

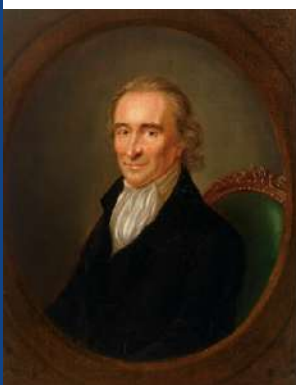


**The American Society of
Le Souvenir Français Inc.
Monthly Bulletin - Vol. VI, No. 5
May 2026**

America250
Part of a series

Founding Fathers in France

**Benjamin Franklin
Thomas Jefferson
John Adams
John Jay
James Monroe
Gouverneur Morris
Thomas Paine
Robert R. Livingston
*and other Revolutionary War figures***



Cover illustration, left to right:
Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, John Jay, Gouverneur Morris, James Monroe, Thomas Paine, Robert R. Livingston, John Armstrong, Jr., and Joel Barlow. Although the last two were not Founding Fathers, discover what connects them in the pages below.
They all lived in Paris. Three of them, Adams, Jefferson and Monroe, became the 2nd, 3rd and 5th Presidents of the United States.

Editorial

After our January Bulletin on the role of France in covertly helping the Insurgents from 1775 until the Declaration of Independence, and our March Bulletin narrating the evolution of George Washington's sentiments towards the French, we resume our series on America250 with portraits of several Founding Fathers and their ties to France:

- **Benjamin Franklin**, the first US Ambassador ever, and the promoter of the French Alliance, beloved — we could even say adored — by the French.
- **Thomas Jefferson**, whose famous quote "Every man has two countries: his own and France" is widely attributed to him, even though he never framed it in these terms - - still definitely the most francophile of US Presidents.
- Other Founding Fathers who were Minister Plenipotentiary (ambassador) in France: **John Adams** and **James Monroe** (who went on to become President of the United States), **Gouverneur Morris**, **Thomas Paine** and **Robert R. Livingston**.
- **John Jay** was like John Adams rather hostile to France. For good measure, we add to them **John Armstrong, Jr.** and **Joel Barlow**, two Revolutionary War figures, both francophile diplomats who deserve to be remembered from that very special era.

When in Paris this summer, you should revisit all these sites frequented by these early envoys, several of which have not changed much since then!

In the coming months of this special year America250, we will return to paying tribute to several French early volunteers in the Continental Army who played a significant role in the early years of the American Revolution, before France's formal entry into war on the side of the United States.

One of them, Artillery **Capt. Louis d'Ohicky Arundel**, is considered the very first French volunteer officer killed for American independence. We will pay tribute to him next month, as we announce - Save the Date! - the dedication of a bronze plaque at Gwynn's Island, Virginia, co-signed with our friends and partners of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution: July 9, 2026, exactly 250 years to the day after the battle of Cricket Hill.

Part Two of this Bulletin continues our tradition of honoring a particular American volunteer who, conversely, fought and died for France some 142 years later. This month we will honor Corporal **Charles Louis Trinkard**, "Mort pour la France" on Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1917 near Manonville, Département de la Meurthe-et-Moselle, Lorraine, France.

Part Three of this Bulletin lists several **News and Save the Dates**. As you will see, there are several exciting celebrations and ceremonies coming up, and you are all cordially invited to attend.

Thank you for your loyalty and continued support,

On behalf of the Board of Directors,
Thierry Chaunu
President, The American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc.
Délégué Général du Souvenir Français pour les Etats-Unis.

American Francophilia
From 1776 onward

Benjamin Franklin
Founding Father
Minister Plenipotentiary (1776-1785)
First U.S. Diplomat



Above:

Benjamin Franklin's reception at the Court of France in 1778, by Anton Hohenstein (born ca. 1823 - 1909)
United States Library of Congress's Prints and Photographs division, Public Domain,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5863964>

Franklin, the first U.S. Ambassador in history

- **Born in Boston on January 17, 1706**, the fifteenth of seventeen children, **Benjamin Franklin** rose from humble origins to become one of history's most versatile minds. Self-educated beyond the age of ten, he became a printer, writer, and publisher — founding the *Pennsylvania Gazette* and authoring the beloved *Poor Richard's Almanack*. His wit, industry, and insatiable curiosity set him apart from the very beginning.

- **Scientist, Inventor & Philosopher**

Franklin's scientific contributions were groundbreaking. His famous kite-and-key experiments in the 1750s demonstrated the electrical nature of lightning, leading to his invention of the lightning rod — adopted worldwide and earning him international fame. He also invented bifocal glasses, the Franklin stove, and the flexible urinary catheter, and mapped the Gulf Stream. These achievements made him a celebrated fellow of the Royal Society of London and — crucially — a scientific celebrity in France, where the *Académie Royale des Sciences* showered him with honors.

- **American Founding Father**

Franklin was one of the most active Founding Fathers of the United States. He was the *only* leader to sign all four foundational documents of the new republic: the **Declaration of Independence**, the **Treaty of Alliance with France**, the **Treaty of Paris**, and the **U.S. Constitution**. He served as the first Postmaster General, founded the first public lending library in America, and helped establish what would become the University of Pennsylvania.

A Special Bond with France

- **Franklin's relationship with France was the most consequential diplomatic friendship in early American history.**

Arriving in Paris in December 1776 as America's first official ambassador (actually, his title was Minister Plenipotentiary), the 70-year-old Franklin, who was already quite famous in France, became an instant sensation. He shrewdly cultivated his image as a plain-spoken "natural philosopher" from the New World, donning a simple fur cap instead of a powdered wig — a gesture that charmed Parisian society utterly.

- Most critically, Franklin secured the French military alliance of February 6, 1778, which provided America with the ships, troops, funds, and strategic support without which independence could not have been achieved, and by which France, first of all nations, formally recognized the United States as an independent nation.

- Louis XVI received Franklin in person at Versailles on March 20, 1778. When the King assured Congress of his friendship, Franklin replied: "*Your Majesty can count on the gratitude of Congress and on its faithfulness to the commitments it makes.*" The exchange was recorded by eyewitness the Duc de Croÿ, and is preserved in the Papers of Benjamin Franklin (Yale University Press).

- After the French-American victory at Yorktown in 1781, he negotiated the landmark Treaty of Paris (1783), formally ending the Revolutionary War.

- Franklin spent nearly nine years in France — longer than any other Founding Father — and openly declared his affection, in a letter to his old sea captain friend Nathaniel Falconer, dated July 28, 1783, from Passy:

*"The French are an amiable People to live with: They love me, & I love them" **

- The National Assembly of France went into mourning upon his death in 1790, a tribute paid to no other foreigner of his era, until George Washington's death in 1799 and the ensuing official days of national mourning in France.

*Note: * Franklin loved France deeply, yet never stopped longing for home. He added: "Yet I do not feel my self at home, & I wish to die in my own Country."*

"Le Bonhomme Richard"



Above:

Left: This early portrait by John Trumbull reproduces a 1777 French engraving and was one of his first efforts to record American history. It depicts Benjamin Franklin in his trademark fur cap and modest homespun suit, which he adopted as emblems of American identity when he traveled to Paris in late 1776. Oil on wood, Yale University Gallery, <https://artgallery.yale.edu/collections/objects/51661>

Right: Suit, Benjamin Franklin, with his unadorned clothes and speech, and his fur cap, quick wit, and humble charm, came to symbolize for many what it meant to be an American during the Revolutionary War. Franklin stood out at the court of Louis XVI with plain clothing such as this silk suit. American History Museum, Smithsonian, <https://www.si.edu/newsdesk/photos/benjamin-franklins-suit-1778>

In December 1776, almost six months after the Thirteen Colonies declared independence from British rule, 70-year-old Benjamin Franklin arrived in France with his two grandsons, 16-year-old William Temple Franklin and 7-year-old Benjamin Franklin Bache.

- Franklin was not the first American delegate to go to Versailles to seek France's support in the new nation's war against Britain (Lawyer Silas Deane had reached Paris on July 7, 1776 as we narrated in our January 2026

Bulletin). However, over the next eight and a half years, he was the one who secured financial and military backing from the European country. Without Franklin and the connections he built with the French foreign minister Vergennes, France would not have supported the American war effort as strongly, and Britain might have won the war.

Benjamin Franklin was extremely popular in Paris during his stay there from 1776 to 1785 as the American ambassador seeking French support for the Revolutionary War. His popularity was due to several reasons:

- Franklin was already well-known throughout Europe for his electrical experiments and inventions. The French intellectual elite viewed him as a symbol of Enlightenment ideals: reason, progress, and the practical use of knowledge.
- Franklin skillfully emphasized his "simple American" persona, donning a fur cap and plain clothing instead of the powdered wigs and elaborate attire of French courtiers. This made him appear as a virtuous man of nature and republican simplicity, which intrigued Parisians who were becoming more critical of aristocratic extravagance.
- The whole of France experienced "**Franklinmania**": his likeness was everywhere - on snuffboxes, medallions, rings, prints, and even chamber pots, in castles as well as in modest farms!

One observer remarked that you "*could find Franklin's face on almost every mantelpiece in Paris*".

He was surrounded by crowds eager to see him, and ladies of the court vied for his attention at social events.

When he successfully negotiated the important French alliance in 1778, he became even more of a hero, regarded as the wise philosopher who had united enlightened monarchy and republican virtue.

Just as Lafayette is still very rightly revered in the United States, the positive public perception of Benjamin Franklin, also known as "*Le Bonhomme Richard*", as a righteous, virtuous, simple-mannered man very much remains the common perception in France today.

