile. A general management plan is a lot like a medical checkup: it evaluates the present condition of the park's health and prescribes measures to keep it healthy. Whereas a person should have an annual physical exam, a park can usually go 20 years (or in this case even longer) between checkups because parks operate on a much longer time frame than any individual.

The evaluation showed that, overall, the park is in fine shape. The reasons for its existence remain as valid, if not more so, than ever. With one of the most intact of the major Revolutionary War battlefields, enhanced by the resources of the Old Saratoga Unit, Saratoga National Historical Park is undeniably one of America's treasures, a vital element in the creation of our nation. Now, we find that the park's lands are increasingly valued not only as an historical shrine, but as open space, a sort of biological reservoir for the surrounding region.

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The planning process made it clear that the park was on the right course. As a result, no radical change in direction was necessary. The various adjustments called for in the plan are needed because of the great changes in the park's operating environment that have taken place in the 35 years since the last plan.

While taking pride in what the National Park Service has done so far, we must be careful not to slip into complacency. The sweeping changes that made a new plan necessary are not going away; if anything, they are accelerating. For example, the increasing awareness of the park's value as open space is a direct result of development in Saratoga County. Today, the scenery and the views around the park still recall the appearance of the land when Burgoyne arrived. Maintaining that integrity is one of the great challenges we face. I am confident that whatever we do to make this park more authentic and more attractive also makes this a better area to live in.



Saratoga National Historical Park is undeniably one of America's treasures, a vital element in the creation of our nation. Now, we find that the park's lands are increasingly valued not only as an historical shrine, but as open space, a sort of biological reservoir for the surrounding region.

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As the plan recognizes, the National Park Service can no longer accomplish its goals by itself. The days when a park superintendent's vision stopped at the park boundary are long gone. If we are going to achieve the goals described in this plan, we need the active involvement of many supportive individuals and groups. With the ever-increasing demands placed on park staff, it is obvious that only through partnerships can we preserve park resources, tell Saratoga National Historical Park's story to a wider audience, and work successfully with the many related sites along the historic warpath.

This is an exciting time to begin my job as superintendent of one of America's premier parks. I look forward to working with you to implement this plan.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean

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1 | Background

"The Campaign of Burgoyne, with its attendant circumstances, has had so much light thrown upon it by skillful writers that its review at the present time may seem unnecessary — even presumptuous. Yet, as artists of greater or less capacity are encouraged to repeat a theme, made familiar by the works of great masters, so perhaps, may be justified this attempt to portray again the great historical drama that opened so exultingly in June, 1777, near the banks of the St. Lawrence river, and terminated amid so many tragic elements in October of the same year, on the banks of the Hudson."

— Ellen Hardin Walworth, 1891



"In my Last Letter I had the Honour to acquaint Your Excellency of the March of The Army from Van Schaacks Island to Stillwater; Thursday last I reconitred the Ground in advance from thence, and found This Incampment the properest Station the Army could take in the present circumstances — from hence to Saratoga..."

— Major General Horatio Gates, September 15, 1777

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Background



The battles of Saratoga rank among the most decisive in world history.

Introduction

Saratoga National Historical Park is located in the scenic upper Hudson River Valley in the towns of Stillwater and Saratoga, New York. The park preserves sites associated with a significant American military victory during the Revolution. The battles of Saratoga rank among the most decisive in world history. Here in 1777 American forces met, defeated, and forced a major British army to surrender, an event which led France to recognize the independence of the United States and provide critical military support to the struggling Americans.

Under a 1926 law, New York State began to acquire battlefield lands in preparation for the sesquicentennial of the battles. The battlefield was made part of the national park system in 1938 when Saratoga National Historical Park was authorized by the United States Congress. Since 1938, the portion of the Battlefield Unit owned by the National Park Service has been enlarged and three sites of the Old Saratoga Unit in Town of Saratoga have been added to the park: the General Philip Schuyler Estate in the village of Schuylerville, and the Saratoga Monument and Victory Woods in the village of Victory.

Purpose of the General Management Plan

The main function of a general management plan is to define clearly the park's purpose and management direction. The general management plan provides a foundation to guide and coordinate all subsequent planning and management. Per directions from Congress and National Park Service management policies, each park is required to have an approved plan. This ensures that park managers carry out, as effectively and efficiently as possible, the mission of the National Park Service, which states:

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The general management plan describes the resource conditions and visitor experiences that should exist at Saratoga National Historical Park, and why they should exist. It takes a long view, 15–20 years into the future. It is a policy-level document that provides guidance for park managers and is not detailed, specific, or highly technical in nature. All other plans tier off of the general management plan, which provides a consistent framework for coordinating and integrating the various types of park planning and implementation that are needed to guide park management.

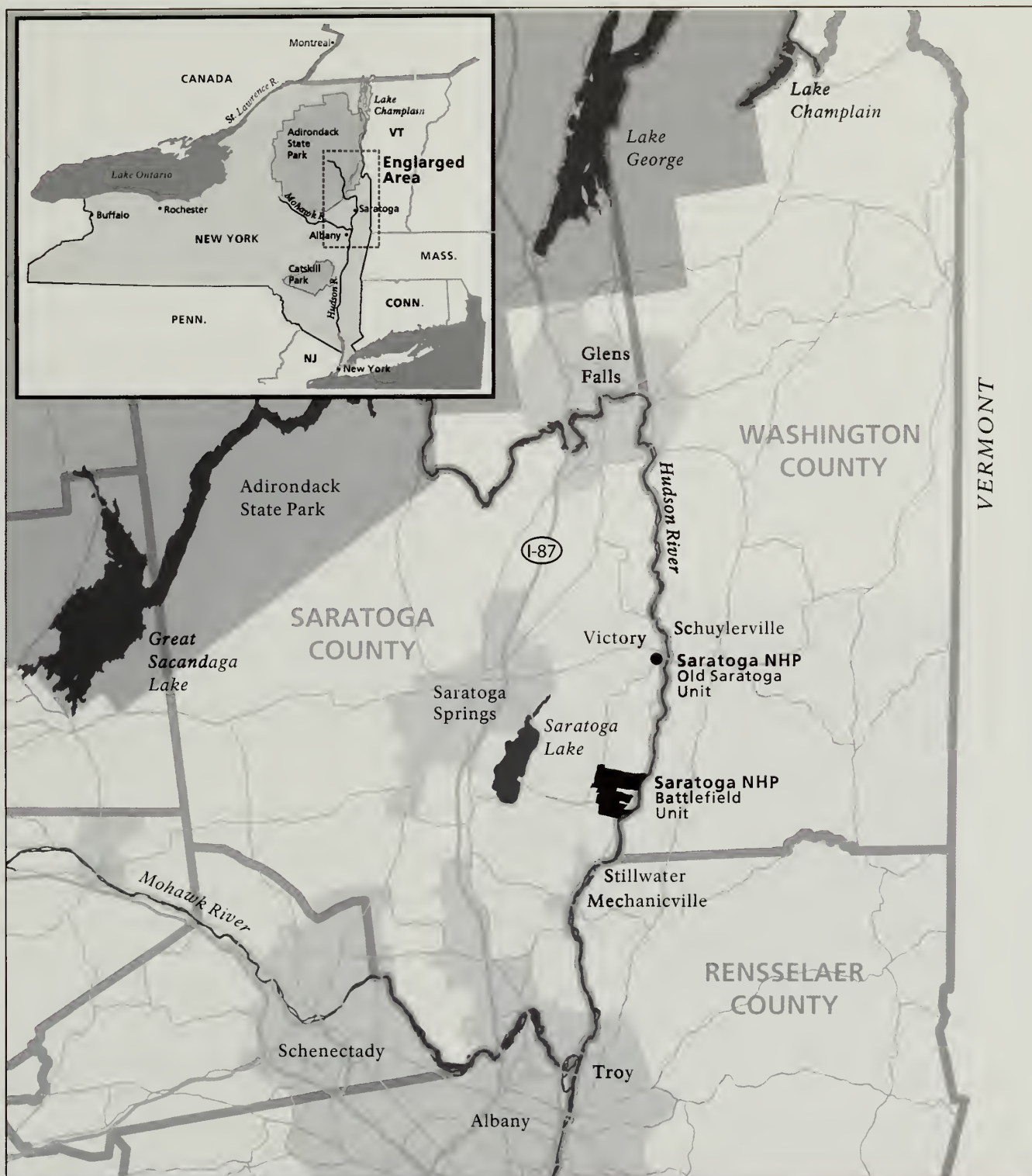
After the general management plan is adopted, the park's five-year strategic plan will be updated to lay out goals and management actions in accord with the general management plan. When funds become available to begin the design of facilities or to undertake other specific actions that are consistent with the general management plan, site-specific planning, research, and environmental analysis will be done. These undertakings will be subject to federal and state consultation requirements, and the public will be involved throughout the process.

The four basic elements required of National Park Service general management plans (by Public Law 95-625) are:

- ④ Measures for preservation of the area's natural and cultural resources.
- ④ Types and general intensities of development associated with public enjoyment and use of the area, including general locations, timing of implementation, and costs.
- ④ Identification and implementation commitments for visitor carrying capacities.
- ④ Potential boundary modifications and the reasons for them.



The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.



Upper Hudson River Valley

General Management Plan 2004



Saratoga National Historical Park
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

0 5 miles 10 miles



The Planning Process

The National Park Service takes an interdisciplinary approach to planning. The team that prepared this general management plan for Saratoga National Historical Park was made up of individuals skilled in the areas of cultural resource management, historic preservation, interpretation, collections management, landscape architecture, history, archeology, natural resource management, and community planning, as well as including all division chiefs at the park.

The team undertook numerous research projects to provide sound information to guide planning. Subject matter experts conducted research on such topics as the park's cultural landscape, visitor use, collections, and furnishings (Appendix D lists the research undertaken). The information generated was incorporated into the planning process as it became available.



Discussing alternatives at the Public Open House, January 2004.

As a starting point for planning, the team reviewed the park's purpose, as defined in its enabling legislation, and its legislative history. The team then developed a significance statement that identified the resources which make the park nationally significant. The team also formulated goal statements that describe the ideal conditions park managers seek to achieve. Then, in March 2000, the team invited some 30 scholars and resource specialists to define the park's interpretive themes — the most important stories to be told at Saratoga National Historical Park.

To acquaint the community with the National Park Service planning process, to solicit comments or concerns regarding the future of the park, and to report on the status of planning, the planning team held two public scoping sessions in March 2000. Both sessions, one held in Stillwater, the other in Schuylerville, were well attended. At these meetings, team members discussed the purpose and significance statements and the park's goals with the participants. The team followed up with a newsletter in August 2000, which highlighted comments received from the public and reported on the status of planning. The newsletter was distributed to over 700 people and was also made available on the park's website.

In the next stage of the process, the team drew on input from numerous sources to identify issues that the plan should address. This was a comparative, historical phase, in which planners examined the park's 1969 master plan, which had been adequate in its day, in the light of the great changes that had taken place since then. Sweeping changes had occurred in the park, in the surrounding region, in government regulations, in the historical profession, and in public expectations. The result was an extensive list of new issues the plan needed to address.

For many of these issues, laws or National Park Service policies dictate that certain actions are required. In this category were several major natural resource issues, such as defending against invasive non-native species and protecting water resources within the park. Certain other needs, while not required by law, were so obvious and pressing that they could not responsibly be avoided. Examples were the need to improve the maintenance function by adding a maintenance facility in the Old Saratoga Unit and improving visitor orientation in that area.

After the needs were identified, objectives were expressed, which described the desired conditions that would exist once the need had been satisfied. Those issues that inescapably had to be addressed, either because of legal requirements or the general consensus of everyone involved, were framed as Objectives Common to All Alternatives. This meant that these objectives would be dealt with similarly regardless of which alternative was chosen or any

Milestones of the Planning Process

Two Public Meetings	March 2000
Interpretive Themes Workshop	March 2000
Newsletter #1	August 2000
Briefing for Planners and Officials	July 2001
Newsletter #2	September 2001
Schuyler Estate Workshop	October 20001
Regional Visitor Center Feasibility Workshop	April 2002
Draft General Management Plan and Summary Newsletter	January – March 2004
Public Open House	January 2004
Abbreviated Final Environmental Impact Statement	August 2004
Record of Decision	September 2004

other elements it might contain. (The distinction between common objectives and objectives specific to one alternative was carried through until a proposal was chosen. In this condensed version, the distinction has been removed, and all objectives and their resulting actions are presented in the same form.)

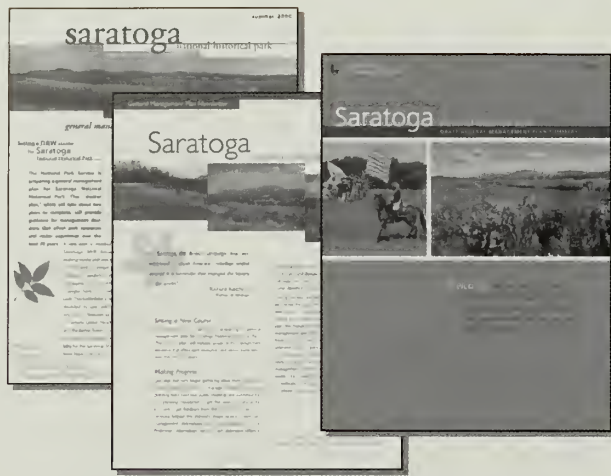
After considering the relevant factors, the team determined that there were two main subject areas where visions for the park's future differed substantially: (1) visitor experience and (2) partnership opportunities. Public participants' visions of how visitors should move through the park and how they should be presented with information varied widely. Also, people had different views regarding the appropriate level of park participation in the numerous regional initiatives that are being undertaken in the Champlain-Hudson and Mohawk Valleys. The planning team used these two broad "decision points" as the basis for developing the following three alternative approaches to park management:

Alternative A

Focus on Current Management Objectives allowed for incremental action toward existing objectives with minimum change to the park's current management philosophy and physical conditions. This concept would have entailed no significant expansion of the park's participation in regional initiatives. Alternative A represented the so-called No-action Alternative required by the National Environmental Policy Act.



Public Open House, January 2004.



The planning team published and distributed a series of newsletters to generate public awareness of the project and to solicit feedback from interested citizens.

Alternative B

Focus on the Battles, Siege, and Surrender concentrated on improving visitor understanding of the events that led to the 1777 British surrender at Saratoga by providing a more complete and logical depiction of these events. It rehabilitated key landscape features to help the visitor understand conditions faced by the armed forces and how landscape conditions were used and manipulated to serve tactical needs. This concept also enabled park staff to work with regional partners in developing outreach initiatives.

Alternative C

Focus on the Park as Memorial Grounds presented the park as a memorial landscape that has been commemorated in numerous ways over generations, from the erection of monuments, to the establishment of state and federal parkland, to contemporary efforts to link important sites through regional heritage initiatives. This approach preserved and enhanced interpretation of key landscape features to help the visitor understand the military events of 1777 and the efforts to commemorate those events. Moreover, this alternative envisioned the park as an important gateway to the regional initiatives of the Champlain-Hudson and Mohawk valleys.

The three alternatives, as well as the interpretive themes for the park, were presented in the second newsletter, published in the autumn of 2001. This newsletter was distributed to over 1,000 people and was posted on the park's website.

In addition to publishing the newsletter, the planning team sought public input at three meetings with various stakeholder groups. In July 2001, the team presented the preliminary alternatives to area planners and to local and county officials. In October 2001, stakeholders provided input at a meeting that focused on treatment of the Schuyler Estate. A meeting in April 2002 addressed the feasibility of developing a regional visitor center in Old Saratoga. The State Historic Preservation Office was briefed on the content of the draft plan and was sent an advance draft. Throughout the process, the superintendent kept local, county, and state officials informed on the progress of the plan, and consulted with them on specific issues.

Input from these sources made it apparent that a new alternative, combining favored elements of the initial concepts, was desirable. In response, the planning team developed "Alternative D" as the Preferred Alternative, and it is presented in this document as the Plan.

Alternative D (now the Plan)

Focus on the Burgoyne Campaign builds on Alternative B and incorporates elements of Alternative C to represent what the National Park Service views as the best management direction for the park. As in Alternative B, this approach focuses on improving visitor understanding of the events that led to the 1777 British surrender by providing a more complete and logical depiction of these events. It also includes — secondary to the strategic factors — interpretation of the efforts to commemorate the military events and opportunities to reflect on their meaning. Additionally, this approach enables the park to expand its partnerships with other Burgoyne Campaign-related sites and regional entities in the Champlain-Hudson and Mohawk valleys.



Superintendent Doug Lindsay, left (now retired) at the Public Open House, January 2004.

The potential impacts of the alternatives were evaluated and an analysis of impacts was included in a draft environmental impact statement. Potential impacts on cultural resources, natural resources, visitor use and experience, park operations, and the socioeconomic environment were considered in this analysis. Potential cumulative and unavoidable negative effects were also evaluated. Overall, Alternative D provides the greatest number of positive impacts in comparison to the other alternatives. The number of negative impacts associated with Alternative D is comparable to the other alternatives. Most, however, are negligible or minor.

Alternative D was highlighted in the draft general management plan/draft environmental impact statement, made available for a 60-day public review period starting in January 2004. A total of 2000 draft plan summary newsletters were distributed, along with over 60 copies of the full draft plan. Both the summary newsletter and the full draft plan were made available on the web and at area libraries. On January 22, 2004, the team held a public open house at the park visitor center, which was attended by some 45 people. Over the course of the public comment period, a total of 32 written comments were received. The team carefully reviewed all responses and incorporated substantive comments in the final general management plan/final environmental impact statement. These changes are reflected in this condensed version of the plan.

The consensus of the public comment period was that the National Park Service was pursuing the correct path for the park in Alternative D, the Preferred Alternative. Comments from individuals and public agencies did not require the National Park Service to add other alternatives, significantly alter existing alternatives, or make changes to the impact analysis of the effects of any alternative. Thus, an abbreviated format was used for the responses to comments in the final environmental impact statement, in compliance with the 1978 implementing regulations (40 CFR 1503.4[c]) for the National Environmental Policy Act.

In August 2004, the abbreviated final environmental impact statement was made available to the public. Appendix F presents a list of recipients of the final environmental impact statement. Organizations and individuals who commented on the draft are included in this list. After a 30-day “no-action period,” a record of decision was prepared in September 2004 to document the selected management option and set forth any stipulations for implementation of the general management plan, thus completing the environmental compliance requirements.

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The consensus of the public comment period was that the National Park Service was pursuing the correct path for the park in Alternative D, the Preferred Alternative.

The draft and final environmental impact statements accompanying the draft and final general management plans are essentially programmatic statements, presenting an overview of potential impacts relating to each management option. More detailed plans may be developed for individual actions outlined in this document. These follow-up plans would be subject to a more detailed review of environmental impacts.

Research undertaken to support planning included:

Adjacent Lands Viewshed Analysis

Archeological Overview and Assessment

Champlain Canal Preliminary Evaluation

Collections Management Plan Update

Cultural Landscape Research

National Wetland Inventory

Schuyler House Research

Victory Woods Site Reconnaissance

Visitor Use Survey



2 | The Park

"When will our countrymen believe that not in books alone are the records of a nation to be kept? If our 'Saratoga Monument Association,' or the government owned this great battle field it would tell its own story to the school children and to the indifferent grown people and lead them to value the national life that was at stake on this ground."

— Ellen Hardin Walworth, in a letter to William Stone, 1894



"I have always thought Hudson River's the most proper part of the whole continent for opening vigorous operations. Because the course of the river, so beneficial for conveying all the bulky necessities of an army, 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."

— British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne, 1775

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The Park



The river, ridges, streams, farmsteads, and woodlots helped determine the movements of the armies, the military tactics, and the outcome of the battles of Saratoga.

Historical Overview

by Larry Lowenthal

The British Northern Campaign of 1777

Today's visitor to Saratoga National Historical Park sees a serene, largely rural landscape. It is difficult to imagine that these picturesque surroundings were once the scene of desperate combat, when the infant United States of America fought for survival and won a victory whose consequences were of global importance.

In 1777, the first year of America's declared independence, King George III still hoped to stifle the rebellion and return the erring Colonies to royal control. This created an opportunity for John Burgoyne, an ambitious, articulate general who had served in North America since June 1775. Back in England at the close of the 1776 campaign, Burgoyne used his personal charm to advance his position. He composed an essay on strategy entitled "Thoughts for Conducting the War from the Side of Canada." Less a plan than a series of alternatives, it garnered attention in the absence of other inspiration.

The one consistent element in "Thoughts" was that a British army would move down the traditional Champlain warpath from Canada to the Hudson. Burgoyne's skill at political maneuvering was rewarded, and when he returned to Canada in May 1777 it was as commander of the invasion force. He had been elevated over a senior officer, General Sir Guy Carleton, who remained in command in Canada.

Burgoyne assembled a resplendent army at St. John, Québec, on June 13. More than 4,000 British and 3,000 German regulars formed its core, with Canadians, American Loyalists, and Indian allies bringing the total fighting force to well over 8,000. As it set off down Lake Champlain on June 30, 1777, Burgoyne's army made a magnificent, seemingly invincible, display.

The first major obstacle in Burgoyne's path was New York's Fort Ticonderoga, captured by an audacious American force led by Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold in 1775. A year later the Americans built up a formidable garrison at Ticonderoga and nearby Mount Independence, which deterred Carleton from attacking late in the season.



John Burgoyne, an ambitious, articulate British general who had served in North America since June 1775, was chosen to lead the Northern Campaign of 1777.

In the popular imagination, Fort Ticonderoga was the “Gibraltar of the North” — impregnable — but the nickname was valid only when it was properly garrisoned. In 1777, under Major General Arthur St. Clair, it was woefully under-strength. When Burgoyne appeared on July 2, St. Clair hoped to fight a successful delaying action. Two days later the British stunned him by hauling cannons up Mount Defiance, overlooking the American escape route. On July 5 St. Clair evacuated the fort in a hurried and humiliating night retreat. A grim portent: one day after the first anniversary of America’s declaration of independence, the strong bastion of the north had been taken with embarrassing ease. When the King learned the news, he exulted, “I have beat them. I have beat all the Americans!”

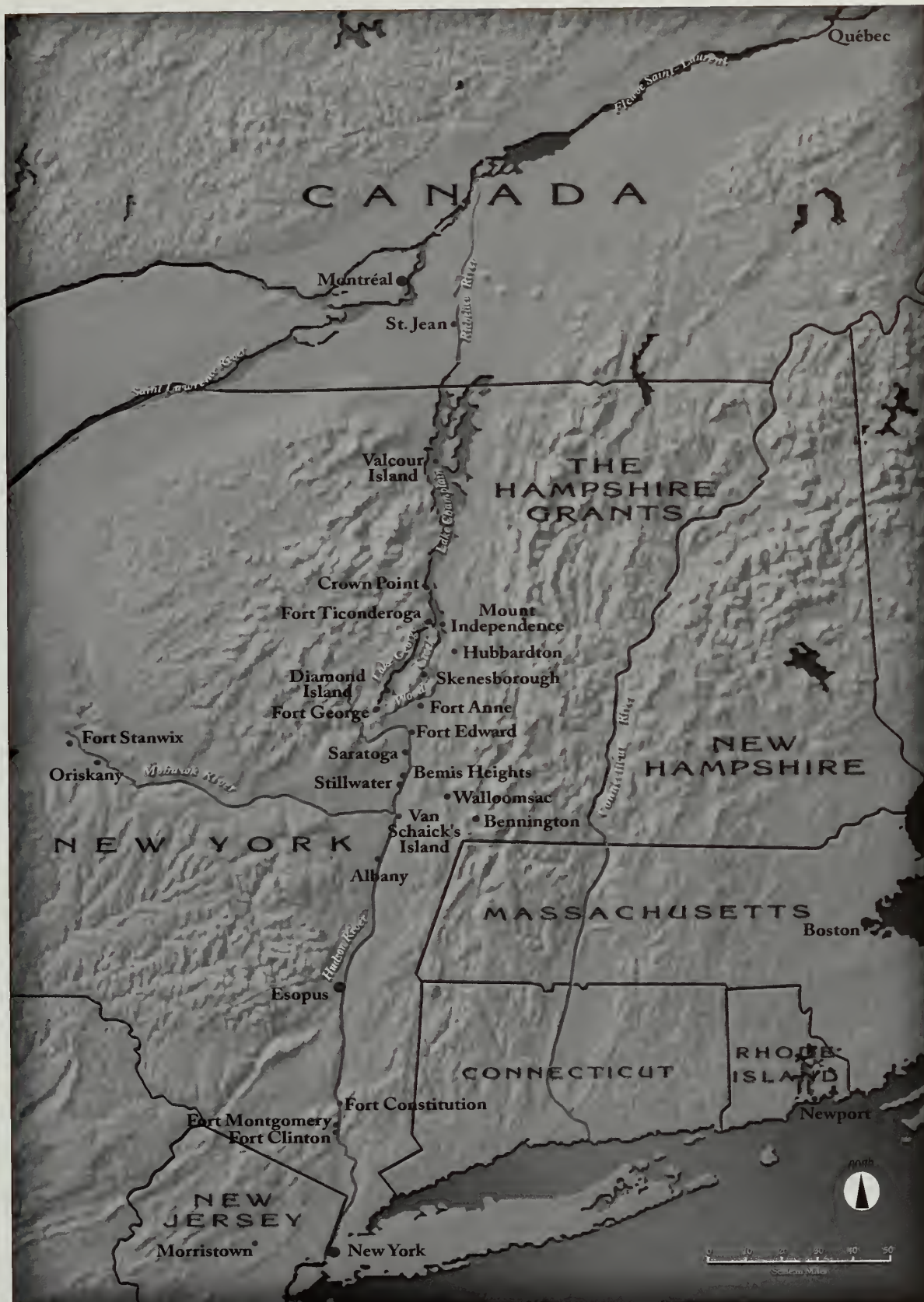
Now began one of the darkest months of American history. Although American troops fought creditably at Hubbardton and Fort Anne, Burgoyne’s superior forces pushed them back relentlessly. Major General Philip Schuyler delayed the British as best he could by obstructing their path, but the value of these methods was not fully appreciated at the time. Burgoyne’s progress seemed to have the ponderous inevitability of the glaciers that had once covered these regions. Deepening despair weighed on the northern states.

Delaying tactics became effective because Burgoyne was dependent on his long supply line — the reason he put so much effort into pushing a road through the wilderness. Schuyler’s unobtrusive, unavoidable strategy of trading time for space began to pay off in early August. Burgoyne, having finally reached the Hudson, pounced on a report that the area around Bennington contained valuable supplies, especially horses, and organized a raid. The composition of this detachment, consisting largely of dismounted German heavy cavalry, was questionable in view of its purpose. In a stunning surprise, militiamen under Brigadier General John Stark of New Hampshire crushed the intruders on August 16 at what is called the battle of Bennington. From that day forward Burgoyne’s confidence began to deflate, and as the long days of northern summer ran out, he was filled with increasing foreboding.

