

Tourism and Culture

Tourism

Tourism of the County's cultural resources has become an important element in the local economy. The Office of Tourism is responsible for promoting leisure and business travel into the County. The Office of Tourism has a location in White Plains and a Tourism Information Center on the Bronx River Parkway which is open on a seasonal basis.

Westchester contains more than 30 hotels with nearly 5,586 rooms and 3 corporate level conference centers. Several popular conference centers are available – the Dolce Tarrytown House Executive Conference Center and Doral Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center – each with theatre and classroom style meeting facilities, guest rooms, health and athletic conveniences and restaurant/catering amenities. Most hotels offer exercise and fitness centers and are in close proximity to public golf courses and major country clubs.

The Westchester County Center, operated by the County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, has professional business exhibition facilities including a main hall and a major exhibit hall to accommodate trade booths. The County Center, built in the magnificent Art Deco style and completed in 1931, has been expanded from its original size to increase its meeting and exhibit spaces. The facility offers an in-house catering facility and provides state of the art sound and lighting systems.

Westchester's rich cultural heritage is the backdrop for a number of architecturally interesting sites which can provide a unique setting for special events. Reid Castle at Manhattanville College and Lyndhurst in Tarrytown are among some of these outstanding facilities which offer accommodations for parties and group functions.

Culture

Westchester's cultural assets and its historic legacy are dynamically alive today through a rich collection of programs and facilities. The variety of cultural offerings include first class art museums, historical sites and performance theaters. Westchester's history can be relived within the context of its many historic sites. Mansions of earlier centuries can be toured, including Philipse Manor Hall and Van Cortlandt Manor. Famous estates of more recent significance also mark the County's place in history. Among those open to the public are Caramoor and the John D. Rockefeller home, Kykuit.

The County's cultural institutions continue to flourish and enjoy public, private and corporate support by forming partnerships with outside organizations to leverage their investments and facilitate the donations of in-kind contributions. The Westchester Arts Council, created in 1965, brings the arts to everyone, from children to seniors, by successfully coordinating a broad

range of assistance for artists and arts organizations in Westchester County. Among their many services, the Arts Council helps schools to structure their cultural offerings, provides financial support for artists-in-residence programs, offers technical assistance workshops, runs collaborative arts advertisements in the media to increase the visibility of arts offerings, and responds to the demand for cultural information. The Arts Council has also been active in leveraging grants to fund arts organizations and artists committed to broadening the base of cultural education and creating a culture-friendly environment in Westchester County.

Several communities in Westchester have used the arts to enhance and revitalize their downtown by creating artist housing and sponsoring arts activities. There are 16 cultural and performing arts centers in Westchester. The City of Peekskill has encouraged and successfully developed an arts district within its downtown area. A number of “new media” firms have been attracted to this area where a satellite campus of Westchester Community College that concentrates on traditional graphics and digital arts programs has been established. In White Plains, the Westchester Arts Council operates “The Arts Exchange” that features gallery series and rotating exhibits. Also located in White Plains is the White Plains Performing Arts Center which offers popular musicals, concerts and plays.

Further information on travel, accommodations, or tourism activities can be supplied by contacting the Westchester County Office of Tourism at (800) 833-9282 or (914) 995-8500. The Tourism website, www.westchestertourism.com, contains comprehensive information as well.

Economic Value

Offering some of the finest accommodations and scenic historical and cultural attractions in the tri-state area, tourism in Westchester is a revenue-producing industry that benefits the County’s businesses and residents. The industry consists of many diversified businesses of varying sizes which service and derive income from the leisure business and convention traveler. In 2006, Westchester had almost 1,600 businesses and nearly 23,000 employees in industries directly related to tourism, generating almost \$600 million in payroll. Hotel revenues have grown steadily in recent years reaching \$217 million in 2007. Associated expenditures at restaurants and retail establishments as well as tax revenues also grew as a result of this increase in visitors. Special events such as the Caramoor International Music Festival held in Westchester County generate considerable income for tourism and related industries.

Westchester’s cultural endeavors also contribute to its economic vitality. The 2007 Annual Report of the Westchester County Office of Tourism detailed the economic and financial impacts of arts and culture. Visitors spent an estimated \$1.48 billion within Westchester County during 2006 generating more than \$45.7 million in County tax revenue and \$59 million in State taxes. Westchester County represented nearly 53 percent of the Hudson Valley’s regional tourism sales with over \$2.9 billion in visitor drive expenditures. In 2007, the Westchester County travel/tourism industry generated in excess of \$1.58 billion in economic activity and direct visitor spending throughout the County. The report details how the arts not only enriches the lives of residents, but also generates multiple returns that stimulate economic activity throughout the County.