A born charmer... ... easily charmed by French ladies



Above:

Left: Anne-Catherine de Ligniville Helvétius By Louis-Michel van Loo, Collection of J. Pierpont Morgan at Princes Gate & Dover House in London, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=49224368>

Right: Portrait of Anne Louise Brillon de Jouy (presumed) painted by Jean-Honoré Fragonard, Musée du Louvre, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=37063731>

Conversely, Benjamin Franklin had a very positive view of France and its people, showing great admiration for their politeness, civility, and intellectual culture. He frequently used his experiences in France to point out what he perceived as the rudeness of English society at that time.

On French Character and Politeness:

Franklin was deeply impressed by the respect and courtesy shown to strangers in France. To wit:

- *"The Civilities we every where receive give us the strongest Impressions of the French Politeness. It seems to be a Point settled here universally that Strangers are to be treated with Respect..."*

— Letter to Mary Stevenson, September 14, 1767.

- *"Why don't we practise this Urbanity to Frenchmen? Why should they be allow'd to out-do us in any thing?"*

— Letter to Mary Stevenson, September 14, 1767.

- Twelve years later, he wrote: *"The French ladies had a thousand other ways of rendering themselves agreeable by their various attentions and civilities, and their sensible conversation. Tis a delightful people to live with."*

— Benjamin Franklin to Elizabeth Partridge (his niece), on October 11, 1779.

- Franklin was genuinely charismatic, spoke fairly good French with a charming American accent, and became a regular in the salons of Paris.
- He was adored by influential French women of high society, especially Madame Brillon and Madame Helvétius, with whom he exchanged flirtatious letters...

Madame Helvétius: Franklin famously (and unsuccessfully) proposed marriage to the widow Anne-Catherine Helvétius. In a playful letter titled *The Elysian Fields*, he wrote of dreaming that their deceased spouses had already married each other in heaven, so they should "avenge" them by marrying on Earth.

Madame Brillon de Jouy: A neighbor in Passy, she was one of his closest companions. Franklin wrote to her about the "pleasures of that place" and their shared intellectual games like chess. He once described the French people to her as: *"Tis a delightful People to live with... the French Ladies have 1000 other ways of rendering themselves agreeable by their various Attentions and Civilities."*

Enlightenment & Masonic Lodge:

La loge des Neuf Sœurs and its support for the American republic



Above:

A token engraved by Bernier and struck in 1783 by the “Les Neuf Soeurs” lodge in honor of Benjamin Franklin, Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America and former Worshipful Master of the lodge, on the occasion of peace in America. The Muses are at work around a temple perched on a rocky hill, beneath the motto “From their labors shall spring their glory.” The reverse side features a portrait of Benjamin Franklin. “From their labors shall spring their glory.”

Reverse of a token from the “Les Neuf Soeurs” lodge bearing the image of Benjamin Franklin (1783).

By François Bernier (b. Poitiers, France, 1737 - 1797?), Public Domain

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=2566543>

Franklin’s involvement with the **Loge des Neuf Sœurs** (Lodge of the Nine Sisters) in Paris was a masterstroke of networking. This was not just a fraternal club; it was an elite "think tank" of the French Enlightenment, and it is almost certainly where he solidified his relationship with the sculptor Jean-Antoine Houdon.

The Hub of Enlightenment Influence:

- The lodge, established in 1776, was designed to bring together the greatest minds in the arts and sciences. Members included Voltaire, the astronomer Lalande, and the legal reformer Brissot.

Franklin was elected Vénérable (Worshipful Master) of the lodge in 1779 and served until 1781. Under his leadership, the lodge became a primary engine for pro-American sentiment in Paris.

- As a side note, **John Paul Jones**, aka the "Father of the American Navy" applied to affiliate with the lodge on August 16, 1779, and was formally received into membership during a festival on May 1, 1780. In 1779 Jones took command of the 42-gun *USS Bonhomme Richard*, a merchant ship rebuilt and given to America by -- who else? French financier (and shipping magnate) *Jacques-Donatien Le Ray de Chaumont*. The name was chosen by John Paul Jones as a tribute to his friend Benjamin Franklin.

The Houdon Connection:

- Houdon was a fellow member of the Nine Sisters. It was within this specific environment of "fraternal equality" that he sculpted Franklin's bust. Because they were "brothers," Houdon was able to capture the informal, relaxed, and "sly" essence of Franklin that a formal state commission might have lacked.

Freemasonry as "Soft Power":

Franklin used his Masonic ties to bypass the stiff protocols of the royal court.

- The lodge provided a safe space to meet with French military officers and financiers who were sympathetic to the American cause but couldn't yet support it openly.
- The symbols of the lodge—emphasizing reason, liberty, and the "Nine Muses"—deeply influenced the **Libertas Americana** medal and early American icons that Franklin and his lodge brothers (like Houdon and Dupré) created together.

Closer to home, one can read a mention of the French Masonic lodge in Philadelphia:



Above:
Sculpture and Plaque, «The Bond», One N Broad St, Philadelphia PA 19107
GPS: [39.953467](#), [-75.163150](#) Photos: TC © ASSFI 2025

The "Marie Antoinette" Legend vs. Reality:

- For over a century, stories circulated that the Queen of France personally embroidered a silk apron for Franklin as a secret tribute to their shared Enlightenment ideals. The apron was actually a gift from Madame Helvétius (Anne-Catherine de Ligniville), one of Franklin's closest friends and the woman to whom he famously proposed marriage. It was presented to him at the Lodge of the Nine Sisters during a ceremony honoring his service as Worshipful Master.
- The Queen was captivated by Franklin's scientific fame and one of his creations, the Glass Armonica. When she was a young princess in Vienna, Marie Antoinette was so fascinated by public shows featuring the armonica that she decided to learn to play it herself. Following Franklin's arrival in Paris, he is said to have played for her at exclusive events, including at the Petit Trianon, her personal retreat at Versailles.

The Famous "Lafayette-Franklin" Apron:

- While the Queen's role is likely mythical, there is a famous "Alliance Apron" closely associated with this circle. Made of white silk, it features the intertwined flags of France and the United States, surrounded by Masonic symbols like the square, compass, and the "All-Seeing Eye."
- The Marquis de Lafayette—who was also a member of the Nine Sisters—commissioned a similar apron to be made by his wife, Adrienne de La Fayette, for George Washington. Washington's version is one of the most prized possessions at Mount Vernon.

Sculpture and Plaque, «The Bond»

One N Broad St, Philadelphia PA 19107

GPS: [39.953467](#), [-75.163150](#)

• Inscription:

"Brother George Washington, Commander in Chief of the Continental Army, first President of the United States, and member of Alexandria Lodge (Fairfax County, Virginia), shows his Masonic Apron to Brother Benjamin Franklin, diplomat who negotiated French involvement in our independence, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Master of the **Loge Les Neuf Soeurs**, in Paris. It was a gift from Brother General Lafayette, member of the Loge Contrat Social of Paris, who represented the French government and their commitment to American independence."

Sculpted by James West and Dedicated to Our Country and Our Brothers

Erected 2017 by Shekinah-Fernwood Lodge, No. 246."

Meeting and Embrace with Voltaire



Above:

While we couldn't find a painting or engraving of that famous scene, we show here another one, depicting "Voltaire blessing Franklin's grandson in the name of God and Liberty", By Pedro Américo (Brazilian, 1843-1905) - Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=22925666>

"Love truth, but pardon error." – Voltaire, *Sept discours en Vers sur l'homme*

- On a Wednesday in April 1778, Benjamin Franklin, at that time a Minister Plenipotentiary to the newly formed United States of America, had dinner with John Adams, the commissioner and the future President of the United States, and both went afterwards to hear a few papers read at the Academy of Sciences, the premier intellectual gathering in Paris. Dubbed *L'ambassador électrique*, Franklin moved among the social circles of Paris with much greater facility than Adams, whose stern republicanism was shocked at the frivolity the French mixed together with the serious affairs of science and diplomacy. Also attending the Academy of Sciences that night was Voltaire, 83, foremost philosopher of the Enlightenment Age.
- The crowd, electrified at the presence of two living legends of among them, began to demand that Franklin and Voltaire be introduced to one another. The two philosophers bowed formally and spoke to one another, but this was no satisfaction to anyone, and served but to increase the clamour of the audience.

- As John Adams dryly noted:

"Neither of our Philosophers seemed to divine what was wished or expected. They however took each other by the hand.... But this was not enough.

The Clamour continued, untill the explanation came out "Il faut s'embrasser, à la françoise." The two Aged Actors upon this great Theatre of Philosophy and frivolity then embraced each other by hugging one another in their Arms and kissing each others cheeks, and then the tumult subsided."

— "Travels, and Negotiations", John Adams diary entry for April 29, 1778.

On Benjamin Franklin's footsteps in Paris





Above:

Top Left: Medallion and inscription on a façade, site of the Hôtel de Valentinois, Paris,

Photo: <https://www.parisology.net/hotel-valentinois-ben-franklin-residence-in-paris>

Top Right: Rue Benjamin Franklin, Paris 16e, Photo: TC © ASSFI 2021

Middle Left: Portrait of US ambassador to France, Benjamin Franklin, in the window of Le Café Procope, 13 rue de l'Ancienne Comédie, Paris (6e) <https://snippetsofparis.com/procope-cafe/>

Middle Right: Plaque is at the back entrance, Cour du Commerce Saint-André, GPS: [48.853090, 2.339074](https://www.google.com/maps/place/48.853090,2.339074), Photo: TC © ASSFI 2019

Bottom Left: Benjamin Franklin (1706–1790) by Jean Antoine Houdon (French, Versailles 1741–1828 Paris) in terracotta and grey marble, dated 1779, Musée du Louvre. An earlier bust in marble dated 1778 can be seen at the Metropolitan Museum of Arts, and other replicas in Philadelphia, Detroit, the Diplomatic Reception Rooms of the U.S. Dept. of State, Washington, etc..

