



Downtown Revitalization Initiative

APPLICATION

Applications for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative will be received by the Regional Councils. Applicant responses for each section should be as complete and succinct as possible. Applications should be submitted as Word documents and must be received by the appropriate Regional Council by 4:00 PM on June 1, 2018 at the email address provided at the end of this application. Application guidance is provided in the *Downtown Revitalization Initiative Guidebook* found on the DRI website at www.ny.gov/dri.

BASIC INFORMATION

Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) Region: [Capital Region](#)

Municipality Name: [Schuylerville, NY](#)

Downtown Name: [Village of Schuylerville](#)

County Name: [Saratoga County](#)

Vision for Downtown. Provide a brief statement of the municipality's vision for downtown revitalization.

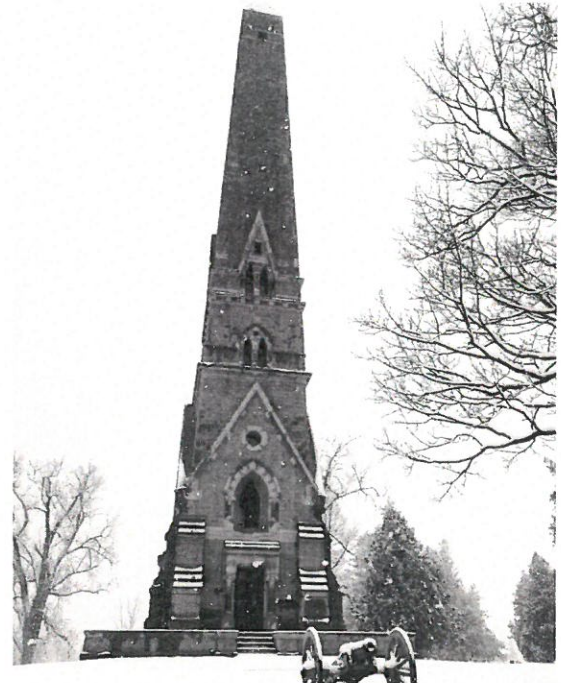
Our Vision for the Village of Schuylerville includes three key strategic goals: (1) To move the Village of Schuylerville beyond the PCB cleanup to a community recognized for lifting itself up via a focus on environmental responsibility, historic preservation and rural entrepreneurship; (2) To create more jobs and establish the Village as a unique year-round destination along the Empire State Trail, the Champlain Canal Trail and the Hudson River; and (3) To attract more people, workers, talent, families, tourists, residents and entrepreneurs to live, work and play, in Schuylerville, by building an integrated multimodal infrastructure system that allows everyone to easily and safely move around the Village, from the water to the business district to the parks and historic sites on foot, bike and boat.



JUSTIFICATION

Provide an overview of the downtown area nominated for the DRI program, highlighting the area's defining characteristics and the reasons for its selection. Explain why the downtown is ready for Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) investment, and how that investment would serve as a catalyst to bring about revitalization.

Situated along the Hudson River and the site of one of the original locks on the Old Champlain Canal, the Village of Schuylerville's place in US History extends back to 1777 when it served as the portal and finale of the battles of Saratoga, and thus the Turning Point of the American Revolution. More recently, this Hudson River community has been adversely impacted and defined as a Superfund site, as the river itself was dredged in an attempt to remove PCB's. Going forward, the Village has the potential to now be positively defined and connected by the Empire State Trail which will literally be built right through it connecting rural entrepreneurs with historic sites, waterways, parks, and recreational assets. The Empire State Trail will stretch about 2 miles from the restored Dix Bridge over the Hudson River along the Old Champlain Canal tow path, to the Saratoga Surrender Site, on Route 4. In between, this area features the Fort Hardy Park and Hudson Crossing Park as well as The Schuyler House and the Saratoga



Battle Monument, both of which are operated by the US National Park Service. This trail runs parallel to and is less than one block from the Schuylerville yacht basin to the east and from Broad Street, the Village's main street. Along Broad Street, there are several dozen restaurants, stores, businesses and residential buildings, many of which have been started in just the last couple of years. Less than ¼ of a mile to the west of the Empire State Trail and Broad Street, Saratoga Apple and Schuyler Farms are significant local and regional attractions. Given this concentration of recreational, historic, business and tourist attractions, the Village of Schuylerville is uniquely positioned to use a DRI Investment as a catalyst to improve the connectivity and capacity of these various sites to reimagine and restore this Village as a public place for fun, recreation, healthy living and the exploration of our natural environment along both the Hudson River and the Empire State Trail.

DOWNTOWN IDENTIFICATION

This section should be filled out with reference to the list of desired attributes for participation in the DRI as set forth in the *Downtown Revitalization Initiative Guidebook*.

- 1) Boundaries of the proposed DRI area.** Detail the boundaries of the targeted neighborhood, keeping in mind that there is no minimum or maximum size, but that the neighborhood should be concentrated and well-defined. Neighborhoods beyond a traditional downtown or central business district are eligible, if they can meet other criteria making them ripe for investment. Attach a map that clearly delineates the area to be included in the downtown revitalization area.

The boundary as our vision suggests starts at the Dix Bridge, over the Hudson, and ends at the Saratoga Surrender Site, just about two miles away, on Route 4. The boundary stretches on Route 4 from the entrance to Lock 5 and the Hudson Crossing Park, through the Village's business district, over Fish Creek, past The Schuyler House entrance, to Schuyler Street. The boundary further travels from the banks of the

Hudson River, west on Route 29 to Saratoga Apple and Schuyler Farm, as well as west, on Burgoyne Avenue, to the Saratoga Monument. This area includes a central business district with dozens of predominantly small businesses and a concentration of residences that some 1,400 people now call home.

2) Description of catchment area. Outline why the proposed DRI area, or its catchment area, is of a size sufficient to support a vibrant, year-round downtown, with consideration of whether there is a sizeable existing or increasing population within easy reach for whom this would be the primary downtown destination.

The Village of Schuylerville is less than ten miles from Saratoga Springs, New York. As this City's downtown has become one of the most vibrant in Upstate New York and the country, the Village of Schuylerville is now seeing new investment spilling over into the Village both in terms of commercial and residential development. Several new housing developments have been built within the Village attracting new families to this community and more than \$2 million has been and is being invested in new commercial ventures, most notably the enhancement of the Schuylerville Yacht Club with a relocated and expanded Clark's Steakhouse and new docks to better serve more boaters. The Village is the point of entry for residents of Washington County who work in Saratoga Springs and Saratoga County with significant vehicle counts on Routes 4 and 29, particularly crossing the bridge over the Hudson River. While access to Schuyler Farms, The Schuyler House and the Saratoga Monument, all in Schuylerville, may be more concentrated in the Spring, Summer and Fall, the fact is that Fort Hardy Park and the Hudson Crossing Park, within the boundary of this project are year-round destinations for a range of recreational activities, including; snowshoeing, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, birding, kayaking, canoeing and more. Likewise, the Village is exploring with the EPA and others whether the 1 ¼ mile Old Champlain Canal Towpath along the Empire State Trail might be reused for family recreation that would include ice skating in the winter. The stores, restaurants and businesses within the Village are also open year-round as is Saratoga Apple which attracts visitors from near and far for pop-up dinners, hard cider, and local craft beer with their partners 9 Mile East Farm.



3) Past Investment, future investment potential. Describe how this DRI area will be able to capitalize on prior private and public investment, or catalyze future investments in the neighborhood and its surrounding areas.