**Selected Major Cultural Sites
Westchester County, NY**

Cultural Site	Location
Bedford Historic Society Museum	Route 22, Bedford
Capitol Theatre	149 Westchester Ave., Port Chester
Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts	Girdle Ridge Road, Katonah
Castle Gallery/College of New Rochelle	Castle Place, New Rochelle
Emelin Theatre	Library Lane, Mamaroneck
Hammond Museum and Japanese Stroll Garden	Deveau Road, North Salem
Hudson River Museum/Andrus Space Planetarium	Warburton Avenue, Yonkers
Irvington Town Hall Theatre	Main Street, Irvington
Katonah Museum of Art	Bedford Road, Katonah
Kendall Sculpture Gardens/Pepsico Inc.	Anderson Hill Road, Purchase
Neuberger Museum/SUNY Purchase	Anderson Hill Road, Purchase
Northern Westchester Center for the Arts	North Bedford Road, Mt. Kisco
Ossining Historical Society Museum	Croton Ave., Ossining
Ossining Urban Cultural Park Museum	Broadway, Ossining
Paramount Center for the Arts	Brown Street, Peekskill
Peekskill Museum	Union Ave., Peekskill
Pelham Art Center	Fifth Ave., Pelham
Performing Arts Center/Purchase College	Anderson Hill Road, Purchase
Tarrytown Music Hall	Main Street, Tarrytown
Square House Museum	Purchase Street, Rye
Thomas Paine Cottage/Museum	North Avenue, New Rochelle
Town of Yorktown Museum	Commerce Street, Yorktown Heights
Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Lasdon Park and Arboretum	Route 35, Somers
Westchester Broadway Dinner Theater	Clearbrook Road, Elmsford
Westchester County Airport Tower Museum	County Airport, White Plains
Westchester County Center	Bronx River Parkway, White Plains
Westchester Holocaust Memorial	Martine Avenue, White Plains

Historic Preservation

Westchester County is rich with the tangible evidence of its three hundred-plus year history. Awareness of the presence of architecturally and historically significant buildings, streetscapes and landscapes has been enhanced through the efforts of the Westchester County Historical Society and the County's numerous local historical societies. The archives of these organizations serve as a valuable resource in the recognition, management and maintenance of the historic resources in Westchester.