Although Schuyler had contributed to the outcome of Bennington, the impetuous John Stark had fought independently. Schuyler’s continued retreat subjected him to mounting criticism in Congress. New Englanders, who formed a growing portion of the northern army, disliked his aristocratic Dutch ways. Behind the scenes an intense political struggle took place, and when it ended Schuyler had been replaced by an old rival, Major General Horatio Gates.



General Philip Schuyler, a patriot statesman and military leader, was commander of the northern theater of operations prior to the battles of Saratoga. His strategy of delaying the British as best he could by obstructing their path helped pave the way for the American victory.



The Northern Campaign



Saratoga National Historical Park
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

General Management Plan 2004

Before Schuyler departed, he made another insufficiently recognized contribution to the final outcome. As part of Burgoyne's plan, a column commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Barry St. Leger was supposed to march down the Mohawk Valley and join him at Albany. In some respects this operation, though conducted as a diversion, made more sense than the main invasion, as the valley contained many Loyalists and abundant supplies.

To guard this strategic region, the Americans had rebuilt and garrisoned Fort Stanwix at the Oneida Carrying Place (present Rome, New York), beyond the limit of European settlement. Moving by way of the St. Lawrence and Lake Ontario, St. Leger appeared before Fort Stanwix in early August. When the fort refused to surrender, he began a siege. A relief expedition by Mohawk Valley militia was mauled at Oriskany on August 6, largely by Iroquois, who formed a majority of St. Leger's force.

Although the garrison stood firm at Fort Stanwix, Schuyler knew it could not hold indefinitely. In an astonishingly bold risk, he detached part of his already inadequate army to relieve the fort. Later he placed Major General Benedict Arnold in command of the relief expedition. Arnold never had to fight a battle. Instead, he gave St. Leger's Iroquois allies, who had become disillusioned with the campaign, an excuse to depart. Without them, St. Leger had to make a hasty flight back to Canada, leaving Burgoyne more isolated than before.

Burgoyne was under the overall command of General Sir William Howe. The two were expected to cooperate, but the government in London had never established how this was to be done. Howe, apparently sure Burgoyne could manage on his own, determined to attack the American capital of Philadelphia. Unwilling to chance a march overland, he put his entire army on ships. For more than a month, from late July to late August, Howe's army was at sea, out of touch. During this pivotal month, things began to turn sour for Burgoyne. When Howe advanced on Philadelphia from the south, General Washington was inevitably drawn off to oppose him. Washington had sent important units to assist in the north; otherwise the two campaigns remained separate.



Major General Horatio Gates took command of the Northern Army in September 1777, just prior to the battles of Saratoga.



225th Anniversary reenactment.

Burgoyne spent early September on the east side of the Hudson near the mouth of the Battenkill, slowly accumulating supplies. By then he had absorbed the two defeats on his flanks (Bennington and Fort Stanwix) and knew that Howe could offer no immediate help. He could have turned back to Ticonderoga, but retreat was not in his character. In order to march on Albany, he had to cross the Hudson River. Once he did so, he cut his supply line and committed himself to fighting through to Albany.



By 1777, the landscape of Saratoga had changed dramatically due to the efforts of the English, Dutch, Congregationalists, and Quakers. They succeeded in changing the landscape from a wilderness to a rural settlement

When Gates took command of the northern army, he found it reduced in numbers and morale due to attrition on its long retreat. The army was camped on the north side of the Mohawk River, in poor country for withstanding an attack. He decided to shift his defensive line to the north, and on the advice of a gifted Polish engineer, Colonel Thaddeus Kosciuszko, dug in at Bemis Heights, north of Stillwater. Here the hills crowded close to the Hudson, leaving Burgoyne no choice but to batter his way past Gates if he was going to capture Albany. The pieces were in place for the battles of Saratoga.

The Battles

After crossing the Hudson on September 13, Burgoyne moved his army southward in his usual methodical way. On the 19th, with the American army only about three miles ahead, Burgoyne faced another decision. Forcing his way past the American batteries along the river seemed a nearly hopeless proposition. His best chance lay in swinging cross-country to dislodge Gates from his fortified positions.

The upland countryside between the opposing armies was no longer wilderness, but was recently settled, with farm clearings interspersed among dense forest. Steep ravines leading down to the river created obstacles to military maneuver. In general the terrain was poorly suited to the kind of set-piece, open-field formations favored by European armies. By then Gates's army outnumbered the British, but some of his troops were militia, often unreliable in formal combat and not armed as fully or as uniformly as Burgoyne's disciplined regulars.

On September 19 Burgoyne divided his army into three columns, hoping to outflank the American defenses. Early in the afternoon Colonel Daniel Morgan's frontier riflemen, one of the units Washington had detached from his army, engaged the center column around the Freeman Farm. Fighting surged back and forth in this limited area for several hours as each side committed more troops. The Americans seemed to be getting the better of it until Burgoyne urgently ordered some of his German troops to come to the rescue. Late in the day these units pushed back the Americans, who withdrew into their prepared positions.

The German Baroness von Riedesel

The German Baroness von Riedesel traveled with her husband, a general in Burgoyne's army. She kept a diary that includes vivid descriptions of General Burgoyne and the British army's march from Canada to the surrender at Saratoga.



Burgoyne had gained a narrow technical victory in the sense that his troops occupied the battlefield, but if anything his position was worse than before. His losses were significant and could not be replaced, while American strength was augmented by militia each day. Neither side was in condition to renew the fighting immediately after Freeman's Farm, as the battle was called. Soon Burgoyne began to dig into defensive positions — startling but revealing behavior on the part of an invincible army that was supposed to be determining the course of action.

It was clear that Burgoyne's once unlimited confidence had nearly evaporated. Trying to share responsibility (or blame), he resorted increasingly to military councils, making decisions by committee. His actions show that he recognized he could no longer break through to Albany on his own. Increasingly he pinned his diminishing hopes on the frail possibility of aid from St. Leger, who after his rout had retraced Burgoyne's path to Ticonderoga, or from Lieutenant General Sir Henry Clinton to the south.

With Howe occupied around Philadelphia, Clinton was left in charge of New York City. A competent but naturally cautious man, he tried to help Burgoyne without endangering his own position. After receiving reinforcements from Europe, Clinton sailed up the Hudson with 3,000 men on October 3. In a well-executed drive, the British captured the American forts in the Hudson Highlands, removing the major obstacle between themselves and Gates's army.

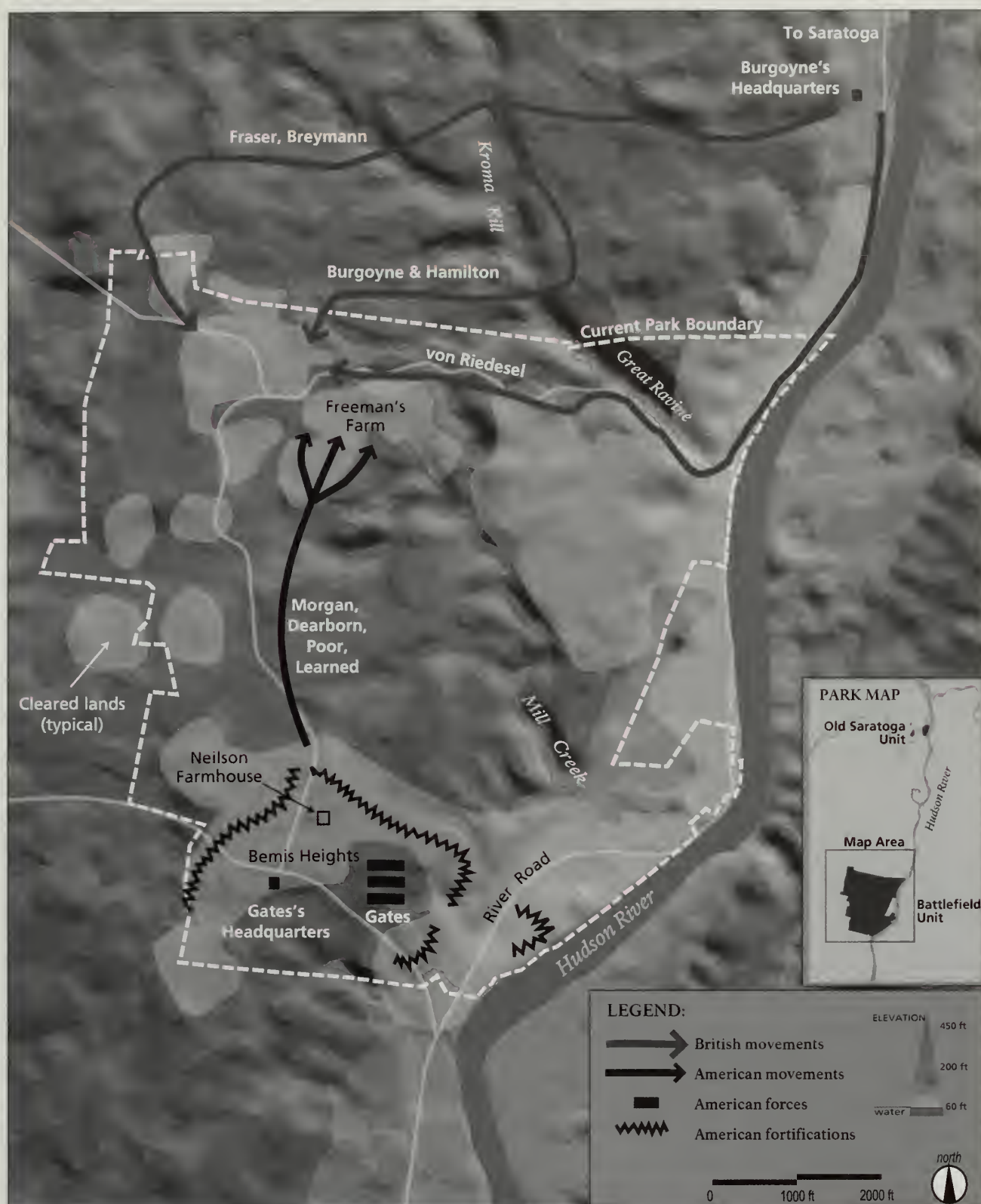
Due to uncertain communications, Burgoyne had limited knowledge of Clinton's movements. He was acutely aware that his own position was deteriorating. Having proclaimed at the start of his march that "This Army must not retreat," he was not yet ready to consider that option. In England he had been, like many of his class, an avid gambler, and he was ready to risk all on another throw of the dice. Though his senior officers talked him out of an assault with most of his army, he won their approval for what he called a "reconnaissance in force."

About 1,700 men moved out of their camp on October 7 and took up positions at Barber's Wheat Field, another agricultural clearing, while their officers considered the next move. This force was too small to do much good, but was large enough to attract an overwhelming American response, as soon occurred. Attacked on three sides, Burgoyne's troops fought valiantly but within an hour were driven back in disorder, taking refuge in one of their prepared defenses, the Balcarres Redoubt. Brigadier General Simon Fraser, a respected officer, was mortally wounded as he tried to control this withdrawal.



"...Toward three o'clock in the afternoon, instead of my dinner guests arriving as expected, poor General Fraser, who was to have been one of them, was brought to me on a stretcher, mortally wounded. The table, which had already been set for dinner, was removed and a bed for the General was put in its place. I sat in a corner of the room, shivering and trembling."

— Baroness von Riedesel



First Battle of Saratoga September 19, 1777



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General Management Plan 2004



"In the Victory woods, south of the monument, there are hundreds of feet of the British breastworks in an excellent state of preservation. The ground never having been permanently cleared nor plowed, these earthworks remain as the British left them, except that the logs, which may have entered into their construction, are rotted away."

— John Henry Brandow, *The Story of Old Saratoga*, 1906

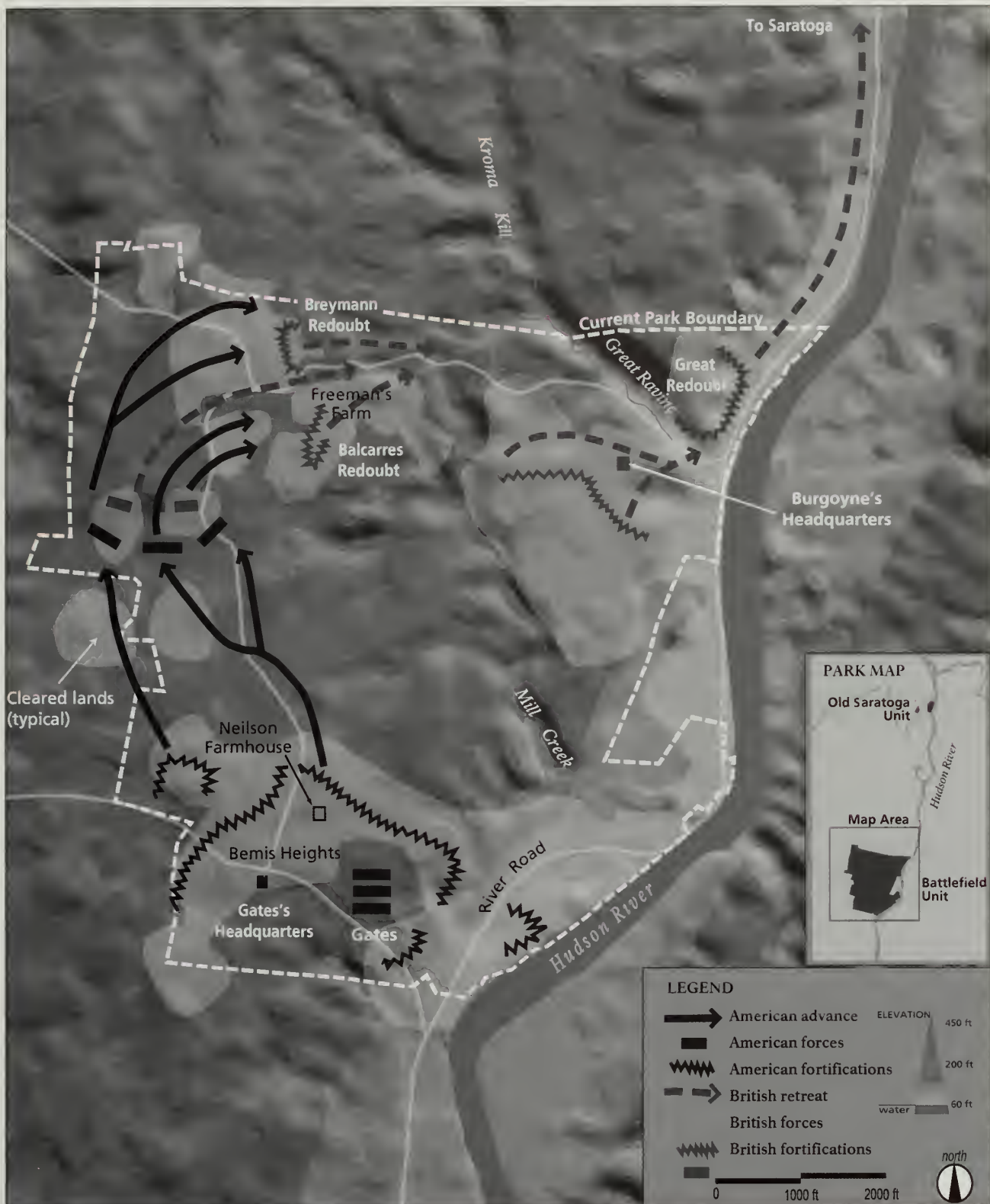
The battle might have ended at this point but for one man — Benedict Arnold. Several days earlier Arnold, with his exaggerated sensitivity and distended regard for his honor, had quarreled violently with Gates. Stripped of active command by Gates, Arnold remained in camp, but when he heard the sounds of battle on October 7, could not hold back. He charged onto the field and, in violation of all military protocol, seized command of the first troops he encountered. At their head, he completed the rout of the German elements of the "reconnaissance." Ranging over some of the same ground as the first battle, he turned his attention to Balcarres Redoubt, but the British put up a strong defense and repulsed the American attack. Furiously, Arnold turned away and joined the assault on Breyman's Redoubt, held

by German troops. The defenders were swept away, but on entering the redoubt Arnold was shot in the leg and pinned beneath his horse. If he had remained uninjured, there is no telling how long the battle would have continued, but with darkness coming on, the day's fighting drew to a close.

Burgoyne saw that his position was hopeless, and the mirage of Albany finally faded. That night he pulled his troops behind their strongest defenses near the Great Redoubt. On October 8, after burying General Fraser in solemn ceremony, the royal army began its grim retreat northward. A chill autumn rain turned the road muddy and made the march even more of an ordeal for the dispirited troops and camp followers. Gates, probably believing he could gain his objectives without another costly battle, did not contest the retreat.

On October 10 Burgoyne dug in on the heights north of Fish Creek in present Schuylerville and Victory. It was a relatively strong position, but more so for the British than the Germans, who were camped on lower ground and exposed to fire from both front and rear. Burgoyne has been criticized both then and later for not pressing northward when there might have been a chance to escape, but he may have clung to a wan hope that he would be rescued. Indeed, Henry Clinton sent a detachment up the Hudson, where it burned Kingston, seat of the New York State government, and proceeded even farther north. In the end this maneuver, though it terrified the residents of Albany, proved the impossibility of saving Burgoyne.

The Americans held Burgoyne's army in what amounted to a siege, without some of the formality. Pinned behind its earthworks, the royal army lacked reliable supplies of food and water and was subjected to constant firing. Although his troops, who called him "Gentleman Johnny" because he treated them humanely by the standards of the time, remained devoted, Burgoyne finally faced the inevitable and on October 13 requested negotiations. Three days of sometimes bizarre conferences ensued, punctuated by councils between Burgoyne and his senior officers. Gates, presumably worried about British operations on the lower Hudson, granted most of the British requests, allowing the final document to be called a "convention," rather than surrender or capitulation.



Second Battle of Saratoga October 7 and 8, 1777



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A French engraving portrays Burgoyne surrendering his sword to Gates on October 17, 1777.

On October 17, 1777 Burgoyne's soldiers marched out of their entrenchments and laid (or threw) down their weapons in a clearing north of Fish Creek whose popular name, the "Field of Grounded Arms," suggests the vaguely medieval nature of the proceedings. Seldom had history witnessed such a startling turnaround in the 15 weeks since the ragged Americans had slunk out of Ticonderoga. Then, in regular columns, the defeated forces forded the creek and came to the point where Gates and his staff were waiting.

It is somewhat unusual to name a campaign after the defeated commander, but this had been John Burgoyne's campaign from the outset. He had conceived it, maneuvered to gain the command, made the crucial decisions along the way. Now the British general, who at the outset of his march had issued a pompous proclamation threatening "devastation, famine and every concomitant horror" to his foes, handed his sword to the plebian Gates in the ancient gesture of surrender.

The Convention called for the captured army to be returned to Europe. Since that would have freed other troops to fight in North America, the Continental Congress never carried out this provision, and the soldiers remained captive for the duration of the war. Burgoyne himself returned to England and, in addition to writing plays, occupied himself defending his conduct of the expedition.

The most far-reaching consequences took place on the Continent, where the spectacle of a British army surrendering in the wilderness astonished the courts of Europe.

Howe had again outgeneraled Washington and entered Philadelphia between the two battles of Saratoga, but Washington's army remained intact and went into winter quarters at Valley Forge. Howe's apparent success was of less consequence than Washington's spirited opposition and — of greater importance — the Burgoyne disaster, for these events convinced France to sign an alliance with the United States. This renewed the conflict between France and Britain that had been waged intermittently since 1689 and vastly widened the scope of America's War for Independence. In subsequent years, French money, materiel, and manpower sustained the American cause on the many occasions when the United States seemed nearly exhausted. The seeds sown at Saratoga were harvested almost exactly four years later in a similar ceremony at Yorktown.

[The army arrived at Old Saratoga]

"in such a state of fatigue that the men for the most part had not strength or inclination to cut wood and make fires, but rather sought sleep in their wet cloaths upon the wet ground under the continuing rain."

— Burgoyne, *State of the Expedition*



Burgoyne's Army Trapped at Saratoga October 10-17, 1777



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The Schuyler House is the third to be built on what was the Schuyler family property. Here in 1856, a group met and took the first formal action toward recognizing and preserving the battlefield.

Preserving the Battlefield

Burgoyne's surrender by no means brought a return to normal for the region through which he had marched. In later years smaller British forces came down the Champlain route, Indian raids were frequent, and only the formal declaration of peace in 1783 brought a feeling of security to American settlers. General Schuyler's house at Saratoga, burned by Burgoyne in the closing days of the campaign, had been rebuilt with the help of soldiers soon after and, as the general intended, became the center of a growing mill and agricultural community.

General farming resumed after the war and expanded until the entire area of the battlefield had been divided into family farms, commonly comprising 100–200 acres. Completion of the Champlain Canal in 1823 provided links both north and south and created new opportunities, but the economy of the area remained predominantly agricultural. By 1870 approximately 90% of battlefield land had been cleared; only the ravines and other places too steep to be farmed retained anything of their original condition.

Early in the 19th century the practice arose among cultured individuals, many of them foreign, of visiting the battlefield. These people clearly regarded the site as hallowed ground, and for many the journey had aspects of a pilgrimage. They thrilled at seeing earthworks, foundations, and other evidence of the battles and lamented the agricultural practices that were steadily erasing these landmarks. Farmers

routinely plowed up wartime artifacts, including human remains, but veneration for the patriot heroes did not yet extend to preserving the land on which they had struggled.

The first formal action toward recognizing the battlefield came in 1856, when a group met at the Schuyler House to discuss creating a victory memorial. Three years later they formed the Saratoga Monument Association, but the emphasis was still on memorialization, rather than preservation. After delays due to the Civil War and other factors, the cornerstone of the monument was laid on the 100th anniversary of the battle of Freeman's Farm in 1877. The accompanying celebration marked the true beginning of public awareness and activism toward the preservation of Saratoga battlefield, although the monument was located in Victory.

Ellen Hardin Walworth, whose sustained efforts were largely responsible for turning attention to preservation of the battlefield, made a plea in 1880 for marking the battleground with plaques or monuments. This was the first formal extension of memorial efforts to the battlefield. The placing of tablets began almost immediately and continued for many years. On Walworth's initiative, the Saratoga Chapter of the Daughters of the American



Ellen Hardin Walworth

Ellen Hardin Walworth, a remarkable local citizen — life-long battlefield enthusiast, founding member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, supporter of the American Historical Association — was instrumental in the preservation of the battlefield.

Revolution (DAR) also erected nine granite markers on the carriage route from Saratoga Springs to the battlefield between 1906 and 1909.

The drive to preserve battlefield land gained momentum in the 1920s, led by George O. Slingerland of Mechanicville, with editorial and financial support of *New York Times* owner Adolph Ochs. The Saratoga Battlefield Association was formed in 1923 and began to acquire key parcels. As patriotic fervor grew with the approach of the 150th anniversary of the events, a law was passed in 1926 authorizing New York State to own and preserve historic sites. During a huge celebration in October 1927 the state park was officially dedicated and placed under the administration of the Conservation Department. At this time the state owned four farms totaling 644 acres, about one-quarter of the estimated area of the historic battlefield.

During its administration the state made progress in land acquisition, development, and interpretation, setting precedents and creating infrastructure that endured into the 1960s. Under Slingerland's direction the state also erected several "replica" structures, partly to perform visitor service functions that could not otherwise be accommodated.

Slingerland continued as superintendent of the battlefield park until his death in 1932. He had intensified the interest of New York Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt in preserving the battlefield, and this interest continued after Roosevelt was elected president in 1932. Although they differed as to details, both men believed the site should be given national recognition and ownership.

During the latter part of the state management period, action was hindered by the shortage of funds due to the Great Depression and the expectation of imminent federal takeover. During this slack time the DAR dedicated a monument to unknown soldiers in 1931, accompanied by a memorial grove of 27 trees. (The grove is no longer extant.) In the 1930s the removal of farms, planting of sod, and introduction of grazing sheep created an open park-like landscape that was representative neither of battle conditions nor of the traditional agriculture that succeeded the battles.

Establishment of a national park to commemorate the Saratoga battles, authorized by Congress in 1938, came about largely due to the direction provided by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The National Park Service accepted 1,430 acres from New York State, although the area remained under state administration. A Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp was established at the park in 1939. Although the program by then was past its peak and was terminated in 1942 due to U.S. participation in World War II, the CCC performed the first methodical historical and archeological investigation of the battlefield.



Slingerland's Memorial Grove of elm trees was dedicated on the same day as the Saratoga Battlefield Memorial, October 10, 1931.

During the ten-year period until establishment of the national park was finalized in 1948, the National Park Service engaged in planning for its eventual administration of the battlefield, while New York State continued to manage it. Almost immediately two critical issues emerged: management of vegetation and the development of tour roads. Initially, Park Service historians favored keeping the land open to

provide sweeping views of the historic terrain. In any case, lack of detailed knowledge of vegetative conditions would have made accurate reforestation difficult. The National Park Service followed a cautious policy while it devoted major effort to developing an accurate historical base map.

Several locations for the new administration/museum building had been suggested. On a visit coinciding with the anniversary of the second battle in 1940, President Roosevelt chose Frasers Hill as the site of this facility, due to the expansive views it provided. This command decision by the chief executive brought an abrupt end to the debate. Selection of a site for the main visitor facility guided layout of the tour roads, although the actual course of roads and the location of the park entrance were continually being revised, even during the war years.



President Franklin Delano Roosevelt chose Frasers Hill as the site for the visitor center due to its expansive views.

A study by historian Charles Snell in 1951 brought a reversal of previous policy in order to favor extensive reforestation in an effort to re-create the field-forest configuration at the time of the battles. Further studies have revised details of Snell's base map, but the policy established at that time has remained generally in effect, and the base map has remained a cornerstone of subsequent planning. Lack of regular maintenance, which led to unplanned reforestation during and after the war, inadvertently supported the new policy.

The 1959 general development plan finally settled on a tour road alignment. The road, finally completed in 1967, connected interpretive stops in the shortest way, without much regard to historical sequence. Earlier designs that offered alternatives to the full-length tour were dropped. In 1962 the visitor center was constructed on Frasers Hill as part of the nationwide "Mission 66" initiative to rebuild the neglected infrastructure of the national park system.

Acquisition of historically important lands continued under National Park Service administration. While the battlefield remained paramount, National Park Service involvement expanded to embrace several related sites. A 26-acre portion of the Schuyler Estate was acquired in 1950, as authorized by 1948 legislation. Under a cooperative agreement, the Old Saratoga Historical Association provided interpretive services for the site. Many of the objects on display at the house are still owned by the Association. Looking ahead to the bicentennial, a tract in the village of Victory was acquired by donation in 1974. This land, believed to contain remains of British earthworks from the "siege" period, had apparently remained free of disturbance due to its rugged location and long-standing ownership by an adjacent factory. New York State, which had administered the Saratoga Monument, ceased operation of it after 1970 due to a state fiscal crisis. The site was deeded to the National Park Service in 1980.

The 1969 master plan, the last major park-wide planning initiative before the present, was inspired by the approaching national bicentennial, with its expected surge in popular interest and visitation. Otherwise, it largely continued on the course set by previous plans. The policy of removing features not authentic to 1777 remained in effect, though most of the commemorative monuments were retained in place. Additional research, including archeology, had refined the understanding of battlefield conditions, so that the 1969 plan seemed confident in striving for a more literal depiction. Thus the policy of trying to reestablish the 1777 landscape configuration was reinforced and has continued to guide park managers ever since.