For decades now, the Village of Schuylerville has been a community unfairly and adversely branded as a place contaminated by PCB's. Significant funds have been spent by multiple federal, state, county and local agencies as part of this cleanup process. In anticipation of re-establishing and lifting up the Village of Schuylerville as a historic, safe, clean, active, connected, and vibrant place to live, a great many investments have been made via public and private partnerships and sometimes



by generous individuals, nonprofit and charitable entities. Recently, private sector investments from Stewarts Shops, Clark's Steakhouse and the Schuyler Yacht Club alone will total more than \$2.2 million. The private sector is also being tapped for \$125,000 in annual donations to maintain and expand the facilities at the Hudson Crossing Park and for nearly \$450,000 in one-time funding to design and construct the Saratoga Surrender Site. New York State right now is expending \$140,000 to plan and construct the section of the Empire State Trail that will travel through the Village of Schuylerville. The public sector has also invested more than \$4.7 million to restore the Dix Bridge and to re-imagine the Hudson Crossing Park as a bi-county educational park and another \$1.5 million for the Gateway Visitor Center that is also along the Empire State Trail. The private sector has invested \$385,000 for the purchase, archeological studies and design of plans for the Saratoga Surrender Site. The Village also recently secured a \$21,000 Main Street Grant to secure a firm to make plans for



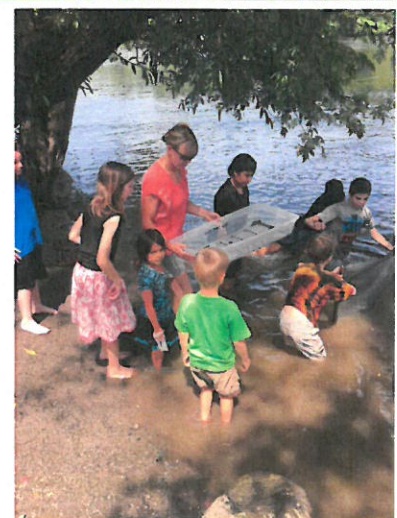
improving the downtown business district. A DRI Investment could be used to complete several of these projects as originally envisioned to maximize their value and utility as catalysts for the revitalization of the Village as well as for investments in the infrastructure necessary to provide safe, convenient, and easily navigable connections to and from all of these historic, recreational and business locations. A DRI investment will help the Village to leverage additional private investment to create mixed use housing on vacant land within the Village and to realize the Village's vision of creating a restored Old Champlain Canal Tow Path as a year-round recreation attraction for families and residents. With new hotels in Saratoga

Springs, Malta, and Clifton Park adding more than 300,000 available room nights for rent per year, this revitalization plan is also part of a larger countywide initiative to create new signature destinations to attract more visitors and tourists to Saratoga County. A restored Old Champlain Canal, for instance, would be a one-of-a-kind amenity, that residents and visitors could use for paddle boarding in the summer and public skating in the winter.

4) Recent or impending job growth. Describe how recent or impending job growth within or near the DRI area will attract professionals to an active life in the downtown, support redevelopment, and make growth sustainable in the long-term.

According to the US Census, Saratoga County's 2017 population is estimated to be 229,869, up 4.7% since 2010. As such, Saratoga County is one of the fastest growing counties in Upstate New York and in the northeastern United States. The Village of Schuylerville is just 21 miles from GLOBALFOUNDRIES which has created 3,300 new jobs since 2010 with an annual payroll of over \$300,000 million. The Village is less than 12 miles from Saratoga Hospital which has more than 2,000 employees and growing and the Grande Industrial Park, home to Quad Graphics, Ball Metal, Saratoga Eagle, Leonard Bus, Logistics One, and more. Just across the Hudson River, Hollingsworth & Vose has a manufacturing facility, in Washington County, that employs a couple hundred people. Within a 10 to 20 minute drive just in Saratoga County from the Village, new hotels have been built in Saratoga Springs, Malta, and Clifton Park that collectively have added more than 300,000 room nights to the area's inventory. The ability for these large employers and hundreds of smaller firms to attract people to fill these new jobs and for these new hotel room to attract more visitors will be improved via the revitalization of the Village of Schuylerville as envisioned in this plan. The Village will be the home to a series of historical, recreational and environmentally responsible sites that are connected and networked for safe travel on foot and by bicycle year-round as well as on the water by boat, kayak, and canoe.

Visitation to the Saratoga National Historical Park which is just 8.4 miles from the Schuylerville Yacht Basin already exceeds 100,000 people per year versus the Schuyler House which sees about 4,000 visitors. The potential to move more of these visitors from the National Park to the Village will improve greatly with a DRI investment. Beyond more workers and visitors, there are sites within the DRI, on Broad Street, and potentially along the Old Canal which could be locations for new housing and mixed uses. Being near the Hudson River has always had a special charm and attraction particularly these days for young professionals and the Village's capacity to handle more recreational and tourist boat and kayak traffic has already been enhanced via private investment at the yacht basin and via public investments in the Hudson Crossing and Fort Hardy parks. With a DRI investment, the Village of



Schuylerville has the capacity to be a model for other small river communities as they see to attract families, tourists, residents and entrepreneurs to live, work and play.

- 5) Attractiveness of physical environment.** Identify the properties or characteristics that the DRI area possesses that contribute, or could contribute if enhanced, to the attractiveness and livability of the downtown for a diverse population of varying ages, income, gender identity, ability, mobility, and cultural background. Consider, for example, the presence of developable mixed-use spaces, varied housing types at different levels of affordability, walkability and bikeability, healthy and affordable food markets, and public parks and gathering spaces.

The inventory of unique amenities that promote the attractiveness of the physical environment in the Village of Schuylerville might be unprecedented in a Village of this size. The Village is on the Empire State Trail and serves as the first point of entry coming into Saratoga County from the North across the Dix Bridge. The Empire State Trail will run right through the center of the Village and the project area during its entire path in the Village. Within a half mile of the Empire State Trail in the Village, there are at least four accessible public restrooms, two locations to get air for bike tires, and several locations to purchase food, water, and other supplies. The Hudson Crossing Park and Fort Hardy Park are already linked by the Old Canal Way trail and provide a wide range of activities to encourage individuals and families to walk, bike, kayak, snowshoe, cross country ski, as well as to learn about our natural environment. The Village is surrounded by open spaces and farms on both sides of the Hudson River with the Saratoga Apple Farm within the boundary of this project. While improving the existing sidewalks, building new ones and expanding the trail network to major sites within the boundary of the Village, the reality is that it is already quite easy and safe in many respects to walk or bike from anywhere to anywhere else within the Village. That is likely a reason that new residential units have been added within the project boundary and others could be proposed with the help of a DRI investment.



- 6) Quality of Life policies.** Articulate the policies in place that increase the livability and quality of life of the downtown. Examples include the use of local land banks, modern zoning codes, comprehensive plans, complete streets plan, transit-oriented development, non-discrimination laws, age-friendly policies, and a downtown management structure. If policies achieving this goal are not currently in place, describe the ability of the municipality to create and implement such policies.

The Village of Schuylerville, from a planning perspective, has been extensively studied. Via partnerships between public, private and nonprofit organizations, the Village has been fortunate to obtain support for the plans that led to the Village being on the Empire State Trail; to securing funds for the Dix Bridge and Hudson Crossing Park; to securing support for the Gateway Visitor Center and the creation of the Saratoga Surrender Site. Each of these individual projects has been developed with professional designs and the support of partners like the New York State Canal Corporation, The Friends of the



Saratoga Battlefield, the National Park Service, Saratoga County, the Town of Saratoga, the Hudson Hoosic Partnership, Saratoga PLAN, and many others. Firms like the LA Group and Creighton Manning have spent considerable time developing master plans for these projects and demonstrating the potential for connecting them in a far more integrated fashion by bike, boat and on foot to rethink the totality of these sites as a whole that will rebrand and revitalize the Village. Each of these projects has created spaces that are accessible to everyone. While there is no designated downtown management structure per se, the Village’s business community is unified via the Schuylerville Area Chamber of Commerce. This group recently completed a SWOT analysis with more than 70 participants involved. This local chamber has long standing supportive relationships with the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County, in Clifton Park, and the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce, in Saratoga Springs. Leaders in the Town of Saratoga whose offices are located within the Village and those from the Village of Schuylerville have a long history of collaboration. These local leaders have often been the champions for the preservation of local historical sites within the community as well as the restoration of the signature parks which have been restored to full use as recreational and tourist attractions. This history of collaboration demonstrates that the leaders across all sectors – public, private, and nonprofit - within and around the Village are positioned to move expeditiously to action in order to maximize the value and positive impact of a DRI investment.

