

Columbia County

Total designated Greenway Trail: 9.7 miles

Designated Greenway Trails as of March 10, 2004:

Riverside Trails

Greenport Conservation Area

Located in the Town of Greenport, maintained by the Columbia Land Conservancy, 3.5 miles.

Olana State Historic Site

Located in the Town of Greenport, maintained by NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, 5.1 miles.

Clermont State Historic Site

Located in the Town of Clermont, maintained by NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, 1.1 miles.

Potential Greenway Trails:

Riverside Trails

Rensselaer County Line to Greenport Conservation Area Link

From the Rensselaer County Line, the potential trail could follow south along NY 9J, until the intersection with US 9. The trail could then follow US 9 to Joslen Road in Greenport where the Town Park is located. From here the trail could extend into Stockport Creek State Wetland Preservation Area and then south to the Greenport Conservation Area, a designated Greenway Trail Area.

Greenport Conservation Area to Olana State Historic Site Link

The City of Hudson and Town of Greenport are working to develop trail linkages between these municipalities' open spaces and recreational areas. From the Greenport Conservation Area, this potential trail could follow Joslen Road south to Harry Howard Avenue, and from here it could follow State Street down into the City of Hudson's waterfront area. By following south along Front Street, the trail could make important links to the City Boat Launch, Promenade Hill Park and the Amtrak Station. From Front Street, the trail could follow Montgomery Street and eventually intersect with NY 9G and could follow this route out of the City. Leaving NY 9G, the trail could follow along Mount Merino Road to the Olana State Historic Site.

Olana State Historic Site to Clermont State Park Link

From the Olana State Historic Site, a designated Greenway Trail, a potential Greenway Trail could follow NY 9G to North Germantown. In North Germantown the trail could diverge from NY 9G to follow Northern Blvd. which would bring trail users closer to the Hudson River. Northern Blvd. then connects back with NY 9G and the trail could follow this route until intersecting with CR 35 / Woods Road in Germantown. The trail could then follow CR 35 to the Clermont State Park, also a designated Greenway Trail.

Countryside Corridors

Town of Kinderhook to Stuyvesant Falls Link

In the Town of Kinderhook, the Villages of Kinderhook and Valatie hired Saratoga Associates to develop a feasibility study to link Niverville to Valatie and Kinderhook via an off-road trail system. Much of this trail could utilize a Niagara-Mohawk Transmission line. The trail could make links to the Kinderhook Town Park, Ichabod Crane School, Pachaquack Preserve and Martin Van Buren National Historic Site. In the future, the Town could make a northern link to the Columbia County/Rensselaer County line, as well as a southern link from the Village of Kinderhook to Stuyvesant Falls.

Harlem Valley Rail Trail

The former Harlem Division railroad corridor in eastern Columbia and Dutchess Counties provides a potential countryside corridor link to the Greenway Trail System. When completed, through partnerships with willing sellers and the municipalities along the way, the 43-mile Harlem Valley Rail Trail will be one of the ten longest rail trails in the country. It would also be the longest rail trail connected to the NYC metropolitan area by active rail service.

A Federal Aid Transportation Enhancement grant in the amount of \$927,500 has been awarded to NYSOPRHP and the Columbia Land Conservancy (with local matching funds through the Columbia Land Conservancy) for acquisitions of portions or all of the approximately 23.6 remaining miles, located primarily in Columbia County. Any and all lands purchased with these funds must be from willing sellers, acquired through a fully open and public process. The Hudson River Valley Greenway has been assisting with coordination and implementation of the grant.

The status of the Columbia County sections is as follows: Town of Chatham to Taconic State Park Entrance, Copake Falls – 20 miles - undeveloped and not open to the public; Undermountain Road, Ancram to Taconic State Park entrance, Copake Falls - 4 miles – paved and open; Undermountain Road, Ancram to Main Street, Millerton (Dutchess County)- 8 miles – construction will begin in 2005. For more information visit the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association website at www.hvrt.org.

Greenway Water Trail Sites:

Designated Sites

Nutten Hook Research Reserve

Located in the Town of Stuyvesant.

Hudson River Islands State Park

The two components of the park include the 1-mile-long peninsula of Gay's Point and Stockport Middle Ground, a nearby island.

Stockport Landing, Stockport Creek State Wetland Preservation Area

Located in the Town of Stockport.

North Bay Area

Located in the City of Hudson. The site is within walking distance to the Waterfront Park and connects to the Greenport Land Conservancy's trail system.

Waterfront Park

Located in the City of Hudson. The Waterfront Park is located within walking distance of the North Bay Area and nearby Greenport Land Conservancy.

North Germantown Landing

Located in the Town of Germantown.

Potential Sites

Stuyvesant Landing

Located in the Town of Stuyvesant. This potential site currently includes a hand launch and a primitive trailered launch and a small rocky beach. There is a general store nearby, but no other facilities.

Hudson-Athens Lighthouse

Restored and owned by the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse Preservation Society. Visitors can view historical photos and artifacts depicting life on the river and at the lighthouse.

Bike Route 9:

In Columbia County, Bike Route 9 runs from the Rensselaer County line on NY 9J until the US 9 junction in Stuyvesant. Bike Route 9 then continues along US 9 through Columbia County to the Dutchess County line.

**Success Stories: Olana State Historic Site,
Columbia County (Riverside Trail)**

The 5.1 miles of designated Greenway Trail at Olana in Columbia County offers the visitor an ideal blend of recreation, historic preservation, architecture, open space and culture. Olana, the Persian-inspired home of famed Hudson River School painter Frederick Church, has been meticulously restored and the grounds that helped inspire Mr. Church are open for public access. Olana sits across the Hudson River from Cedar Grove, the Thomas Cole National Historic Site, and the designated Greenway Trail at RamsHorn-Livingston Sanctuary. Both Olana and Cedar Grove are key links in the Hudson River School Art Trail, a developing initiative to connect various sites that are recognized for their contribution to this historic school of art.






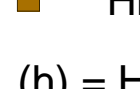

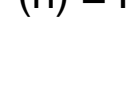
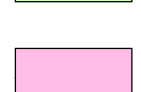
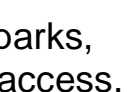




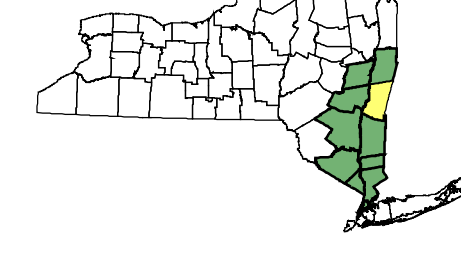
View from Olana.



Banner from the Hudson River Valley Greenway National Heritage Area web site.

Columbia County Greenway Trail Development

-  Designated Greenway Trail
-  Scenic Byway
-  Potential Trail Section
-  Designated Water Trail Site
-  Potential Road Connection
-  Historic Site
-  Undesignated Existing Trail
-  (h) = Hamlet
-  State Land
-  Protected Lands (includes public parks, private protected land with public access, and private protected land without public access)

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Draft - For Planning Purposes Only
 This map is not intended for site-specific work. Information presented has been developed for planning purposes only and requires field verification.

Produced By: NYSDEC, Division of Lands & Forests, GIS Section, May 2004