Photo: <https://collections.louvre.fr/ark:/53355/cl010092918>

Bottom Right: Monument to Benjamin Franklin, 1898, bronze, by John J. Boyle (american, 1851-1917), Photo by Remi Jouan, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1182168>

Benjamin Franklin in Paris

- While in Paris, Benjamin Franklin resided at the Hôtel de Valentinois, situated in Passy, then a suburb, now part of the chic 16th arrondissement. This estate was the property of **Jacques-Donatien Le Ray de Chaumont**, a financier who funded the Insurgents, once named a "Father of the American Revolution", yet today very much forgotten, as we narrated in our Bulletin of January 2026. Le Ray de Chaumont befriended Benjamin Franklin, who stayed nine years for free at his fully-staffed Passy estate (which was at the time at the outskirts of Paris along the road to Versailles, and now part of the 16th arrondissement). His estate, called Hôtel de Valentinois, became in effect the first American Embassy.

- As Jefferson later wrote: *"When he left Passy, it seemed as if the village had lost its patriarch."* Paris continues to keep the so-called *"Ambassadeur électrique"* in its heart and honor his memory. In addition to his bronze sculpture and many artifacts presented in museums, a street bears in name near his Parisian residence at Passy, now part of the 16th arrondissement.

- Stacy Schiff's 2005 book, [*A Great Improvisation: Franklin, France and the Birth of America*](#), details the famous polymath's time in France, from his first secret meeting at Versailles in December 1776 to the conclusion of his ambassadorship in May 1785.

Apple TV+ produced an eight-episode limited series inspired by Schiff's biography. The show, named *"Franklin"*, focuses on the main character's "significant efforts to charm, persuade, and trick the French into funding the American Revolution," according to writer and executive producer Howard Korder. Academy Award winner Michael Douglas portrays Franklin, while Noah Jupe plays Temple.

Franklin's tenure in France is frequently ignored, despite being possibly his most significant accomplishment.

“Franklin” aims to rectify that. “We live, unfortunately, in an era now where it’s all about action, force—it’s all about who has the most forceful personality,” says Ellis. “What we forget is that most of what gets done [takes place] behind closed doors by people speaking softly, using words as weapons. And that’s what we wanted to try to convey with this show.”

- During your next trip to Paris, click on the photos above to access a 2 miles walking tour throughout Paris: "*Benjamin Franklin's Paris: A Guide to the Revolutionary's Life in the City*" or click [HERE](#). "By the end of this 45-minute tour, you'll have a greater appreciation for the role of Americans in Paris during the War of Independence which, as you'll see, played out on both sides of the pond."

Building, Site of Hôtel de Valentinois

Angle of rue Raynouard and Rue Singer, 75016 Paris

GPS: [48.854882](#), [2.279492](#)

• **Inscription on the facade (in French):**

“A pavilion belonging to the Hôtel de Valentinois once stood here. From 1777 to 1785, Benjamin Franklin lived here and had the first lightning rod built in France installed on the property. Dedicated by C.L. Charley to the Historical Society of Auteuil and Passy, 1910.”

Statue of Benjamin Franklin

Square de Yorktown, Avenue Paul-Doumer & rue Benjamin Franklin, 75016 Paris

GPS: [48.861780](#), [2.286360](#)

• **Inscription:**

« This genius who frees America and pours torrents of Light over Europe !
The Wise wanted by two worlds... »

**Towering Achievements
From the French-American Alliance (1778)
To the Treaty of Paris (1783)**





Above:

Top Left: This statuette at Musée Carnavalet, Paris, commemorates Benjamin Franklin's meeting with King Louis XVI at Versailles, France, in March 1778. showing Louis XVI handing Franklin the signed treaties between France and the United States of America, 6 February 1778

Inscription in gold letters: "American Independence and Freedom of the Seas" by Charles Gabriel Sauvage, dit Lemire (Lunéville, 1741- Paris, 1827), manufacture de Niderviller (1735-1827), Hard-paste porcelain, made between 1782 and 1785

Photo: TC © ASSFI 2024 at Musée Carnavalet, Paris (there is a replica of this statuette in the Diplomatic Reception Rooms, U.S. Department of State)

Top Right: "Franklin Found by Diogenes", after the painting by d'Estamps, in *The Works of Benjamin Franklin in Twelve Volumes*, Federal Edition

<https://allthingsliberty.com/2024/06/france-pays-tribute-to-benjamin-franklin/>

Middle: Marble plaque located under the arcade, 4-6 Place de la Concorde, 75008 Paris

The formal Treaty of Alliance and the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between France and the United States were signed at the *Hôtel de Coislin* in Paris, February 6, 1778. News of the signature reached the US on May Day, and the treaties were ratified by Congress on May 4, 1778.

Photos: TC © ASSFI 2020

Bottom Left: Plaque at 56, rue Jacob, 75006 Paris, commemorating the site where the Treaty of Paris of 1783 was signed, officially ending the War of American Independence. Photo courtesy of Marc Onetto, March 2026

Bottom Right: The facade of the Hôtel d'York, 56 rue Jacob (plaque seen on the left)

Photo: <https://amerique.wordpress.com/tag/hotel-dyork/>

- King Louis XVI stated publicly that he recognized the sovereignty of the United States on December 6, 1777.
- On January 30, 1778, the king gave permission to Secrétaire du Conseil d'Etat Conrad Alexandre Gérard to sign the Treaty of Amity and Commerce and the (intended to be secret for a while) Treaty of Alliance.
- On February 6, 1778, Gérard signed for France, along with Franklin, Deane and Lee for the United States.
- Through these treaties, France pledged to uphold the "liberty, sovereignty, and independence" of the United States if war broke out between France and Great Britain.
- France committed to continue fighting until the United States' independence was secured in a peace agreement.
- The United States agreed not to make any truce or peace with Great Britain without first obtaining formal consent from France.

A plaque located at the corner of Rue Royale and Place de la Concorde in Paris states:

Hôtel de Coislin, (Today Automobile Club de France)
4 Place de la Concorde (angle du 1, rue royale), 75008 Paris
GPS: [48.867008](#), [2.322043](#)

• Inscription:

"In this building
On February 6th, 1778
Conrad A. Gerard
In the name of Louis XVI King of France
Benjamin Franklin
Silas Deane, Arthur Lee,
On behalf of the United States
Signed the treaties
Of friendship, commerce and alliance
By which France
First of all nations
Recognized the independence
Of the United States"

• Unfortunately, we never cease to regret that the plaque is somewhat hidden from the legions of tourists who walk by the Place de la Concorde. It would be much more visible if it was moved a few feet, on the angle facade of Rue Royale. We also apologize to our readers for a typo in our January Bulletin, the date is clearly 1778, not 1776.

- It was at the Hôtel d'York, located on what is now 56 Rue Jacob, that the **Treaty of Paris of 1783** was signed, bringing the American War of Independence to an end. It was signed by representatives of the thirteen American colonies and British representatives. Great Britain recognized the independence of the United States of America.
- It was signed by John Adams—who became the second president of the United States—Benjamin Franklin, and John Jay on the American side, and David Hartley, who represented Great Britain.
- As we will see further below, John Adams often negotiated directly, without keeping France informed.

• Unfortunately, no museum commemorates what took place within its walls, and the interior is largely devoid of historical interest. In 1810 the building was the site of the renowned Firmin Didot printing house and the rooms inside were gutted. The overall courtyard and dependencies have kept, however, the original footprint. The building was used until recently by Sciences Po' as an annex hosting the Centre d'Histoire and its archives.

Site of the signing of the Treaty of Paris, 1783

Hôtel d'York, 56 rue Jacob, 75006 Paris
GPS: [48.856231](#), [2.332002](#)

• Inscription on the marble plaque (in French):

"In this building,
formerly the Hotel York,
on September 3rd, 1783,
David Hartley,
in the name of the King of England,
Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, and John Adams,
on behalf of the United States,
signed the final peace treaty
recognizing the independence
of the United States."

**From the *Libertas Americana* coin
to today's \$100 bill:
a French legacy**



Above:

Top: The famous Libertas Americana Coin, Photo By Medallion: Benjamin Franklin (design concept), Esprit-Antoine Gibelin (drawings), Augustin Dupré (sculpting/engraving), "Mint for Medals at the Louvre" (minting) Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=43549354>

Bottom Left: Portrait of Benjamin Franklin, by Joseph-Siffred Duplessis (French, 1725-1802), oil on canvas, 1778, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=15542425>

Bottom Right: Benjamin Franklin by Auguste Toussaint Leclerc (French, 1788–after 1849) 1818 Lithograph, Metropolitan Museum of Art, [The Met](https://www.metmuseum.org/art/online-learnings/american-revolution/1818-lithograph)

Insert: \$100 bill by United States Treasury, Public Domain, reproduces Duplessis's drawing <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=10773889>

French-American Legacy:

- The **Libertas Americana** medal, meaning "American Liberty," is seen as Benjamin Franklin's greatest numismatic work. Franklin created it while he was the American Minister in Paris, intending it as a private diplomatic gesture to express gratitude to France for its vital support during the Revolutionary War. Franklin personally distributed these medals to French royalty and ministers

Symbolism of the Medal:

The medal employs classical allegory to narrate the tale of the American Revolution and the alliance between America and France:

- **Infant Hercules (The United States):** On the back, an infant Hercules is depicted in his cradle, strangling two snakes that symbolize the defeated British forces at Saratoga and Yorktown.
- **Minerva (France):** The Roman goddess of wisdom and war symbolizes France. She is illustrated as a protective "nurse," equipped with a spear and a shield adorned with the French fleurs-de-lis, defending against a British lion.
- **The British Lion (Great Britain):** The lion, representing Britain, leaps at the infant but is restrained by Minerva's shield, notably with its tail tucked between its legs — a heraldic

sign of defeat.