- 7) Public Support.** Describe the public participation and engagement process conducted to develop the DRI application, and the support of local leaders and stakeholders for pursuing a vision of downtown revitalization. Describe the commitment among local leaders and stakeholders to preparing and implementing a strategic investment plan. Identify an initial local lead for the program that will work with outside experts to convene a DRI Local Planning Committee to oversee the plan.

The Village of Schuylerville, like many small communities, has a dedicated and loyal cadre of advocates and champions that are consistently in the room where it happens to get things done for the benefit of the community. Most recently, the community came together to complete a SWOT analysis and to start developing a plan of action. There were 70 individuals that took part in this effort representing the Village, the Town, area chambers, residents, business owners, nonprofits, and the faith community. These were the local people who have always championed the future of the Village. Their service has included volunteering

on local committees as well as contributing money and sweat equity to restore or build the many amenities now open within the Village. There is a strong tradition of community participation, entrepreneurship and engagement which can be seen today not just in the restoration of the Hudson Crossing Park but also by the fact that local funds totaling \$125,000 are being raised annually to support its maintenance and education activities. The initial local lead for the program will be David Cummings, who is a local resident and business owner, as well as a member of the Board of Directors of the Schuylerville Area and Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce. He will be supported in this effort by the professional paid staff of the Saratoga County Foundation the nonprofit affiliate of the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce, with oversight from the Village Mayor and Board.

8) Project List to Demonstrate Readiness: Describe opportunities to build on the strengths described above by providing a list of transformative projects that will be ready for implementation with an infusion of DRI funds within the first one to two years (depending on the scope and complexity of the project) and which may leverage DRI funding with private investment or other funds. Such projects could address economic development, transportation, housing, and community development needs. While such projects should have demonstrated public support, it is recognized that projects will ultimately be vetted by the Local Planning Committee and the State. Explain how most projects proposed for DRI funding demonstrate their readiness for implementation.

The Village of Schuylerville is well prepared to use DRI funds to complete several strategic projects within the first one to two years including: (1) Complete the Gateway Visitors Center; (2) Build the Saratoga Surrender Site; (3) Reconstruct the intersection of Routes 4 and 29 in the downtown to improve connections and pedestrian safety for those walking or cycling from the water or the Empire State Trail to both sides of Broad Street and Route 4; (4) Rebuilding sidewalks and/or trails to provide safer access from this intersection in the heart of the downtown West to the Saratoga Monument and Saratoga Apple to better link these two destinations to the Empire State Trail and Hudson River; (5) Installation of a CDTA Bike Share program to and from Hudson Crossing Park, Fort Hardy Park, the Yacht Basin, Saratoga Apple, Saratoga Monument, Schuyler House, etc.; (6) Design and Installation of Wayfinding signage that will build upon the signage that will be installed



along the Empire State Trail to brand Schuylerville as a great place to rest and visit along the Trail and to easily direct travelers to key local destinations, including public restrooms, food, drink and historic sites. (7) The repairing and repainting of the more than 20 historical markers within the Village of Schuylerville which collectively describes the importance of this Village in our nation's history. Each of these projects has already received and thus leveraged support from the private sector and other public entities and likely to lead to more such support. While not immediate, the DRI investment may also include: (1) Funding for additional sidewalk and trail projects to further connect other parts of the Village and historic and recreation sites already mentioned; (2) Funding for the restoration of the Old Champlain Canal as a centerpiece attraction offering residents, visitors, and tourists a unique four season recreation attraction that would feature family friendly space within the Village for kayaking, paddle boarding, paddle boarding yoga, and skating in the winter; (3) Attracting private investment to design and build mixed use housing on Broad Street and along the Old Canal Way; (4) Expansion of the facilities within the Hudson Crossing Park for additional education around environmental stewardship, local history, as well as Yurt Houses for overnight stays; (5) Design and build larger dock space in the Schuylerville Yacht basin to accommodate larger tour boats that could pick up or drop off passengers as part of a larger tour program along the Hudson River and the New York State Canal system; (6) Moving the Village DPW garage to create open space along the Old Champlain Canal for additional recreational opportunities, housing or mixed use commercial development; (7) Relocation of fields now used for baseball, softball, football and cheerleading, within the village to open up more waterfront access along the Hudson River in Fort Hardy Park; (8) Developing a reuse of the "turning basin" across the street from the Gateway Visitor Center and adjacent to the Empire State Trail; and (9) a Splash Park that celebrates the Village's history while providing a new water-themed activity for families and visitors to Schuylerville.

9) Administrative Capacity. Describe the extent of the existing local administrative capacity to manage this initiative, including potential oversight of concurrent contracts once projects are selected for award.

The Village Board with the leadership provided by the Mayor of Schuylerville will be charged with managing the process to ensure that all policy decisions are in keeping with the three components of the vision statement provided earlier. The Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce will provide the day-to-day administrative capacity required to manage this initiative via its professional staff and partnerships with area economic development organizations and local chambers. The Chamber has 10 full-time employees and an annual operating budget of \$1.8 million and has been Saratoga County's official Tourism Promotion Agency (TPA) for nearly 30 years. A task force has already been formed and has reviewed this application and includes people from the following organizations: Village Mayor, Town Supervisor, Hudson Crossing Park, Gateway Visitor Center, Friends of the Saratoga Battlefield, the Schuylerville Area Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County, and the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce. This task force will be expanded to include additional leaders from the private, public, faith and nonprofit sectors if a DRI grant is awarded for this initiative.

10) Other. Provide any other information that informs the nomination of this downtown for a DRI award.

Besides the "boundary map," we are also attaching several additional documents. Each of these helps to showcase and describe the planning work that has been done to advance many of the components of the Village's proposed application. The attachments include: (A) a map of proposed transportation linkages

prepared for the National Park Service; (B) a map of points of interest and existing transportation links; (C) a map of the locations of businesses and key sites within the Village; (D) a map of the Hudson Crossing Park and key sites within and just outside of the park; (E) a drawing from the development plan for the Saratoga Surrender site, on Route 4 and the Empire State Trail; (F) & (G) drawings of the site of the planned Gateway Visitor Center, in the Village of Schuylerville and along the Old Champlain Canal and the Empire State Trail; (H) a two-page description that was provided to the EPA’s Regional Director, in March of 2018, to describe what the community is proposing if the Old Champlain Canalway can be restored; (I) a map of the Village of Schuylerville that highlights ALL of the historic sites within the Village and describes their historical significance.

*Don’t forget to attach a map that clearly delineates the proposed DRI Area. (See item 1.)

EMAIL SUBMISSION ADDRESSES

Please submit your application as a Word Document to the Regional Council for your region.