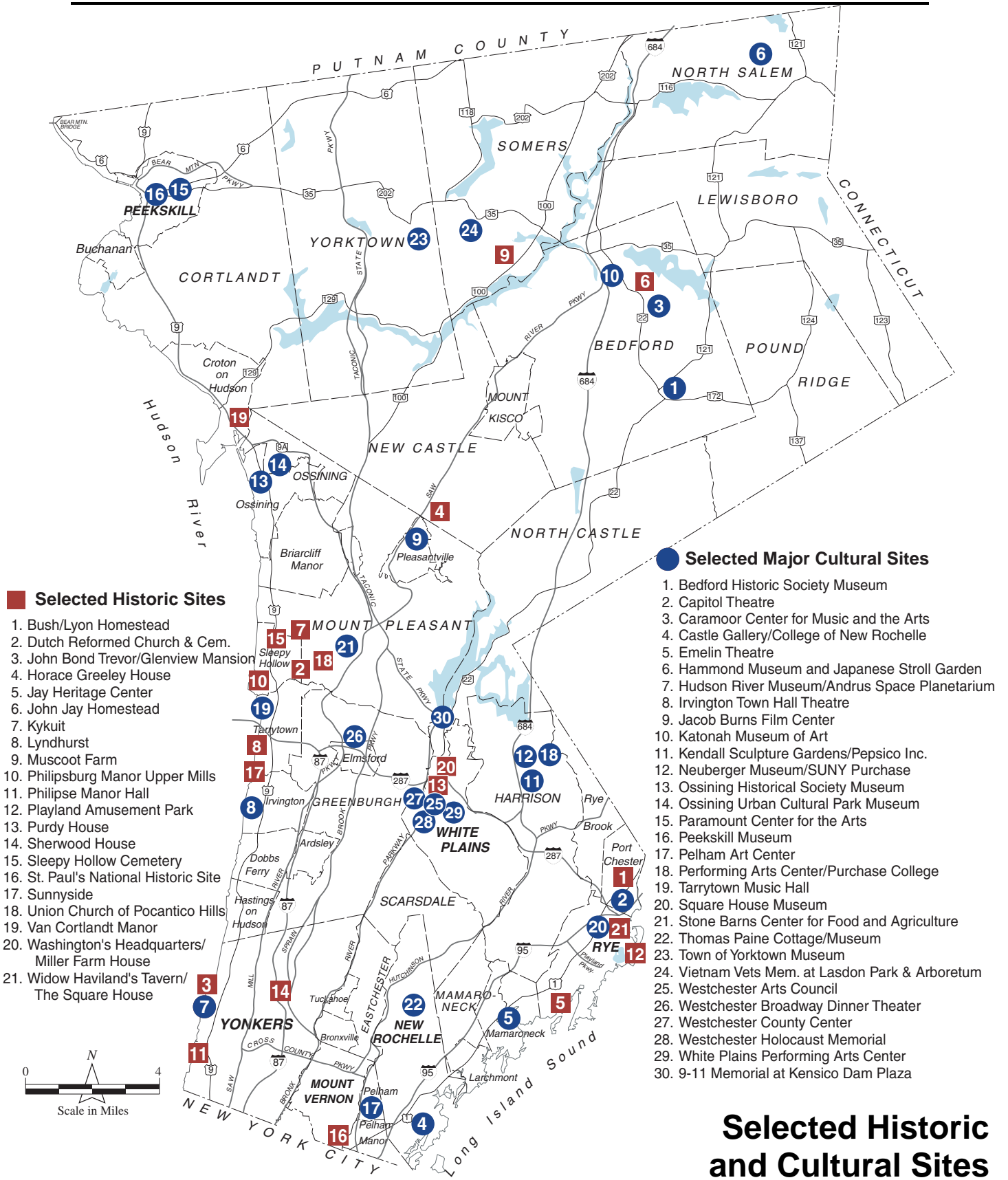
Tools, techniques and methods by which preservation can be complementary to and integrated with general community concerns such as economic development and business district revitalization are becoming increasingly familiar to both property owners and municipal planning and preservation boards. Many of these preservation concepts have been the focus of conferences and workshop sponsored by such groups as the Westchester County Historical Preservation Advisory Committee, the Historic Hudson River Towns of Westchester, Historic Hudson Valley, the Preservation League of New York State, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

At the federal level there are two forms of official recognition for sites that meet specific criteria of significance: National Historic Landmark (NHL) designation or listing on the National Register of Historic Places. In Westchester there are currently 16 NHL sites and 196 sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places. All of these are also listed on the New York State Register of Historic Places, which has criteria similar to the national programs. Listing of a site on the State Register is mandatory before a federal level recognition can be granted.

County recognition of historic resources is given by their listing on the Westchester County Inventory of Historic Places. On the local level, 16 Westchester communities have passed some form of protection for resources deemed by the municipality in which they are located to be significant and worthy of preservation. Municipalities with active, government-appointed, preservation oriented groups separate from other boards or commissions include Bedford, Katonah, Mamaroneck, New Rochelle, North Castle, North Salem, Ossining Village, Peekskill, Pound Ridge, Rye City, Yonkers and Yorktown. The Villages of Pleasantville and Scarsdale and the Town of Somers utilize zoning techniques that have historic preservation as a goal but have no separate administering group. One of the county's earliest historic preservation ordinances, in the Village of Tarrytown, is administered by that village's Board of Architectural Review.