- The Legend: The Latin phrase, "Non Sine Diis Animosus Infans," translates to "The brave child is not without the help of the gods," highlighting the "transcendent power" of France's assistance.
- Lady Liberty: The front side showcases a young Liberty with "French style" flowing hair, which later became a key model for the first U.S. coin designs in 1792. The "Marianne" version with a Phrygian cap and flowing hair is still used today by the French government in all its letterheads and logos.
- The Date 4 JUL. 1776 (4 July 1776) is spelled from the shortened French form 4 JUILLET 1776.
- Two dates with a common month, 17 OCT. 1777 and 19 OCT. 1781 (shortened OCTOBRE, French for October), in the exergue signify the American victories at Saratoga and Yorktown.

- **The \$100 Bill:**

Franklin is honored with his portrait on a U.S. banknote, despite never being elected President.

Did you know? The portrait of "Le Bonhomme Richard" chosen for the banknote is the work of French artists Duplessis and Lecler.

French Farewell A controversial gift from King Louis XVI:



Above:

This snuffbox with a miniature portrait of Louis XVI (1754–1793), a gift from Louis XVI to Col. John Laurens in 1780, is similar to the royal gift to Benjamin Franklin, albeit with far fewer diamonds. By Joseph Etienne Blerzy (French), Miniature by Louis Marie Sicardi (French), 1779–80, Metropolitan Museum of Art, <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/196539>

When Franklin left France in 1785, his departure was a major event.

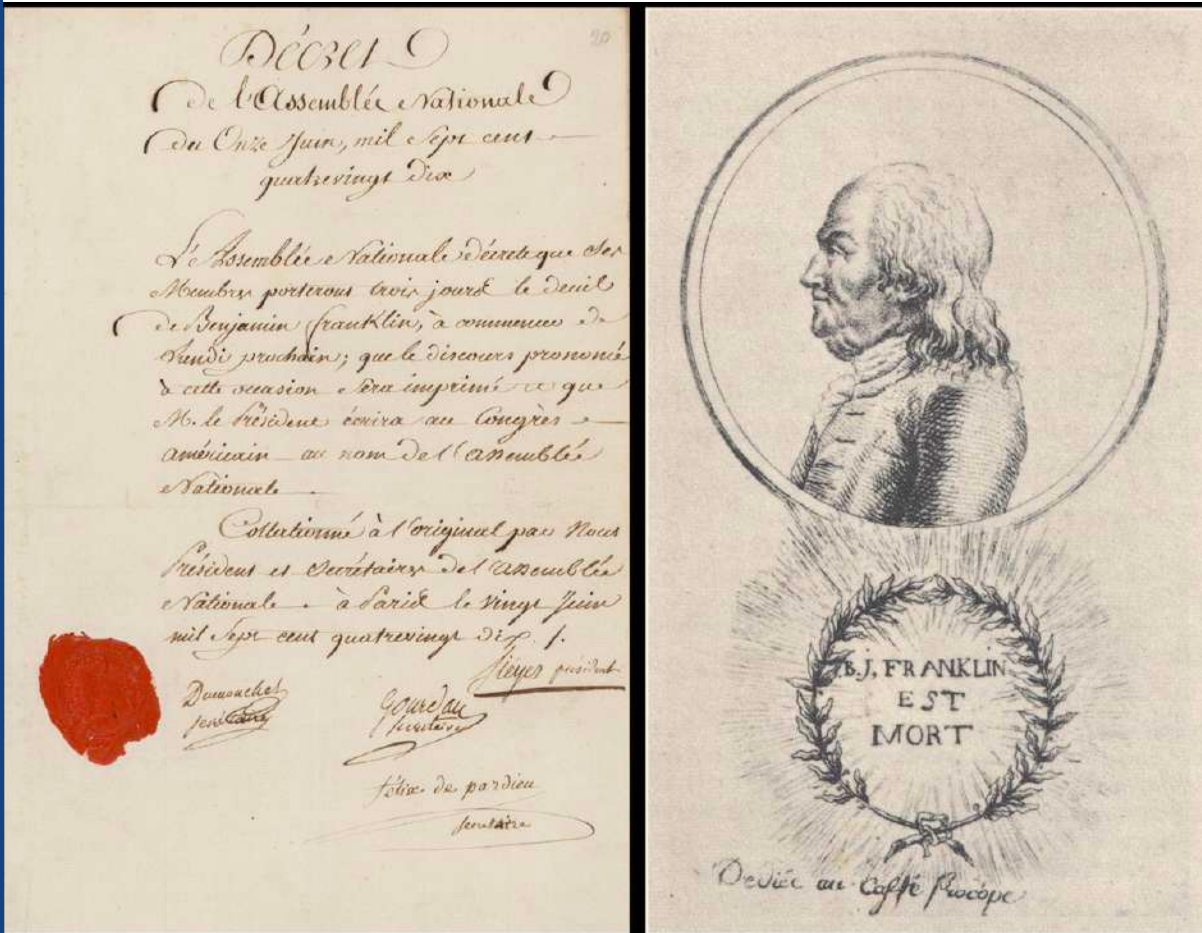
- As a parting gesture, Louis XVI gave Franklin a gilded snuffbox featuring a miniature portrait by Louis Sicard (1746-1825) of the King, encrusted with 401 diamonds—a gift so valuable that Franklin had to ask permission from Congress to keep it. Franklin was so proud of it that he famously left it to his daughter in his will, with the request that she "*not engage the ornaments in a way that would be seen as a bribe.*"
 - Franklin's daughter, Sarah, initially agreed to the terms. However, once she had the snuff box, she began to take it apart. Over the years, the gift was passed down from mother to daughter, with each generation removing diamonds from the snuff box. Diamonds were either given to family members or sold to fund personal projects. By the mid-20th century, only one diamond was left, although a few of the original ones have since returned.
 - The American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia currently holds the box.
-
- Interestingly, this prompted a clause in the U.S. Constitution regarding gifts. Known as the **Foreign Emoluments Clause**, the text (Article I, Section 9, Clause 8) reads:
"No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of

the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State."

A president receiving benefits from a foreign entity would be grounds for impeachment. For over 200 years, presidents have made significant efforts to steer clear of breaking this rule.

<https://medium.com/timeline/benjamin-franklin-emoluments-constitution-40339b04c159>

Mourning Tribute
French National Assembly
June 11, 1790



Above:

Left: Decree of French National Assembly honoring Benjamin Franklin, June 20, 1790, <https://www.4score.org/collection/franklin- charms-paris-tom-fleming>

Right: "B. J. Franklin est Mort," (B,J. Franklin is dead") French print, Philadelphia Museum of Art, <https://allthingsliberty.com/2024/06/france-pays-tribute-to-benjamin-franklin/>

For the text of the Eulogy pronounced by Mirabeau at the National Assembly, (in French), visit: <https://www2.assemblee-nationale.fr/decouvrir-l-assemblee/histoire/grands-discours-parlementaires/mirabeau-11-juin-1790>

After Benjamin Franklin passed away on April 17, 1790, the French National Assembly, under Count Mirabeau's leadership, paid tribute to him with three days of official national mourning in June 1790, honoring him as a "sage" who "snatched lightning from the sky and the scepter from tyrants." Mirabeau's eulogy emphasized Franklin's contributions to American independence, science, and liberty.

- **The Eulogy:** On June 11, 1790, Mirabeau delivered a speech praising Franklin as a "hero of humanity" and a "philosopher." Famous Quote: Mirabeau famously remarked that Franklin, "The genius, that freed America and poured a flood of light over Europe, has returned to the bosom of the Divinity," and that he "seized from Kings their scepter'd pride, And turn'd the lightning's darts aside."
- **National Mourning:** The National Assembly unanimously agreed to wear mourning clothes for three days, a rare honor for a foreign individual.
- On June 20, Emmanuel Joseph Sieyès, President of the Assemblée wrote, as instructed, to the Congress of the United States. He wrote: "The name of Benjamin Franklin will be immortal in the records of freedom and philosophy; but it is more particularly dear to a country, where, conducted by the most sublime mission, this verable man knew how very soon to acquire an infinite number of friends and admirers, as well by the simplicity and sweetness of his

manners, as by the purity of his principles, the extent of his knowledge, and charms of his mind."

- This tribute acknowledged Franklin's great popularity in France and his crucial role as a diplomat in securing the French alliance during the American Revolution.

Excerpts of these words are immortalized at Benjamin Franklin's grave in Philadelphia:

French tribute in Philadelphia



Above:

Left: Medallion, plaque and the three quotes on the cemetery wall, from Washington, Mirabeau and Turgot

Right: Benjamin and Deborah Franklin's final resting place, Christ Church Burial Ground, Philadelphia.

"A penny saved is two pence clear" (1737 Almanack) - It is said that \$75 are collected annually on his grave. Photos: TC © ASSFI 2021

It is hard to imagine the degree of adulation that Benjamin Franklin received in his lifetime. Yet, his grave in Philadelphia is very simple, a far cry from the mausoleum one would expect. Simplicity in life as well as in death.

Plaques next to Benjamin Franklin's grave

340 N 5th St, Philadelphia, PA 19106

GPS: [39.952483](#), [-75.148267](#)

• Inscription:

"The last resting place of Benjamin Franklin, 1706-1790"

"Venerated for benevolence
Admired for talents, esteemed
For patriotism, beloved for
Philanthropy." - **Washington**

"The sage whom two worlds claim as their own" – Mirabeau

"He tore from the skies the lightning and from the tyrants the sceptre" - Turgot

Mirabeau, as we have seen above, was president of the French National Assembly. Turgot had been Minister of Finance and Minister of the Navy.