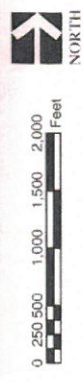
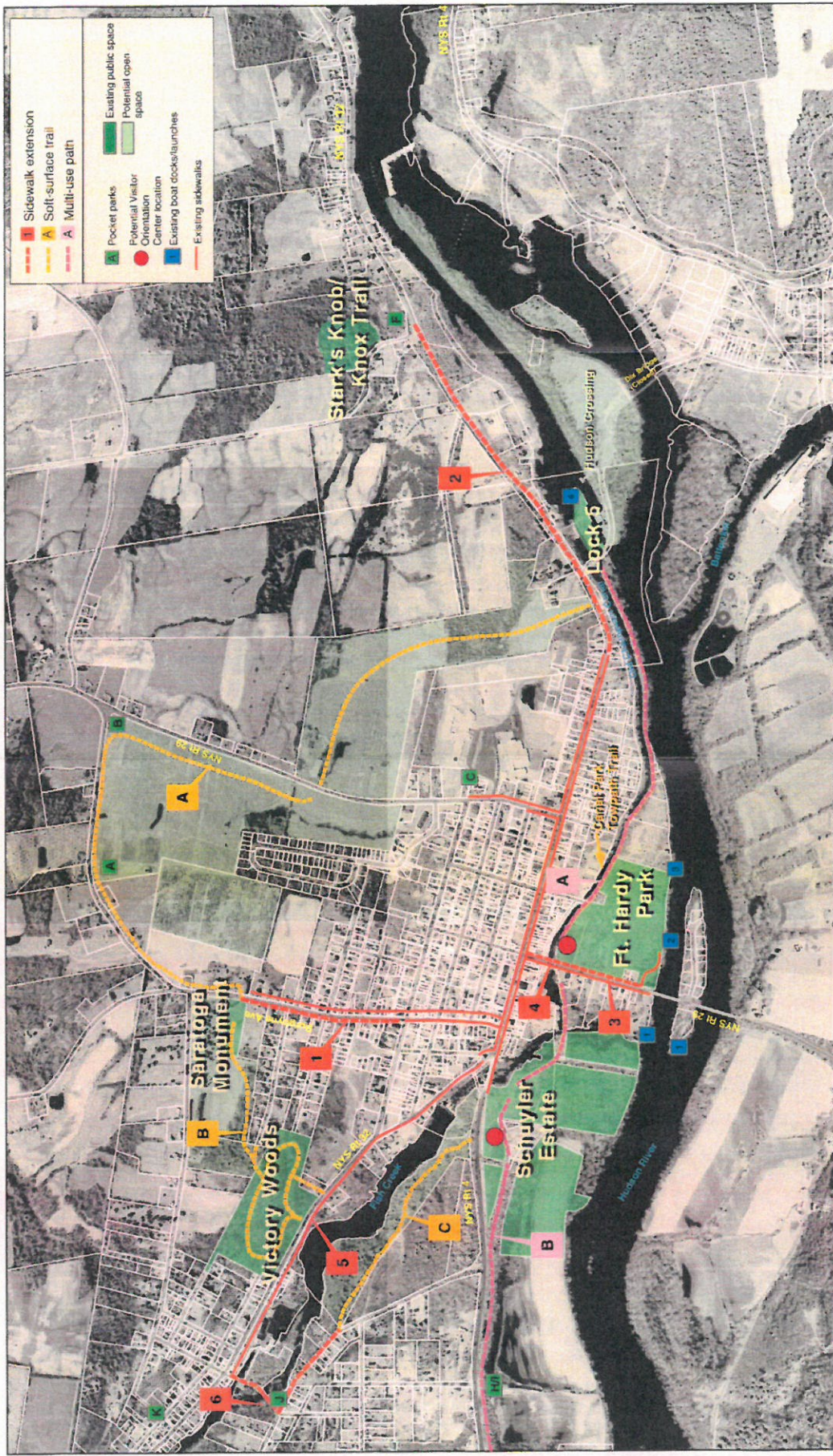
Capital Region	NYS-CapitalDist@esd.ny.gov
Central New York	NYS-CentralNY@esd.ny.gov
Finger Lakes	NYS-FingerLakes@esd.ny.gov
Long Island	LIREDC@esd.ny.gov
Mid-Hudson	NYS-MidHudson@esd.ny.gov
Mohawk Valley	NYS-MohawkVal@esd.ny.gov
New York City	NYC-DRI@esd.ny.gov
North Country	NYS-NorthCountry@esd.ny.gov
Southern Tier	NYS-SouthernTier@esd.ny.gov
Western New York	NYS-WNY-REDC@esd.ny.gov

Village of Schuylerville, NY DRI – Boundary Map 2018

- 1. Saratoga Monument
- 2. Victory Woods
- 3. Schuyler House
- 4. Fort Hardy Park
- 5. Champlain Canalway Trail
- 6. Schuyler Harbor Project
- 7. Hudson Crossing
- 8. Stark's Knob



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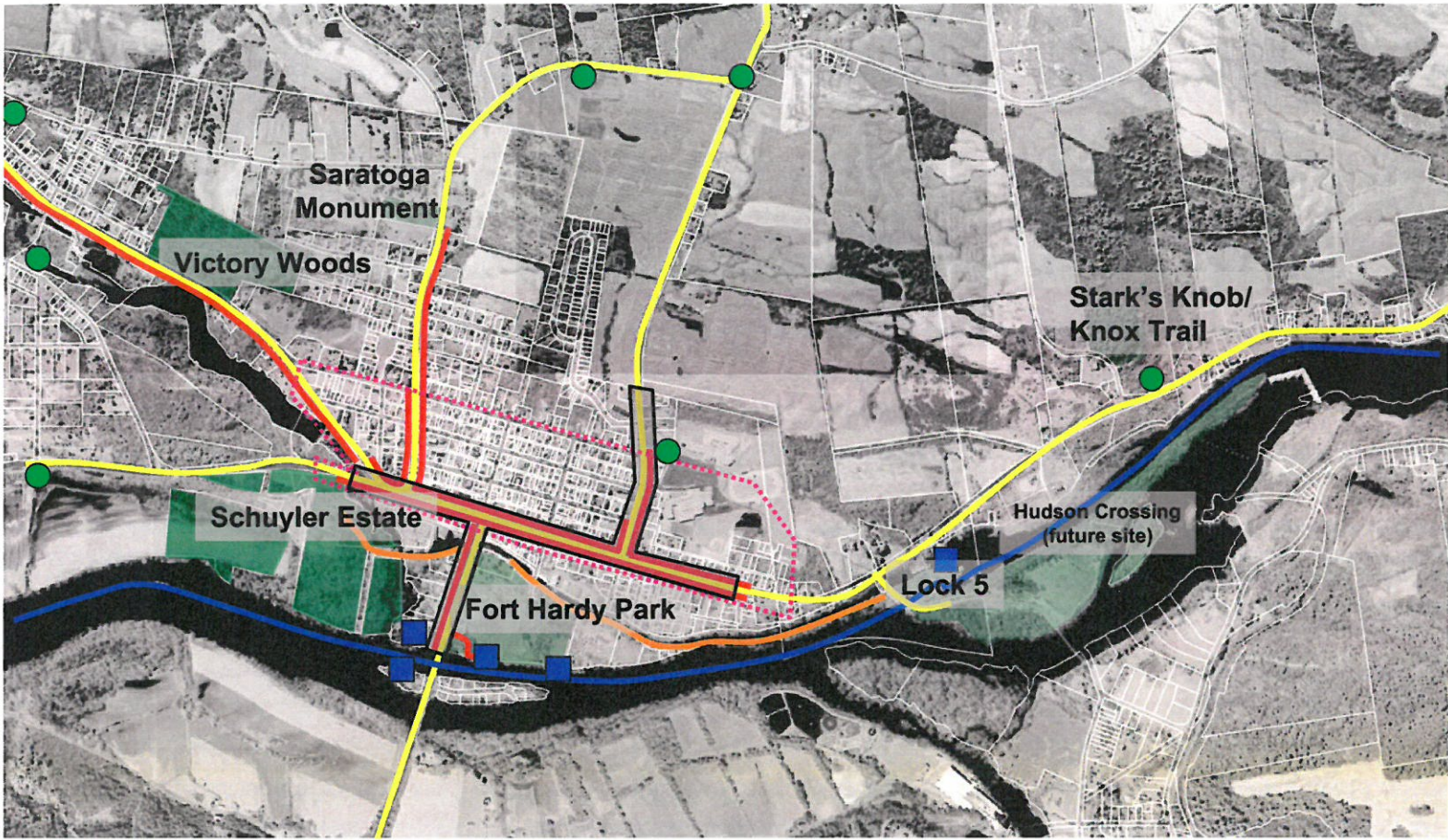


Proposed Transportation Links
 Village of Victory, Village of Schuylerville, and Old Saratoga Unit
 Alternative Transportation Study
 National Park Service

National Park Service
 U.S. Department of the Interior

PROJECT: 04-062
 DATE: 12/04
 FIGURE: A-10

*Refer to Table 3.3, and Table 3.4 for descriptions of the proposed links.
 New trail connections are subject to agreement with private landowners.



