Discover SARATOGA



America's Turning Point™

COMMEMORATING SARATOGA 250







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Over the nearly 250 years since the battles took place, Saratoga's legacy and impact has made a long-lasting impression.

BRIEF HISTORY



The Battles of Saratoga consisted of two pivotal engagements: the Battle of Freeman's Farm (September 19, 1777) and the Battle of Bemus Heights (October 7, 1777). After suffering heavy casualties—about 580 British and 320 American at Freeman's Farm, and over 600 British and 150 American at Bemus Heights—the British army was besieged for 10 days. On October 17, 1777, General John Burgoyne surrendered his force of approximately 6,000 to American General Horatio Gates. The combined British and German soldiers, plus accompanying women and children, formed the so-called "Convention Army" as prisoners until the end of the war in 1783. SOURCE: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Referred to throughout centuries as the Turning Point of the American Revolution, this triumph changed the course of the war, setting the stage for American independence. Victory at Saratoga reverberated globally, proving the colonists could defeat a world power, galvanizing American morale, and securing formal alliance with France, and valuable support from the Netherlands and Spain. Due to the profound impact of the American victory in the Battles of Saratoga, many historians consider it to be one of the top 15 battles in world history.



UNEXPECTED IMPACT ACROSS THE AGES

FIRST NATIONAL DAY OF THANKSGIVING: General George Washington and Congress, in exile as Philadelphia was currently taken over by the British, saw fit to declare a first ever National Day of Thanksgiving in December 1777, in part due to victory at Saratoga.

HISTORIC PAINTING: Renowned artist John Trumbull's "Surrender of General Burgoyne" 19th century painting still hangs as one of four in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda.

THE SARATOGA MONUMENT: The 100th anniversary of the battles in 1877 led to the erection of the Saratoga Monument by citizens—including one of the co-founders of the national Daughters of the American Revolution, Ellen Hardin Walworth—to help unite a post-Civil War nation.

SARATOGA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK: The private assembly of farmlands to preserve where the battles occurred started in the 1920s, then becoming a NY State Park, and ultimately the Saratoga National Historical Park in 1966. It now welcomes over 119,000 annual visitors and growing.

COMMISSIONED NAVAL WARSHIPS: USS Saratoga's were commissioned as US naval warships from WWII to the Cold War.





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EXPERIENCE HISTORY FIRSTHAND

Visitors to Saratoga County can interact with the history of our nation's past by experiencing our significant places and learning the stories of our area.

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SARATOGA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, VISITOR CENTER & TOUR ROAD



Immerse yourself in the spot where two Revolutionary War battles were fought. The year-round battlefield visitor center includes educational films, a map, exhibits and gift shop. You can also travel the 10-mile historic road around the battlefield by car, tour bus or bike or you can walk or hike at your leisure.

OTHER HISTORICAL SITES

SARATOGA SURRENDER SITE: On the morning of October 17, 1777, British Lt. General John Burgoyne laid down his sword to mark the surrender of the British army to Northern army forces of the United States of America. This outdoor memorial marks the site of this momentous moment in history.

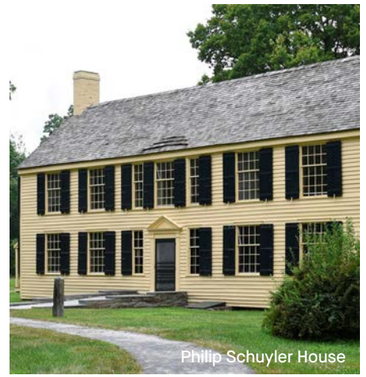
SARATOGA MONUMENT: The Saratoga Monument commemorates the American victory in the Battle of Saratoga. The cornerstone was laid on the 100th anniversary of the American victory.

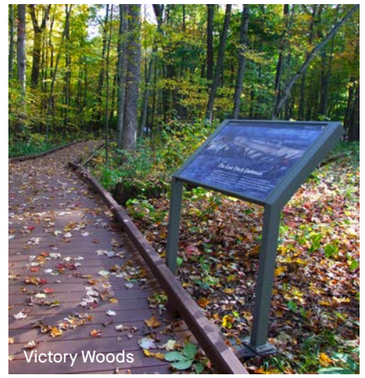
PHILIP SCHUYLER HOUSE: The estate, located on the grounds, was the northern plantation and country home of General Philip Schuyler, both before and after the Battles of Saratoga. While the British burned the original house and outbuildings to the ground during their retreat, the current structure was erected in 1777, shortly after Burgoyne's surrender.

VICTORY WOODS: A 22-acre area of woods that marks the final encampment site for the British Army under General Burgoyne, prior to their October 17, 1777, surrender. The trail is self-guided and offers a raised, accessible 1/2-mile pathway with interpretive signs.


Saratoga Surrender Site


Saratoga Monument


Philip Schuyler House


Victory Woods

3 ways to have a Saratoga Revolutionary Experience

Discover the Saratoga Revolutionary Experience (SRX), your gateway to Saratoga's world-changing history and world-class hospitality: Visit the SRX interpretive center adjoining the "Field of Grounded Arms" at 30 Ferry Street, Schuylerville, NY. Under development for an October 2026 initial opening, orient yourself with the defining geography, humanity, & global impact of this victory at Saratoga. Access the SRX website for curated travel guides to plan your trip. Use our powerful app to navigate to Revolutionary heritage sites, featuring immersive audio storytelling, and augmented reality displays at select locations. HISTORY LIVES HERE!



About the Saratoga 250 Commission

Saratoga County's Saratoga 250 Commission, formed by resolution in 2021 to commemorate this uniquely important history, is chaired by County Historian and NYS 250 Commissioner, Lauren Roberts.

Its mission—educate, promote, and preserve—engages citizens, fosters pride of place, and celebrates our shared heritage as we approach the 250th anniversary in 2027 America's Turning Point™, to honor the Revolutionary War-era legacy and to reconnect diverse, relatable perspectives to a new generation.

The Commission works hand-in-hand with the nonprofit Campaign for Saratoga 250, Inc., a 501(c)(3) dedicated to promoting broader historical awareness, programming, and preservation of Saratoga's Revolutionary heritage.

JOIN US IN PRESERVING SARATOGA, AMERICA'S TURNING POINT™
TO SPEAK WITH A PRESERVATION EXPERT, *please contact:*

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