Thomas Jefferson, the successor to Franklin as the United States Minister to France, may have said it best when describing Franklin's influence in France, and for that matter all of Europe. In a letter to William Smith, dated February 19, 1791, he wrote:

"I can only therefore testify in general that there appeared to me more respect and veneration attached to the character of Doctor Franklin in France than to that of any other person in the same country, foreign or native. I had the opportunities of knowing particularly how far these sentiments were felt by the foreign Ambassadors and ministers at the court of Versailles."

Thomas Jefferson in France

Founding Father

3rd President of the United States

Minister Plenipotentiary (1785-1789)



Above:

Left:

This portrait of Thomas Jefferson was painted by John Trumbull in 1788, when he visited Jefferson in Paris, where he served as minister to France, and painted his portrait directly into a painting depicting the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Trumbull copied this individual portrait from that painting.

<https://www.whitehousehistory.org/photos/thomas-jefferson-by-john-trumbull>

Right: Frame taken from *Jefferson in Paris* (1995), a historical drama film about Thomas Jefferson's tenure as the Ambassador of the United States to France between 1784 and 1789 before his presidency.

https://www.reddit.com/r/PeriodDramas/comments/1hlqfn5/jefferson_in_paris_1995_a_historical_drama_film/

- Thomas Jefferson (1743 – 1826) was a Founding Father, second vice president, and third president of the United States from 1801 to 1809. Jefferson was the primary author of the Declaration of Independence.

- Congress appointed Jefferson to Paris as a trade commissioner, but he eventually took over from Benjamin Franklin as the minister to France. Jefferson spent five years in Paris, from August 1784 to September 1789. His wife had passed away in 1782; he traveled from Boston to Le Havre with his 11-year-old daughter Martha and his 19-year-old slave James Hemings.

- In the fall of 1784, fellow trade ministers Benjamin Franklin and John Adams welcomed Jefferson. Their goal was to negotiate trade treaties and secure favorable conditions for American goods in European markets.

- Unlike Franklin, Jefferson was not so well-known, even though he drafted the Declaration of Independence. Jefferson remarked, *"The succession to Doctor Franklin at the court of France was an excellent school of humility."*

- *"My duties at Paris were confined to a few objects; the receipt of our whale-oils, salted fish, and salted meats on favorable terms, the admission of our rice on equal terms with that of Piedmont, Egypt & the Levant, a mitigation of the monopolies of our tobacco by the Farmers-general, and a free admission of our productions into their islands."*

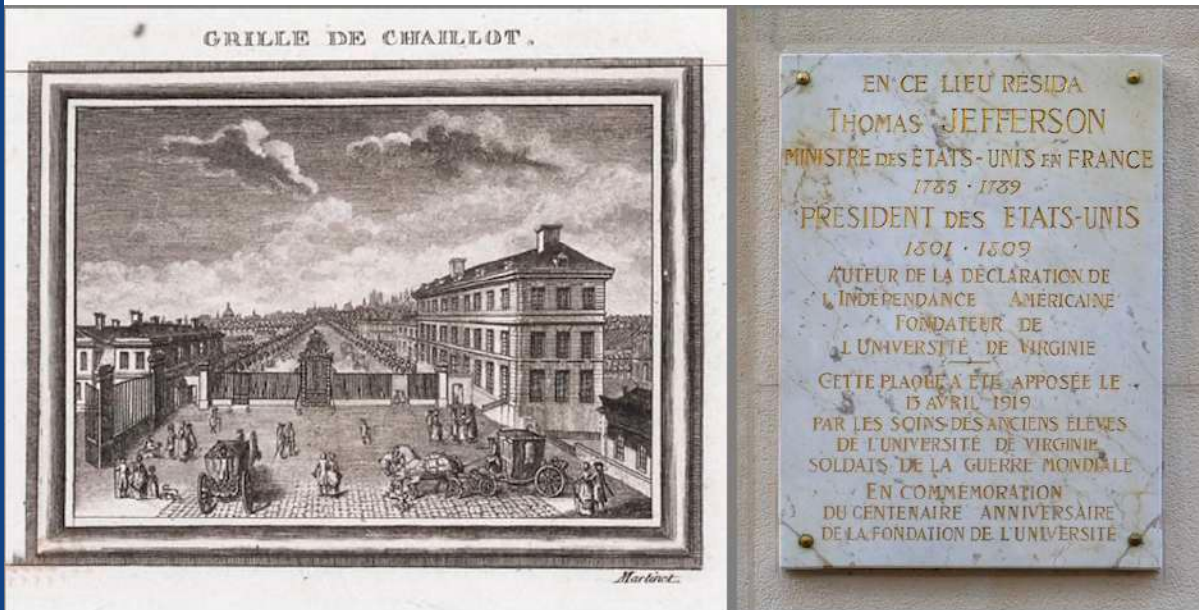
He was enthusiastic about his stay in France. "Behold me at length on the vaunted scene of Europe! ... you are perhaps curious to know how this new scene has struck a savage of the mountains of America. ... Were I to proceed to tell you how much I enjoy their architecture, sculpture, painting, music, I should want words. It is in these arts they shine." Jefferson to Bellini, September 30, 1785

- He witnessed the onset of the French revolution, advising Lafayette and hosting meetings on the Declaration of the Rights of Man. Jefferson was enchanted by Parisian life, frequently visiting bookstores, attending salons, and studying architecture, which influenced his design of

Monticello.

- Jefferson observed the launch of hot-air balloons (refer to the image above), the demolition of the old buildings on the Pont Notre Dame over the Seine, and the building of a new bridge at the Place Louis XV—now known as the Place de la Concorde. He went to concerts and plays, including the 90th showing of *The Marriage of Figaro*, which was penned a few years prior by Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais (main supplier of the Continental Army as we saw in our January Bulletin)
- With a keen interest in architecture and a fascination for domes, Jefferson visited Soufflot's newly constructed domed church, Sainte Geneviève (currently the Panthéon).

On Jefferson's footsteps in Paris



Above:

Left: Site of Hotel de Langeac, corner of Rue de Berri and the Avenue des Champs-Elysees, Jefferson's residence in Paris, destroyed in 1840. By François Nicolas Martinet - Lehigh University Libraries, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=58570902>

Right: Plaque marking Jefferson's residence on today's building in Paris, 92, avenue des Champs-Elysées, 75008 Paris, GPS: [48.871438, 2.303222](https://www.google.com/maps/place/48.871438,2.303222) Photo by Erwmat - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=28510814>

- During most of Jefferson's stay in Paris, he resided close to the Grille de Chaillot, one of the city's toll gates. He rented the Hôtel de Langeac, which was designed by Jean-François-Thérèse Chalgrin, who later became the architect of Napoleon's Arc de Triomphe. This hotel was located at the intersection of the Champs-Élysées, which was still a field at the time, and the rue de Berri.

- He lived there accompanied by his daughter Martha and enslaved servants, including James and Sally Hemings with whom he had a romantic relationship.

Always an experimenter, Jefferson often visited the Jardin du Roi, the botanical garden that is now known as the Jardin des Plantes. He also used his own garden as a laboratory for plants he received from America and others he got from French friends.

- Jefferson furnished the Hôtel de Langeac in a dignified style to represent the young American government in a fashionable yet moderate way. He purchased furniture, silverware, stoves, carpets, mirrors, sculptures, paintings, and kitchen tools, and he arranged for James Hemings to learn French cooking. Unfortunately, the American government refused to cover the expenses of his furnishings, which eventually ended up at Monticello.

- Jefferson appreciated the salons where discussions about politics and art took place. His extensive network included French supporters of the American Revolution, Americans, nobility, intellectuals, and artists. He recalled, "*I have never encountered a more generous people, nor have I seen greater warmth and dedication in their close friendships. Their kindness and willingness to help strangers is unmatched, and the hospitality of Paris exceeds anything I had imagined could be possible in a large city.*"

Jefferson's scientific interests



Above:

Left: Pierre Samuel Du Pont de Nemours, by Unknown author - Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=111801128>

Right: Portrait of Antoine Laurent Lavoisier (1743–1794) and Marie Anne Lavoisier (Marie Anne Pierrette Paulze, 1758–1836) by Jacques-Louis David - Metropolitan Museum of Art, Room 633, Public Domain, <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/436106>

- Thomas Jefferson and **Pierre Samuel du Pont de Nemours** maintained a long-term friendship and correspondence spanning from the 1780s until Du Pont's death in 1817. As a French political economist and intellectual, Du Pont was a trusted confidant of Jefferson, advising on education and government, while helping establish the American Du Pont industrial legacy.
- Jefferson met Pierre Samuel du Pont de Nemours while serving as Minister to France (1784–1789), where he admired him as one of the ablest men in France. Du Pont, a proponent of the *Physiocrat* school of economics, advised Jefferson on American education and national organization.
- Jefferson encouraged and supported the immigration of the Du Pont family to the U.S. and the establishment of E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company (founded by Pierre's son, Éleuthère Irénée du Pont) in Delaware.
- The two exchanged deeply philosophical letters on democracy, liberty, and the nature of government, with Jefferson often seeking his advice on topics ranging from education systems to philosophy.
- Thomas Jefferson and **Antoine Lavoisier** met in Paris during the 1780s. Jefferson admired Lavoisier's scientific genius while navigating the intellectual and political circles of the Enlightenment. Lavoisier, the "father of modern chemistry," pioneered the conservation of mass and oxygen theory, often with his wife Marie-Anne's collaboration. Jefferson was in Paris (1784–1789) when Lavoisier was revolutionizing chemistry and working on the metric system. Jefferson, who had left France, was horrified by the execution of his intellectual friends during the French Revolution, which included Lavoisier's death by guillotine in 1794 for his role as a tax farmer.
- There are sites in Delaware that commemorate the close relationship between Jefferson and both Pierre Samuel du Pont de Nemours and his son Eleuthère Irénée. We will devote a future bulletin to the duPont de Nemours dynasty.