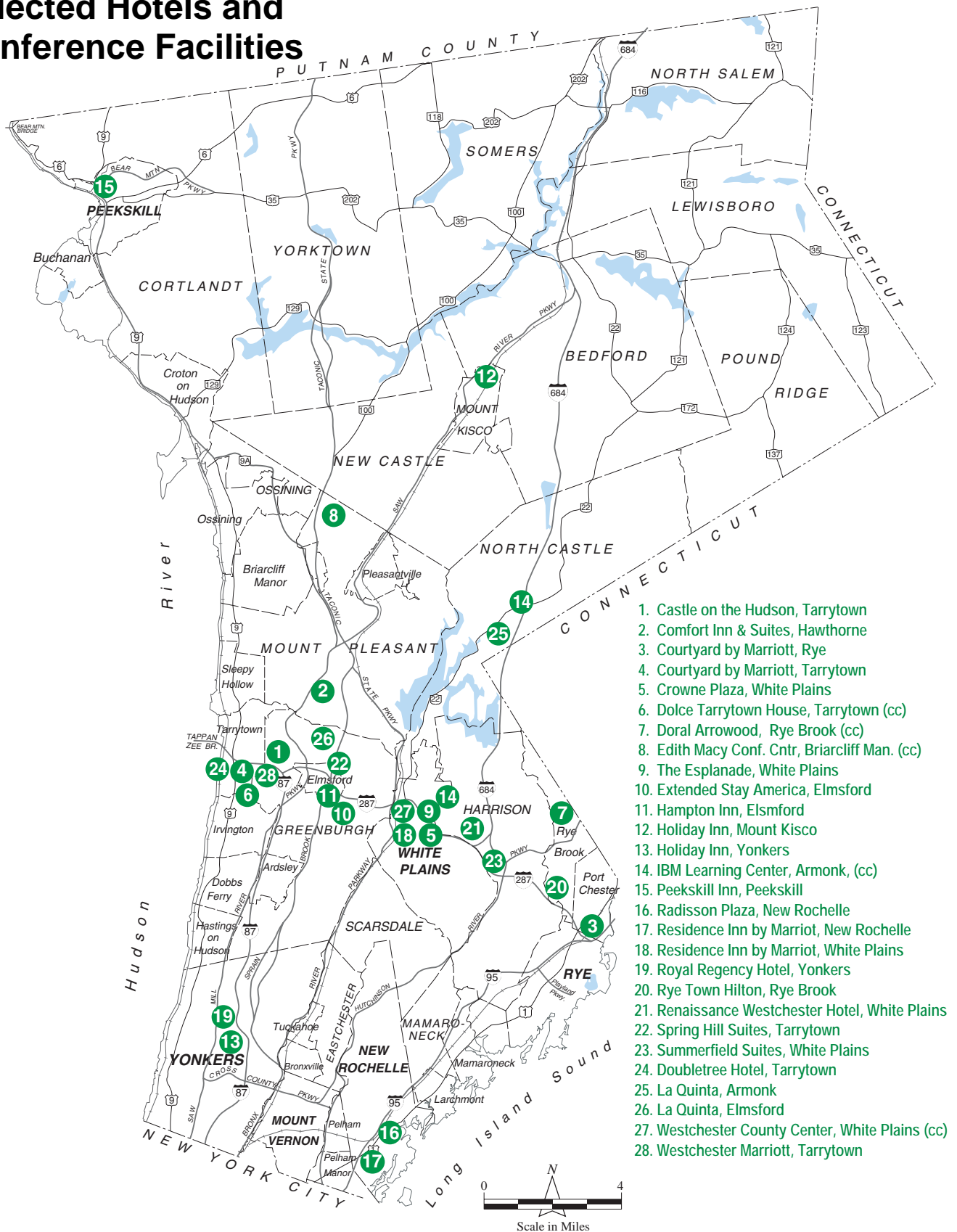
**Selected Sites of Historic Significance
Westchester County, NY**

Historic Site	Location
Bush/Lyon Homestead	King Street, Port Chester
Dutch Reformed Church & Cemetery	Route 9, Sleepy Hollow
John Bond Trevor/Glenview Mansion	Warburton Avenue, Yonkers
Boston Post Road Historic District	Boston Post Road, Rye
Good Counsel Complex	North Broadway, White Plains
Horace Greeley House	King Street, New Castle
John Jay Homestead	Route 22, Bedford
Kykuit	Route 448, Sleepy Hollow
Lyndhurst	South Broadway, Tarrytown
Mapleton	North Broadway, White Plains
Muscot Farm	Route 100, Somers
Philipsburg Manor Upper Mills	Route 9, Sleepy Hollow
Philipse Manor Hall	Warburton Avenue, Yonkers
Playland Amusement Park	Playland Parkway, Rye
Purdy House	Park Avenue, White Plains
Sherwood House	Tuckahoe Road, Yonkers
Sleepy Hollow Cemetery	Route 9, Sleepy Hollow
St. Paul's National Historic Site	South Columbus Avenue, Mt. Vernon
Sunnyside	South Broadway, Tarrytown
Union Church of Pocantico Hills	Bedford Road, Mt. Pleasant
Van Cortlandt Manor	South Riverside Avenue, Croton
Washington's Headquarters/Miller Farm House	Virginia Road, White Plains
Widow Haviland's Tavern/The Square House	Purchase Street, Rye