Points of Interest & Existing Transportation Links

- Boat docks/launches
- Pocket Parks
- Walking tour area
- Roads
- Trails
- NYS Champlain Canal
- Sidewalks
- NYSDOT project

B



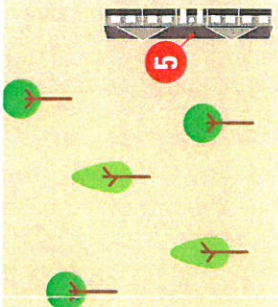
SARATOGA APPLE



SCHUYLERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



HUDSON CROSSING PARK



5

ROUTE 29

SPRING

TO LOCK 5
BROAD
WASHINGTON
ROUTES 4 & 32

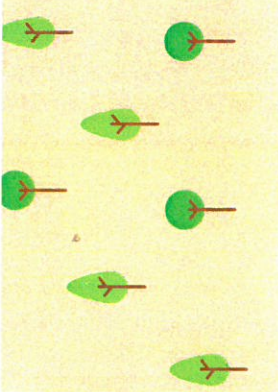
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RANGER

OLD CHARLETTAIN CANAL

TOW PATH

HUDSON RIVER



SARATOGA

16

SCHUYLERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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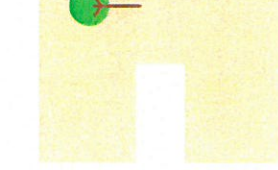
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VISITORS CENTER



FORT HARDY PARK

REDS



UNIVERSITY

2

18, 19, 20
21, 22

AMERICAN LEGION

GREEN



FERRY

PEARL

CHURCH

15

12

13

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ROUTE 29

TO GREENWICH



AMERICAN LEGION

GREEN



FERRY

PEARL

CHURCH

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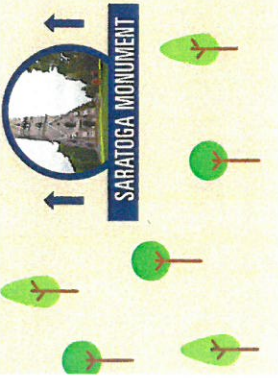
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ROUTE 29

TO GREENWICH



SARATOGA MONUMENT

BURGOYNE

GROVE

TO VICTORY

ROUTE 32

TO STILLWATER

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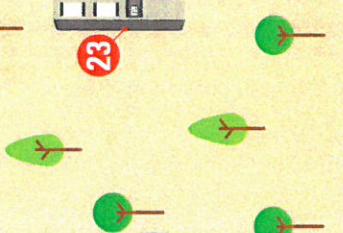
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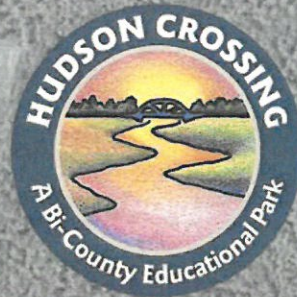
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THE SCHUYLER HOUSE

FISH CREEK



23



Hudson Crossing Park 2020 Vision
A conceptual rendering of existing and possible public facilities / amenities



(D)

Hudson Crossing Park Mission:
To tie environmental responsibility to economic revitalization, and to engage people of all ages in making informed choices for a sustainable future.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Former Adirondack School, linked to Hudson Crossing Park in the 2006 Multi-Modal Transportation Study Master Plan Additional Land - Private land potentially linked to Hudson Crossing Park Public Land - Included in Hudson Crossing Park Hudson Crossing Park Trails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Riverwalk Sensory Trail - Island Loop Trail - Eagle Point Trail Trail to Schuylerville Central School Potential Trail Development / Improvement on public land Potential Trail Development / Improvement on private land NYS Champlain Canalway Trail Old Champlain Canal Towpath - A NYS Champlain Canalway Trail segment Potential Trail Improvements within existing rail line in Washington County | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing public facilities / amenities Possible public facilities / amenities Existing public parking Proposed public parking Interpretive and directional signage Eco-Audio boxes offering regional heritage stories | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Hudson Crossing Park Day Use Area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Picnic facilities and rest rooms - Play Garden and Labyrinth - Trail and overlook access 2 Public Water Access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Floating Dock - Canoe and Kayak Launch 3 Pocket Parks 4 Historic Waterway Overlooks 5 Restored Historic Dix Bridge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key bi-county linkage - Pedestrian, bicycle and winter 6 Old Champlain Canal Towpath Trail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - linkage to the Village of Schuylerville, Fort Hardy Park, Saratoga Monument, Schuyler House, Victory Woods, Surrender Site, the Champlain Canalway Trail and other points of interest. 7 Riverwalk Sensory Trail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - designed to welcome persons with physical and sensory challenges. 8 Outdoor Classroom 9 Possible Location: Hudson Crossing Educational Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administrative offices - Banquet, Wedding, and Conference space - Day-use area / classroom - Canoe / kayak access and concessions 10 Potential River Access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possible public access and educational use areas along the Hudson River |
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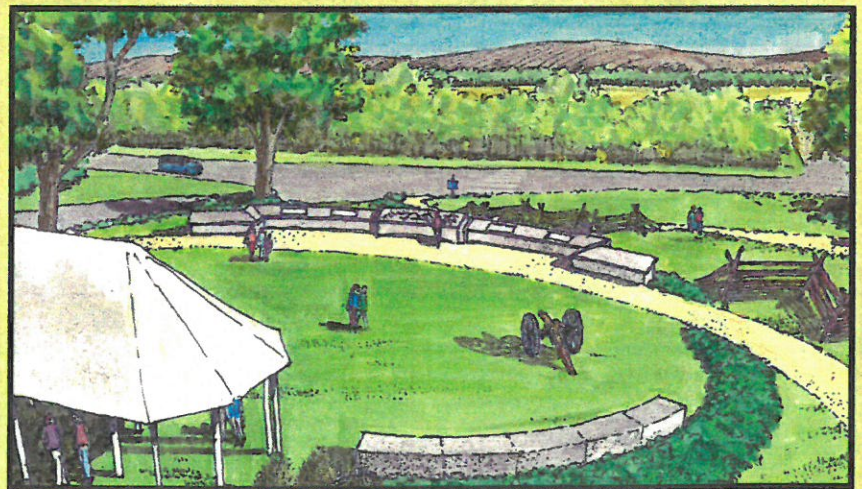
Development Plan

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Uninterrupted views of the Hudson River and the main road were important to the American army, and made this site ideal for the surrender ceremony. These landscape features are preserved and highlighted in this proposed park, designed for contemplation, education, and appreciation of the commanding view.

The park will consist of a modest parking and orientation area where visitors will begin their experience. Paths will lead visitors to a half moon wall where they will learn about the significance of the site and take in the view looking towards the Hudson River. Trails and landscaping on the property will emphasize the views and history of the site.