Conversations with political thinkers



Above:

Left: Portrait of Jean-Antoine-Nicolas de Caritat de Condorcet (1743-1794), by Unidentified painter / Formerly attributed to Jean-Baptiste Greuze - Public Domain,

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=12365386>

Middle: Marie Jean Antoine Nicolas de Caritat, Marquis of Condorcet (1743-1794) Monument à Condorcet (1894), Paris, quai de Conti, a few minutes walk from the statue of Thomas Jefferson. Photo: by Henry Salomé, Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0,

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1179242>

Right: Jacques Pierre Brissot de Warville (1754-1793), By Jean-Baptiste Fouquet (c. 1761 - 1799) - Versailles, châteaux de Versailles et de Trianon, Public Domain,

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=45008378>

- Another prominent figure was **Marie Jean Antoine Nicolas de Caritat, Marquis de Condorcet**. Jefferson and Condorcet quickly formed a friendship, both admiring each other's scientific contributions and sharing a love for the classics.
- Condorcet, who served as the Permanent Secretary of the French Academy of Sciences, was a quintessential Enlightenment thinker, recognized for his advancements in mathematics and his progressive political views. He greatly admired the United States, believing that its emerging republic could be a model for France. Jefferson appreciated this sympathetic perspective, which contrasted sharply with the typical Parisian view that regarded the US as a peculiar, half-savage, Anglophile backwater.
- While Jefferson valued Condorcet's pro-American stance, he did not agree with the extent of the Frenchman's liberal beliefs. Condorcet advocated for the elimination of all forms of societal discrimination, including those based on religion, gender, and race.
- In 1788, **Pierre Brissot de Warville** established the Société des amis des Noirs, the Society of the Friends of the Blacks, aimed at abolishing slavery. Condorcet eagerly joined, along with Lafayette. However, when they invited Jefferson, he declined, explaining that he needed to stay neutral in French political matters.

Relations with Houdon, Cosway Vigier Le Brun & David



Above:

Top Left: Bust of Jefferson by Jean-Antoine Houdon (French, 1741-1828), on display at Monticello, 1788, <https://collections.monticello.org/mDetail.aspx?rID=2001-65&db=objects&dir=Collections>

Top Right: Maria Louisa Catherine Cecilia Cosway (1760-1838), Self-portrait, 1787, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=15856263>

Bottom Left: Élisabeth Louise Vigée Le Brun (1755-1842), self portrait in a straw hat, - National Gallery, London, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=23940843>

Bottom Right: Jacques-Louis David (1748-1825), self portrait - Unknown source, Musée du Louvre, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=21294>

- When the Minister to France wasn't mingling with great thinkers, he relished the company of outstanding artists. His connections included none other than **Jacques-Louis David**. David was the most renowned painter of his time, with works like the Oath of the Horatii (1784) and The Death of Socrates (1787) considered the pinnacle of French neoclassicism.

Almost as famous was **Élisabeth Vigée Le Brun**. As a woman, Le Brun lacked the same training opportunities as her male counterparts. A self-taught artist, she became one of the most skilled painters of her era, with her career flourishing when she became the personal portrait artist for Queen Marie Antoinette.

- Jefferson's favorite artist was undoubtedly the sculptor **Jean-Antoine Houdon**. Franklin had earlier invited Houdon to Mount Vernon, where he created a sculpture of George Washington. Jefferson commissioned Houdon multiple times, requesting busts of himself, Lafayette, Turgot, and Voltaire, among others, all of which eventually found a place at Monticello.

- Paris being Paris, Thomas Jefferson fell in love in France with a talented musician, painter, and renowned beauty, **Maria Cosway**. This might have been the final genuine romance of his life.

Luisa Maria Hadfield Cosway, an artist and musician, was part of Thomas Jefferson's close circle of friends while he was in France. Jefferson characterized her as possessing "*qualities and accomplishments, typical of her gender, that could fill a chapter on their own: including music, modesty, beauty, and the gentle nature that is the adornment of her gender and the charm of ours.*"

- Thomas Jefferson's appreciation for France, its people, and its culture ran deep.

Jefferson himself said it best: "... so ask *the traveled inhabitant of any nation, In what country on earth would you rather live?— certainly in my own, where are all my friends, my relations, and the earliest & sweetest affections and recollections of my life.—Which would be your second choice?—France.*"

This quote comes from Thomas Jefferson's Autobiography, specifically within a draft or notes dated July 21, 1821. The passage reflects on his time in France and is often quoted to highlight his affection for the country, frequently summarized as: "Every man has two countries: his own and France"

Architectural inspirations: Hôtel de Salm & Monticello



Above:

Top: Hôtel de Salm, today the Palais de la Légion d'Honneur, headquarters and museum of the French Legion of Honor, along the Seine, 62 rue de Lille, 75007 Paris. Jefferson brought young architect Charles Bulfinch to visit it, and he was inspired by its rotunda (along with elements of Les Invalides) when he designed the Capitol in Washington, DC. Photo by Von TCY - Eigenes Werk, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=10741686>

Bottom: Sculpture of Thomas Jefferson greeting visitors, and back of Monticello

Photos: TC © ASSFI 2018

- Jefferson was captivated by the Hôtel de Salm, a new palace for the Prince de Salm overlooking the Seine, which now serves as the headquarters of the Legion of Honor. He rented a chair in the Tuileries, just across the river, to observe its construction "almost daily," he noted. Sitting on the parapet, often with the chair facing the wrong way, he frequently left it, he mentioned, with a stiff neck. The Hôtel de Salm had a greater impact on his redesign of Monticello in the 1790s than any other building in Paris.

"While at Paris, I was violently smitten with the hotel de Salm, and used to go to the Thuileries almost daily to look at it." Jefferson to Madame de Tessé, March 20, 1787

- Like any tourist today, Jefferson also particularly liked going to the bookstores in Paris:

"While residing in Paris I devoted every afternoon I was disengaged, for a summer or two, in examining all the principal bookstores, turning over every book with my own hands, and putting by every thing which related to America, and indeed whatever was rare & valuable in every science."

Jefferson to Samuel H. Smith, September 21, 1814

Jefferson's legacy in Paris: Square Thomas Jefferson, Place des Etats-Unis



Above:

Left: Place des Etats-Unis (The park is officially named the **Square Thomas Jefferson**, but buildings facing it (on three sides) have Place-des-États-Unis addresses.) By Mbzt - Own work, CC BY 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=23990675>

Right: Centerpiece of the Place des Etats-Unis: Monument to American Volunteers by Jean Boucher (1923) By TCY - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=33544030>

- While Thomas Jefferson has a public park named after him in the 16th arrondissement of Paris, his statue is actually located by the Seine river, in front of the Palais de la Légion d'Honneur, which he admired so much.

- We featured the monument to American Volunteers in an earlier Bulletin in November 2023.

- To find his statue, one simply has to stroll along the Seine, along the Tuileries Gardens, where Jefferson loved to sit, facing the Hôtel de Salm (today the Palais de la Légion d'Honneur) and cross the pedestrian bridge:

Statue of Thomas Jefferson in Paris



Above:

Standing with his left hand on his hip, Jefferson appears to be observing and seeking inspiration, before resuming the layout of his Monticello home.

The statue is located at the entrance of Passerelle Léopold Sédar Senghor, Quai Anatole-France, 75007 Paris, GPS: [48.861222, 2.324194](https://www.google.com/maps/place/48.861222,2.324194). It faces the Hôtel de Salm, which served as a model for Monticello.

Photos: TC © ASSFI 2026

- The bronze statue of Thomas Jefferson honors Jefferson's time as the American minister to France from 1785 to 1789 is located on the Quai Anatole-France in Paris (7th arrondissement) and was sculpted by French artist **Jean Cardot**. Erected in 2006, the statue depicts Jefferson holding a quill pen and a drawing of Monticello, looking toward the Hôtel de Salm.
- It was commissioned by the Wildenstein Family, and the Florence Gould Foundation.
- In 2023, the statue was vandalized by unknown perpetrators. The pedestal was spray painted in black with the words: "owned slaves / raped them / and refused / to claim his / black babies".

... and in Washington, D.C.

The other bronze statue of Jefferson, the first of its kind in bronze, was sculpted by another Frenchman, **Pierre-Jean David d'Angers**, and located in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda:



Above:

The statue of Thomas Jefferson by Pierre-Jean David d'Angers (French, 1788-1856) is located in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda. It was the first full-length portrait statue placed in the Capitol.

Photos: TC © ASSFI 2024

- The statue of Thomas Jefferson was sculpted in France by **Pierre-Jean David d'Angers** (French, 1788-1856) and cast by Honoré Gonon & Fils using the lost-wax technique.

- A bronze statue was unusual in early 19th-century America, where sculpture was more commonly carved in marble.

- The statue was presented by Uriah Phillips Levy to the Congress in 1834 as a gift to the American people.

On March 21, 1834, the statue was placed in the center of the Capitol Rotunda, next to the painting *Baptism of Pocahontas* (seen on photo above).

- A replica was installed in New York City Hall in various locations.

Calling Jefferson "America's most noted slaveholder," on June 18, 2020, council members wrote a letter to Mayor Bill de Blasio asking him to support the statue's removal. On June 19, 2020, the Mayor stated that the review of this statue would be an issue explored by a "Commission on Racial Justice and Reconciliation".

The New York City Public Design Commission voted unanimously to remove the statue in October 2021.