The cultural landscapes are among the park's most vital resources. These landscapes, when combined with historic structures, archeological resources, and museum objects and archives of the park, are essential in relating the history of the Burgoyne Campaign. In the relative absence of historic structures on the battlefield, the landscapes assume a greater burden in conveying this story.

Overview of Park Resources

The park embraces a rich blend of cultural and natural resources. This mosaic necessitates the integration of the preservation and maintenance of historic structures and objects with that of natural systems, landscapes, and viewsheds. The following overview suggests the diversity of the park's resources.

Regional Context

Saratoga National Historical Park is located in the upper Hudson River Valley in eastern New York State. The battlefield lies about 16 miles north of the junction between the Hudson and Mohawk rivers. The nearest city is Saratoga Springs, approximately 9 miles west of the park. All park sites are located in Saratoga County and extend between 26 and 33 miles from the state capitol at Albany. The Vermont boundary lies only about 17 miles east of Schuylerville.

The Hudson River in the vicinity of the park forms part of a historic transportation corridor extending to the St. Lawrence Valley. Artificial waterways have improved travel through the area since 1823, but for centuries before that the corridor provided a route for trade and invasion. Saratoga became a battlefield because of its strategic location on this waterway

system. Lake Champlain, the southern extremity of which, near Whitehall, is less than 35 miles from Schuylerville, forms the core of the traditional transportation route.

West of the Champlain Valley rise the Adirondack Mountains, a barrier to travel until recent times. Part of Saratoga County is situated within the 6,000,000-acre Adirondack State Park. This immense protected area features over 40 mountains rising above 4,000 feet and over 200 large lakes, with numerous opportunities for camping, hiking, and fishing.

Saratoga County is part of the Capital District of New York. The county is growing rapidly in population, facilitated by Interstate 87 (the Northway). The population growth, along with a decline in agriculture, is fueling the conversion of once-productive farmland to residential use. To date, Saratoga Lake, situated between the park and I-87, has shielded the battlefield locale from the most intense development pressures. For the most part, lands in the vicinity of the park remain privately owned and of rural/agricultural character. As population increases, however, the open space surrounding the park may become increasingly threatened.

Natural Resources

The lands of Saratoga National Historical Park function as a “biological reservoir” providing value to the broader ecosystem through natural processes. Such processes include nutrient cycling, provision of pollinators for the reproduction of plant species, provision of habitat for resident species, and as a migration corridor and stopover point for migrants. As urbanization advances in the upper Hudson River Valley, the protected lands of the park play an increasingly important role in providing these “services” for the regional ecosystem.

Topography and Soils

The varied landscape of gorges, bluffs, floodplain, and ridges in this portion of the upper Hudson River Valley directly influenced the battles that occurred here. As a result, topography is a major topic in park interpretation. The battlefield is a four-square-mile sample of the typical Hudson River floodplain and bluff landscape. Its topography contributes to a diversity of landscape types: uplands (both wet and dry), floodplain, ravines, and steep slopes extending down to the floodplain.

The land along the Hudson River is rich in mineral content, which contributed to the strong agricultural tradition of the region. Soils are alluvial clays and loams, which produce site-specific variations in park vegetation. This soil type is subject to slumping (which poses constraints to visitor access and facility development). Over 1,000 acres of prime agricultural soils are distributed in the low-lying areas of the park.

Topography was the single most critical feature weighing upon siting, strategy, and outcome of the individual battle events, and is still of primary importance in understanding and interpreting the battles.

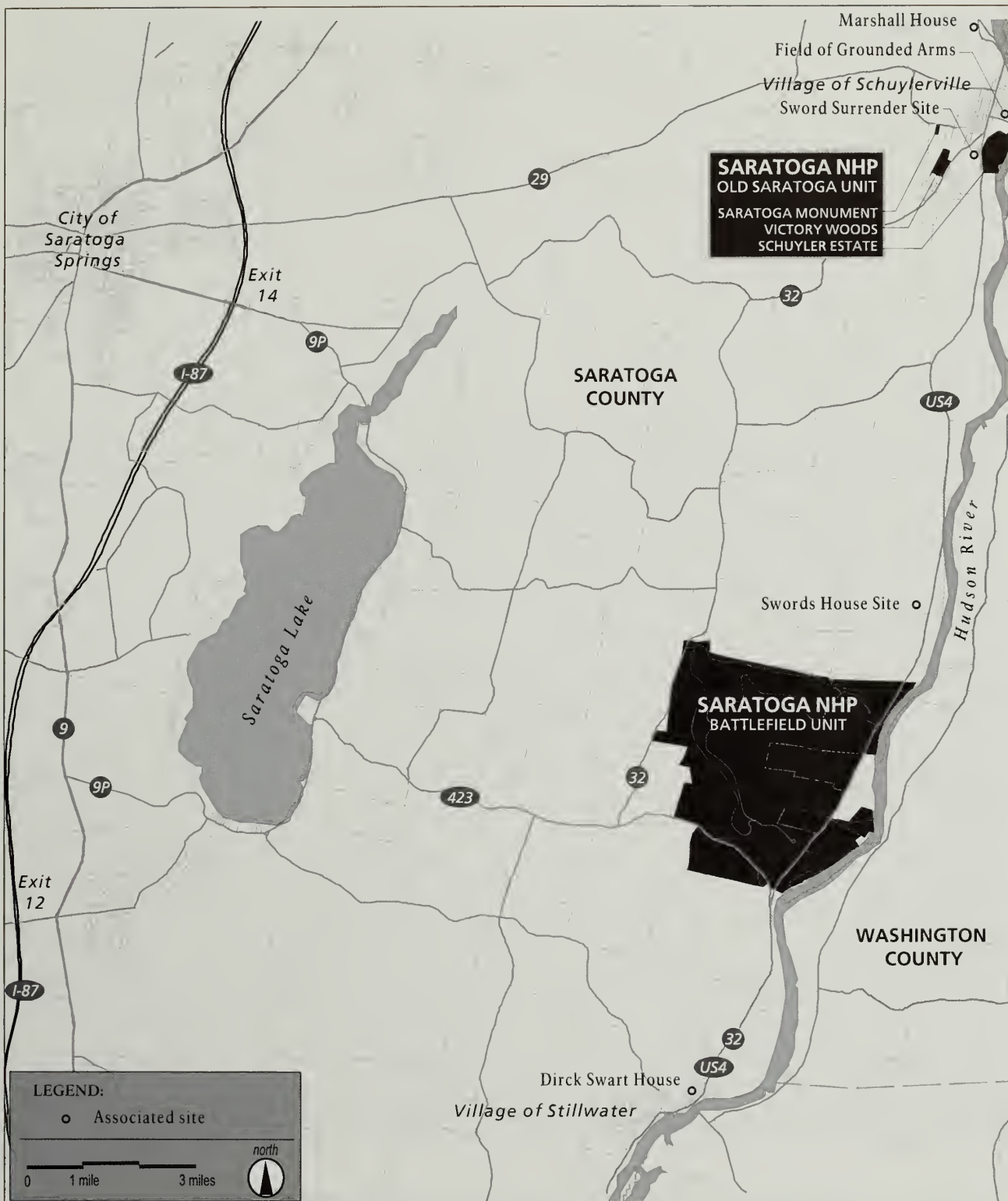
Water Resources

Small tributaries of the Hudson River — Kroma Kill, Mill Creek, Americans Creek, and Devils Hollow — drain the park. Two small farm ponds remain on the battlefield. Two springs at the southern end of the battlefield are potentially historic, as they may have provided water to soldiers in the American encampment. An aquifer recharge area exists in sand deposits in the battlefield.

A total of 49 wetlands, representing about 6% of the total park area, have been inventoried. All of these wetlands are characterized by persistent vegetation, with forested wetlands the predominant type. The remaining wetlands are marshes and wet meadows, mixed stands of forested and scrub-shrub wetlands, ponds, mixed emergent/shrub wetlands, and a small farmed wetland.

The Hudson River floodplain exists on the park's lower elevations. The 100-year floodplain ranges from 0.2 to 0.5 mile in width west of the Hudson River. Of the total parklands, 11.6% are in floodplain.





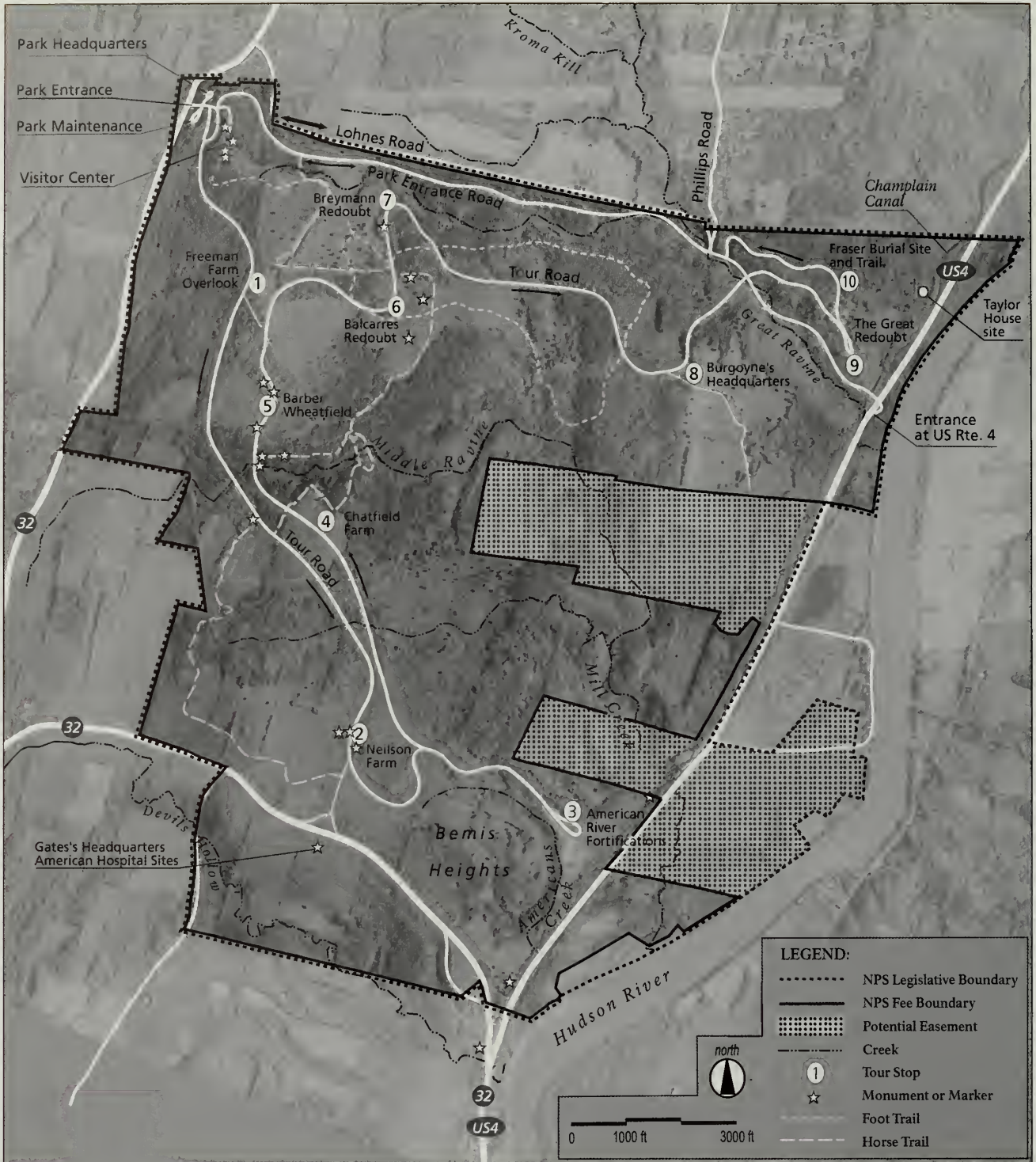
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Park Vicinity and Associated Sites



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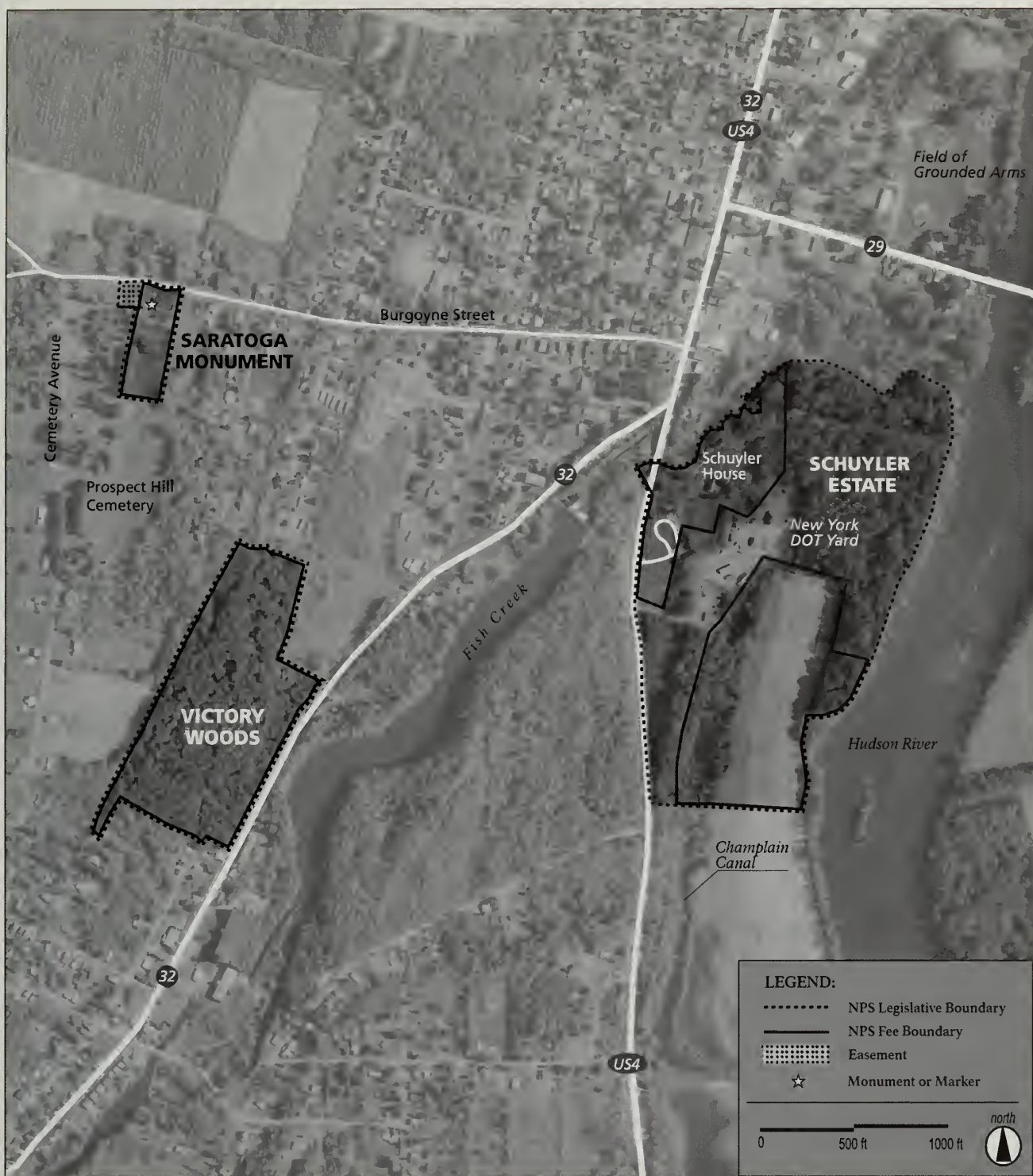


BATTLEFIELD UNIT

Park Map



Saratoga National Historical Park
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



OLD SARATOGA UNIT

Park Map

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Vegetation and topography together define the spatial characteristics of the Saratoga battlefield.

Vegetation and Wildlife

The historic configuration of the fields and forests was important in the battles of 1777, and vegetation plays a prominent role in park interpretation. The sequence of the park's land acquisition and land use history has produced a mosaic of old field, shrub land, and forest communities.

The pattern of vegetation has changed significantly since the time of the battles. Farmers settled the land decades prior to 1777 and hollowed out clearings in the virgin forest. At the time of the park's creation in 1938, nearly all of the forest vegetation had been removed.

The park is situated within the transition zone between the Appalachian oak region and the hemlock-white pine-northern hardwoods region of the Eastern deciduous forest. Deciduous trees comprise most of the mature forests of the region.

Hemlock is common in the steepest ravines on the north-facing slopes, whereas a mixture of hardwood species dominates upland and south-facing slopes. Saratoga National Historical Park has 823 species of plants representing 116 different families.

Grasslands comprise nearly a third of the park and contain the park's largest number of species (approximately 40). The largest area of grassland, roughly 100 acres, is located in the southern portion of the battlefield.

One hundred and eighty species of birds are listed for the park, 39 species of mammals, 16 amphibian species, 14 fish species, and 10 reptile species. Animal species are typical for the region and include the white-tailed deer, Eastern coyote, and Eastern wild turkey. An increase in the observations of wild turkey, Eastern coyote, and beaver may indicate growth of local populations. Of the wildlife species known to occupy the park, 16 bird species and 4 amphibian species are on the state list as being of special concern, rare, threatened, or endangered.

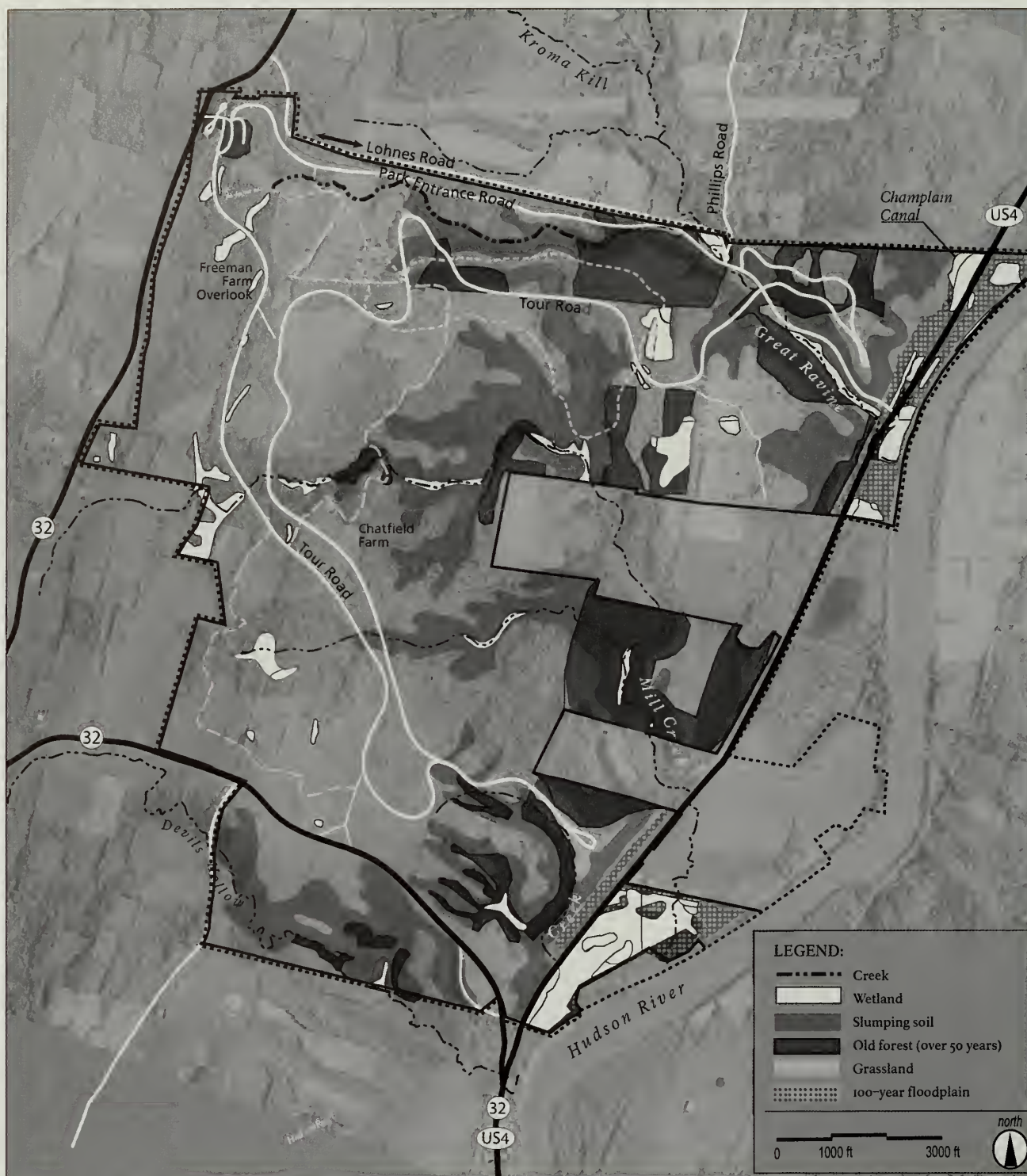


Prime Agricultural Soils



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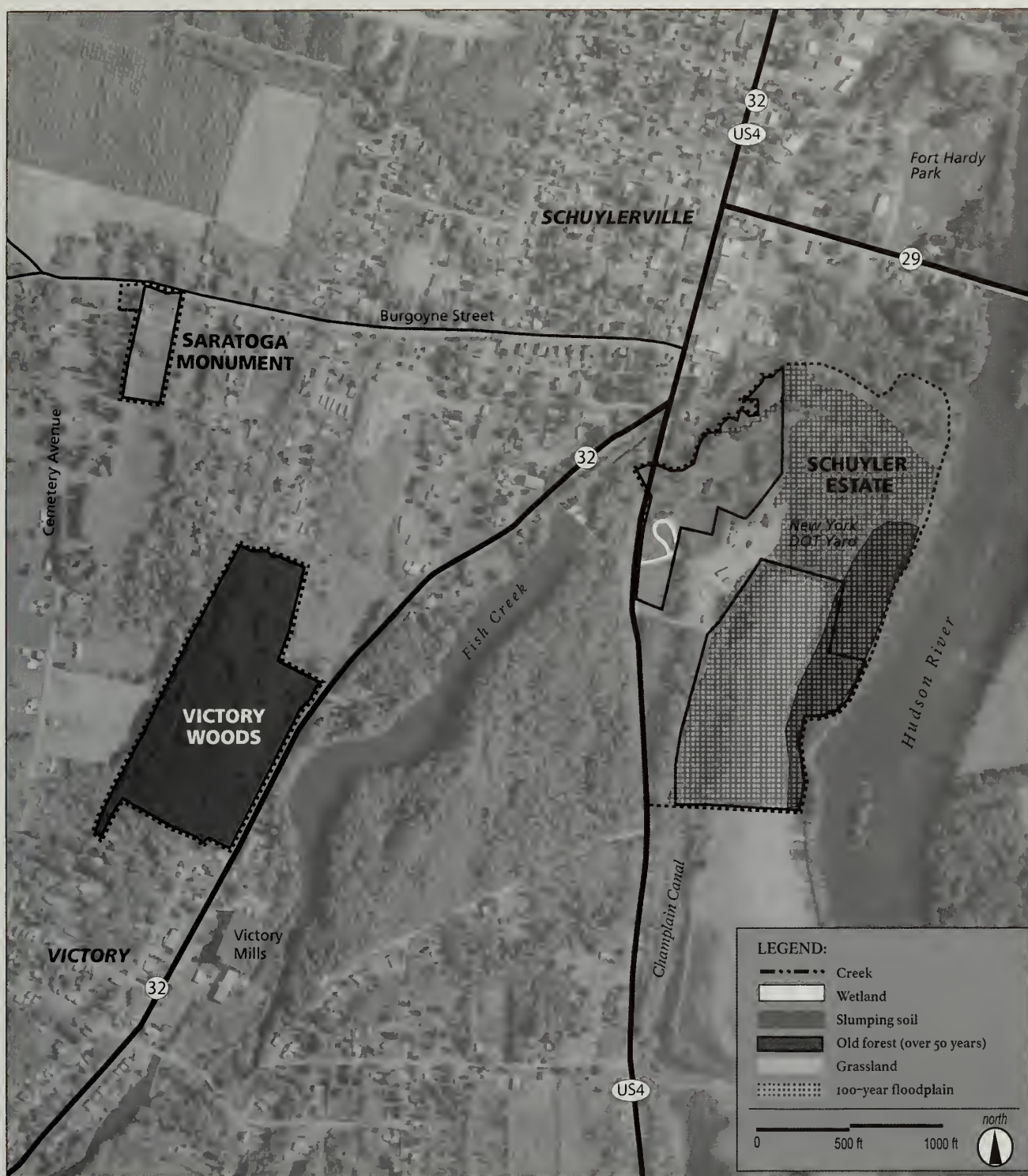


BATTLEFIELD UNIT

Sensitive Natural Resource Areas



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OLD SARATOGA UNIT

Sensitive Natural Resource Areas

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Cultural Resources

Historic and Designed Landscapes

The historic and designed landscapes at Saratoga National Historical Park are among the park's most vital resources. Indeed, in the relative absence of historic structures on the 2,800-acre battlefield, the landscapes assume a greater burden in conveying the story. The river, hills, ridges, streams, roads, farmsteads, and woodlots were the settings and contributing factors that helped determine the movements of the armies and the outcome of the battles. Natural and human processes have altered many of these features. For example, areas that were thickets during the battle are mature woodlands today; unused farm fields have become wooded; and the size and configuration of farm fields have changed.

The Schuyler Estate is an historic landscape that is a remnant of General Philip Schuyler's original 3,000-acre estate. The National Park Service owns 30.38 of the Schuyler Estate's legislated 62.15 acres. The Schuyler Estate includes the Schuyler House and immediate grounds. It is essentially the "house-lot" of the original Schuyler landholdings.

Victory Woods, previously known as the Garber Tract, embraces a 22-acre portion of the fortified camp occupied by the British during the final phase of the campaign. Many aspects of this landscape appear to have changed little since 1777, and it potentially contains archeological resources of value.