Selected Historic and Cultural Sites

Selected Hotels and Conference Facilities



1. Castle on the Hudson, Tarrytown
2. Comfort Inn & Suites, Hawthorne
3. Courtyard by Marriott, Rye
4. Courtyard by Marriott, Tarrytown
5. Crowne Plaza, White Plains
6. Dolce Tarrytown House, Tarrytown (cc)
7. Doral Arrowood, Rye Brook (cc)
8. Edith Macy Conf. Cntr, Briarcliff Man. (cc)
9. The Esplanade, White Plains
10. Extended Stay America, Elmsford
11. Hampton Inn, Elmsford
12. Holiday Inn, Mount Kisco
13. Holiday Inn, Yonkers
14. IBM Learning Center, Armonk, (cc)
15. Peekskill Inn, Peekskill
16. Radisson Plaza, New Rochelle
17. Residence Inn by Marriot, New Rochelle
18. Residence Inn by Marriot, White Plains
19. Royal Regency Hotel, Yonkers
20. Rye Town Hilton, Rye Brook
21. Renaissance Westchester Hotel, White Plains
22. Spring Hill Suites, Tarrytown
23. Summerfield Suites, White Plains
24. Doubletree Hotel, Tarrytown
25. La Quinta, Armonk
26. La Quinta, Elmsford
27. Westchester County Center, White Plains (cc)
28. Westchester Marriott, Tarrytown

**Selected Hotels
Westchester County, NY**

	Location	Phone Number	Number of Rooms	Number of Meeting Rooms
Armonk	IBM Learning Center - Dolce	(845) 732-6000	182	13
	La Quinta Inn & Suites	273-9090	140	5
Briarcliff Manor	Edith Macy Conference Center	945-8097	52	9
Elmsford	Extended Stay America	347-8073	136	0
	Hampton Inn	592-5680	156	3
	La Quinta Inn & Suites	592-3300	101	6
Hawthorne	Comfort Inn & Suites	592-8600	86	2
Mount Kisco	Holiday Inn - Mount Kisco	241-2600	122	4
New Rochelle	Radisson	576-3700	130	3
	Residence Inn	509-7840	124	6
Peekskill	Peekskill Inn	739-1500	53	0
Rye	Courtyard by Marriott	921-1110	145	2
Rye Brook	Doral Arrowwood	939-5500	373	32
	Hilton Rye Town	939-6300	446	17
Tarrytown	The Castle on the Hudson	524-6366	31	4
	Courtyard by Marriott	631-1122	139	2
	Doubletree Hotel	631-5700	247	17
	Sheraton Tarrytown	332-7900	150	3
	SpringHill Suites by Marriott	366-4600	145	2
	Tarrytown House Estate & Conference Center	591-3104	212	10
	Westchester Marriott	631-2200	444	24
White Plains	Crowne Plaza	821-1335	402	11
	Esplanade	761-8100	87	4
	Hyatt Summerfield Suites	251-9700	159	3
	Renaissance Westchester	694-5400	347	26
	Residence Inn	761-7700	134	2
	Ritz-Carlton	946-5500	118	11
Yonkers	Ramada Inn	476-3800	103	3
	Royal Regency	476-6200	92	4

Conference Centers Westchester County, NY

	Phone	Location	Number of Guest Rooms	Number of Conference Rooms
Doral Arrowwood	939-5500	Rye Brook	373	32
Edith Macy Conference Center	945-8097	Briarcliff Manor	52	9
IBM Learning Center	499-2000	Armonk	182	13
Tarrytown House Estate & Conference Center	591-8200	Tarrytown	212	10
Westchester County Center	995-4050	White Plains	0	10