Jefferson and the French Revolution





Above:

Top: Serment du Jeu de Paume ("The Oath of the Tennis Court") - June 20, 1789, by Jacques-Louis David - Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=14770497>

"Considering that it has been called to establish the constitution of the realm, to bring about the regeneration of public order, and to maintain the true principles of monarchy; nothing may prevent it from continuing its deliberations in any place it is forced to establish itself; and, finally, the National Assembly exists wherever its members are gathered..." "We swear never to separate ourselves from the National Assembly, and to reassemble wherever circumstances require until the constitution of the realm is drawn up and fixed upon solid foundations"

Bottom Left: François Alexandre Frédéric, duc de la Rochefoucauld-Liancourt (1747-1827) By Charles Willson Peale c. 1794, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=25287520>

Bottom Right: Presumed portrait of Antoine-Pierre-Joseph-Marie Barnave (1761–1793), drawing by Joseph Boze, Carnavalet Museum, 1791. By Joseph Boze – Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=172427973>

- Before Jefferson left, the early days of the French Revolution started. He attended the opening of the Estates-General at Versailles on May 5, 1789. Jefferson also saw a meeting of the Third Estate with supportive members of the First and Second Estates in the Church of Saint-Louis, stating, "*This is the first time that churches have been made some good use of.*" Although he seemed neutral, Jefferson openly backed the Revolution, praising its peaceful nature. He said that after the Bastille was taken, there had never been "so great a fermentation...[that] produced so little injury." However, not everything was fine; civil unrest became frequent, and Jefferson told the police that his house had been robbed three times.
- In his final days in Paris, Jefferson permitted Lafayette and other prominent figures to use his home to deliberate on the structure of France's new government. On August 26, he organized a meeting with eight individuals, including **Lafayette**, **Duport**, **Barnave**, **Lameth**, **Blacons**, **Mounier**, **LaTour Maubourg**, and **d'Agoult**. They decided that there would be a single legislature and that the King would have veto power. Later, the Marquis de Lafayette sought assistance from the author of the Declaration of Independence to refine his own document, which became the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen.
- That autumn, Jefferson hosted a farewell party attended by **Lafayette**, **Condorcet**, and the **duke de La Rochefoucauld**. Jefferson was confident he would return to France soon and forge connections between the United States and a more democratic France. However, this did not happen. Shortly after he got back to the United States, President George Washington appointed Jefferson as his Secretary of State. This marked the beginning of a lengthy career in national politics, preventing Jefferson from ever going back to France.
- Many of Jefferson's friends faced tragic fates. Lavoisier was executed by guillotine in 1793 during the Reign of Terror, and Condorcet committed suicide in prison a year later. After the Storming of the Tuileries Palace on August 10, 1792, the Duke de la Rochefoucauld fled into exile, first to England and then to the United States, where he reunited with Jefferson at Monticello; he eventually returned to France during the Restoration. There are a few markers

in the United States memorializing the Duke's visit to the United States in 1824, notably at the site of the "Asylum" in Pennsylvania and a quote in a marker at Monticello recalling his visit in 1796.

- Lafayette endured the Revolution and subsequent political turmoil, touring the United States in 1824, where he met Jefferson after 25 years apart, just two years before Jefferson's death. We narrated this visit in several of past Bulletins dedicated to the Bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour in 1824-1825.

John Adams
Founding Father
2nd President of the United States
Commissioner (1778-1779)
Minister Plenipotentiary
in charge of negotiating treaties of peace and commerce
with Great Britain (1779-1783)
... A challenging mission!



Above:

Left: John Adams, a portrait by Mather Brown (-) c 1785 - Public Domain,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9107403>

Right: Hôtel de Verrières, residence of John Adams & his son John Quincy Adams, 45-47 rue d'Auteuil, 75016 Paris

Insert: plaque, By Polymagou - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=132391269>

John Adams (1735-1826) was a key figure among the American Founding Fathers. He helped Thomas Jefferson draft the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and was its main supporter in Congress. He served two terms as Vice President under George Washington and became the 2nd President of the United States in 1796. He died on July 4, 1826, fifty years after July 4th, 1776, and on the same day as Thomas Jefferson.

- Adams went to France three times, and his stays were frustrating for him. In November 1777, Adams was named commissioner to France, replacing Silas Deane and joining Franklin and Arthur Lee in Paris. He sailed on February 17, 1778, and arrived in France on April 1, 1778 with his 11 year-old son John Quincy (1767-1848), future 6th President of the United States. John Quincy attended a school in Passy, where he studied alongside Benjamin Franklin's grandsons, learning French along with arts like dance and fencing. This mission was essentially rendered moot before he even arrived, as the Treaty of Alliance had already been signed on February 6. In September 1778, Congress increased Franklin's powers by naming him Minister Plenipotentiary to France, while Adams received no instructions at all. Frustrated by the apparent slight, he departed France on March 8, 1779 to sail back home.

- During this first mission, Benjamin Franklin asked him to join nightly dinners with wealthy and notable people. Adams expressed his frustration that Franklin was neglecting his duties as ambassador. Adams noted in his diary, "*These incessant dinners and dissipations were not the objects of my mission to France.*"

— John Adams, "13 February 1778 - 26 April 1779" diary volume.
Adams did not understand that these gatherings were meant to blend politics with enjoyment, a concept he was unfamiliar with. Franklin enjoyed the high society scene, sharing jokes and playfully flirting with women.

- On September 27, 1779, the Continental Congress appointed John Adams to travel to France as *Minister Plenipotentiary in charge of negotiating treaties of peace and commerce with Great Britain*. This may strike as an oddity, or an excess of optimism, as the American Revolution had reached a stalemate in 1779. However, Congress wanted to ensure they had a representative ready in Europe to negotiate immediately if Great Britain showed a willingness to talk.

- John Adams had only a matter of weeks at home — just enough time to draft one of the most important constitutional documents in American history (the Constitution of Massachusetts, the model for the U.S. Constitution), say goodbye to his wife Abigail, and board another ship. He headed back to Paris with both John Quincy and nine-year-old son Charles in tow...
After an arduous journey that included a landing in Spain due to a leaky ship and a six-week hike over the Pyrénées, John and his sons finally arrived in the French capital on February 9, 1780.

- Adams clashed repeatedly with French Foreign minister Vergennes, who severed communication with him, and Adams departed France for Holland, where he was attempting to negotiate a loan from the Dutch. He spent most of this period in the Netherlands rather than France.

- Adams returned to Paris in October 1782 to participate in the peace talks, often setting aside the commitments made during the Alliance Treaty with France and negotiating separately with the British. In 1784, Jefferson came to replace Adams before he left for his new role as ambassador to London.

- Adams was not unaffected by France's allure. In a letter to Abigail in June 1778, he admitted:
"There is no People in the World who take so much Pains to please, nor any whose Endeavours in this Way have more success. Their Arts, Manners, Taste and Language are more respected in Europe than those of any other Nation."
However, he immediately adds a sharply critical counterpoint: *"Luxury, dissipation, and Effeminacy, are pretty nearly at the same degree of Excess here, and in every other Part of Europe."*

— John Adams's letter to Abigail Adams, dated June 3, 1778, [Massachusetts Historical Society](#)
This Puritan sting perfectly captures Adams's ambivalence - some today would qualify it as contempt - toward France and European nations.

- Adams *"Père et Fils"* resided at a mansion called Hôtel de Verrières, still standing in the 16th arrondissement, and often struggled with the language and culture, finding it hard to adapt.

Plaque, Hôtel de Verrière
45-47 rue d'Auteuil, 75016 Paris
GPS: [48.847918, 2.265243](#)

• **Inscription (in French):**
“Here resided at this hotel
August 1784 – May 1785
John Adams
2nd President of the United States 1797–1801
One of the founders of American independence
And his son
John Quincy Adams
6th President of the United States 1825–1829”

John Jay
Founding Father
Negotiator, Treaty of Paris (1782-1783)
Of Huguenot descent, but cool to France



Above:

Left: Portrait of John Jay, National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C., By Gilbert Stuart, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=21869017>

Right: "Signing the Preliminary Treaty of Peace at Paris, November 30, 1782". John Jay and Benjamin Franklin standing at the left. Print by John D. Morris & Co. after painting by German artist Carl Wilhelm Anton Seiler (1846-1921) - Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5332896>

John Jay (1745 - 1829) was an American politician, diplomat, and a signer of the Treaty of Paris, as well as a Founding Father of the United States. He was the first Chief Justice of the United States from 1789 to 1795 and served as the second Governor of New York from 1795 to 1801.

- Notably, his family had strong French connections — his grandfather Auguste Jay was a French Huguenot who escaped France after Louis XVI canceled the Edict of Nantes in 1685, which took away the civil and legal rights of Protestants. Thus, in a way, Jay was going back to the country his grandfather had to leave, but harbored ill-feelings towards France.

- Spain refused to formally receive or welcome John Jay as the Minister of the United States when he arrived in Madrid in 1780. Fearing that recognizing American independence would encourage revolutions in their own American colonies, the Spanish court did not officially recognize Jay until 1783, refusing to deal with him in an official capacity.

- Jay arrived in Paris on June 23, 1782, where negotiations to end the American Revolutionary War were to take place. The Treaty of Paris was signed on September 3, 1783 — meaning he was in or around Paris for roughly 14 to 15 months. That is a meaningful stay, longer than a fleeting visit...

- However Jay was not a francophile. His distrust of French Foreign Minister Vergennes (who did so much to help the Insurgents, as we have seen in our January Bulletin!) was the driving force behind the decision to negotiate directly and independently with Britain.

Owing largely to Jay, who questioned the good faith of France, the two American negotiators decided to deal separately with Great Britain.

- Jay's length of stay was relatively short compared to the others. While in Paris, he resided at Benjamin Franklin's residence. He left in May 1784, after the treaty was signed and never returned. He left no particular record of affection for France, its culture, or its people — and his primary contribution in Paris was arguably to resist French influence rather than embrace it.

Gouverneur Morris
Founding Father
Minister Plenipotentiary to France (1792-1794)
Critic of the French Revolution



Above:

Right: "La Chaise de la Reine", woodwork-Furniture, French, Paris; Sold during the French Revolution, the entire set of furniture was acquired by the American statesman Gouverneur Morris. The pieces were subsequently sent to Morrisania, Morris's country estate in the Bronx. By Jacques Gondouin / Angélique Babel / Claude-François Capin / François Toussaint Foliot - Metropolitan Museum of Art.