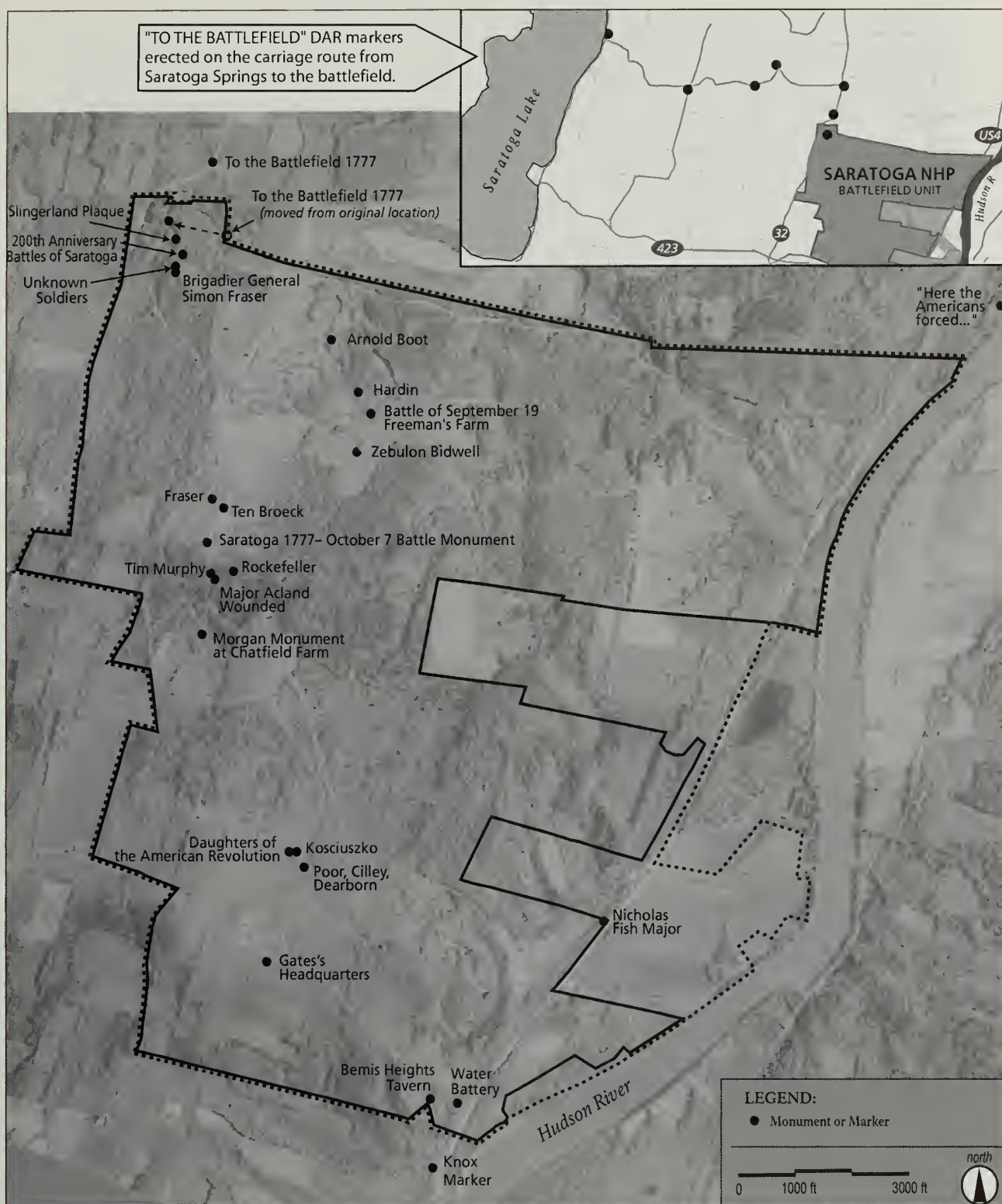
The landscape of the Battlefield Unit contains a number of markers and monuments that were placed during the last two decades of the 19th century and, to a lesser extent, into the following century. Originally superimposed on a predominantly agricultural landscape, these features collectively form a commemorative layer that expands the story of the Burgoyne Campaign to include its perception by later generations of Americans. The Saratoga Monument, occupying a detached site in the Old Saratoga Unit, retains some elements of a designed landscape that accompanied the original plan.

Historic Buildings and Structures

According to the List of Classified Structures, the park contains three historic buildings, three landscape features, three site structures, and 22 historic monuments and markers, which contribute to its



General Philip Schuyler's original 3,000-acre estate included portions of what is today the Battlefield Unit. The NPS owns essentially the "house-lot" of the original landholdings.

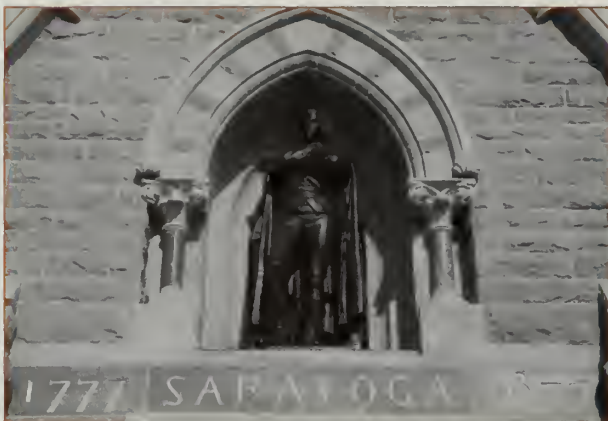


Battlefield Monuments and Markers



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"The Battles of Bemis Heights and Saratoga, and the surrender of Lieutenant General John Burgoyne, on the 17th of October, 1777, formed a niche in the Temple of Liberty, which patriotism will one day fill with an appropriate monument."

— Minutes from the October 17, 1856, meeting at the Schuyler House, which was the genesis of the Saratoga Monument Association

national significance. Structures and features include monuments and markers, stone benches, a wellhead, a hitching post, and other man-made elements. Associated with these features are historic road traces.

The only historic structure standing on the battlefield is the Neilson House, which is located on what was John Neilson's farm before and after the battles of Saratoga. The house, now restored, was used by American officers for quarters in September and October 1777.

The present Schuyler House is the third to be built on the Schuyler family property in Saratoga. A two-story wood frame structure, the house sits on a 30.38-acre parcel owned by the National Park Service that was the core of a 3,000-acre tract intended to function as a largely self-contained productive unit. General Schuyler and his family lived at this estate periodically both before and after the 1777 campaign. The present house was built following the surrender, as General Burgoyne had the house and outbuildings burned as he retreated. A privy stands behind the house. The National Park Service has restored both the house exterior and interior. The completed exterior appearance reflects a circa 1804 period (the year Schuyler died). Interior restoration work seeks to reflect conditions circa 1777–87 (the General turned the house over to his son, John Bradstreet Schuyler, in 1787).

The Saratoga Monument is by far the most significant and conspicuous within the park. A 155-foot obelisk erected to memorialize the campaign that culminated in British capitulation, the monument is located on a detached 2.8-acre parcel in Victory that was chosen largely because of its commanding view. The cornerstone was laid on October 17, 1877, and the monument is a characteristic expression of late-19th-century esthetics and patriotic attitudes. The interior of the monument was closed in 1987 for safety reasons and was reopened in 2002, after rehabilitation.

An important group of monuments on the battlefield was erected during the 1880s due to the efforts of Ellen Hardin Walworth. Most of the monuments were erected under the auspices of the Saratoga Monument Association. The monuments are significant as marking the first formal expression of



The Neilson House stands on what was John Neilson's farm before and after the battles of Saratoga. Neilson joined the American troops opposing Burgoyne's advance.

memorial efforts on the battlefield and the beginning of serious preservation efforts there. Much of this activity was inspired by the national centennial celebration of 1876 and represents the expansive movement known as Colonial Revival. Another group of monuments was erected during a resurgence of patriotic and commemorative fervor associated with the national sesquicentennial (1927), and the bicentennial of George Washington's birth (1932), and was facilitated and inspired in part by New York State's acquisition of the battlefield.

Another structure is the historic Champlain Canal, which was completed in 1823 and remained in service until replaced by the Barge Canal in 1918. Segments of the old canal pass through two discontinuous portions of the park, while the barge canal occupies

the river channel. The most visible canal feature is the channel (prism) itself, with the accompanying towpath. Other features associated with the canal may remain and need further investigation. While the canal does not relate to the military events of 1777, there is an indirect link through the interest of Philip Schuyler and his family in canal transportation.

Archeological Sites and Resources

Archeological resources, the physical evidence of past human activity, form an important element of the park's resource base. Attempts to locate battlefield remains with archeological methods have had mixed results. Some portions of the British and American positions and some house sites have been confirmed, while others have remained elusive.

Remains that have been studied in more detail include two large battlefields, the American headquarters, British and American lines, including encampment sites, fortifications, and British redoubts. In addition, hearths and burials (but no large cemeteries) have been found.

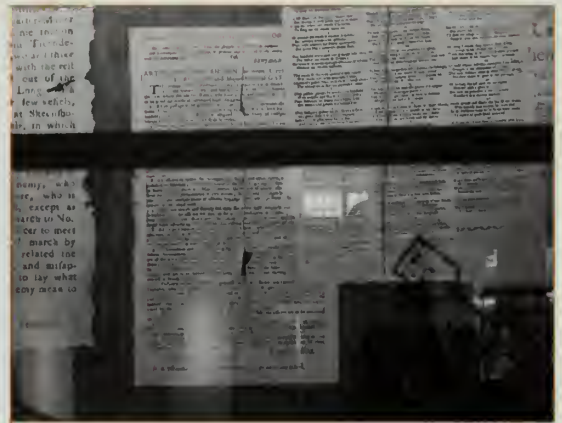
At the Schuyler Estate, most structural remains and archeological features appear to postdate the Revolutionary War. The parcel contains a sizable American Indian site. Both the battlefield and Schuyler Estate have the potential to provide information on 19th-century domestic life, but this aspect has not been investigated specifically, as it lies outside the park mission. Documentary sources make it appear likely that the Victory Woods tract contains archeological resources relating to the “siege period” before the British capitulation, but the area has yet to be fully investigated by professional archeologists.

Collections and Archives

Saratoga National Historical Park’s collection numbers over 125,000 objects, and includes processed and unprocessed archeological, historic, archival, and natural history items. Among the most significant historical materials are nine original artillery pieces, an original surrender document, and camp furniture associated with General Burgoyne. The largest portion of the park’s collections is the estimated 43,000 archeological objects excavated on parkland. Many of the metal objects are musket and cannon balls, shoe buckles, nails, parts of firearms, or tools.

A collection of furnishings is on display in the Schuyler House. Many of the furnishings currently located in the Schuyler House are on long-term loan to the National Park Service by the following entities: the Old Saratoga Historical Association, The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, and the Museum of the City of New York.

The archival collection includes administrative records of National Park Service predecessors, some historical documents, archeological files, photos, and architectural drawings. It is estimated that the collection comprises 196.8 linear feet, or



The park houses a considerable archival collection, diverse as to type, source, and content.

314,880 items. Among the more noteworthy and discrete collections are the George O. Slingerland Papers; a major group of administrative records generated by New York State, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and the National Park Service, 1933–1969; and the George Strover Family Papers.

Associated Sites Outside of the Park Boundaries

The Field of Grounded Arms, the Sword Surrender site, the Marshall House, the Swords House site, and the Dirck Swart House are all associated with the battles, siege, and surrender. None of these sites are within the park boundary or in federal ownership, and National Park Service staff does not provide any interpretation on-site. The Field of Grounded Arms is currently part of Fort Hardy Park, a local municipal park owned by the Village of Schuylerville and used for recreational purposes.

Related Plans and Programs

American Battlefield Protection Program: Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Study

Congress authorized this National Park Service study because many relevant sites are at risk from rapid urban or suburban development. The goals of the study are (1) to gather current information about the significance, current condition, and threats to the sites, and (2) to present preservation and interpretation alternatives for them. Through research and public comment, the National Park Service has identified 2,742 sites of battle actions and historic places associated with both wars. The list includes Saratoga National Historical Park and several nearby sites. Field surveys will help the National Park Service evaluate the level of preservation at these sites and make recommendations for further protection and interpretation.

American Heritage River

In 1998 the Hudson River was named an American Heritage River, one of only 14 rivers nationwide to be so honored. The Hudson's place in American history and culture, its role in the birth of the modern environmental movement, and the marked improvements in its ecological health over recent decades all contributed to this designation. As an American Heritage River, the Hudson benefits from the services of a River Navigator, a person specially chosen to facilitate the application of existing federal programs and resources.

Champlain Valley Heritage Corridor Project

In 1999, the National Park Service published a report of a Special Resource Study that evaluated the suitability and feasibility of establishing a national heritage corridor in the Champlain Valley. The study found that the resources of the Champlain Valley merit designation as a national (or even international) heritage corridor. The study identified three main interpretive themes and presented several options for the advancement of heritage preservation and interpretation in the region. Saratoga National Historical Park is located

within the study area evaluated by the National Park Service team and is a primary resource related to the "Making of Nations" theme.

Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor

In December 2000, Congress established the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor as the nation's 23rd national heritage corridor. It encompasses 524 miles of the New York State Canal System, which includes the Erie, Cayuga and Seneca, Oswego and Champlain canals, the historic alignments of the canals, plus the cities of Albany and Buffalo. Saratoga National Historical Park is located within the boundary of the Erie Canalway and contains two segments of the Champlain Canal within the park boundary. A preservation and management plan for the Erie Canalway commenced in 2003.

Heritage New York Program

Governor Pataki recently established the Heritage New York Program, with a primary purpose to organize a series of thematic heritage trails. One of these trails, the American Revolutionary War Heritage Trail, will help to preserve, protect, interpret, link, and promote significant historic sites associated with New York's role in the American Revolution. The Heritage New York Program will also administer a \$1 million matching capital grant program to help municipalities and nonprofit organizations preserve and interpret important Revolutionary War sites.

Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

Congress designated the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area in 1996 to recognize the national importance of the valley's history and resources. The cities, towns, and rural landscapes of the region display exceptional surviving physical resources spanning four centuries. Although Saratoga National Historical Park is not within its boundary, it is thematically related to the national heritage area. The heritage area is managed by the Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley and the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council.



Looking across Wilbur's Basin in the direction of Schuylerville, Wibur's Basin, N. Y.

Early 1900s photo taken from the bluffs of Saratoga Battlefield looking down on Wilbur's Basin, shows the Champlain Canal and Hudson River in the background. Many of the related plans and programs initiated in the region illuminate themes associated with the Champlain Canal and the Revolutionary War.

Lakes to Locks Passage (formerly the Champlain Canal and Champlain Trail Byways)

New York State's Scenic Byways Program is a 2,000-mile statewide network of scenic byways that draws upon the resources of state agencies and the Federal Highway Administration, as well as the private sector. The State Byway Program has been in existence since 1992. Saratoga National Historical Park is located on the Lakes to Locks Passage, formerly known as the Champlain Canal Byway corridor that runs along NYS Route 4 from Whitehall to Waterford.

In May 2000, Corridor Management Plans for the Champlain Canal Byway and the Champlain Trail Byway (NYS Routes 22 and 9 from Whitehall to Rouses Point) were adopted by the New York State Scenic Byways Advisory Board. Because the Byways share many natural, historical, and cultural themes, the Byway Steering Committees merged to form a management organization for a single Byway entitled "Lakes to Locks Passage, the Great Northeast Journey."

In June 2002, the Federal Highway Administration designated the 234-mile byway as an "All American Road" — one of only 20 in the nation that meet criteria of national significance and consideration as a "destination unto itself." Additionally, cooperation

with Canada has led to the byway's extension to Québec, making it an international scenic byway. Saratoga National Historical Park is an active partner, working with local communities and byway staff in developing interpretive initiatives and bi-national marketing plans.

Lighting Freedom's Flame: 225th Anniversary of the American Revolution

Beginning in 2000 and extending to 2008, the National Park Service is developing educational materials and special events that celebrate the American Revolution, principally at National Park Service sites such as Saratoga National Historical Park. No permanent facilities or other programs will be developed at the park, although increases in visitation occur at special events.

Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor

This corridor was established by the State of New York in 1994 to protect the region's natural, historic, and recreational resources and promote its economic revitalization. Saratoga is one of the counties included within the corridor. The Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor Commission is a public-benefit corporation and is part of a statewide network of heritage areas.



"The canal transformed the small hamlets along its route into thriving centers of trade and industry.... Mills, warehouses and all kinds of canal related structures sprang into being after the opening of this cheap transportation route."

— Champlain Canal National Register nomination form, 1976

New York Independence Trail

The New York Independence Trail is a nonprofit organization that is funded in part by New York State. The organization provides a self-guided tour of important sites of the French and Indian and Revolutionary Wars found along the Champlain-Hudson corridor from New York City to Montreal.

New York State Canal Recreationway Plan

In 1991, the people of New York State ratified an amendment to the state constitution allowing long-term leasing of the New York State Barge Canal System lands. In 1992, legislation known as "Thruway 2000" was enacted transferring responsibility for the New York State Canal System from the New York State Department of Transportation to the New York State Thruway Authority. The legislation established the New York State Canal Corporation as a subsidiary of the Authority, and created the Canal Recreationway Commission, a 24-member body to advise the Authority on its canal-related activities. The Canal Corporation Board adopted a comprehensive plan for the development of the canal system in September 1995. A \$32 million, five-year Canal Revitalization Program was developed in 1996 to guide canal system development. The overall goals of the revitalization program are to preserve and rehabilitate canal infrastructure so that it is safe, accessible, and available for future use; to enhance

recreational opportunities for water-based and landside users; and to promote and foster economic development throughout the canal corridor.

Old Saratoga on the Hudson

Old Saratoga on the Hudson, an unincorporated civic group, is spearheading the development of a three-and-one-half-mile linear park along the Hudson River in and around the Villages of Schuylerville and Victory. One of the group's goals is to work in partnership with others to create a seamless experience for visitors who are interested in learning not only about the Old Saratoga area's role in the Revolutionary War, but about the history of the region from the French and Indian Wars to the development of the Champlain Canal and beyond.

Saratoga P.L.A.N. (Preserving Land and Nature)

Saratoga P.L.A.N. is a private, nonprofit organization committed to the protection and conservation of lands with natural, scenic, agricultural, recreational, historic, and open-space value. The land trust has identified critical areas in need of protection within Saratoga County and is working in cooperation with developers, property owners, municipalities, farmers, outdoor recreation enthusiasts, and others to preserve and protect these critical areas.



3 | Foundation for Planning

"Ah, yes! The field of Saratoga is rich with the blood of heroes. What are the few names we have recorded compared with the unnumbered hosts who lie under the placid hills of the Hudson — or who performed upon this field unnoticed deeds of valor, and passed through life unregarded and unnamed!"

— Ellen Hardin Walworth, 1891



"...We continued to press on, keeping our lines as well as the ground would permit; loading and firing rapidly as possible as we advanced. Our steps were lively, but we did not run. I saw no fighting with bayonets. At one time I saw just before me a British officer sitting and supporting himself by a tree. I drew up and was about to shoot him, when I thought the man is wounded and I let him live..."

— Sergeant Ambrose Collins, Cook's Regiment of Connecticut Militia

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Saratoga NHP preserves and protects sites associated with the battles, siege, and surrender of British forces at Saratoga.

Purpose and Significance of Saratoga National Historical Park

The foundation for the general management plan rests on the park's purpose and significance. The purpose and significance statements are based on the park's authorizing legislation and its legislative history. Purpose states why the park was established as a unit of the national park system. Significance defines the park's place within its national context.

Park Purpose

Saratoga National Historical Park preserves and protects sites associated with the battles, siege, and surrender of British forces at Saratoga — decisive events in winning American independence. The park staff interprets these and other sites, events, and people associated with the 1777 military campaign in the Champlain-Hudson and Mohawk valleys (the Burgoyne Campaign).

Park Significance

Saratoga National Historical Park:

- ④ Honors the participants and preserves the battlegrounds where a major British military offensive in 1777 ended in a surrender that heartened the patriot cause and brought about the international recognition and aid essential to securing our nation's freedom.
- ④ Contains the Saratoga estate of General Philip Schuyler, an outstanding figure during the revolutionary period and commander of the northern theater of operations between June 1775 and August 1777.
- ④ Presents a richly monumented landscape reflecting a commemorative movement, which culminated in the establishment of the national historical park in 1938.



Spectators at the Freeman farm during the Sesquicentennial of October 8, 1927. The event attracted over 160,000 people.

Interpretive Themes

Interpretive themes are ways of organizing information and ideas to help understand the park's importance. They express the key concepts that illuminate park resources. Themes are concepts, rather than a simple listing of important topics or a chronology of events.

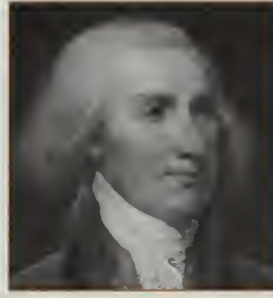
Place: Grand Strategy and Victory for the New Nation

In 1777 — the second year of America's War for Independence — the British sought to quell the rebellion with a single decisive military campaign. Their plan depended on using an invading army to divide the Colonies along a natural corridor of rivers and lakes stretching from Canada to New York City. The American commitment to halt this invasion proved critical to the future of an emerging nation.

- ④ The Americans' determined resistance at Saratoga, coupled with British strategic blunders, resulted in a stunning defeat and surrender of a British army. This timely victory reversed American

military fortunes, boosted patriot morale, and gained them international recognition and support, including vital military assistance.

- ④ The defensive position south of Saratoga at Bemis Heights was chosen because the terrain there afforded the Americans tactical advantages. Their skillful use of the high ground overlooking a narrow river passageway, and wooded ravines fortified with entrenchments and batteries, forced the British army to fight on terms favorable to the Americans.
- ④ Since pre-Colonial times, the waterways of the Hudson and Mohawk rivers and Lakes Champlain and George had been prized natural routes of communication, trade, and warfare — coveted by those seeking control of this vast area's rich natural resources and arable land.



People from many different walks of life — men and women, soldiers and civilians, free and enslaved — found themselves caught up in the battles of Saratoga, by choice or by chance.

People: At Saratoga — by Choice or by Chance

Today, the winning of American independence seems to have been inevitable. But it was actually the result of many individual decisions and sacrifices made by people from all walks of life. Their determination in surmounting enormous obstacles was an early example of what is recognized now as the American spirit — the will and ability to shape a better future.

- ④ Participants on both sides of the conflict — men and women, soldiers and civilians, free and enslaved, and those of many nations — were motivated by hopes and aspirations, including personal or monetary gain, continuance of established ways of life, desire for a better future, or belief in a moral cause.
- ④ General Philip Schuyler, a patriot statesman and military leader, risked his life and livelihood and lost his Saratoga home for his belief in the promise of a new and independent United States of America, affording political and economic liberties for its citizens. After his death, his family continued his policies of promoting canal transportation and fostering commercial enterprise in the community that became known as Schuylerville in his honor.

Memory:

Creating a Shared American Identity

Monuments and memorials added to Saratoga's "sacred ground" represent early national efforts to honor those who served their country and the causes

for which they made their sacrifices. The park and its monuments and historic markers contribute to a shared American identity and an evolving sense of patriotism.

- ④ The Saratoga Monument stands prominently within the British camp where the decision to surrender was made in October 1777. The site symbolizes the decisive turn in the American struggle for independence and serves as an eternal reminder of the human cost of both the American victory and the British defeat.
- ④ Ellen Hardin Walworth's efforts to commemorate the Saratoga battles marked the beginning of her lifelong commitment to preserving the icons of our national identity and the creation of local, state, and national organizations to achieve those goals.



John H. Starin, President of the Saratoga Monument Association, 1895.

Goals

Goals articulate the ideal conditions that park managers strive to attain in perpetuity. These goals assert the ideals that Saratoga National Historical Park is protected, that park visitors are informed and satisfied, and that the park works with others to foster stewardship.

The following goals (not listed in priority order) guide Saratoga National Historical Park:

Resource Management

- ④ The landscapes, buildings, structures, archaeological sites, artifacts, and archives that are significant to the 1777 Saratoga campaign are protected, preserved, and maintained in good condition.
- ④ The monuments and historic markers that are significant to the commemoration of the 1777 Saratoga campaign are protected, preserved, and maintained in good condition.
- ④ Contributions are made to the accumulation of knowledge and understanding of cultural and natural resources related to the site's historical significance and to its ecological importance in the upper Hudson River Valley.
- ④ The park's natural resources are managed in the context of a cultural park to foster healthy ecosystems.

Visitor Use and Interpretation

- ④ The public is helped to understand and appreciate the sacred and commemorative nature of the park's landscape and the significance of the military events that took place here on the outcome of the American Revolution and the consequent impact on world political developments.
- ④ Quality programs are provided that make available to a wide range of audiences the park's stories and resources, and foster opportunities for visitors to make emotional and intellectual connections with the meaning inherent in those stories and resources.
- ④ A variety of safe recreational experiences are provided in locations and at levels that ensure the long-term protection of the park's natural and cultural resources.

Cooperative Efforts and Partnerships

- ④ Partnerships are established to develop educational programs and to foster stewardship of park resources, landscapes, and values both within and beyond park boundaries.

Need for the Plan

General management plans are intended to remain in effect for 15–20 years. In principle, the effective period could extend longer if few major changes occurred in the park and its surroundings. This, however, is decidedly not the case at Saratoga National Historical Park. Since the completion of the 1969 master plan, a number of significant changes in park resources, visitor use patterns, and regional initiatives have occurred. These are deep-seated changes, affecting the park at all levels, with the result that the master plan is no longer adequate to address policy and operational concerns. Consultation among the public, the planning team, and park staff identified the following list of substantial planning issues, which are addressed in the general management plan.

Resource Management

- ④ The battlefield's landscape management has been based on a circa-1950 historic base map. More recent research, which incorporates new historical insights, highlights the need for additional reforestation and clearing to approximate the 1777 field-forest configuration. Approximating this configuration would make interpretation of the battles more accurate.
- ④ A number of management issues have yet to be satisfactorily addressed for the Schuyler Estate, including preservation treatment, interpretation, and visitor use. Research related to the historic development of the property has recently been completed.
- ④ Since the 1969 master plan, lands have been added to the park that embrace important historic resources related to the Burgoyne Campaign. Such sites include Gates's Headquarters and the American Hospital at the battlefield and the 22-acre Victory Woods tract in the Old Saratoga Unit. Victory Woods was donated in the 1970s and has never been



Left: Construction of Interstate 87 changed traffic patterns and shifted the primary gateway of the park from Route 4 to its “rear entrance” off of Route 32 via the maintenance facilities.



Right: The largely rural park setting could be diminished by advancing urbanization.

available to visitors. At the outset of this planning process, the historical significance of Victory Woods was unclear and the future of the property was in question. Preliminary research conducted in support of this planning effort indicates that Victory Woods contains remnants of the final British fortified camp.

- ④ The historic Champlain Canal runs through two segments of the park, one on the east perimeter of the battlefield and the other through the grounds of the Schuyler Estate. Because the canal is not its primary mission, the park has not developed a management and interpretation plan for canal resources. However, these remains are historically significant and possess considerable interest for many visitors. The historic Champlain Canal is part of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, for which a preservation and management plan commenced in 2003.
- ④ Saratoga National Historical Park has collected entry fees to the battlefield tour road from May to October since 1987. No fees are collected at the Schuyler Estate or the Saratoga Monument. Due to the location of the visitor center (where the fee is collected) and visitor use patterns, fee collection is inefficient and the park actually loses revenues on fee collection.
- ④ Park managers strive to conduct a program of maintenance and preservation to safeguard the physical integrity of park resources and to provide a safe and sanitary environment for park visitors and employees. This effort at Saratoga National Historical Park is complicated

by the lack of nearby facilities to maintain the Old Saratoga Unit. Major maintenance activities for the Schuyler Estate are supported by the maintenance facility located eight miles to the south at the Battlefield Unit, which creates inefficiencies in terms of fuel consumption, wear on vehicles, and time spent traveling instead of conducting maintenance activities.