Unique Spaces & Places Sites

	Phone	Location	Number of Guests Accommodated
Abigail Kirsch	631-3030	Tarrytown	500
The Capitol Theatre	934-9362	Port Chester	1,800
Caramoor Center for Music & the Arts	232-5035	Katonah	1,000
The C.V. Rich Mansion	949-3543	White Plains	250
Estherwood Mansion	693-3322	Dobbs Ferry	200
Glen Island Harbour Club	636-6500	New Rochelle	500
Hammond Museum & Japanese Stroll Garden	669-5033	North Salem	135+
Hudson River Museum	962-4550	Yonkers	200
The James House Mansion	366-3178	Sleepy Hollow	175
Lyndhurst	524-7900	Tarrytown	350
Marymount College	631-3200	Tarrytown	250
Monteverde at Oldstone Manor	739-5000	Cortlandt Manor	300
MYO Wine	741-5425	Elmsford	200
Neuberger Museum of Art	251-6100	Purchase	300
The Paramount Center for the Arts	739-2333	Peekskill	1,000
The Performing Arts Center	251-6222	Purchase	1,300+
Playland Park	813-7016	Rye	10,000
Reid Castle, Manhattanville College	694-2200	Purchase	300
The Surf Club	633-8221	New Rochelle	700
VIP Country Club	235-1500	New Rochelle	1,000
Wainwright House	967-6080	Rye	110+
Westchester County Center	995-4050	White Plains	4,375
White Plains Performing Arts Center	328-1600	White Plains	410
Women's Club of White Plains	948-0958	White Plains	200
Yonkers Raceway	467-2612	Yonkers	300

**Performance Theaters, 2008
Westchester County, NY**

City	Theater Name	Address	Telephone
Ardsley	Actors Conservatory Theatre	10 Colony	693-3903
Bedford Hills	All for the Arts	317 Railroad Avenue	666-8700
Briarcliff Manor	Choral Arts Society Hudson Stage Co.	627 Scarborough Rd. 235 Elm Rd.	428-4183 271-2811
Buchanan	Hand-to-Mouth Players	183 Tate Ave.	734-4336
Chappaqua	Chappaqua Orchestra Saw Mill Summer Theatre	PO Box 461 195 South Greeley Ave.	921-4642 962-0277
Croton Falls	The School House	3 Owens Road	277-8477
Dobbs Ferry	Red Monkey Theater Group	343 Broadway	693-1646
Elmsford	Interactive Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre Westchester Broadway Dinner Theater	35 Valley Avenue 1 Broadway Plaza	1-800-383-6080 592-2222
Irvington	Irvington Town Hall Theatre	85 Main Street	591-6602
Katonah	Caramoor Center for Music and Arts	149 Girdle Ridge Road	232-5035
Mamaroneck	Emelin Theatre	153 Library Lane	698-0098
Mount Kisco	Mount Kisco Concert Association Mount Kisco Theatre Northern Westchester Center for the Arts	34 Lakeside Rd. 150 West Main St. 272 North Bedford Road	666-9181 666-6900 241-6922
Mount Vernon	Mount Vernon Fine Arts Center Westchester Hudson Opera Co	250 South Sixth Avenue 25-35 Beechwood Ave	665-4060
New Rochelle	Fleetwood Stage Playhouse	44 Wildcliff Drive	654-8533
Peekskill	Paramount Center for the Arts	1008 Brown Street	739-2333
Pleasantville	Westchester Concert Singers	PO Box 178	769-2314
Port Chester	The Capitol Theatre	149 Westchester Ave	934-9362
Pound Ridge	Pound Ridge Theatre	179 Westchester Avenue	764-1902
Purchase	Performing Arts Center/Purchase	735 Anderson Hill Road	251-6200
Scarsdale	New Choral Society	6 Greenacres Avenue	668-0814
Shrub Oak	Yorktown Theatre Company	3892 Indian Hill Road	765-3721

Performance Theaters, 2008 (continued)
Westchester County, NY

City	Theater Name	Address	Telephone
Tarrytown	Tarrytown Music Hall	13 Main Street	631-3390
White Plains	Fort Hill Players	PO Box 427	309-7278
	PGTheatre	200 Hamilton Avenue	946-4433
	The Street Theatre Inc	228 Fisher Avenue	923-8157
	Westchester Philharmonic	123 Main Street	682-3707
	White Plains Performing Arts Center	19 Mamaroneck Avenue	747-6000
Yonkers	Asbury Summer Theater Inc	167 Scarsdale Road	961-6968
	Actors Conservatory Theatre	20 Buckingham Rd.	391-6558
	Philipsburgh Performing Arts Center	2-8 Hudson Street	964-8977
	Piper Theatre Productions	PO Box 1274	968-4248
Yorktown Heights	Axial Theatre	1305 White Hill Road	962-8828
	Contemporary Theatre Arts Workshop Inc.		273-3838
	Linda Duci Dance Ensemble	Jefferson Valley Industrial Park	245-8606
	Yorktown Performing Arts Center	1974 Commerce Street	962-2842