LAKES TO LOCKS
PASSAGE

Canal Region Gateway Visitor Center

Master Plan

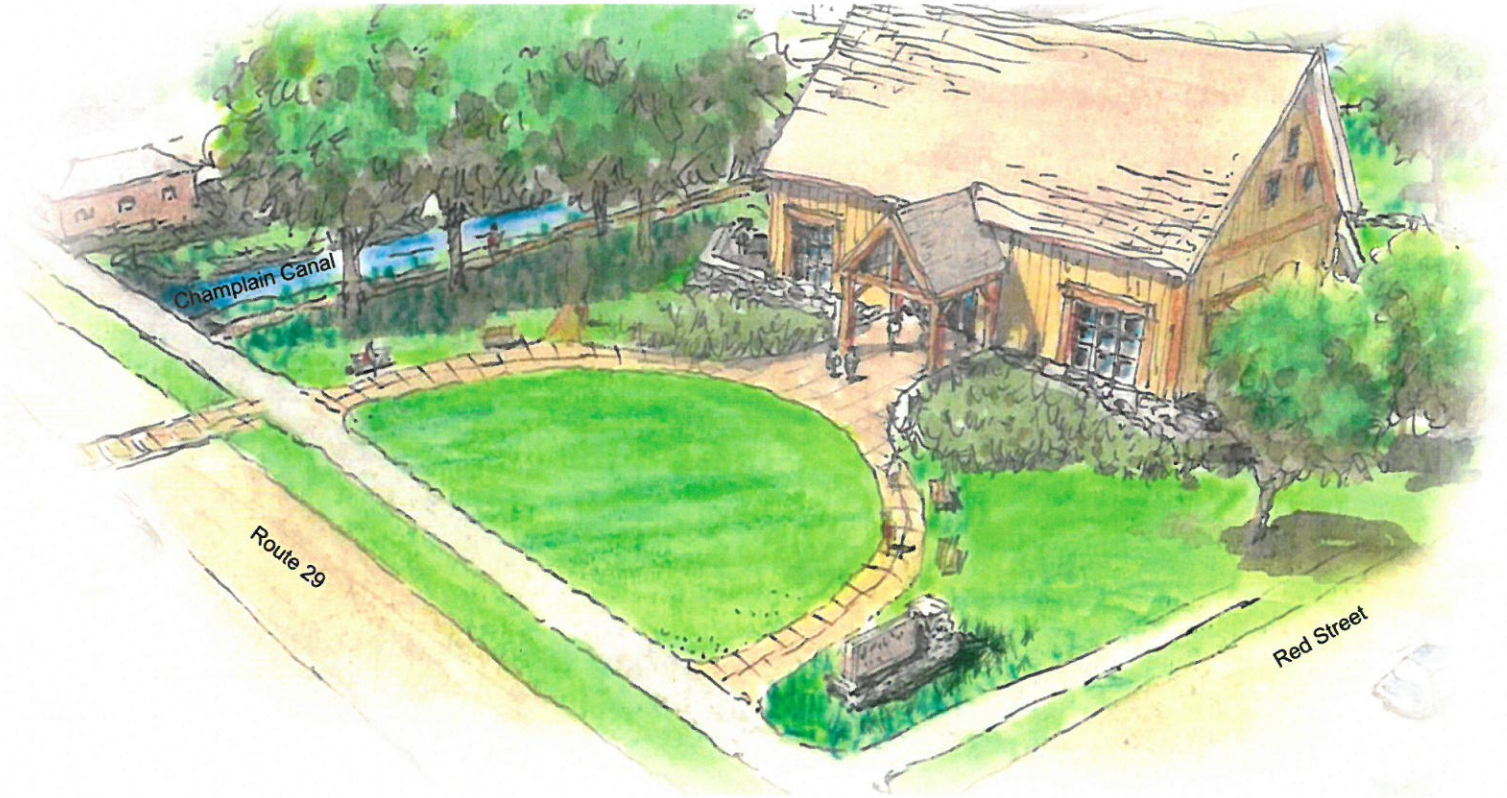


May 20, 2013

SARATOGA
ASSOCIATES



Perspective – Phase 1



May 24, 2013

SARATOGA
ASSOCIATES



DRAFT

Restoration of Old Champlain Canal to Establish Four Season Tourist Attraction in Schuylerville, New York

March 2018

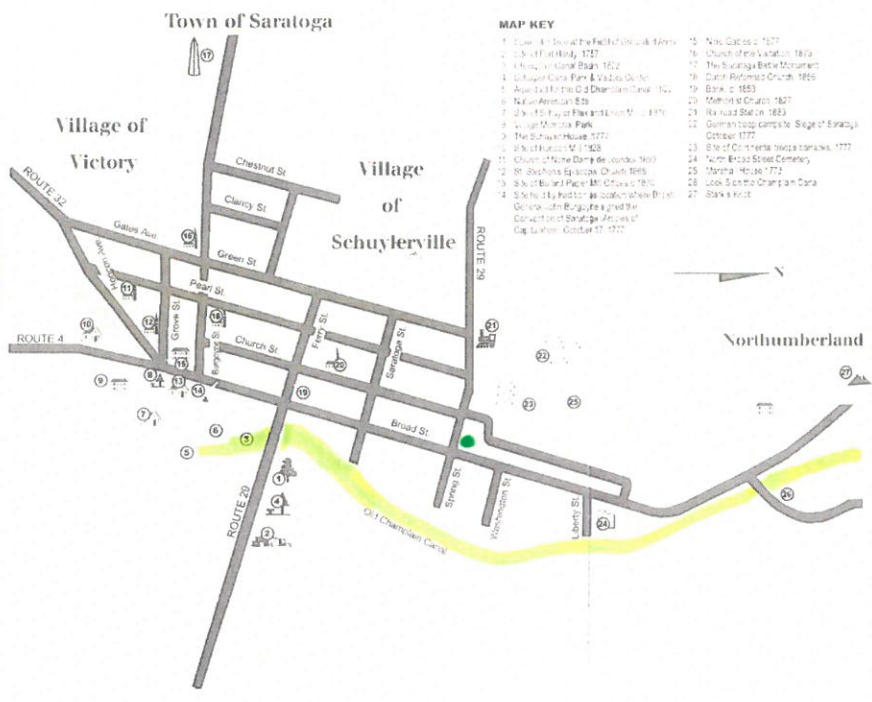


Mission:

Secure support to fund and complete the repair, replacement, clean-up and upgrading of the various components of the Old Champlain Canal so that the water will flow allowing for year-round tourist related recreational activities and as a location for special events to expand economic opportunity within the Village of Schuylerville, the Town of Saratoga and Saratoga County.

Background:

The Old Champlain Canal's 1 ½ mile trail connects the Hudson Crossing Park and Dix Bridge with the Fort Hardy Park and Schuyler House and is already a popular site for walkers, runners, and cyclists. The old canal runs parallel to Route 4. The trail which runs alongside the canal will be a part of the Empire State Trail.



Restoring the Old Champlain Canal in Schuylerville will:

- **Make Schuylerville a unique destination along New York State's Empire State Trail** - The popularity and use of the existing trail along the Old Champlain Canal will be enhanced significantly by investments now being made by New York State to create the Empire State Trail connecting users traveling between New York City and the Canadian border. With restrooms, coffee shops, a variety of restaurants, convenience stores, historic sites, scenic vistas, picnic areas, an apple orchard and more, the Village will be a destination of choice -- a tourist rest stop if you will -- for people traveling on the Empire State Trail to stop, relax, rest and stay. This segment of the trail itself can also be a great family fun destination for safe off-road walks and family bike trips along a relative flat and short trail head with plenty of parking close by with scenic vistas and public parks at both ends of the trail. The same is true during the winter for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.

- **Reuse Old Champlain Canal to create a new family fun attraction in Saratoga County** – The depth, width and relatively short-length of the canal suggests that repairing and reconstructing this waterway to allow water to flow slowly through it again will create opportunities for a range of activities now prohibited. For instance, the canal could be a popular spot for families to kayak or canoe in the spring, summer and fall. It will be an ideal location for paddle boarding and perhaps yoga on a paddleboard. When it freezes in the winter, it could be transformed for curling competitions and into a meandering ice-skating area as is often done on canals in Canada.



- **Reimagine the Old Champlain Canal as a vibrant and unique public place** – The reimagining of the canal as a public place for fun, recreation, healthy living, and exploration of our natural environment will be a catalyst for the revitalization of the Village of Schuylerville. This project is the epitome of place-making as a strategy to revitalize this small village capitalizing on this community's local assets and history. This project will result in the creation of a quality public space that will attract local residents and visitors to the Village and Saratoga County.