- ④ Many species of invasive exotic plants have become established at the park and threaten native species. These aggressive plants can greatly expand their populations, alter forest and wildlife habitats, and change scenery by smothering and displacing native species. These effects, which are already occurring in some areas of the park, will worsen substantially if left untreated.
- ④ Grasslands comprise nearly one-third of the park, and are recognized as an important ecosystem worldwide. The majority of grasslands in the Northeast were created for agriculture. Cropland in the Northeast has been declining since the 1930s, returning once-open lands to woods. In addition, modern agricultural practices are becoming increasingly incompatible with nesting success of grassland birds. As a result of these changes, grassland bird populations are suffering the most precipitous population declines of any habitat-specific group in the eastern United States. Large tracts of land, set aside for other purposes but still compatible with the needs of grassland birds, may be the last refuge for these highly vulnerable species.

- ④ Water, which supports natural systems and provides for park and visitor use, is a significant resource at Saratoga National Historical Park. While it appears that good water quality exists within the streams flowing through the park, non-point source pollutants associated with increasing residential and urban sources could impact water quality. Both the battlefield and the Schuyler Estate border on the Hudson River. Although the Hudson River has benefited from decades of cleanup efforts, it still bears a legacy of past pollution, most notably contamination by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has listed 200 miles of the Hudson as a federal Superfund site, which includes the portions of the river that border the park.

Visitor Use and Interpretation

- ④ Saratoga National Historical Park is composed of four non-contiguous sites. (The Battlefield Unit is located in Stillwater and the Old Saratoga Unit, in the villages of Schuylerville and Victory, contains the Schuyler Estate, the Saratoga Monument, and Victory Woods.) When the master plan was approved in 1969, neither the Saratoga Monument nor Victory Woods were part of the park. As a result of these additions and the distance between the two units, the park does not function as a cohesive entity. The four sites have not been well integrated or linked.
- ④ An unplanned consequence of construction of the Northway (I-87) was a change in traffic patterns that shifted the primary gateway of the park from the Route 4 entrance to the Route 32 “rear entrance” via the park’s maintenance facilities. As a result, the formal sense of arrival characteristic of a national park has been severely compromised.
- ④ Over 33% of park visitors approach Saratoga National Historical Park from the north. Highway signs, installed for the new Gerald B. H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery, serve both the cemetery and the national park. Although they indicate the distance to the battlefield, these signs direct park visitors traveling southbound on I-87 to the Schuyler Estate in the Old Saratoga Unit rather than to the park visitor center in the Battlefield Unit. As a result, the first park experience for many southbound visitors may be an historic house museum tour focused on General Schuyler at the Schuyler House (open only at limited times), not an overview of park themes and general orientation. Thus, many southbound visitors do not understand the main purpose of the park or how best to tour the park until late in their visit.
- ④ The battlefield tour road is the primary visitor experience, yet the current sequencing and location of interpretive stops makes understanding the relationship of events difficult. In its current configuration, visitors on the tour road cannot trace the battlefield action in any logical or chronological order. Moreover, few visual cues exist in the landscape to help visitors understand troop movements.
- ④ Visitors and local residents like to use the park for many different types of recreational activities. These uses — for example, bird-watching, photography, hiking, or cross-country skiing — are compatible with resource protection and do not require extensive commitments of staff time or funding. Park managers cannot anticipate what type of recreational uses will be in vogue in the future, and certain types of traffic have the potential to cause resource damage in the park. For example, soil erosion has occurred along the equestrian trail and sections of the Wilkinson Trail.
- ④ According to a 2001 visitor survey, 95.9% of visitors to Saratoga National Historical Park arrive by private auto; 67.3% tour the park by private auto. The National Park Service developed the park’s transportation system primarily for the private auto. The character of the tour road plays a fundamental role in setting an unhurried pace for the visitor. Within the life of this plan (15–20 years) it is possible that traffic congestion could increase sufficiently to cause delays, noise, and air pollution that could detract from the visitor’s experience and overall resource protection.



Visitor Experience at Saratoga NHP

In contrast with the conditions of over 225 years ago when two armies met and clashed at this site, the park today is a place of scenic beauty and natural sounds, where visitors can walk, bike, and watch wildlife in a rural setting with glaciated ridges, meadows, and forests.



Numerous historic sites along the Champlain corridor figure prominently into the story of the Burgoyne Campaign, including Fort Ticonderoga (shown above), Mount Independence, and Hubbardton battlefield.

Cooperative Efforts and Partnerships

④ The British surrender at Saratoga was the culmination of a four-month campaign that extended the length of the Champlain corridor from Canada to the Hudson. Numerous historic sites along this corridor, such as Fort Ticonderoga, Mount Independence, and Hubbardton battlefield, figure prominently into the broader story of the Burgoyne Campaign and were significant to its outcome. In addition, a number of nearby historic properties related to the Burgoyne Campaign remain outside the park boundary, including the Field of Grounded Arms, the Sword Surrender site, the Marshall House, the Swords House site, and the Dirck Swart House. Familiarity with the other thematically related sites along the corridor and within the vicinity of the park would enable visitors to gain a deeper understanding of the events at Saratoga.

- ④ Numerous federal, state, and local government entities and nonprofits are working on heritage preservation initiatives in the Champlain-Hudson and Mohawk Valleys. Many of these initiatives converge in Saratoga County, specifically in Old Saratoga, and offer opportunities for National Park Service participation. Representatives of several of these initiatives have identified a need for a multipurpose orientation facility in Old Saratoga that provides information about the various initiatives and clarifies the many offerings available to visitors.
- ④ The park's setting, scenic views, air and water quality, soundscape, and condition of its soil are affected by activities conducted outside the park boundaries. For example, the park's "viewsheds" (such as those east to the ridgeline in Easton, New York, south and west across Route 32, and west across Route 4 from the Schuyler Estate) are important components of the visitor's experience. Yet, park managers have no control over how the lands within the viewsheds are developed. The largely rural, agricultural setting of the park, which is an important part of the park's appeal to visitors, could be diminished by the advancing urbanization of the Hudson River Valley.



4 | The Plan

"Never did a more important battle, when measured by its results, occur on American soil than was that waged and won on the consecrated plains of Saratoga. By the signal victory there attained the French alliance was secured and the hearts of the American colonists were inspired with renewed confidence and courage, enabling them to deliver the final stroke at Yorktown which broke the bonds of English tyranny and established forever our national independence."

— Ellen Hardin Walworth, 1891



"...Neither side could boast of driving the other from the field. In general, we both kept our ground, tho' I cannot but think our loss was very unequal, & much greater on their side than ours. We fought under cover of a wood while they were drawn up in Battalions on a more open field. Our riflemen pick'd off many of their officers who were on horse-back. The fire of their artillery & musketry was very ill directed, not a shot from their field pieces took effect, except among the limbs of trees...."

— Extract of a letter written by an unidentified American officer, 20 September 1777

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The Plan



Interpretation of the military events will rely heavily on visitor contact with rehabilitated landscape features and landscape exhibits.

Concept

As described in the “Planning Process” section of this document, the plan was developed by combining elements of previously formulated alternatives and represents what the National Park Service views as the best management direction for the park. The concept for the plan focuses on improving the visitor’s understanding of the events that led to the 1777 British surrender by providing a more complete and logical depiction of these events. This approach also includes — secondary to the strategic factors — interpretation of the efforts to commemorate the military events at Saratoga and opportunities to reflect on their meaning. Additionally, this approach enables the park to expand its partnerships with other Burgoyne Campaign-related sites and regional entities in the Champlain-Hudson and Mohawk valleys. The plan also embraces the numerous “Objectives Common to All Alternatives” that were outlined in the draft general management plan.

Overview

Park managers will interpret the logistics and tactics of the battles, siege, and surrender within the broader context of the Burgoyne Campaign. Interpretation of the military events will rely heavily on visitor contact with rehabilitated landscape features and landscape exhibits. The National Park Service will seek to evoke, to the greatest extent possible, the character of the battlefield at the time of the second battle. In key areas, park managers will suggest the pattern and general character of open land and woodlands, physically depict the locations of battle-era structures, roads, and defensive positions, and portray features characteristic of encampments.

For a comprehensive understanding of the military events, visitors will follow a tour sequence that unfolds in a logical fashion and that follows the progression of the battles, siege, and surrender from Bemis Heights to Old Saratoga. Secondly, the park experience will also offer opportunities for quiet contemplation. Reflective messages that are evocative of battle experiences from varying



Battlefield Unit (South)

- | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| | Reestablish view | | New or improved parking | | New or improved interpretive site/media | | Reestablish forest-field configuration | | Mark location of key landscape features | | Perpetuate rural character of views through cooperative efforts |
| | New or improved vehicle and/or bicycle access | | New or improved special events parking | | New or improved water access interface | | New or improved pedestrian access | | New or improved water access | | |

perspectives will be found at certain stops along the tour road or along the park's trails.

Although the driving tour will continue to be the primary visitor experience, other modes of park transit will be encouraged. Bicycles, for example, may be available to visitors at convenient locations within the park. Park managers will extend the park's trail system to facilitate non-motorized access to interpretation. For example, the towpath trail along the Champlain Canal will be developed along with a new Bemis Heights trail, and a new loop connecting the park with the Saratoga National Cemetery. In addition, park managers will explore the feasibility of offering special interpretive tours using specifically designed alternative-fueled vehicles that could transport a group of visitors for a ranger-led tour from Bemis Heights to Old Saratoga. Such vehicles may be designed to transport bicycles.

Primary park-wide visitor orientation will be provided at both the Battlefield Unit and the Old Saratoga Unit to enable visitors to receive an overview and orientation to the park at the outset of their visit, regardless of which park unit is their point of arrival. Visitor orientation and interpretation at the Battlefield Unit will be provided in the existing visitor center. The Route 32 entrance will be improved to provide a more appropriate entry to the battlefield and the visitor center.

Visitor orientation at the Old Saratoga Unit will be provided in a new facility developed at an appropriate location. The Old Saratoga facility will be modest in scale, and include classroom and public assembly space. Moreover, it will include a showcase gallery highlighting other sites of importance throughout the region. The regional showcase gallery, plus other components of the facility, will be available year-round, but will be formally staffed for visitor



Old Saratoga Unit (North)

- | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| | Reestablish view | | Perpetuate rural character of views through cooperative efforts | | New or improved vehicle and/or bicycle access | | Reestablish select pathways, plantings and other landscape features |
| | Removal of NPS residence and shed | | New or improved interpretive site/media | | New or improved water access interface | | Reestablish forest-field configuration |
| | New or improved pedestrian access | | New or improved parking | | New or improved water access | | Mark locations of key landscape features |

services seasonally. The facility will be sited and designed to allow for expansion as new opportunities and regional partnerships evolve. Additional lands may be required to support development of this facility.

The Old Saratoga Unit will be open to the public on a seasonal basis. Pedestrian, bicycle, and auto routes will link the Old Saratoga Unit sites and include thematically related sites outside the park boundary. The Saratoga Monument — linked with Victory Woods via the Prospect Hill Cemetery — will be open to the public and interpreted to portray the commemoration of the surrender. Its landscape will more closely resemble its original formal design. Key landscape features of Victory Woods will be identified, rehabilitated, and interpreted to portray the siege of Burgoyne's troops. The Schuyler Estate will be rehabilitated to reflect its use by the Schuyler

family. A combination of historic furnishings and other interpretive media that best portrays the story of the Schuyler family in Old Saratoga will be utilized in the house. On the grounds, the locations of such important landscape features as the earlier houses, the historic Champlain Canal, gardens, and outbuildings will be identified and marked. This will help visitors understand the family's use of the site from 1720, when the first Schuyler House was built, to 1837, the year the Schuyler family sold the property.

Park managers will seek to expand partnerships to place the park in its broader historical context and to strengthen the park's role in the regional initiatives of the Champlain-Hudson and Mohawk valleys.

Management Zoning

National Park Service policies guiding park planning require the identification of management zones to help determine suitable management approaches for particular areas of the park. As the accompanying map indicates, the planning team identified two management zones for Saratoga National Historical Park: the Historic Zone and the Park Support Zone, with a Commemorative Landscape Overlay.

The park is largely composed of the Historic Zone, which has been divided into three subzones:

- ④ The Main Battle Action and Encampment Subzone embraces areas associated with the major battle actions of September 19 and October 7–8, 1777, and the encampment areas occupied during September–October 1777.
- ④ The Supporting Battle Action Subzone contains areas the armed forces would have traversed to access encampment or battle areas, and places where minor military actions could have taken place.
- ④ The Schuyler Estate Subzone contains resources significant to the interpretation of the Schuyler family in Old Saratoga.

The Park Support Zone includes areas that are used or could be used to provide visitor service and park support facilities.

The Commemorative Landscape Overlay contains resources significant to the commemoration of the Burgoyne Campaign, specifically the 20-plus monuments and historic markers located throughout the park.

The configuration of the management zones is based on the resources within the zones and may need to be adjusted if new information becomes available that changes our understanding of the events of 1777 or their commemoration.

>> Please see pages 54 and 55 for Management Zone maps.

Objectives and Associated Potential Management Actions

The following section depicts how objectives and potential actions apply to the management zones that have been defined for the park, as well as those that apply parkwide. A summary of potential boundary modifications and cost estimates for the plan are also described in the following section. Please note that any actions outlined here would be subject to additional research, planning, consultation, and compliance.



The NPS will seek to evoke, to the greatest extent possible, the character of the battlefield at the time of the second battle.

Historic Zone: Main Battle Action and Encampment Subzone

Resource Management

Landscape character at select locations is evocative of landscape conditions of October 1777.

- ④ Reestablish at key locations, field and woodland to suggest conditions in October 1777.
- ④ Thin certain woodlands to suggest their character in October 1777.
- ④ Ensure consistency with objectives for grassland habitat conservation described below.
- ④ Locate and rehabilitate historic road traces associated with the battle period.
- ④ Undertake extensive archeological research program and mitigation measures necessary to support potential actions outlined in this and the “Visitor Use and Experience” section.



Saratoga National Historical Park attracts national and international visitors as well as local and regional audiences.

Views important to the interpretation of the battles are reestablished.

- ④ Reestablish the view from the visitor center to the Breymann and Balcarres redoubts as depicted in the park's 1941 General Development Plan.
- ④ Reestablish the historic sight lines between the Breymann and Balcarres redoubts.
- ④ Reestablish the historic view from Stop 3 looking southeast over the Hudson River.
- ④ Reestablish the historic views from Bemis Heights.
- ④ Reestablish interpretive and historic views critical to the military use of Victory Woods.

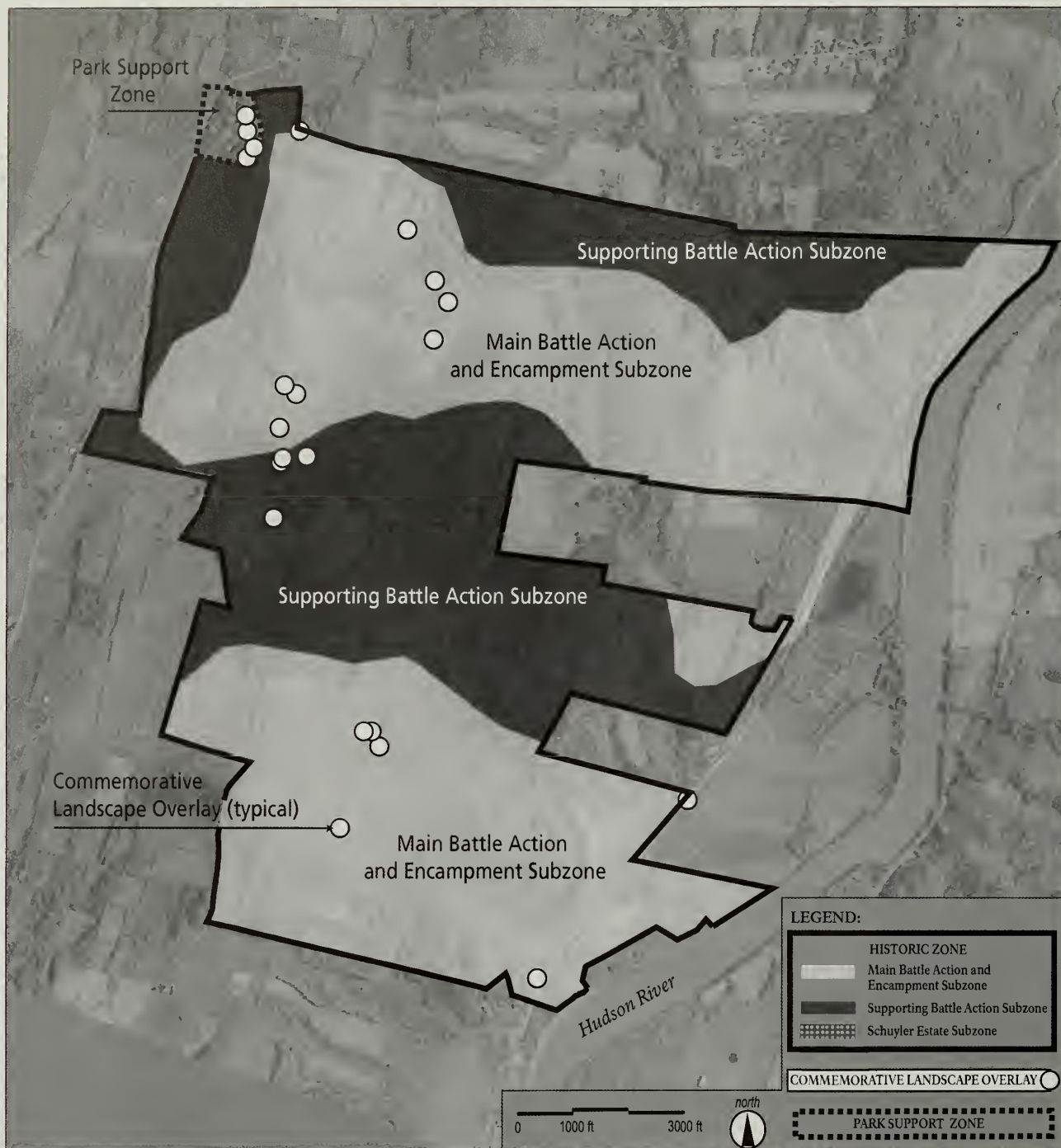
The character-defining landscape features of Victory Woods are identified and rehabilitated.

- ④ Conduct cultural and natural resource inventories, and archeological surveys.
- ④ Identify the locations of British earthworks, roads, and other key landscape features significant to the siege at Victory Woods.

Visitor Use and Experience

Interpretation emphasizes the Burgoyne Campaign within the broader context of the Revolutionary War with a secondary emphasis on commemorative aspects of the park (see Commemorative Overlay). Interpretation of the military events relies on visitor contact with rehabilitated landscape features and landscape exhibits, in addition to media.

- ④ For interpretive purposes, at select locations, exhibit such representative features typical of military activity as slash, tree stumps, log piles, fire pits, trenches, bake ovens, hastily constructed earthworks, abattis, and fields "cleared for fire."
- ④ Re-sequence interpretive stops to better follow the progression of battle action, and upgrade interpretive media at the tour road stops.
- ④ Indicate at select interpretive locations, the original divisions of the Saratoga Patent.
- ④ Indicate defensive positions at select interpretive locations.

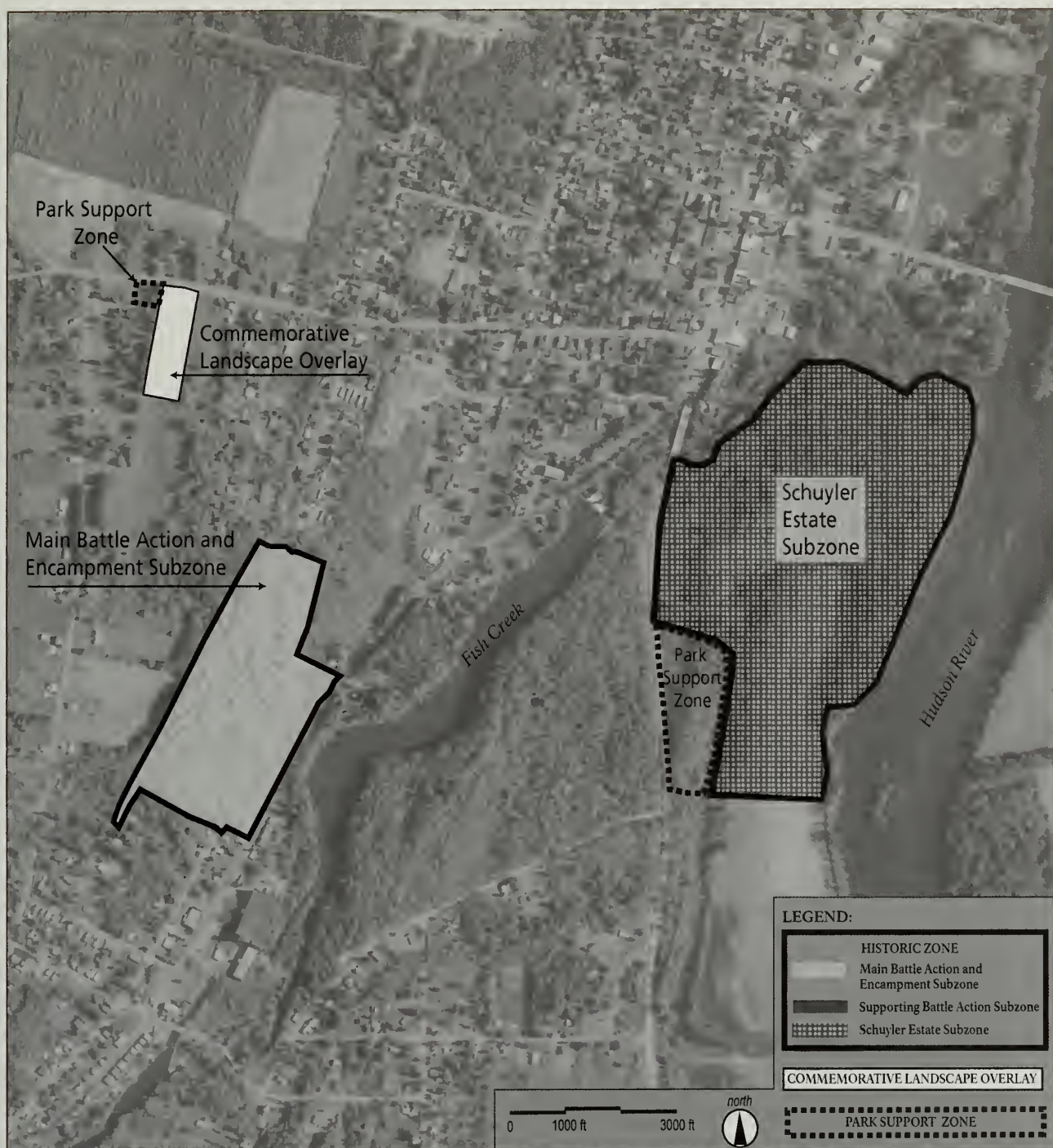


BATTLEFIELD UNIT

Management Zones



Saratoga National Historical Park
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



OLD SARATOGA UNIT

Management Zones

General Management Plan 2004



For a comprehensive understanding of military events, visitors will follow take tour sequence that follows the progression of the battles, siege, and surrender.

- ⌘ Indicate locations of the Neilson farm buildings, the Taylor House, the Bemis Tavern, Gates's Headquarters, the American Hospital, and other battle-era structures.
- ⌘ Enhance visual access to Gates's Headquarters – American Hospital area from the tour road.
- ⌘ Enhance pedestrian access to Bemis Heights from the tour road and via small parking area off Route 32.
- ⌘ Upgrade the self-guided auto audiotape tour.
- ⌘ Enhance access to the Taylor House site and the Hudson River. Improve road terminus. A minor boundary adjustment would be required to accomplish these actions.
- ⌘ Develop alternate tour options of varying lengths using existing road alignments.
- ⌘ Improve special event parking at select tour road stops.
- ⌘ Indicate the locations of British earthworks, roads, and other key landscape features significant to the siege at Victory Woods.
- ⌘ Develop interpretive trail through Victory Woods.

Historic Zone: Supporting Battle Action Subzone

Resource Management

The setting is predominantly open space.

- ⌘ Monitor and manage cultural and natural resources in compliance with National Park Service management policies.

Visitor Use and Experience

Interpretation is minimal; visitors encounter less interpretive media and fewer educational programs and activities than provided for in other zones.

- ⌘ Limit interpretive media and facilities generally to those needed to support interpretation of Main Battle Action and Encampment Subzone and Commemorative Landscape Overlay, or those needed to support natural resource programs.

Historic Zone: Schuyler Estate Subzone

Resource Management

The Schuyler Estate is rehabilitated to reflect its use by the Schuyler family.

- ④ Preserve house, privy, and wellhouse.
- ④ Acquire all properties within legislated Schuyler Estate boundary.
- ④ Where practicable, mitigate hazardous materials in dump sites and floodplain within the Schuyler Estate.
- ④ Conduct archeological research to support actions outlined in this and “Visitor Use and Experience” section.
- ④ Reestablish views to the Hudson River and Fish Creek.
- ④ Identify locations of landscape features, such as earlier houses, quarters of the enslaved, other outbuildings, gardens, and the canal, that reflect the use of the site from 1720 (when the first Schuyler House was built) to 1837 (the year the Schuyler family sold the property).

Visitor Use and Experience

Interpretation focuses on General Schuyler’s civic, military and entrepreneurial roles, and on the Schuyler family in Old Saratoga.

- ④ Utilize a combination of historic furnishings and other interpretive media in Schuyler House that best describes the story of the Schuyler family in Old Saratoga.
- ④ Indicate locations of landscape features, such as earlier houses, quarters of the enslaved, other outbuildings, gardens, and the canal that reflect the use of the site from 1720 to 1837.

Commemorative Landscape Overlay

Resource Management

Monuments and historic markers and their settings are monitored to assess and ensure good condition.

- ④ Monitor and maintain monuments and historic markers.

The Saratoga Monument grounds are rehabilitated to reflect the original formal design.

- ④ Ensure that the treatment of the monument and its grounds respects the historic design relationship with the Prospect Hill Cemetery.
- ④ Reestablish select pathways, plantings, and other landscape features that were extant for the first 40 years after the monument was completed.

Visitor Use and Experience

Interpretation addresses commemorative aspects of the park.

- ④ Develop new interpretive media to address commemorative aspects of park.

Park Support Zone

Resource Management

Visitor service and park support facilities are maintained in good condition.

- ④ Monitor and maintain visitor service and park support facilities.

The ability of park staff to maintain the Old Saratoga Unit is improved.

- ④ Develop a new satellite maintenance facility at an appropriate location in Old Saratoga. Retain the current maintenance facility at the Battlefield Unit and upgrade it as necessary. (The parklands of the Old Saratoga Unit might well be an appropriate location for this facility. Subsequent planning will evaluate and select an appropriate site for this facility. A boundary modification might be required.)

Visitor Use and Experience

Orientation to the entire park is provided at the outset of the visitor experience regardless of whether Old Saratoga or Battlefield unit is the point of entry.