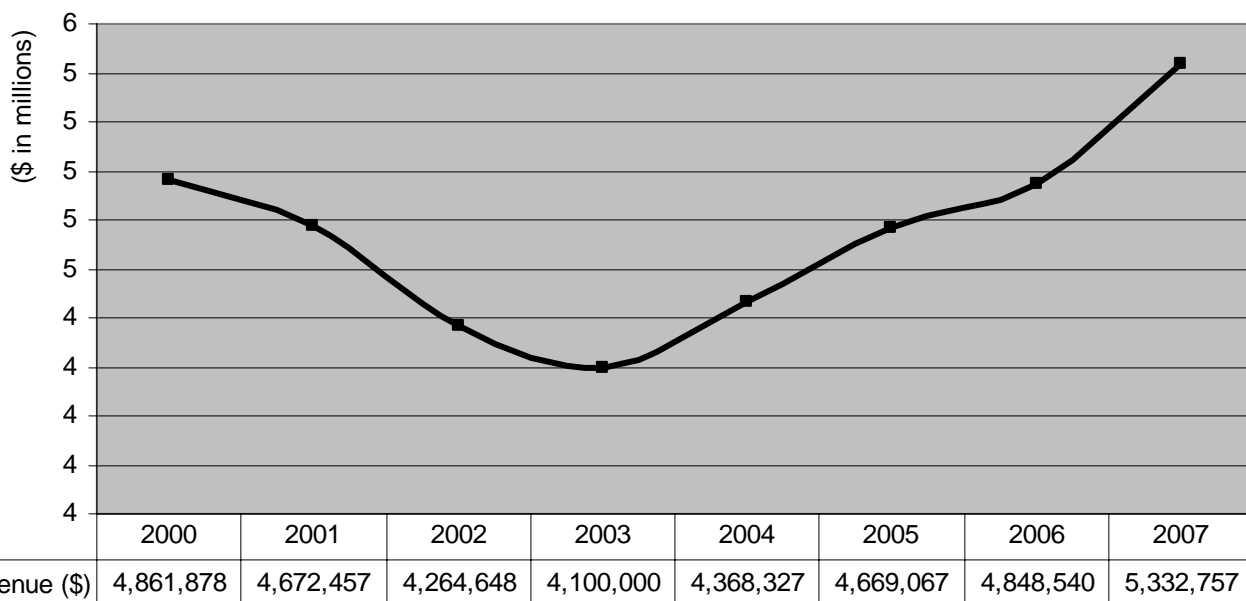
Source: Westchester County Department of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and the Westchester County Department of Planning, 2008.

Annual Taxable Sales in Key Tourism-Related Industries, 2003-2006 Westchester County, NY

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Accommodation	185,584,924	195,372,199	205,218,287	172,575,796
Food Services	886,197,735	912,205,148	963,935,421	1,020,261,833
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	330,290,243	356,856,437	354,153,945	368,302,376

Source: New York State Department of Taxation & Finance. Prepared by the Westchester County Department of Planning.

Hotel Tax Revenues, 2000-2007 Westchester County, NY



Tourism-Related Business Establishments, 2006 Westchester County, NY

2002 NAICS code	Meaning of 2002 NAICS code	Number of establishments	Number of employees	Annual payroll (\$1,000)
481111	Scheduled passenger air transportation	8	e	D
5615	Travel arrangement & reservation services	131	1,354	93,937
7111	Performing arts companies	54	449	14,292
7112	Spectator sports	11	86	5,716
712	Museums, historical sites, & similar institutions	29	365	9,006
713	Amusement, gambling, & recreation industries	340	6,455	187,986
7211	Traveler accommodation	45	2,689	76,101
7212	RV (recreational vehicle) parks & recreational camps	16	c	D
7221	Full-service restaurants	872	10,827	199,792
7224	Drinking places (alcoholic beverages)	90	368	5,626
Total		1,596	22,943*	592,456

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Prepared by the Westchester County Department of Planning.

Notes: c = The number of employees is between 100 and 249.

e = The number of employees is between 250 and 499.

D = Payroll data withheld to protect the privacy of business establishments.

* The number of employees is adjusted to include minimum possible number of employees in categories for which data is not specifically available.