Project Scope:

- Formalize a plan to excavate the Old Champlain Canal to a depth of four feet along the entire 1 ½ mile stretch which ranges from 28 to 40 feet wide, from the bridge to the Lock 5 Island, to the bridge at Route 29, near the Gateway Visitor Center. Ideally this can be done with excavators with extended reach capacity from the shoreline with a three-person team over the course of two months.
- Develop a plan to transport and dispose of excavated materials after dredging to the shore to allow dewatering of said materials. Ideally disposal site will be within 5 miles of the excavation project.
- Engineering work is required to identify a more specific means for installing or repairing culverts to allow for the water to flow throughout this canal way. Ideally this will not involve major reconstruction of any bridge along the project area and a means to close the culverts or slow down the flow of water in the winter to allow for freezing to accommodate ice skating.
- A very preliminary estimate for this work assuming soil is not contaminated and no significant reconstruction or reinforcement of the bridges or banks is required is \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 for this scope of work.

Key Actions to move this Project Forward:

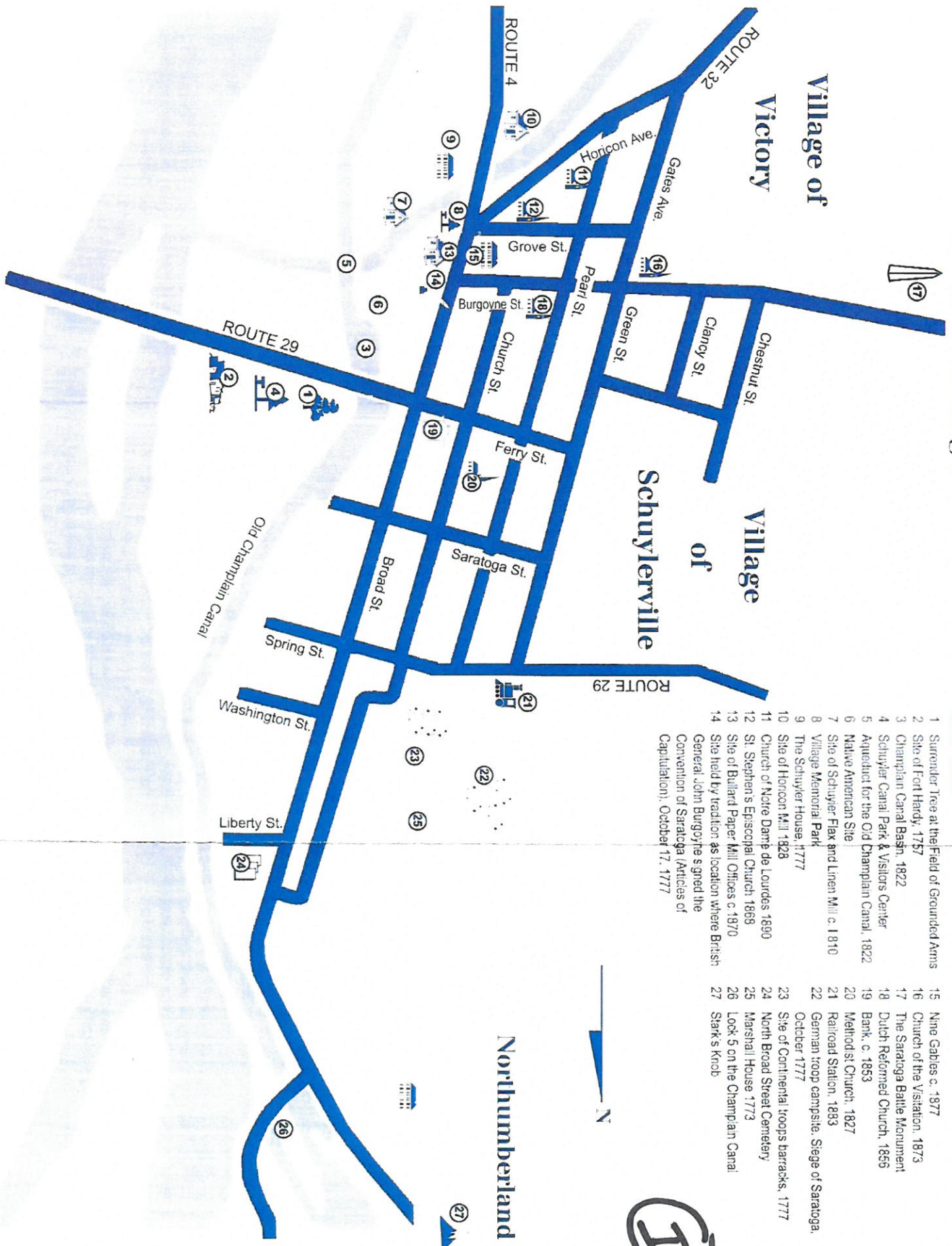
1. Complete assessment of the contamination present within this canal as well as an estimate of the costs associated with removing such contamination.
2. Further assess the engineering requirements for this project to identify the bridge work, lock work and earth work required to rebuild and repair this lock to allow for water to flow again through the old canal.
3. Prepare a visioning document that identifies how property on both sides of the canal might be restored and improved to further expand the economic growth possible in the Village.
4. Select an agency or organization with the capacity to get this project done to take the lead.
5. Secure funding to complete a design-build request for proposals to secure qualified bids to perform all of this design and construction work which would include cost-estimates and schedules for the various work contemplated in this proposal as well as any required contingencies.

Town of Saratoga

Village of Victory

Village of Schuylerville

Village of Northumberland



MAP KEY

- 1 Surrender Tree at the Field of Grounded Arms
- 2 Site of Fort Hardy, 1757
- 3 Champlain Canal Basin, 1822
- 4 Schuyler Canal Park & Visitors Center
- 5 Aqueduct for the Old Champlain Canal, 1822
- 6 Native American Site
- 7 Site of Schuyler-Flax and Linnen Mill c. 1810
- 8 Village Memorial Park
- 9 The Schuyler House, 1777
- 10 Site of Horicon Mill 1828
- 11 Church of Notre Dame de Lourdes, 1890
- 12 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1868
- 13 Site of Bullard Paper Mill Offices c. 1870
- 14 Site held by tradition as location where British General John Burgoyne signed the Convention of Saratoga (Articles of Capitulation), October 17, 1777
- 15 Nine Gables c. 1877
- 16 Church of the Visitation, 1873
- 17 The Saratoga Battle Monument
- 18 Dutch Reformed Church, 1856
- 19 Bank, c. 1853
- 20 Methodist Church, 1827
- 21 Railroad Station, 1883
- 22 German troop campsite, Siege of Saratoga, October 1777
- 23 Site of Continental troops barracks, 1777
- 24 North Broad Street Cemetery
- 25 Marshall House, 1773
- 26 Lock 5 on the Champlain Canal
- 27 Stark's Knob

WALKING AND DRIVING TOUR IN AND AROUND SCHUYLERVILLE, NEW YORK

This tour brochure is a guide to many points of interest in Schuylerville, Victory and Northumberland. They are proud emblems of a rich historical past.

THE SETTING

In the Mohawk language, the area was called "Saragh-to-ga" most nearly meaning "hillside country of the swift water." The name was applied by Dutch and English settlers to a wide region extending from the Mohawk River to what is now Northumberland in Saratoga County.

TIMELINE

- c. 10,000 BC Native Americans began using the area as a crossroads and enjoyed the rich hunting and fishing.
- 1689 First European settlements - blockhouse, forts, mills.
- 1763 Population increased to 1,500 in the peace following the French & Indian Wars.
- 1777 The three battles of Saratoga ended in a siege and surrender of the British to the colonists here on October 17, 1777.
- 1823 The Champlain and Erie Canals opened, carrying out the vision of Philip Schuyler.
- 1831 Village incorporated as Schuylerville to honor the Schuyler family's contribution to the Revolution and local prosperity.
- 1849 Village of Victory incorporated.