- ④ Improve the interpretive media and exhibits in the battlefield visitor center.
- ④ Develop, at an appropriate location in Old Saratoga, a new facility (5,000-square-foot range) that includes exhibits highlighting other sites in the region. Site the facility to protect resources and enhance visitor experiences.

(The parklands of the Old Saratoga Unit might well be an appropriate location for this facility. Subsequent planning will evaluate and select an appropriate site for this facility. A boundary modification might be required.)

- ④ Develop interpretive media for new facility to provide park-wide orientation and orientation to regional initiatives.

The park's entry and exit are safe and are appropriate for a national park.

- ④ Develop new entry associated with new facility in Old Saratoga.
- ④ Develop new entry road off of Route 32, retain current entry road as service and maintenance entry, improve traffic flow and capacity of parking lot, upgrade signage, and screen the headquarters buildings. Develop fee collection/ranger station. A park boundary adjustment would be required to complete this action.
- ④ Collect fees at the fee collection/ranger station near the Route 32 entrance and at the Old Saratoga facility.

Parkwide

Resource Management

Natural resource management actions conserve and enhance the park's grassland habitat to support cultural landscape objectives and opportunistically support critical habitat.

- ④ Ensure consistency with cultural landscape objectives.
- ④ Focus conservation efforts on larger grassland areas.
- ④ Monitor grasslands.
- ④ Avoid fragmentation of and minimize disturbance to grasslands, especially during nesting season.
- ④ Limit mowing during April–August, the breeding season for most grassland birds.
- ④ Use an annual rotational mowing system in which some sections are left unmowed each year.
- ④ Establish native warm-season grasses as the dominant cover type.

- ④ Maintain native warm-season grasses through prescribed burning and other methods. Conduct prescribed burns on a rotational basis in which 20–30% of the total grassland is burned during a single year.
- ④ Locate any proposed roads and trails that pass through a grassland area as close to the edge as practicable.
- ④ Favor native species in any restoration effort.
- ④ Permit agricultural uses where appropriate; seek to make agricultural practices compatible with grassland habitat conservation and cultural landscape objectives.



Native species will be favored in restoration efforts.

The proliferation of non-native invasive plant species is controlled and the growth of native plant species is encouraged in locations that are appropriate and practicable.

- ④ Identify which exotic species have meaning to the historic landscape; control or eliminate exotic species that do not have meaning to the historic landscape in places where there is a reasonable expectation of success and sustainability.
- ④ Complete an inventory and assessment of plants and animals in the park and regularly monitor the distribution and condition of selected species that are (a) indicators of ecosystem condition and diversity, (b) rare or protected species, (c) invasive exotics, (d) native species capable of creating resource problems (e.g., habitat decline due to overpopulation).

- ④ Take mitigating measures to restore native species and their habitats, where warranted.
- ④ Continue to employ “natural” management tools, such as prescribed fire and agricultural leasing.
- ④ Support research that informs native species management.
- ④ Develop and implement an Integrated Pest Management Plan.

Natural resource management actions restore, maintain, and enhance the quality of all surface and ground waters within the park, in consultation with other agencies.

- ④ Resume long-term water resources monitoring program.
- ④ Provide adequate sewage treatment and disposal for all public use and administrative facilities.
- ④ Manage human activities to control erosion into surface waters.
- ④ Manage the use of toxic substances, such as pesticides, petroleum products, and heavy metals, to minimize the risk of water contamination.
- ④ Monitor and, where consistent with park management goals, mitigate pollution and pollution impacts.
- ④ Apply best management practices to all pollution-generating activities and facilities in the park, such as maintenance and storage facilities and parking areas.

No new monuments or markers are installed, unless directly authorized by Congress.

- ④ Encourage those wishing to commemorate the military events at Saratoga to find other means and mechanisms to do so, rather than to install new monuments or historic markers.



Reflective messages that are evocative of battle experiences from varying perspectives will be found at certain stops along the tour road or along the park's trails.

Alternate modes of park touring will be encouraged under the new plan. For example, park managers will extend the park's trail system.

Visitor Use and Experience

All park sites are open to the public on a seasonal basis.

- ④ Provide necessary services and operations to support seasonal public use and interpretation of all park sites.

All park sites are linked interpretively and physically with one another and with thematically related sites outside the park boundary.

- ④ Develop pedestrian, bicycle, and auto routes to link the Old Saratoga Unit sites with one another and with thematically related sites outside the boundary. Create links with Battlefield Unit. Coordinate with the existing Schuylerville walking tour route. Work with partners to develop media to interpret all sites on the new routes.
- ④ Work with partners to connect Victory Woods and the Saratoga Monument with a trail through Prospect Hill Cemetery.
- ④ Work with partners to connect Victory Woods and the Schuyler Estate with a trail along Fish Creek.

Non-motorized and alternative modes of park touring are encouraged.

- ④ Expand the trail system within the park; develop new trail to Bemis Heights from tour road and Route 32, and new loop connecting the park with the Saratoga National Cemetery.
- ④ Ensure that the tour road and trails are managed to avoid user conflict and resource degradation.
- ④ Disseminate information regarding alternate ways to tour the park.
- ④ Ensure that the tour road and park trails are well maintained, that adequate signage is provided, and that comfort stations, drinking water, and resting places with bike racks are available to visitors.
- ④ Make bicycles available to visitors via concession or other mechanism.
- ④ Enhance links with Lock 5 and other established marinas and dock areas.
- ④ Provide water access for pleasure craft at appropriate locations within the park.

- ④ Support partners' efforts to develop water-based thematically related interpretive tours.
- ④ Explore the possibility of offering a visitor transit system or special interpretive tours using specifically designed alternative-fueled vehicles.
- ④ Support the development of the Champlain Canal towpath trail, per the New York State Canal Recreationway Plan (which is inclusive of the Eastern Gateway Canal Corridor Plan) and cooperate with the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor on trail planning and management.
- ④ Seek to acquire portions of the canal that are within the park's legislative boundary and develop the towpath trail on key segments of the canal that run through the park.

Public activities are systematically evaluated for appropriateness before they are permitted. Visitor traffic (including pedestrian, bicycle, and horse traffic) is managed to protect critical park resources and visitor experiences. Recreational use of the park is tied to its educational purposes to the greatest extent possible.

- ④ Permit events and activities that provide educational opportunities, assure a high degree of visitor safety, have low potential for visitor use conflicts, support resource management objectives, and can be supported with available personnel and funding.
- ④ Ensure that paths and trails provide educational opportunities and/or access to historic sites that reflect the park's purpose and significance.
- ④ Develop new trails or similar facilities in ways that satisfactorily mitigate or avoid impacts and ensure that sufficient resources are in place to provide for their upkeep. Similarly evaluate existing trails.
- ④ Develop no new paths, trails, or similar types of facilities intended exclusively for recreation or personal exercise.

Cooperative Efforts and Partnerships

Partnerships are expanded to place the park in its broader historic context and to strengthen the park's role in regional initiatives.

- ④ Continue to work with the area's tourism bureaus and chambers of commerce, local organizations and societies, and other agencies to develop ways to link, physically and interpretively, thematically related sites.
- ④ Develop and operate Old Saratoga facilities jointly with partners.
- ④ Develop and implement joint educational programs, outreach initiatives, and special events with partners.
- ④ Work with property owners to develop interpretive media to address thematically related sites outside the park boundary.
- ④ Through cooperative efforts, encourage the perpetuation of the rural landscape character of views east to the ridgeline across the Hudson and views south and west to the ridgeline across Route 32.
- ④ Expand the ways in which volunteers can assist the park in maintenance, resource management, and visitor services by providing training, support, recruitment, and other services.
- ④ Expand the opportunities for the park's friends group to increase donations to the park.
- ④ Continue to work with volunteers, re-enactor groups, Old Saratoga Historical Association, the Friends of the Saratoga Battlefield, and others to improve "living history" and educational programs.
- ④ Continue to work with the Old Saratoga Historical Association to upgrade interpretation at the Schuyler Estate.
- ④ Through cooperative efforts, ensure the long-term protection of views west across Route 4 from the Schuyler Estate. Boundary modifications may be required, if cooperative efforts are insufficient.



In 2002, over 20 historical, community, and tourism organizations joined together to commemorate the 225th Anniversary of the Burgoyne Campaign by promoting and marketing educational reenactments in New York and Vermont as "The Northern Campaign — 3 Valleys to Freedom — Relive America's Victories of 1777."

Critical visitor services within the park should be appropriate and necessary and consider the availability of nearby services in local communities.

- ④ Pursue commercial operations, such as bicycle rentals, or food and beverage vending machines, through the use of concessions if private businesses or others cannot provide such services.
- ④ Monitor and improve concessions to ensure that high-quality services are provided to the public.



The park's setting, scenic views, air and water quality, and the condition of its soil are affected by activities that are conducted outside the park boundary and outside of the park's control.

Park managers and partners work together to increase understanding of the region's natural resources, and to identify, minimize, and mitigate activities that generate negative impacts — such as air and water pollution, lighting that would diminish the quality of the night sky, excessive noise, and visual intrusions within key park views — that detract from the values of the park.

- ④ Collaborate with federal, state, regional and local agencies, nonprofit organizations, private landowners, and other partners to share resource information and to coordinate monitoring efforts to evaluate impacts that detract from park values.
- ④ Collaborate with federal, state, regional, and local agencies, nonprofit organizations, interested private landowners, and other partners to mitigate negative impacts to park resources.
- ④ Participate in regional air pollution control plans and regulations and review of permit applications for major new air pollution sources.
- ④ Work with local communities and other agencies to encourage the protection of the natural soundscape and the night sky.
- ④ Assign staff members to work with a wide variety of government agencies, interested landowners, homeowners' associations, and nonprofit organizations to address adjacent land use issues.
- ④ Cooperate with local organizations, maintain relationships with local governments, and participate in regional and local planning activities.
- ④ Work cooperatively with government officials and other stakeholders to promote preservation and sensitive development in areas where insensitive development would detract from the park's historic setting and important views.
- ④ Support the work of local land conservancies, open-space programs, and efforts to protect agricultural lands and park viewsheds.

Summary of Potential Boundary Modifications

- ④ If cooperative efforts are insufficient, a boundary modification may be required to ensure the long-term protection of views west across Route 4 from the Schuyler Estate.
- ④ Park managers will work to acquire, from willing sellers only, all scenic easements on non-federal properties and other lands within the park's legislative boundary.
- ④ Minor boundary modifications will be required to enhance access to the Taylor House site and the Hudson River, and to improve the Route 32 entry. The minor boundary modifications may require either administrative or legislative action, depending upon the specific circumstances of the lands under consideration.
- ④ Subsequent planning will determine if a boundary modification is required to support the Old Saratoga facilities.

Cost Estimates

The range of annual costs over Fiscal Year 2003 operations costs (\$1,690,000) is estimated to be \$810,000 – \$990,000. This range is based on an addition of 18.5 personnel and the assumption that the total payroll would continue to be about 85% of the annual budget. Due to the joint operation of the Old Saratoga facility, partnership support may offset operations costs.

The range of initial one-time costs, including construction, exhibits, research, and planning is estimated to be \$8,730,000 – \$10,670,000.

The total life-cycle costs over the life of the plan, including total maintenance, operations, personnel, and capital costs over 20 years, is estimated to be \$18,540,000 – \$22,660,000.

A note about funding:

The National Park Service develops five-year deferred maintenance and capital improvement plans. These plans are developed by a systematic process of evaluating proposals from the field to

determine which projects are of greatest need in priority order, focusing on critical health and safety issues and critical resource protection requirements. Actions that add specific projects to the five-year plans inevitably result in other projects being displaced when budgets are limited.

Capital development, maintenance, and staffing proposals in this plan will need to be evaluated in light of competing priorities for this unit and other units of the national park system. Because emphasis in the budget process is currently being placed on addressing needs to maintain existing infrastructure, funding for new development is not likely within the next five years. However, the potential for implementing development and operational proposals in this plan may be improved if funding is available from partnerships that do not rely on the National Park Service's budget.

"As the plan recognizes, the NPS can no longer accomplish its goals by itself. ...If we are going to achieve the goals described in this plan, we need the active involvement of many supportive individuals and groups...."

— Frank Dean, Superintendent

Implementing the Plan

As mentioned previously, a general management plan is not detailed, specific, or highly technical in nature. When funds become available to construct facilities, to undertake landscape rehabilitation, or to implement other specific actions that are consistent with the general management plan, site-specific research, planning, design, compliance, and technical environmental analysis will be done. National Park Service policy guidelines state that all resource management decisions must be based on full consideration of the best available natural and cultural resource information. For example, any cultural landscape actions would be implemented based on recommendations of a long-range interpretive plan, a cultural landscape treatment plan, archeological research, and site-specific design. A list of studies that might be done in the future is provided in Appendix D. In implementing the Saratoga National Historical Park general management plan, park managers will comply with all applicable laws and executive orders, such as those outlined in Appendix E: Laws, Policies, and Mandates.



51 Appendices

"The importance of this triumph upon the fortunes of the American struggle for Independence is undisputed."

— Ellen Hardin Walworth, 1891



"At Saratoga, where one of the decisive battles of the world was fought, where American independence and the founding of this nation was made possible, plans are already being carried out which will suitably memorialize and interpret that pregnant field to the whole nation. There beside the stately Hudson, in the shadows of the Berkshires of New England and of the Adirondacks of upper New York, is a place where every American can reflect on the origins of his country, and view the ground on which a mighty event took place."

— Arno B. Cammerer, NPS Director, Jan. 29, 1941

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Appendices

Appendix A: Record of Decision

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Final General Management Plan /
Final Environmental Impact Statement

Saratoga National Historical Park
Saratoga and Stillwater, New York

Summary

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (Public Law 91-190) and the regulations promulgated by the Council of Environmental Quality (40 CFR Part 1500), the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, has prepared this Record of Decision for the Final General Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement for Saratoga National Historical Park, New York. The Record of Decision is a statement of the background of the project, the decision made, synopsis of the other alternatives considered, the basis for the decision, the environmentally preferable alternative, a summary of measures to minimize environmental harm, and an overview of the public involvement in the decision-making process.

Decision (Selected Action)

After thorough analysis and extensive public involvement, the National Park Service will implement Alternative D (the Preferred Alternative identified in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements) to help guide management of Saratoga National Historical Park. Alternative D was selected because it supports the purpose and significance of the park, and minimizes impacts on the park's resources while providing for public use and enjoyment of those resources.

Alternative D: Focus on the Burgoyne Campaign seeks to improve visitor understanding of the events that led to the 1777 British surrender by providing a more complete and logical depiction of these events. This approach also includes — secondary to the strategic factors — interpretation of the efforts to commemorate the military events and opportunities to reflect on their meaning.

Additionally, Alternative D enables the park to expand its partnerships with other Burgoyne Campaign-related sites and regional entities in the Champlain-Hudson and Mohawk valleys.

Key objectives of Alternative D include:

- ④ Interpreting the logistics and military tactics of the battles, siege, and surrender within the broader context of the Burgoyne Campaign.
- ④ Suggesting, to the extent possible, the character of the battlefield and Victory Woods in 1777. In key areas, indicating the pattern and general character of open land and woodland, physically depicting the locations of battle-era structures, roads, and defensive positions, and portraying features characteristic of military activity.
- ④ Re-establishing views important to the interpretation of the battles.
- ④ Providing a tour sequence that unfolds in a logical fashion and that follows the progression of the battles, siege, and surrender, and enhancing public access to key historic sites, such as Bemis Heights.
- ④ Secondly to strategic factors, providing a battlefield experience that is contemplative in nature and that offers opportunities for quiet reflection. Such opportunities could include interpretation that embraces battle experiences from such varying perspectives as camp followers, American Indians, local farmers, women and others who were caught up in the struggles.
- ④ Rehabilitating and interpreting the character-defining landscape features of Victory Woods.
- ④ Encouraging alternate modes of park touring by making bicycles available to visitors (via concession or other method) at convenient locations within the park, extending the park's trail system to facilitate non-motorized access to interpretation, and exploring the feasibility of offering special interpretive tours using specifically designed vehicles that could transport a group of visitors (and their bikes) for ranger-led tours.

- ④ Providing orientation to the entire park at both the Battlefield Unit and the Old Saratoga Unit to enable visitors to receive an overview and orientation to the park at the outset of their visit, regardless of which park unit is their first point of arrival.
- ④ Providing orientation and interpretation at the Battlefield Unit at the existing visitor center and improving the Route 32 entrance to provide a more appropriate entry to the battlefield and the visitor center.
- ④ Providing orientation at the Old Saratoga Unit in a new facility developed at an appropriate location in Old Saratoga. This facility could include classroom and public assembly space, as well as a “showcase gallery” highlighting other sites of importance throughout the region. This facility would be sited and designed to allow for expansion as new opportunities and regional partnerships evolve.
- ④ Linking the Old Saratoga Unit sites with one another and thematically related sites outside of the park boundary via pedestrian, bicycle, and auto routes.
- ④ Interpreting the Saratoga Monument to portray the commemorative movement and return the landscape to reflect its original formal design.
- ④ Preserving the Schuyler House and utilizing a combination of historic furnishings and other interpretive media that best portrays the story of the Schuyler Family in Old Saratoga. Identifying and indicating locations of landscape features, such as the earlier Schuyler houses, outbuildings, quarters of the enslaved, gardens, and the canal to reflect the use of the site from 1720 (when the first Schuyler House was built) to 1837 (the year the Schuyler Family sold the property).
- ④ Expanding interpretation of the historic Champlain Canal.
- ④ Expanding partnerships to place the park in its broader historic context and to strengthen the park’s role in the regional initiatives of the Champlain-Hudson and Mohawk valleys.

Other Alternatives Considered

Three additional alternatives were analyzed for impacts on the environment and are summarized below. Alternative D was formed by combining elements of alternatives B and C.

Alternative A: Focus on Current Management Objectives allowed for incremental action toward existing objectives with minimum change to the park’s current management philosophy and physical conditions. This concept would have entailed no significant expansion of the park’s participation in regional initiatives over the current situation. Alternative A served as the “no-action” alternative required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

Alternative B: Focus on the Battles, Siege, and Surrender concentrated on improving visitor understanding of the events that led to the 1777 British surrender at Saratoga by providing a more complete and logical depiction of these events. It rehabilitated key landscape features to help the visitor understand conditions faced by the armed forces and how landscape conditions were used and manipulated to serve tactical needs. This concept also enabled park staff to work with regional partners in developing outreach initiatives.

Alternative C: Focus on the Park as Memorial Grounds presented the park as a memorial landscape that had been commemorated in numerous ways over generations, from the erection of monuments, to the establishment of state and federal parkland, to contemporary efforts to link important sites through regional heritage initiatives. This approach preserved and enhanced interpretation of key landscape features to help the visitor understand the military events of 1777 and the efforts to commemorate those events. Moreover, this alternative envisioned the park as an important gateway to the regional initiatives of the Champlain-Hudson and Mohawk valleys.

Environmentally Preferred Alternative

The environmentally preferred alternative is defined by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) as the alternative that best meets the criteria or objectives set out in Section 101 of the National Environmental Policy Act.

The objectives are outlined as follows:

- ④ Fulfills the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations.
- ④ Assures for all generations safe, healthful, productive, and esthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings.
- ④ Attains the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences.
- ④ Preserves important historic, cultural and natural aspects of our national heritage and maintains, wherever possible, an environment that supports diversity and variety of individual choice.
- ④ Achieves a balance between population and resource use that will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities.
- ④ Enhances the quality of renewable resources and approaches the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

The environmentally preferred alternative is the alternative that causes the least damage to the biological and physical environment; it is the alternative that best protects, preserves, and enhances historic, cultural, and natural resources. Alternative D was selected as the environmentally preferred alternative.

Decision Rationale

Summary of Major Applicable Laws and Policies

The major federal laws and policies that apply to federal agency actions in the General Management Plan are the National Park Service Organic Act and General Authorities Act, the public laws creating and augmenting Saratoga National Historical Park, the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978, the National Environmental Policy Act, and related provisions of the National Park Service *Management Policies 2001*. The management actions selected comply with the requirements of federal law, including those statutes listed above.

The provisions of the National Park Service Organic Act and the National Park Service General Authorities Act, as amended, provide the most important statutory directive for the National Park Service. The Organic Act requires that park resources and values be managed in a manner that will leave them unimpaired for future generations. The General Authorities Act prohibits managing units of the National Park System in derogation of the values and purposes for which the various areas have been established, except as Congress may directly and specifically provide. The National Park Service considers the two mandates (no impairment, no derogation) as defining a single standard for the management of the National Park System.

National Park Service *Management Policies 2001* provides guidance for interpreting the National Park Service Organic Act and the amendments to the General Authorities Act. Generally, these two provisions direct the Secretary of the Interior to manage parks for conservation purposes and public enjoyment without impairment. The mandate to conserve park resources and values is separate from the prohibition on impairment. The conservation mandate, thus, applies even when there is no risk that park resources or values may be impaired.

Providing opportunities for public enjoyment of park resources and values to the people of the United States is a fundamental part of the National Park Service mission. This includes people who directly experience parks and those who appreciate them from afar. It also includes deriving benefit and inspiration from parks. Congress has provided that when there is a conflict between conserving resources and values and providing for enjoyment of them, conservation is to be predominant.

Although park managers must seek ways to avoid or minimize impacts on park resources and values, they have the discretion to allow impacts when necessary to fulfill the purposes of the park. This discretion exists, however, only so long as the impact does not constitute an impairment of the affected resources or values. The sole exception is an activity specifically mandated by Congress that would cause an impairment or derogation.

Methodology for Analyzing Impacts

The potential impacts of the alternatives were evaluated and an analysis of impacts was included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The planning team based the impact analysis and conclusions largely on the review of existing research and studies, information provided by experts in the National Park Service and other agencies and organizations, and the professional judgment of the staff of Saratoga National Historical Park. Where necessary and appropriate in all the alternatives, the planning team proposed mitigating measures to minimize or avoid impacts.

Effects were categorized as direct, indirect, or cumulative. Direct effects are caused by an action and occur at the same time and place as the action. Indirect effects are caused by the action and occur later or farther away, but are still reasonably foreseeable. Cumulative effects are the impacts on the environment that result from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency (federal or nonfederal) or person undertakes such other action. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor, but collectively significant, actions taking place over a period of time. The analysis of individual actions included identification and characterization of impacts. Characterization included a discussion of the type, duration and intensity of impact.

In the impact analysis, cultural resources consist of historic and designed landscapes, historic buildings and structures, monuments, archeological sites and resources, collections and archives, and associated sites outside of park boundaries.

The impact topic of natural resources included discussions of the effects on the integrity of natural systems and features, including soils, topography, vegetation, wildlife, threatened and endangered species, and water resources, wetlands, and floodplain. To conduct the analysis, research reports were consulted and information on known resources was compiled. Where possible, locations of sensitive resources were compared with the locations of proposed developments and modifications. The analysis was qualitative in nature. Predictions about short-term and long-term site impacts were

based on previous studies and in consultation with subject-matter experts.

Discussions of the visitor experience covered the effects on visitors' ability to experience the park's primary resources and their setting and to access educational and interpretive opportunities. Information gathered in a visitor use survey was used along with public input during the planning process to evaluate the potential impacts of each alternative on visitors.

Discussions of impacts on park operations focused on circulation and access, facilities, staffing and volunteers, and fee collection. The discussion of socioeconomic effects consisted of the effects of each alternative on the local and regional economy.

After a review of potential impacts, the team concluded that Alternative D best protects contributing resources, while enhancing public access to those resources. Overall, Alternative D provides the greatest number of beneficial impacts in comparison to the other alternatives.

The following set of tables provides a summary of the impact analysis that led the team to its conclusion that Alternative D is the environmentally preferred alternative, as well as the selected action. Table 1 outlines the criteria used to define the impact intensities associated with resource types. Tables 2 through 5 indicate, for each alternative, the frequency, intensity, and duration of potential impacts on park resource types. It should be noted that the following tables address impacts and not findings of effect in the context of 106 compliance, as such effects will be determined through continued 106 consultation with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer on specific actions, as outlined on page 210 in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Table 1: Criteria for Impact Intensities

	Natural Resources	Threatened and Endangered Species	Cultural Resources	Visitor Experience	Park Operations	Socioeconomic Resources
Negligible	Impact localized and not detectable, or at lowest levels of detection	Change in a population or individuals of a species; consequences to population not measurable or perceptible, or other changes not measurable or perceptible	Impact barely perceptible and not measurable; confined to small areas or affecting a single contributing element of a larger national register district with low data potential	Impact barely detectable, not in primary resource areas or would occasionally affect a few visitors	Impact not detectable, no discernible effect on ability to provide services, to manage resources, or to operate the park	Impact not detectable, no discernible effect on socioeconomic environment
Minor	Impact localized and slightly detectable but would not affect overall structure of any natural community	Change in a population or individuals of a species, if measurable, would be small and localized, or other changes would be slight but detectable	Impact perceptible and measurable, but would remain localized; affecting a single contributing element of a larger national register district with low to moderate data potential, or would not affect character-defining features of a national register eligible or listed property	Impact slight but detectable, not in primary resource areas or would affect few visitors	Impact slightly detectable but would not obstruct or improve overall ability to provide services, to manage resources, or to operate the park	Impact slightly detectable but would not affect overall socioeconomic environment
Moderate	Impact clearly detectable, could affect individual species, communities, or natural processes appreciably	Change in a population or individuals of a species measurable but localized	Impact sufficient to change a character-defining feature but would not diminish resource's integrity enough to jeopardize its national register eligibility, or it generally would involve a single or small group of contributing elements with moderate to high data potential	Impact readily apparent, somewhat adverse or somewhat beneficial, in primary resource areas or would affect many visitors	Impact clearly detectable and could appreciably obstruct or improve the ability to provide services, to manage resources, and/or to operate the park	Impact clearly detectable and could have an appreciable effect on the socioeconomic environment
Major	Impact highly noticeable and would substantially influence natural resources, e.g. individuals or groups of species, communities, or natural processes	Change in a population or individuals of a species measurable and would result in permanent consequence to the population	Substantial, highly noticeable change in character-defining features would diminish resource's integrity so much that it would no longer be eligible for national register listing, or it would involve a large group of contributing elements or individually significant properties with exceptional data potential	Effect severely adverse or exceptionally beneficial, in primary resource areas, or would affect most of visitors	Impact would have a substantial, highly noticeable, potentially permanent influence on the ability to provide services, to manage resources, or to operate the park	Impact would have a substantial, highly noticeable influence on socioeconomic environment

Table 2: Summary of Impacts Associated with Alternative A

Impact Topic	Long-term Impacts=X				Short-term Impacts=(x)			
	Beneficial				Adverse			
	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
CULTURAL RESOURCES								
HISTORIC AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES		X		X				
ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES			X				X	
COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES		X						
NATURAL RESOURCES	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
SOILS					(x)	(x)		
TOPOGRAPHY					X	X		
VEGETATION	X		X		X			
WILDLIFE	X	X	X				X	
THREATENED / ENDANGERED SPECIES		X				X		
WATER RESOURCES					(x)			
VISITOR USE AND EXPERIENCE	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
ORIENTATION		X	XX				X	
INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES	X	X	XXX				X	
VISITATION	(x)							
PARK OPERATIONS	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
CIRCULATION AND ACCESS		X	X		X			
FACILITIES					X	X	X	
STAFFING AND VOLUNTEERS			X				X	
FEE COLLECTION		X						
SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMY	X							
TOTALS	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
	4LT 1ST	8LT	10LT	1LT	4LT 2ST	3LT 1ST	6LT	0

Table 3: Summary of Impacts Associated with Alternative B

Impact Topic	Long-term Impacts=X				Short-term Impacts=(x)			
	Beneficial				Adverse			
	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
CULTURAL RESOURCES								
HISTORIC AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES			X	XX				
HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES					(x)			
ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES			X		X		X	
COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES		X						
ASSOCIATED SITES OUTSIDE BOUNDARY		X						
NATURAL RESOURCES	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
SOILS					(x)	(x)		
TOPOGRAPHY					X	X		
VEGETATION	X		X		X			
WILDLIFE	X	X	X				X	
THREATENED / ENDANGERED SPECIES		X				X		
WATER RESOURCES					(x)(x)			
VISITOR USE AND EXPERIENCE	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
ORIENTATION			XX	XXX				
INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES			XXXX	XXXXX			X	
VISITATION	(x)	XXX						
PARK OPERATIONS	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
CIRCULATION AND ACCESS			XXX	X	X			
FACILITIES					X			
STAFFING AND VOLUNTEERS				X		X		
FEE COLLECTION		X						
SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMY		X						
CUMULATIVE IMPACT	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
		X						
TOTALS	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
	2LT 1ST	10LT	13LT	12LT	5LT 4ST	3LT 1ST	3LT	0

Table 4: Summary of Impacts Associated with Alternative C

Impact Topic	Long-term Impacts=X				Short-term Impacts=(x)			
	Beneficial				Adverse			
	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
CULTURAL RESOURCES								
HISTORIC AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES		X	XX					
HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES		X			(x)			
ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES	X				X			
COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES		X						
ASSOCIATED SITES OUTSIDE BOUNDARY		X						
NATURAL RESOURCES	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
SOILS					(x)(x)			
TOPOGRAPHY					XX			
VEGETATION	XX	X			X			
WILDLIFE	X	XX				XX		
THREATENED / ENDANGERED SPECIES		X				X		
WATER RESOURCES					(x)(x)(x)			
VISITOR USE AND EXPERIENCE	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
ORIENTATION				XXXX				
INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES			XXXX	XXXXXX				
VISITATION	(x)		XXX					
PARK OPERATIONS	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
CIRCULATION AND ACCESS			XX	XX				
FACILITIES				X		X		
STAFFING AND VOLUNTEERS				X		X		
FEE COLLECTION		X						
SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMY			X					
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
			X					
TOTALS	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
	4LT 1ST	9LT	13LT	13LT	3LT 6ST	5LT	0	0

Table 5: Summary of Impacts Associated with Alternative D

Impact Topic	Long-term Impacts=X				Short-term Impacts=(x)			
	Beneficial				Adverse			
	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
CULTURAL RESOURCES								
HISTORIC AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES			XX	XX				
HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES		X			(x)			
ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES			X		X		X	
COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES		X						
ASSOCIATED SITES OUTSIDE BOUNDARY		X						
NATURAL RESOURCES	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
SOILS					(x)(x)			
TOPOGRAPHY					XX			
VEGETATION	X		X		X			
WILDLIFE	X	X	X			X	X	
THREATENED / ENDANGERED SPECIES		X				X		
WATER RESOURCES					(x)(x)(x)			
VISITOR USE AND EXPERIENCE	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
ORIENTATION			XX	XXXX				
INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES			XXXX	XXXXXX				
VISITATION	(x)	XX	XX					
PARK OPERATIONS	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
CIRCULATION AND ACCESS			XX	XXX	X			
FACILITIES				X		X		
STAFFING AND VOLUNTEERS				X		X		
FEE COLLECTION		X						
SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMY			X					
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
		X						
TOTALS	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.	Neg.	Min.	Mod.	Maj.
	2LT 1ST	9LT	16LT	17LT	3LT 4ST	6LT 2ST	2LT	0

Measures to Minimize Environmental Harm

The National Park Service has investigated all practical means to avoid or minimize environmental impacts that could result from implementation of the selected action. Alternative D incorporates mitigation measures to minimize and offset potential impacts which are presented in detail in the Draft General Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Monitoring and enforcement programs will oversee the implementation of mitigation measures. These programs will ensure compliance monitoring; biological and cultural resource protection, including archeological resource protection; pollution prevention measures; and visitor safety and education.

Finding on Impairment of Park Resources and Values

National Park Service *Management Policies 2001* requires analysis of potential effects to determine whether the actions would impair park resources. The National Park Service has determined that implementation of Alternative D, the Preferred Alternative, will not constitute impairment of Saratoga National Historical Park resources and values. The Preferred Alternative will have beneficial long-term effects on park resources ranging from negligible to major. With implementation of Alternative D, negative impacts could potentially occur to archeological sites, topography, soils, and woodland species due to modification of the park's forest /field configuration. The predicted impacts would be at acceptable levels, ranging from negligible to moderate, and could be mitigated through management actions. As with other specific actions proposed in the plan, the National Park Service will continue to consult with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer on the modification of the park's forest / field configuration. Furthermore, it has been determined that Alternative D will not significantly impact a resource or value whose conservation is 1) necessary to fulfill specific legislative purposes; 2) key to the natural or cultural integrity of the park or to opportunities for enjoyment of the park; or 3) identified as a goal in the park's general management plan or other relevant National Park Service planning document.

Consultation

Consultation and coordination with appropriate federal and state agencies were conducted throughout the preparation of the General Management Plan. Regarding historic properties of significance to Indian tribes, consultation with the Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohican Indians was initiated in February 2001 and continued throughout the planning process via mailings of newsletters, the draft plan, and the Final Environmental Impact Statement. Regarding cultural resources, consultation with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer was initiated in January 2001 and continued throughout the process via mailings of newsletters, an advance copy of the draft plan, the actual draft plan, and the Final Environmental Impact Statement. The State Historic Preservation Officer responded with formal comments on the draft plan and concluded that the National Park Service made a convincing case for the selection of Alternative D as the Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service will continue to consult with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer on specific actions as the plan is implemented.

Description of Public Involvement in the Decision-Making Process

Public scoping for the plan was initiated in March 2000 when the planning team held two public sessions. At these meetings, team members discussed the purpose and significance statements and the park's goals with the participants. Also in March 2000, the team invited over 30 scholars and resource specialists to define the park's interpretive themes.

The team followed the scoping sessions with a newsletter in August 2000, which highlighted comments received from the public and reported on the status of planning. The newsletter was distributed to over 700 people and was also made available on the park's website.

The team then developed three alternatives, which, along with the interpretive themes, were presented in the second newsletter, published in the autumn of 2001. This newsletter was distributed to over 1,000 people and was posted on the park's website.

In addition to publishing the newsletter, the planning team sought public input at three meetings with various stakeholder groups. In July 2001, the team presented the preliminary alternatives to area planners and to local and county officials. In October 2001, stakeholders provided input at a meeting that focused on treatment of the Schuyler Estate. A meeting in April 2002 addressed the feasibility of developing a regional visitor center in Old Saratoga. Throughout the process, the superintendent kept local, county, and state officials informed on the progress of the plan, and consulted with them on specific issues.

Input from these sources made it apparent that a new alternative, combining favored elements of the initial concepts, was desirable. In response, the planning team developed "Alternative D," as the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative D was highlighted in the Draft General Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement, made available for a 60-day public review period starting in January 2004. Some 2000 draft plan summary newsletters were distributed. The full draft plan was distributed to a list of nearly 60 recipients, which included the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, the Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohican Indians, and other agencies and organizations. Both the summary newsletter and the full draft plan were made available on the Internet and at area libraries. On January 22, 2004, the team held a public open house at the park visitor center, which was attended by some 45 people. Over the course of the public comment period, a total of 32 written comments were received. The team carefully reviewed all responses and incorporated substantive comments in the Final General Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement.

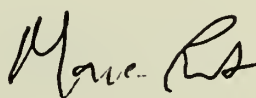
The consensus of the public comment period was that National Park Service was pursuing the correct path for the park in Alternative D, the Preferred Alternative. Comments from individuals and public agencies did not require the National Park Service to add other alternatives, significantly alter existing alternatives, or make changes to the impact analysis of the effects of any alternative. Thus, an abbreviated

format was used for the responses to comments in the final Environmental Impact Statement, in compliance with the 1978 implementing regulations (40 CFR 1503.4[c]) for the National Environmental Policy Act. In August 2004, the abbreviated Final Environmental Impact Statement was made available to the public for a 30-day "no-action period," which concluded on September 2, 2004. The Final Environmental Impact Statement was distributed to a list of nearly 100 recipients, which included the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, the Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohican Indians, and other agencies, organizations, officials, and individuals.

Conclusion

Alternative D, the selected action, provides the most comprehensive and proactive strategy among the alternatives considered for meeting the National Park Service's purposes, goals, and objectives for managing Saratoga National Historical Park in accordance with Congressional direction, federal laws, and National Park Service Management Policies. The selection of Alternative D, as reflected by the analysis contained in the Final Environmental Impact Statement would not result in the impairment of park resources or values and would allow the National Park Service to conserve park resources and provide for their enjoyment by these and future generations.

Approved:



Marie Rust
Regional Director
Northeast Region
National Park Service

Date: September 23, 2004

Appendix B: Legislation

5. Saratoga National Historical Park Project

Establishment of park authorized..... Act of June 1, 1938	Page 111
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An Act To provide for the creation of the Saratoga National Historical Park in the State of New York and for other purposes, approved June 1, 1938 (52 Stat. 608)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That when title to all the lands, structures, and other property in the area at Saratoga, New York, whereon was fought the Battle of Saratoga during the War of the Revolution, shall have been vested in the United States, such area shall be, and it is hereby, established, dedicated, and set apart as a public park for the benefit and inspiration of the people and shall be known as the Saratoga National Historical Park: Provided, That such area shall include that part of the Saratoga Battlefield now belonging to the State of New York and any additional lands in the immediate vicinity thereof which the Secretary of the Interior may, within six months, after the approval of this Act, designate as necessary or desirable for the purposes of this Act.
(16 U.S.C. sec. 159.)

Saratoga
National
Historical
Park, N.Y.

Establishment
when title to
lands is vested
in United States

Proviso

Inclusion of
battlefield, etc.

SEC.2. That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized to accept donations of land, interests in land, buildings, structures, and other property within the boundaries of said historical park as determined and fixed hereunder and donations of funds for the purchase of maintenance thereof, the title and evidence of title to lands acquired to be satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior: Provided, That he may acquire on behalf of the United States, out of any donated funds, be purchase when purchasable at prices deemed by him reasonable, otherwise by condemnation under the provisions of the Act of August 1, 1888, such tracts of land within the said, historical park as may be necessary for the completion thereof.
(16 U.S.C sec. 159a.)

Acceptance of
donations, etc.

Proviso

Purchase of lands fr
donated funds

25 Stat. 357. 40 U.S
sec. 257.

SEC.3. That the administration, protection, and development of the aforesaid national historical park shall be exercised under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior by the National Park Service, subject to the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916, entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes"; as amended. (16 U.S.C. sec. 159b.)

Supervision by
National Park Servic

39 Stat. 535. 16 U.S
sec. 1.

An Act To establish the Saratoga National Historical Park, in the State of New York, from the lands that have been acquired by the Federal Government for that purpose pursuant to the Act of June 1, 1938 (52 Stat. 608), and for other purposes, approved June 22, 1948 (62 Stat. 570)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purpose of completing the establishment of Saratoga National Historical Park, and to provide adequately for its future development, all lands and other property which have been acquired by the Federal Government pursuant to the Saratoga National Historical Park Act of June 1, 1938 (52 Stat. 608; 16 U.S.C. secs. 159-159b), are hereby established as the Saratoga National Historical Park, and shall be administered as provided in section 3 of that Act. (16 U.S.C. § 159c.)

Saratoga National Historical Park, N.Y. Establishment.

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III. NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARKS—SARATOGA

Acceptance of
Gen. Philip
Schuyler Man-
sion property.

52 Stat. 609.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to accept all or any portion of the General Philip Schuyler Mansion property, real and personal, situated at Schuylerville, New York, comprising approximately fifty acres, and also donations of additional land, interests in land, buildings, structures, and other property in Saratoga County. The authority to acquire property, contained in section 2 of the Act of June 1, 1938, may be utilized by the Secretary of the Interior in carrying out the purposes of this Act. These properties, upon acquisition by the United States, shall become a part of Saratoga National Historical Park, the total area of which however, shall not exceed five thousand five hundred acres. (16 U.S.C. § 159d.)

12. Saratoga

PUBLIC LAW 96-199—MAR. 5, 1980 94 STAT. 67

Public Law 96-199
96th Congress

An Act

To establish the Channel Islands National Park, and for other purposes.

Mar. 5, 1980
[H.R. 3757]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978, amendment.

TITLE I

94 STAT. 71
16 USC 159e.

* * * * *
SEC 115. (a) The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to revise the boundary of the Saratoga National Historic Park to add approximately one hundred and forty-seven acres.

Appropriation authorization.

(b) For the purposes of acquiring land and interest in land added to the unit referred to in subsection (a) there are authorized to be appropriated from the Land and Water Conservation Fund such sums as may be necessary but not to exceed \$74,000 for Saratoga National Historic Park.

* * * * *

Approved March 5, 1980. 94 STAT. 77

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:
HOUSE REPORTS: No. 96-119 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs). No. 96-182, Pt. I accompanying H. R. 2975 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs) and No. 96-182, Pt. II accompanying H. R. 2975 (Comm. on Merchant Marine and Fisheries).
SENATE REPORT No. 96-484 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Vol. 125 (1979): May 7, considered and passed House.
Vol. 126 (1980): Feb. 18, considered and passed Senate, amended. Feb. 20, House concurred in Senate amendments.
WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS:
Vol. 16, No. 10 (1980): Mar. 5, Presidential statement.

Public Law 97-460
97th Congress

An Act

Jan. 12, 1983
[S. 1540]

To revise the boundaries of the Saratoga National Historical Park in the State of New York, and for other purposes.

Saratoga
National
Historical Park,
N.Y.
Boundary
revision.
16 USC 159f.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. In order to preserve certain lands historically associated with the Battle of Saratoga and to facilitate the administration and interpretation of the Saratoga National Historical Park (hereinafter in this Act referred to as "the park"), the boundary of the park is hereby revised to include the area generally depicted on the map entitled "Saratoga National Historical Park", numbered 80,001, and dated March 23, 1979.

Land
acquisition.
16 USC 159g.

SEC. 2. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), within the boundary of the park, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary"), is authorized to acquire lands and interests therein by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange. Except for the tract identified on the aforesaid map as tract number 01-132, which was authorized to be acquired by section 115 of the Act of March 5, 1980 (94 Stat. 71) the Secretary may not acquire (except by donation) fee simple title to those lands depicted on the map as proposed for less than fee acquisition. The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

16 USC 159e.

(b)(1) Appropriated funds may not be used to acquire lands or interests therein within the park without the consent of the owner except when—

(A) the Secretary determines that such owner is subjecting, or is about to subject, the property to actions which would significantly degrade its value as a component of the park; or

(B) the owner fails to comply with the provisions of paragraph (2).

The Secretary shall immediately notify the owner in writing of any determination under subparagraph (A). If the owner immediately ceases the activity subject to such notification, the Secretary shall attempt to negotiate a mutually satisfactory solution prior to exercising any authority provided by subsection (a) of this section.

Land transfer.

(2) If an owner of lands or interests therein within the park intends to transfer any such lands or interest to persons other than the owner's immediate family, the owner shall notify the Secretary in writing of such intention. Within forty-five days after receipt of such notice, the Secretary shall respond in writing as to his interest in exercising a right of first refusal to purchase fee title or lesser

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interests. If, within such forty-five days, the Secretary declines to respond in writing or expresses no interest in exercising such right, the owner may proceed to transfer such interests. If the Secretary responds in writing within such forty-five days and expresses an interest and intention to exercise a right of first refusal, the Secretary shall initiate an action to exercise such right within ninety days after the date of the Secretary's response. If the Secretary fails to initiate action to exercise such right within such ninety days, the owner may proceed to otherwise transfer such interests. As used in this subsection with respect to a property owner, the term "immediate family" means the spouse, brother, sister, parent, or child of such property owner. Such term includes a person bearing such relationships through adoption and a stepchild shall be treated as a natural born child for purposes of determining such relationship.

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"Immediate family."

(c) Subsection (b) shall not apply with respect to tract number 01-142.

(d) When an owner of property within the park desires to take an action with respect to his property, he shall request, in writing, a prompt written determination from the Secretary as to the likelihood of such action provoking a determination by the Secretary under the provisions of subsection (b)(1)(A). The Secretary is thereupon directed to promptly issue such owner a certificate of exemption from condemnation for such actions proposed by the owner which the Secretary determines to be compatible with the purposes of the park.

Certificate of exemption.

(e)(1) An owner of improved property which is used solely for noncommercial residential purposes, or for commercial agricultural purposes found to be compatible with the General Management Plan, on the date of its acquisition by the Secretary may retain, as a condition of such an acquisition, a right of use and occupancy of the property for such residential or agricultural purposes. The right retained may be for a definite term which shall not exceed twenty-five years, or in lieu thereof, for a term ending at the death of the owner. The Secretary shall pay to the owner the fair market value of the property on the date of such acquisition, less the fair market value, of the term retained by the owner.

Right of use and occupancy.

Fair market value.

(2) Except for tract number 01-142, paragraph (1) shall not apply to property which the Secretary determines to be necessary for the purposes of administration, development, access, or public use.

(f) Any owner of lands or interests therein within the park who desires to have such lands or interests acquired by the Secretary may notify the Secretary in writing of such desire. It is the intention of the Congress that, upon receipt of such notification, and on the condition that such acquisition will transpire at fair market value and in accordance with other conditions acceptable to the Secretary, the Secretary shall endeavor to acquire such lands or interest therein within six months of the date of receipt of such notice from the owner.

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SEC. 3. Section 2 of the Act approved June 22, 1948 (62 Stat. 571; 16 U.S.C. 159d), is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to accept all or any portion of the General Philip Schuyler Mansion property, real and personal, situated at Schuylerville, New York, comprising approximately fifty acres."

Appropriation
authorization.
16 USC 159f
note.

SEC. 4. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated after October 1, 1983, such sums as may be necessary, but not to exceed \$1,000,000 for the acquisition of lands and interests therein, to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Approved January 12, 1983.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 1540:

HOUSE REPORT No. 97-926 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).

SENATE REPORT No. 97-424 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 128 (1982):

June 10, considered and passed Senate.

Oct. 1, considered and passed House, amended.

Dec. 21, Senate concurred in House amendment.

Appendix C: Proposals Eliminated from Further Consideration

During the course of the planning process, the team considered several proposals that were not advanced. The following section summarizes these proposals and the reasons why they were eliminated from further consideration.

Expanding Park Boundaries to Include Associated Sites

The planning team considered a proposal to expand the park boundaries to embrace the Marshall House, the Field of Grounded Arms, the Sword Surrender Site, the Swords House site, and the Dirck Swart House site. The boundary expansion would have allowed the National Park Service to spend federal funds on physical improvements to these properties and would have afforded these properties an increased level of protection and interpretation. The planning team eliminated this proposal from further consideration because an evaluation indicated that none of the properties possess the level of integrity the National Park Service requires for inclusion within the park system.

Developing New Visitor Center in the Southern Portion of the Park

The planning team considered a proposal to develop a new visitor center near the old Route 32 roadbed by the southern park boundary. The new visitor center would have allowed visitors to begin their park experience closer to Bemis Heights and Gates's Headquarters, and to follow the progression of military events in a logical fashion from south to north. Implementation of this proposal would have required the park to either remove the existing visitor center or maintain and operate two major facilities on the battlefield: the existing visitor center and the new visitor center. The planning team eliminated this proposal from further consideration because it felt that removing the existing visitor center could not be justified. The location for the existing visitor center was chosen by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, and as such, possesses importance in its own right.

Conversely, the planning team felt that retaining the existing visitor center and thereby operating two visitor facilities on the battlefield could not be justified, given the greater need for visitor facilities in Old Saratoga.

Restoring the Schuyler House to Its 1777 Appearance

The planning team considered a proposal to restore the Schuyler House to its 1777 appearance. The restoration would have enabled visitors to see what the Schuyler House looked like closer to the time of the surrender, when it was occupied by General Philip Schuyler. At present the house more closely resembles its appearance after Schuyler made significant alterations to the structure in preparation for its occupancy by his son, John Bradstreet Schuyler. The planning team eliminated this proposal from further consideration because the restoration, although technically feasible, would have been extremely costly and destructive to historic fabric without providing significantly greater interpretive opportunities.

Using the Schuyler House as a Visitor Contact Station

The planning team considered a proposal to adaptively reuse the Schuyler House for a contemporary visitor contact station. The adaptive reuse would have enabled the National Park Service to develop a visitor contact station without having to build a new building or substantially alter an existing structure. The planning team eliminated this proposal from further consideration because the adaptive reuse of the structure for a visitor contact station would have diminished the National Park Service's ability to interpret the structure and its association with General Philip Schuyler. Additionally, such a use could have placed the historic fabric under additional stress.

Developing an Alternative Based on Recreational Use of the Park

At the outset of the planning process, the planning team considered developing an alternative that would have been based on fuller exploitation of the

recreational potential of the park. This alternative would have focused on the enhancement and expansion of the park's recreational facilities. The planning team eliminated this concept from further consideration because it would not have supported the basic purpose of the park, which is to preserve, protect, and interpret the sites associated with the 1777 battles, siege, and surrender of the British forces at Saratoga.

Appendix D: Research Requirements

The National Park Service seeks to make the best resource decisions possible within its budgetary constraints. The tools it uses to do this are professional assessments, research, inventories, monitoring, planning, and environmental compliance.

The following studies were conducted to support decision-making for the general management plan:

Adjacent Lands Viewshed Analysis

- ④ Identifies areas that are visible within and beyond park boundaries from key interpretive park locations.

Archeological Overview and Assessment

- ④ Provides an overview and compendium of existing archeology research.

Champlain Canal Preliminary Evaluation

- ④ Evaluates extant segments of the Champlain Canal found in the park, particularly in terms of integrity.

Collections Management Plan Update

- ④ Describes the status of the park's collection and recommends specific actions to improve care. Includes findings and recommendations.

Cultural Landscape Inventory

- ④ Provides baseline cultural landscape data for Schuyler Estate and Saratoga Monument.

Cultural Landscape Report

- ④ Synthesizes and expands upon existing research on the battlefield's cultural landscape. Documents the history of the landscape and includes 1777, 1877, 1927 period plans of the battlefield.

National Wetland Inventory

- ④ Identifies wetlands within the park.

Orthophotography

- ④ Creates digital orthophotos for park and environs.

Schuyler House Interior Treatment Assessment

- ④ Summarizes and analyzes past research efforts and sources available to inform the interior treatment of the Schuyler House.

Schuyler House Historic Structures Report

- ④ Traces changes made to the Schuyler House over time. Synthesizes existing information and updates it to reflect current scholarship.

Victory Woods Site Reconnaissance

- ④ Evaluates significance of Victory Woods.

Visitor Use Survey

- ④ Conducted in the summer of 2001 to assess visitor use, attitudes, perceptions, and demographics.

To implement the proposals outlined in this plan, park managers may undertake the following:

- ④ Work with partners to define and protect critical park viewsheds as well as the park's historic setting.
- ④ Prepare natural and cultural resource management plans as needed, including a multidisciplinary cultural landscape treatment plan.
- ④ Undertake biological/natural science research, as needed.
- ④ Complete ongoing archeological inventories, the Archeological Research Plan, and undertake archeological research to support interpretation and resource protection.
- ④ Complete a historic resource study, plus historical studies for specific park cultural resources, as needed.
- ④ Update the National Register nomination for the park to include all applicable resources.
- ④ Prepare implementation and design plans, as needed.
- ④ Update a Scope of Collections Statement.
- ④ Update and maintain all museum records, per recommendations of the Collections Management Plan Update of 2000.
- ④ Undertake experimental forestry programs to determine effective reforestation methods in support of cultural landscape objectives.

- ④ Implement a long-term inventory and monitoring program for cultural and natural resources that sets criteria for levels of acceptable change and monitors resource conditions to determine if these levels have been met or exceeded. Examples of subjects that may be monitored include:
 - The composition of woodland, shrub layers, and soils to help determine why forest regeneration has slowed in certain areas of the park.
 - Groundwater and surface water quality, as outlined in the park's Water Resources Management Plan.
 - Soil erosion, to detect rates of acceleration.
 - Air quality, to identify pollution sources and to enable managers to take measures in collaboration with other regional and national authorities.
 - Known sites containing hazardous materials as required by law and regulation.
- Effects of prescribed fire management program on cultural and natural resources.
- Known archeological sites to determine if resource damage or degradation is occurring.
- Environmental conditions, such as relative humidity fluctuations, in historic structures.
- Resource and social conditions defined as indicators for carrying capacity standards.

Appendix E: Laws, Policies, and Mandates

As a unit of the national park system, the management of Saratoga National Historical Park is guided by the 1916 Organic Act (which created the National Park Service); the General Authorities Act of 1970; the act of March 27, 1978, relating to the management of the national park system; and other applicable federal laws and regulations, such as the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. Actions are also guided by the National Park Service Management Policies and the park's legislation (see Appendix B). The applicable laws, regulations, and policies most pertinent to the planning and management of the park are described below. Saratoga National Historical Park must be managed in accordance with these laws and policies regardless of which alternative was chosen as the final plan.

Natural Resource Management Requirements

Air Quality

The Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq.) requires federal land managers to protect air quality, and National Park Service Management Policies address the need to analyze air quality during park planning. States are responsible for the attainment and maintenance of national ambient air quality standards developed by the Environmental Protection Agency. Three air quality classes are established for national park areas. Saratoga National Historical Park is in a Class II area, meaning that the state may permit a moderate amount of new air pollution, as long as neither ambient air quality standards, nor the maximum allowable increases over established baseline concentrations are exceeded. Saratoga County complies with national ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, particulate matter, and lead, but is in marginal non-attainment for ozone.

Water Resources, Floodplain, and Wetlands

Current laws and policies are in effect for the protection of water resources, including the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended; the Clean

Water Act of 1977; the Water Quality Act of 1987; Executive Order 11988: "Floodplain Management;" and Executive Order 11990: "Protection of Wetlands." The laws and mandates require that: (1) surface water and groundwater be restored or enhanced; (2) National Park Service and its permitted programs and facilities be maintained and operated to avoid pollution of surface water and groundwater; (3) natural floodplain values be preserved or restored; (4) the natural and beneficial values of wetlands be preserved and enhanced; and (5) long-term and short-term environmental effects associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains be avoided.