This region is renowned for 2 reasons: it is the portal and finale of the battles of Saratoga, September-October 1777, and the part it played in the introduction of canal systems statewide.

The tour begins on the north side of Route 29 at the Surrender Tree and Visitors Center (Fort Hardy Park).

1. **Commemorative 'Surrender Tree'** at the Field of Grounded Arms where on October 17, 1777 the British Army surrendered their arms and colors. This marked the end of the battles of Saratoga, and as the first decisive American victory over the British is considered the turning point of the Revolution. This tree was selected to recall the great elm at site #14 of this tour. The original tree was taken down in 1875, and walking canes were made from it for many leading citizens..
 2. **Site of Fort Hardy, 1757**, an important supply depot and fort that covered 15 acres. It was built as a northern strong point of the English colonies during the French and Indian War (1757-1763) and afterwards largely dismantled.
 3. **Champlain Canal Basin 1822**. Centerpoint between Waterford and Whitehall, this basin provided dockage, boat building and repair, with room to turn the long barges around.
 4. **Visitors Center in Schuyler's Canal Park**. Opened in June 2000, this information center offers maps, brochures and helpful advice to local and regional attractions. The 1-1/2 mile long Canal Park is a walking trail following the Old Champlain Canal towpath from the Schuyler House (#9) to Lock 5 (#27). Informative signboards give you an idea of canal life. Picnic tables and grills are along the way for you to enjoy.
 5. **Aqueduct for Old Champlain Canal**. Next to the footbridge over Fish Creek is the site of an aqueduct which carried the barges above the creek for nearly 100 years (1823-1911). The stone abutments are visible still.
 6. **Native American Site**. Evidence suggests Native Americans from as far away as Ohio and Eastern Canada came here for fishing and trade for thousands of years.
 7. **Schuyler flax and linen mill**. The Schuylers raised flax and manufactured linen, building a mill near this site possibly as early as 1768.
 8. **Village Memorial Park** contains a memorial to Town of Saratoga men and women who served the United States in combat and at home in World War I. The park also features a plaque commemorating Colonel Henry Knox's epic transportation of 50 cannon from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston in the winter of 1775-76. This heroic feat enabled Gen. George Washington to drive the British from Boston. An unusual marker notes the disinterment of an unknown soldier and his horse during excavations, 1889.
 9. **The Schuyler House** is the third home built here by the Schuyler family. This one was built in 29 days in November 1777 to replace the one burned by the British during the Battles of Saratoga, October 1777.
 10. **Site of Horicon Cotton Mill**. Built by Philip Schuyler 2nd in 1828, it is said to have been one of the largest such mills at the time. The last mill operation at this site was taken down in 1926.
 11. **Church of Notre Dame de Lourdes, 1890**. A group of French speaking Roman Catholics from Canada received permission from the Diocesan Bishop to build a church of their own. The large handsome edifice, on land donated by the Victory Manufacturing Company, has been in continuous use since it opened. In 1916 a rectory was built north of the church.
 12. **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1868**. Built on land given to the parish in 1846, first services were held on Christmas Day 1868. The slate roof shares an intricate pattern with the Nine Gable house nearby.
 13. **Site of Bullard Paper Mill Offices**. Founded in 1863 and operated until the early 1900s, the mill was capable of producing 10 tons of paper a day. Paper was a major industry
-

- in Schuylerville. In the first half of the 20th century, a finishing plant stood north of the village operating the largest wallpaper press in the world.
14. **Site held by tradition as location where British General John Burgoyne signed the Convention of Saratoga (Articles of Capitulation)**, October 16, 1777. Foot of Burgoyne Street. On the 17th, the British troops marched down the hill and along Broad Street to Fort Hardy to stack their arms and yield their colors. When this news reached Benjamin Franklin in Paris, he went to see King Louis. The result was a Treaty of Alliance making France an ally of the young republic.
 15. **Nine Gables**. Built c. 1877 in the Gothic style and owned at one time by Charles M. Bullard. Note the unusual architecture and roof.
 16. **Church of the Visitation**, 1873 replaced the community's first Roman Catholic church, built in 1847. When the original church burned down, the Victory Manufacturing Company donated this site. The 175 foot steeple was removed in 1993. The building is now a private residence.
 17. **The Saratoga Battle Monument**. This monument commemorates the surrender of the British Commander General Burgoyne to General Gates of the American forces on October 17, 1777. It was erected by the Saratoga Monument Association, chartered in 1859 for that purpose. This towering 156 foot memorial stands on a summit 300 feet in elevation within Burgoyne's last defensive position. Of the four niches, only three contain statues, images of Colonel Morgan and Generals Gates and Schuyler. Benedict Arnold, heroic at these battles, was denied the honor because of his defection from the Revolutionary cause in 1780. Adjacent Prospect Cemetery contains a fine Civil War memorial.
 18. **Dutch Reformed Church**, 1856. Old Saratoga Reformed Church, the oldest congregation in the village, was founded in 1770. The original church was south of the Schuyler House.
 19. **Bank**, Greek Revival c.1853. It served businesses, residents and travelers in the flourishing canal village.
 20. **Methodist Church**, 1827. The Schuylerville Methodist Episcopal Church is located on land given by Philip Schuyler 2nd, contains the oldest operating pipe organ in the United States. The organ was built in England in 1756 and installed first at Kings Chapel, Boston 1760 where it served for 80 years. In 1886 it came here after 46 years in the Congregational Church of Ware, Massachusetts. Damaged in a fire in 1956, the organ underwent a 28 year restoration.
 21. **Railroad Station** - The railroad reached Schuylerville in 1882. Successive companies with routes operating here were the Hoosic Tunnel Line, the Fitchburg Railroad, the Boston & Maine, and the Saratoga and Schuylerville Railroad, ending in 1957. The route ran down the middle of Green Street, through Victory, along Fish Creek, branching near Stafford's Bridge, with spurs to Saratoga Springs and Mechanicville. A turntable, first used in 1884, was located here so that engines could be turned around. In its heyday as many as 6 passengers trains a day stopped at Schuylerville. Passenger service ceased in 1933.
 22. **German Troop Campsite**, Siege of Saratoga, October 10-17, 1777. Many of the Germans captured with Burgoyne's army became Americans. One of them was to be the great grandfather of General George Custer of Indian War fame 100 years later.
 23. **Site of Continental Troops Barracks**, 1777. Burned by the British during the Siege of Saratoga, rebuilt later by the Americans.
 24. **North Broad Street Cemetery**. This early cemetery contains hundreds of graves dating to the late 1700s.
 25. **Marshall House**, 1773. Built by Peter Lansing of Albany. During their occupation and while besieged at Saratoga, the British army used the house as a hospital. American cannon batteries across the river, believing the house to be Burgoyne's headquarters, bombarded it fiercely. Throughout, Madam Baroness von Riedesel nursed badly wounded soldiers in the house. In the end, she saved her three little girls and others by taking refuge in the cellar. The house stands today as remodeled in 1868; it is a private residence.
 26. **Lock 5 on the Champlain Canal**. Serving boat traffic south to Waterford, north to Lake Champlain and Canada. Site of historic junction lock on the Old Champlain Canal (1822), and a 1911 powerhouse impeccably maintained.
 27. **Stark's Knob, Northumberland**. A cone of volcanic pillow basalt dating to the Ordovician Period. Positioning of General John Stark's troops along its southern perimeter eliminated retreat option for Burgoyne, October 13-17, 1777. The rock was partially mined for highway stone and fill in the 1800s. An object of study for geologists today, this volcanic extrusion is unique in the area.

For more information about the Village of Schuylerville, nearby attractions, accommodations and historic information, visit the Visitors Center at Schuyler's Canal Park in Fort Hardy Park. (518) 695-4159; or the Village offices at 35 Spring Street, 695-3881

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