Species of Special Concern

Current laws and policies are in effect for the protection of species of special concern, including the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, and National Park Service policies on invasive species. Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act requires that when a project or proposal by a federal agency has the potential to impact a known candidate, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species, that agency must enter into formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. National Park Service management policies direct the National Park Service to give the same level of protection to state-listed species as is given to federally listed species. The laws and policies require that federally listed and state-listed threatened and endangered species and their habitats be sustained and that populations of native species that have been severely reduced in or extirpated from the park be restored where feasible and sustainable. Although no federally listed species are known to occupy the park, several state-listed species, largely grassland bird species, are known to occupy Saratoga National Historical Park.

Wildland Fire

Current laws and policies in effect regarding fire management require that all fires burning in natural or landscaped vegetation in parks be classified as either wildland fires or prescribed fires. All wildland fires are to be effectively managed, considering resource values to be protected and firefighter and public safety, using the full range of strategic and

tactical operations as described in the park's approved fire management plan. Prescribed fires are those fires ignited by park managers to achieve resource objectives and are to include monitoring programs to provide information on whether specified objectives are met.

Natural Lightscapes or Night Sky

Natural lightscapes are considered natural resources that exist in the absence of human-caused light. They vary with geographic location and season. The National Park Service management guidelines recognize that night sky and darkness are components of the overall visitor experience at a national park. Agency guidelines direct the National Park Service to cooperate with park neighbors and local government agencies to minimize the intrusion of artificial light into the night scene.

Natural Sounds

The natural ambient soundscape is the aggregate of all natural sounds that occur, together with the physical capacity for transmitting sounds. Natural sounds occur within and beyond the range of human hearing and can be transmitted through air, water, or solid materials. According to visitor studies done at the park in 1995 and 2001, a considerable number of visitors expressed appreciation for the quiet and serenity that they were able to experience at the battlefield. Mandates and policies require the National Park Service to preserve the natural ambient soundscapes, restore degraded soundscapes to the natural ambient condition wherever possible, and protect natural soundscapes from degradation due to human-caused noise. Disruptions from recreational uses are to be managed to provide a high-quality visitor experience in an effort to preserve or restore the natural quiet and natural sounds.

Cultural Resource Management Requirements

All cultural management activities are guided by DO-28, the National Park Service Cultural Resource Management Guideline.

Archeological Resources

Laws and policies in effect for the protection of archeological resources include National Park Service Management Policies, The National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11593: "Archeological Resources Protection Act," and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation. The laws and policies require that archeological sites be identified and inventoried and their significance determined and documented. Archeological sites are to be protected in an undisturbed condition unless it is determined through formal processes that disturbance or natural deterioration is unavoidable. When disturbance or deterioration is unavoidable, the site is to be professionally documented and salvaged in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer and American Indian tribes.

Ethnographic Resources

Certain contemporary American Indian and other communities are permitted by law, regulation, or policy to pursue customary religious, subsistence, and other cultural uses of National Park system resources with which they are traditionally associated. To the extent permitted by law, the National Park Service will take care to protect resources in a way that will accommodate their religious value. All agencies, including the National Park Service, are required to accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners and avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity of these sacred sites. Other federal agencies, state and local governments, potentially affected American Indian and other communities, the State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation are to be given opportunities to become informed about and comment on anticipated National Park Service actions at the earliest

practicable time. All agencies are required to consult with tribal governments before taking actions that affect federally recognized tribal governments.

Historic Resources

Numerous laws and policies are in effect for the protection of historic resources, including the National Historic Preservation Act, the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. The laws and policies require that historic resources be inventoried and their significance and integrity evaluated under National Register of Historic Places criteria. The qualities that contribute to the listing or eligibility for listing on the National Register are to be protected in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, unless it is determined through a formal process that disturbance or natural deterioration is unavoidable.

Park Operations Requirements

Accessibility

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and federal guidelines published in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 define specific access requirements for persons with disabilities to parking facilities, pathways, and buildings. The accessibility requirements apply to government facilities (Title II) and to private entities that provide public accommodations (Title III). Accordingly, park managers are to strive to ensure that disabled persons are afforded experiences and opportunities with other visitors to the greatest extent practicable. Special, separate, or alternative facilities, programs, or services are to be provided only when existing ones cannot reasonably be made accessible.

Sustainable Design/Development

Sustainability can be described as the result achieved by managing national parks in ways that do not compromise the environment or its capacity to provide for future generations. Federal laws, executive orders, and executive memoranda, including Executive Order 13123: "Greening the

Government through Efficient Energy Management," Executive Order 13101: "Greening the Government through Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Federal Acquisition," and the National Park Service Guiding Principles of Sustainable Design, require park managers to reduce impacts of federal government activities on the environment.

The National Park Service Guiding Principles of Sustainable Design direct the National Park Service management philosophy. Sustainability principles have been developed and are followed for interpretation, natural resources, cultural resources, site design, building design, energy management, water supply, waste prevention, and facility maintenance and operations. The National Park Service strives to reduce energy costs, eliminate waste, and conserve energy resources by using energy-efficient and cost-effective technology. Park managers also strive to incorporate energy efficiency into the decision-making process during the design and acquisition of buildings, facilities, and transportation systems.

Rights-of-Way and Telecommunication Infrastructure

Laws and policies are in effect in regard to telecommunication infrastructure. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 directs all federal agencies to assist in the national goal of achieving a seamless telecommunications system throughout the United States by accommodating requests by telecommunication companies for the use of property, rights-of-way, and easements to the extent allowable under each agency's mission. The National Park Service is legally obligated to permit telecommunication infrastructure in the parks if such facilities can be structured so that they do not jeopardize the park's mission and resources. Laws and policies also require that park resources and/or public enjoyment of the park not be degraded by nonconforming uses. No new nonconforming use or right-of-way is to be permitted through the park without specific statutory authority and approval by the director of the National Park Service, and such use is to be permitted only if there is no practicable alternative. The management of Saratoga National Historical Park has determined that because of the historic

significance of the park's resources and because of its scenic and cultural landscape values, no appropriate locations exist for telecommunication infrastructure within the park.

Socioeconomic Requirements

Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898: "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations" requires federal agencies to consider the impact of its actions on minority and low-income populations and communities, as well as the equity of the distribution of benefits and risks of those actions.

Appendix F: Consultation

Consultation and coordination with appropriate federal and state agencies were conducted throughout the preparation of this plan. Regarding cultural resources, consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) was initiated in January 2001. Regarding historic properties of significance to Indian tribes, consultation with the Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohican Indians was initiated in February 2001. This kind of consultation and coordination will continue whenever specific undertakings to implement the plan are initiated. Follow-up plans will be subject to a more detailed review of environmental impacts than was necessary in the draft and final environmental impact statements accompanying the general management plan, which were essentially programmatic statements that presented an overview of potential impacts relating to the different management options.

Section 106 Compliance Requirements for Undertakings

An important element of compliance is Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, which requires that federal agencies that have direct or indirect jurisdiction take into account the effect of their undertakings on National Register-listed or eligible properties and allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) an opportunity to comment. During the planning process, the National Park Service worked with the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the ACHP to meet requirements of 36 CFR 800 and the September 1995 Programmatic Agreement among the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, the ACHP, and the National Park Service. (The Programmatic Agreement requires the National Park Service to work closely with the SHPO and the ACHP in planning for new and existing national park areas.)

The Programmatic Agreement also provides for a number of exclusions for specific actions that are not likely to have an adverse effect on cultural resources. Such actions may be implemented without further review by the New York SHPO or the ACHP, provided that National Park Service internal review finds that the actions meet certain conditions.

Undertakings (as defined in 36 CFR 800) not specifically excluded in the Programmatic Agreement must be reviewed by the SHPO and the ACHP before implementation. Prior to any ground-disturbing action by park managers, a professional archeologist will determine the need for archeological testing or activity. Any such studies would be carried out in conjunction with construction and would meet the needs of the state historic preservation office.

Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires the National Park Service to identify and nominate to the National Register of Historic Places all resources under its jurisdiction that appear to be eligible. Historic areas of the national park system are automatically listed on the National Register upon their establishment by law or executive order.

The following table identifies actions contained within the plan that will likely require review under section 106, and the nature of the review.

Table 6: Summary of Actions Requiring Review under Section 106

POTENTIAL ACTIONS	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS
Remove woodlands not present in October 1777	SHPO consultation on cultural landscape treatment plan
Reestablish views to enhance interpretation	SHPO consultation on cultural landscape treatment plan
Rehabilitate cultural landscape features at the Battlefield and Old Saratoga units to improve visitor understanding of landscape conditions	SHPO consultation on cultural landscape treatment plan
Extend trail system	SHPO consultation
Upgrade/modify exhibits on tour road, in Schuyler House and visitor center	SHPO consultation on exhibit plan
Develop satellite maintenance facility	SHPO consultation
Improve park entrance	SHPO consultation
Develop new visitor orientation facility	SHPO consultation
Modify tour road to develop shorter routes, to follow progression of battle actions, or to improve termination at Route 4	SHPO consultation
Preserve and maintain historic structures	Review by National Park Service cultural resource specialists
Improve access to key park sites	SHPO consultation
Develop pedestrian and auto routes to link Old Saratoga Unit sites with one another and with the battlefield	SHPO consultation on signage/exhibit plan

List of Final Environmental Impact Statement Recipients

Agencies and Organizations

Adirondack North Country	New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Adirondack Park Agency	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce	New York State Military Heritage Institute
Adirondack Regional Tourism Council	New York State Museum
Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau	Northern Frontier Project
Bateaux Below	Old Saratoga Chamber of Commerce
Center for Heritage Education & Tourism	Old Saratoga Historical Association
Champlain Valley Heritage Network	Old Saratoga on the Hudson
Chimney Point State Historic Site	Saratoga Chamber of Commerce
Crown Point State Historic Site	Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau
Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor	Saratoga County Board of Supervisors
Feeder Canal Alliance	Saratoga County Historian
Fort Edward–Rogers Island Visitor Center	Saratoga County Planning Office
Fort Stanwix National Monument	Saratoga National Cemetery
Fort Ticonderoga	Saratoga Springs Visitor Center
Fort William Henry Museum	Saratoga Town Historian
Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley	Schuyler’s Canal Park
Heritage New York	Southern Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce
Hudson Crossing Bi-County Park	Stillwater Historical Society
Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council	Stillwater Blockhouse
Independence Trail	Stockbridge Munsee Tribal Council
Lake Champlain Basin Program	Town of Easton
Lakes to Locks–North	Town of Greenwich
Lakes to Locks–South	Town of Saratoga
Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor Commission	Town of Stillwater
New York State Canal Corporation	United States Environmental Protection Agency
New York State Canal Improvement Association	Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
	Village of Schuylerville
	Village of Stillwater
	Village of Victory

Washington County Planning Office

Washington County Tourism Association

Waterford Harbor Visitor Center

Whitehall Urban Cultural Park

Individuals

L & J Alheim

Ray Beede

J. Borel

Richard Crammond

Helen Crawshaw

Lawrence A. DeLong

George DeMere

Mildred and Nelson Drew

C.R. Fosdick

Dr. Glenn Haas

William M. Herrlich

C.A. Holmes

Dan Hughes

Nicholas Mancinelli

David Mathis

Nick Nichols

Patti Nichols

Matilda J. and Herbert B. Nolte

Barbara Putnam

Robert K. Radliff, Jr.

Scott Stoner

Steve Trim

Appendix G: Visitor Experience and Resource Protection (Carrying Capacity)

The Process

One of the requirements of a general management plan is the identification of and implementation of commitments for carrying capacity. To comply with this mandate, the National Park Service has developed a process known as visitor experience and resource protection. This process interprets carrying capacity not as a prescription of numbers of people, but as a prescription of desired ecological and social conditions. Measures of the appropriate conditions replace the measurement of maximum sustainable use. Based on these conditions, the process identifies and documents the kinds and levels of use that are appropriate, as well as where and when such uses should occur. The prescriptions, coupled with a monitoring program, are intended to give park managers the information and rationale to make sound decisions about visitor use and to gain the public and agency support needed to implement those decisions.

A major premise of the visitor experience and resource protection process is that the characteristics of a management area, which are qualitative in nature, must be translated into something measurable to provide a basis for making wise decisions about appropriate visitor use. Since management actions are normally more defensible when they are based on scientific data, the process incorporates the concept of “limits of acceptable change” as part of decision-making. Desired resource or social conditions are expressed as explicit, measurable indicators, and standards (minimum acceptable conditions) are selected to determine whether the conditions are met or exceeded. Resource indicators are used to measure impacts on biological or physical resources, while social indicators are used to measure impacts on park users and employees.

The first steps of applying the visitor-experience-and-resource-protection process to Saratoga National Historical Park were accomplished as part of the general management plan. These steps are:

- ④ Develop a statement articulating the park’s purpose and significance.
- ④ Analyze park resources and existing visitor use.
- ④ Describe the range of resource conditions and visitor experiences for the park as distinct management areas.
- ④ Apply the management areas to specific locations of the park.

Subsequent to the general management plan, the following steps will be taken to complete the process:

- ④ Select and evaluate monitoring techniques for each management area.
- ④ Select quality indicators and specify associated standards for each management area. The purpose of this step is to identify measurable physical, social, or ecological variables that will indicate whether or not a desired condition is being met.
- ④ Compare desired conditions to existing conditions. Each management area will be monitored to determine if there are discrepancies with the desired resource and social conditions.
- ④ Identify the probable causes of discrepancies in each management area.
- ④ Identify management strategies to address discrepancies. Visitor use management prescriptions will start with the least restrictive measures that will accomplish the objective and move toward more restrictive measures, if needed.
- ④ Carry out long-term monitoring. Monitoring provides periodic, systematic feedback to park managers to ensure that desired resource and visitor experience conditions continue to be achieved over the long term.

Once the indicators and standards are established, park managers can develop a monitoring plan to determine priorities and identify methods, staffing, and analysis requirements. The results of the monitoring analysis will enable park managers to determine whether park resources are being adequately protected and desired visitor experiences are being provided, and to take actions necessary to achieve the goals of Saratoga National Historical Park.

Examples of Indicators and Standards

Proposals in this plan call for Saratoga National Historical Park to begin an intensive inventory and monitoring program. This program will institute a park-wide process of scientific data gathering and evaluation that will facilitate monitoring for resource conditions and public experience within the park.

The following examples come from Arches National Park in Moab, Utah. Saratoga National Historical Park managers would develop their own resource indicators and standards. The selection of appropriate standards for the resource indicators in each management area will be based on the relative tolerance for resource impacts and the judgment of park planners and resource managers about the minimum conditions needed to maintain the desired experience.

Resource Conditions

Indicator: the degree of soil compaction measured 5 feet from a trail centerline.

Standard: 80% of the soil surface sample exhibits 50% of the porosity of a relatively undisturbed area.

Indicator: the number of exposed tree roots exceeding 2 inches in diameter, measured within 6 feet of a trail edge for 100 feet of trail.

Standard: 20% of tree roots are exposed relative to a control area.

Social Conditions

Indicator: traffic congestion during peak visitor days.

Standard: roadways do not exceed level D service for more than 10% of peak use days.

Indicator: waiting time required to view an attraction during peak use days.

Standard: no more than 10% of visitors wait 10 or more minutes to see the attraction.

Appendix H: Glossary

accessibility — The provision of park programs, facilities, and services in ways that include individuals with disabilities, or makes available to those individuals the same benefits available to persons without disabilities. Accessibility also includes affordability and convenience for diverse populations.

archeological resource — Any material remains or physical evidence of past human life or activities which are of archeological interest, including the record of the effects of human activities on the environment. An archeological resource is capable of revealing scientific or humanistic information through archeological research.

archeological site — Any place where there is physical evidence of past human occupation or activity. Physical evidence may consist of artifacts, such features as agricultural terraces and hearths, structures, trash deposits, or alterations of the natural environment by human activity.

best management practices (BMPs) — Practices that apply the most current means and technologies available to comply with mandatory environmental regulations and also maintain a superior level of environmental performance. See also sustainable practices or principles.

carrying capacity (visitor) — The type and level of visitor use that can be accommodated while sustaining the desired resource and visitor experience conditions in a park.

consultation — A discussion, conference, or forum in which advice or information is sought or given, or information or ideas are exchanged. Consultation generally takes place on an informal basis. Formal consultation is conducted for compliance with section 106 of National Historic Preservation Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and with Native Americans.

critical habitat — Specific areas occupied by a threatened or endangered species which contain those physical or biological features essential to the conservation of the species, and which may require special management considerations or protection; and specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by the species at the time of its listing,

upon a determination by the Secretary of the Interior that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species.

cultural landscape — A geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein, associated with a historic event, activity, or person, or exhibiting other cultural or esthetic values. There are four non-mutually exclusive types of cultural landscapes: historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, and ethnographic landscapes.

cultural resource — An aspect of a cultural system that is valued by or significantly representative of a culture, or that contains significant information about a culture. A cultural resource may be a tangible entity or a cultural practice. Tangible cultural resources are categorized as districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects for the National Register of Historic Places, and as archeological resources, cultural landscapes, structures, museum objects, and ethnographic resources for National Park Service management purposes.

ecosystem — A system formed by the interaction of a community of organisms with their physical environment, considered as a unit.

ecosystem management — Refers to the interdependence of natural and cultural systems, integrating scientific knowledge of ecological relationships with resource stewardship practices.

enabling legislation — Laws which authorize units of the national park system.

environmental assessment (EA) — A concise public document prepared by a federal agency to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, as amended. The document contains sufficient analysis to determine whether the proposed action (1) constitutes a major action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, thereby requiring the preparation of an environmental impact statement, or (2) does not constitute such an action, resulting in a finding of no significant impact being issued by the agency.

environmental impact statement (EIS) — A detailed public statement required by the National Environmental Policy Act when an agency proposes a major action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The statement includes a detailed description of the proposed action and alternatives, as well as the identification and evaluation of potential impacts that would occur as a result of implementing the proposed action or alternatives.

ethnographic resources — Objects and places, including sites, structures, landscapes, and natural resources, with traditional cultural meaning and value to associated peoples. Research and consultation with associated people identifies and explains the places and things they find culturally meaningful. Ethnographic resources eligible for the National Register of Historic Places are called traditional cultural properties.

exotic species — Plants or animals that are not indigenous to the area in which they are now living. See nonnative species.

forb — The general term “forb” refers to any herbaceous, broadleaf, dicotyledon without regard to family classification. Herbaceous forbs are non-woody, broadleaf plants often referred to as wildflowers or weeds.

general management plan — A National Park Service term for a document that provides clearly defined direction to a park for resource preservation and visitor use over 15 to 20 years. It gives a foundation for decision-making and is developed in consultation with program managers, interested parties, and the general public. It is based on analysis of resource conditions and visitor experiences, environmental impacts, and costs of alternative courses of action.

geologic resources — Features produced from the physical history of the Earth, or processes such as exfoliation, erosion and sedimentation, glaciation, karst or shoreline processes, seismic and volcanic activities.

goals — Goals stating the ideal conditions to be attained or maintained; expressions of desired future conditions.

implementation plan, implementation — A plan that focuses on how to carry out an activity or project needed to achieve a long-term goal. An implementation plan may direct a specific project or an ongoing activity. Implementation is the practice of carrying out long-term goals.

infrastructure — The basic facilities, services, and installations needed for the functioning of the park, such as transportation and communications systems, water and power lines.

interpretation — As used in the National Park Service, interpretation includes publicity, explanation, information, education, philosophy, etc. Early National Park Service interpretation went by the name of education or nature study; today it includes historical and recreational resources.

interpretive media — The tools the National Park Service uses to communicate interpretive themes. Interpretive media can include furnishings, brochures, exhibits, waysides, film, video, as well as ranger-led tours.

lightscares (natural ambient) — The state of natural resources and values as they exist in the absence of human-caused light.

management areas — The designation of geographic areas of the park depending on the resource conditions and visitor experiences desired.

native species — Plants and animals that have occurred or now occur as a result of natural processes in parks.

natural resources — Collectively, physical resources, such as water, air, soils, topographic features, geologic features, and natural soundscapes; biological resources such as native plants, animals, and communities; and physical and biological processes such as weather and shoreline migration, and photosynthesis, succession, and evolution.

nightscapes — See lightscares.

nonnative species — Species that occupy or could occupy parklands directly or indirectly as the result of deliberate or accidental human activities. Also called exotic species or invasive species.

Organic Act (National Park Service) — The 1916 law (and subsequent amendments) that created the National Park Service and assigned it responsibility to manage the national parks.

partners — Individuals, agencies, organizations that work with the park toward the park’s goals.

preservation — The act or process of applying measures to sustain the existing form, integrity, and material of a historic structure, landscape, or object. Work may include preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, but generally focuses on the ongoing preservation, maintenance, and repair of historic materials and features, rather than extensive replacement and new work. For historic structures, exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.

prime and unique farmland — Soil that produces general crops such as common foods, forage, fiber, and oil seed.

rehabilitation — The act or process of making possible an efficient, compatible use for a historic structure or landscape through repair, alterations, and additions, while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical, cultural, and architectural values.

restoration — The act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a historic structure, landscape, or object as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of removing features from other periods in its history and reconstructing missing features from the restoration period.

Schuyler House — The present Schuyler House is the third to be built on what was the Schuyler family property. General Philip Schuyler and his family lived at this estate periodically both before and after the 1777 campaign. The present house was built following the surrender, as General Burgoyne had the house and outbuildings burned as he retreated. The National Park Service has restored both the house exterior and interior. The completed exterior appearance reflects a circa 1804 period (the year General Schuyler died). Interior restoration work

seeks to reflect conditions circa-1777-87, since the General turned the house over to his son in 1787. Most of the furnishings currently in the house are on long-term loan to the National Park Service by the Old Saratoga Historical Association.

Schuyler House grounds — The maintained landscape area around the Schuyler House owned by the National Park Service. Bounded by Fish Creek, Route 4, and the New York State Department of Transportation maintenance yard access road and security fence.

Schuyler Estate — The Schuyler Estate is an historic landscape that is a remnant of General Philip Schuyler’s original 3000-acre estate. The National Park Service owns 30.38 of the Schuyler Estate’s legislated 62.15 acres. The Schuyler Estate includes the Schuyler House and immediate grounds. It is essentially the “house lot” of the original Schuyler landholdings.

soundscape — Ambient sounds as they exist in the absence of human-caused sounds.

stabilization — An action to render an unsafe, damaged, or deteriorated property stable while retaining its present form.

stakeholder — An individual, group, or other entity that has a strong interest in decisions concerning park resources and values. Stakeholders may include, for example, recreational user groups, permittees, and concessioners. In the broadest sense, all Americans are stakeholders in the national parks.

stewardship — The cultural and natural resource protection ethic of employing the most effective concepts, techniques, equipment, and technology to prevent, avoid, or mitigate impacts that would compromise the integrity of park resources.

strategic plan — A National Park Service five-year plan, which lays out goals and management actions needed in the near term to implement the general management plan.

sustainability — A process that integrates economic, environmental, and equity (health and well-being of society) activities in decisions without compromising the ability of present and future generations to meet their needs.

sustainable design — Design that applies the principles of ecology, economics, and ethics to the business of creating necessary and appropriate places for people to visit, live, and work. Development that has been sustainably designed sits lightly upon the land, demonstrates resource efficiency, and promotes ecological restoration and integrity, thus improving the environment, the economy, and society.

sustainable practices/principles — Those choices, decisions, actions, and ethics that will best achieve ecological/ biological integrity; protect qualities and functions of air, water, soil, and other aspects of the natural environment; and preserve human cultures. Sustainable practices allow for use and enjoyment by the current generation, while ensuring that future generations will have the same opportunities.

user fees — Charges for an activity or an opportunity provided in addition to basic free park services.

viewshed — The area that can be seen from a particular location, including near and distant views.

visitor — Anyone who uses a park's interpretive, educational, or recreational services.

Visitor Experience and Resource Protection (VERP) framework — A visitor carrying capacity planning process applied to determine the desired resource and visitor experience conditions, and used as an aid to decision-making.

Appendix I: Selected Resources Consulted

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- 2002 "Draft Saratoga National Historical Park: Visitor Survey of 2001." University of Vermont.
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Appendix J: List of Preparers

Saratoga National Historical Park

Frank Dean, Superintendent
 Doug Lindsay, Superintendent (former)
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 Joe Finan, Facility Manager
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 Becky Hammell, Park Curator (former)
 Gina Johnson, Chief of Interpretation
 Chris Martin, Natural Resource Specialist
 Christine Robinson, Park Curator
 Eric Schnitzer, Interpretation
 Linda White, Archeological Technician

Northeast Region

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 Justin Berthiaume, Landscape Architect
 Richard Crisson, Historical Architect
 Ellen Levin Carlson, Co-Team Captain
 Eliot Foulds, Historical Landscape Architect
 Diane Godwin, Curator
 Duncan Hay, Historian
 Lisa Nowak, Historical Landscape Architect
 Steven Pendery, Archeologist
 Maureen Phillips, Architectural Conservator
 Laurel Racine, Senior Curator
 Nigel Shaw, GIS Manager
 Marjorie Smith, Co-Team Captain
 Chris Stevens, Historical Landscape Architect
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Heritage Partners, Inc.

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Credits

Design and concept

Hull Creative Group, Boston, MA (www.hullcreative.com)
for Heritage Partners

Photography by Matthew Garrett

Inside cover and page i (except sparrow inset and reenactor inset); pages ii and iii; pages iv and v; pages vi and vii (except insets for Part 4 and List of Maps); all divider pages (except Part 4); page 2; page 9; page 13; page 16; page 20, Schuyler House; page 22; page 23; page 24; page 28; page 32; page 34; page 35; page 36; page 41; page 45; page 47, school group; page 49; page 52; page 56; page 58; page 59; page 62; inside back cover, cannon and Neilson House; back cover, right

Saratoga National Historical Park Collection

Page 14, Baroness von Riedesel and Burial of General Fraser; page 20, Ellen Hardin Walworth from *Battles of Saratoga*; page 21, Memorial Grove; page 38, Wilbur's Basin; page 42, Sesquicentennial; page 43, Starin; page 61, 3 Valleys to Freedom poster

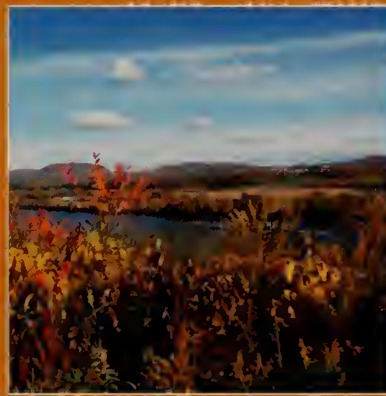
Other sources:

Front cover and back cover, left: Courtesy of Photospin

Page 10: Philip Schuyler (1733-1804) by Jacob Lazarus, after John Trumbull, oil on canvas, 1881, SM.1972.4.A.B, Courtesy Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site, New York Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Page 12: Horatio Gates by Charles Wilson Peale, from life, 1782. Courtesy Independence National Historical Park

Page 48: Fort Ticonderoga, Courtesy of Fort Ticonderoga



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