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=60170397>

Right: Gouverneur Morris portrait bust by Jean-Antoine Houdon, 1789, Paris, Gouverneur Morris Papers, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=57479190>

Gouverneur Morris (1752 - 1816) is one of the most fascinating and underappreciated Founding Fathers — and his life story has strong connections within the scope of this Bulletin.

Note: Gouverneur is derived from his mother's surname, *Sarah Gouverneur*, who came from a Huguenot family. His legal name was *Gouverneur*, not "Governor" — and he was never a Governor.

- Known as the "*Penman of the Constitution*" Morris wrote the entire Preamble — including the celebrated phrase "*We the People of the United States*" — and drafted the final version of the Constitution.

He gave 173 speeches at the Constitutional Convention, more than any other delegate — more than Madison, more than Hamilton. He was also one of the most outspoken opponents of slavery among those present at the Constitutional Convention. Physically imposing at over six feet tall (with a wooden leg), witty, brilliant, and famously charming with women, he was one of the most colorful characters of the founding era — and maybe one of the least remembered.

Minister to France (1792–1794)

- Morris went to France on business in 1789 and served as Minister Plenipotentiary to France from 1792 to 1794. His diaries during that time became a valuable chronicle of the French Revolution, capturing much of that era's turbulence and violence.

- "Less than a month after his arrival in Paris he noted in his "Diary," "*Mme. Flahaut enters shortly after Mme. D'Angivilliers. She speaks English and is a pleasing woman. If I might judge from appearances, not a sworn enemy to intrigue.*"

She wasn't, as Morris speedily found out. True, she had a husband, the 63-year-old Comte de Flahaut, and, true, she had a lover, the lame and cynical Abbé de Talleyrand-Périgord, Bishop of Autun, and father of her son (!), but she managed to find room and time for Gouverneur Morris as well...

- There were other women, too, the Marquise de Nadaillac and Mme. de Foucault, for instance, with whom Morris might (and did) "*while away the pretty hours and read his pretty verses*"

— As per an article in The New York Times, March 26, 1939: "As France rocked in Revolution; The Diary of Gouverneur Morris Records History at First Hand"

- Morris was the only diplomat who remained in Paris throughout even the worst days of the Reign of Terror, narrowly avoiding death at the hands of angry mobs on multiple occasions.

One time, when Morris found himself surrounded by an angry crowd wanting to hang him from the nearest lamppost, he took off his wooden leg, waved it in the air, and declared that he was an American who had lost a limb in the fight

for freedom. This caused the crowd's doubts to turn into excited cheers (even though Morris actually lost his leg in a carriage accident).

- Morris bought Queen Marie-Antoinette's furniture. The elaborate set, which included an intricately decorated armchair, stayed in the abandoned Versailles palace and went up for sale during the French Revolution. Morris bought the entire set and shipped it to the Bronx.
- He openly disapproved of the French Revolution and secretly sought to aid King Louis XVI in fleeing the country. He became an informal advisor to King Louis XVI during the twilight months of his reign.
- His attitude toward the Revolution ultimately cost him his post. His hostility led the French Revolutionary government to formally request his recall in 1794. He was replaced by James Monroe — as we will see in the next section.

A failed mission:

While Morris was minister, the Marquis de Lafayette was exiled from France and his family imprisoned, and Thomas Paine was arrested and imprisoned. Morris's efforts on their behalf have been criticized as insufficient — it was his successor James Monroe who secured Paine's release.

A largely "forgotten Founder" — his dire — and accurate — predictions about the course of the French Revolution were not popular in France or in America at the time, yet history proved him right.

James Monroe
Founding Father
5th President of the United States
Minister Plenipotentiary (1794-1796)
Negotiator, Louisiana Purchase (1803)
a sincere Francophile



Above:

Left: Pavillon de la Bouëxière, James Monroe's official residence in Paris, Unknown author,

<https://www.montmartre-secret.com/2021/02/rue-de-bruxelles.paris-9eme.zola-gerome-achard.html>

Right: The earliest preserved portrait of James Monroe as Minister Plenipotentiary to France in 1794, by Louis Semé, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=36386345>

As a soldier of the Revolution and friend of the Marquis de Lafayette, **James Monroe** (1758- 1831), 5th President of the United States, never forgot the aid provided by the French military nor the unwavering support of the French people.

- He praised the new French constitution of 1791, and was appointed American Minister to France in 1794 because of his outspoken pro-France beliefs. When Monroe was elected as a U.S. Senator for Virginia in 1790, the Senate was split in its discussions about the French Revolution. Initially, many Americans sympathized with it, but as the revolutionaries in France became more violent, public support began to wane, which was evident in the Senate debates. In the U.S., Federalists started to see the French Revolution as a threat to social order, while Republicans viewed it as a continuation of the American Revolution. Monroe, a Republican, recalled France's support during

the American Revolution and strongly believed that America should support France in return.

A triumphal welcome at the Convention Nationale:

- After arriving in France, Monroe addressed the French National Convention, receiving a standing ovation for his speech celebrating republicanism.
- Monroe was admitted to the hall of the National Convention on August 15, 1794 (in the midst of the era known as Terror!) — the date recorded in the official procès-verbal of the Convention.
- The president of the Convention, Philippe-Antoine Merlin de Douai, formally recognized and proclaimed Monroe as minister plenipotentiary of the United States, and in a remarkable gesture, gave him the fraternal embrace — the accolade — on behalf of the French people.
- The occasion was extraordinary in its ceremony. The Convention decreed unanimously that Monroe's letters of credence, his address, and the president's reply would be printed in both French and English, and — most strikingly — that the flags of the United States would be joined to those of France and displayed in the hall of the Convention as a sign of the union and eternal fraternity of the two peoples.
- His speech emphasized the commonalities and friendship between France and the United States: *"Their governments have much analogy to each other. They both cherish like principles, and repose on a similar basis, to wit, the unalienable and equal rights of man. The remembrance, even of common dangers, can but augment their harmony, and cement their union."* He also praised *"the wisdom and the firmness of her councils"* and pledged the support of the U.S. government for *"the liberty, prosperity and happiness of the French republic"* (Boston Federal Orrery, 10 Nov.).

- Monroe himself described the scene in a letter to James Madison: *"The effect surpassed my expectation. My reception occupied an hour and a half, of not merely interesting but distressing sensibility, for all who beheld it. It was with difficulty that I extricated myself from the House and committee of public safety and indeed the crowd which surrounded it, after the business was over."*

— Letter of James Monroe to James Madison, dated November 14, 1794, The Writings of James Monroe, Volume II (1794-1796).

- Washington, however, was less enthusiastic — he viewed Monroe's effusive speech as poorly judged given America's official neutrality in the war between France and Britain.

- As ambassador, James Monroe protected American trade, and personally secured the release of Thomas Paine, whom French revolutionaries had arrested. Monroe achieved multiple early diplomatic victories, such as safeguarding U.S. trade from French assaults. In February 1795, he leveraged his influence to obtain the freedom of all American citizens held captive since the French Revolution, including Adrienne de La Fayette, the spouse of the Marquis de Lafayette. He had previously arranged for Thomas Paine's release in July 1794 and welcomed him, but when Paine began writing a harsh critique of Washington despite Monroe's disapproval, they separated in the spring of 1796.

- James Monroe signed the Louisiana Purchase during his second mission to Paris in 1803, which we narrated in length in our **May 2025 Bulletin "222 years ago: the Louisiana Purchase"**

<https://conta.cc/4dsqMvu> (in English)

<https://conta.cc/4jUS0Nu> (in French)

James Monroe's residences in Paris

The location of James Monroe's first house in Paris, where he came to assume the ambassadorship from Gouverneur Morris, is at 95, rue Richelieu, Paris (2nd arrondissement). Today, it is home to a Mercure Hotel ("hotel" in the contemporary sense).

- **Pavillon La Bouëxière, an 18th Century "Folie":**

The Pavillon, also categorized as a "Folie" (a decorative building with little to no practical function) was the residence of Charles-François Gaillard de La Bouëxière, one of France's "fermier général" (a caste of immensely wealthy tax collectors, at the service of the Crown...)

It was purchased in 1795 by James Monroe. The estate stood near the intersection of the current Rue Saint-Lazare and Rue Blanche in today's 9th

arrondissement, an area known during the Revolution as part of the "Folies de la Chaussée-d'Antin".

Unfortunately, the Pavillon was demolished in 1840, and we only have [engravings](#). Set in beautiful gardens. The estate covered roughly the area between what is now Boulevard de Clichy, Rue Blanche, Rue de Clichy, and Rue du Cardinal-Mercier in the 9th arrondissement.

- James Monroe lived there for three years with his wife, daughter, seven servants, a coachman, and a gardener. The Monroes were much appreciated in France and Mrs. Monroe later described their time there as the happiest years of their life.

French legacy at the White House



Above:

Top Left: President James Monroe's portrait by Samuel F. B. Morse hangs in the Blue Room of the White House today, overlooking many of the "articles of the best kind" he acquired to furnish the newly rebuilt White House. Photo: Bruce White For [The White House Historical Association](#)

Top Right: Louis-XVI desk of 5th President James Monroe, brought back from France in 1797, famously called "The Monroe Doctrine desk". <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/photos/the-monroe-doctrine-desk>

Bottom Left: Château de Rastignac, near Bordeaux, which inspired the South portico of the White House. Photo by Mossot - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9042762>

Bottom Right: South Portico of the White House, Public Domain, photo: <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/galleries/white-house-south-portico>

The White House had been burnt by the British in 1814 during the 1812 war with the United States.

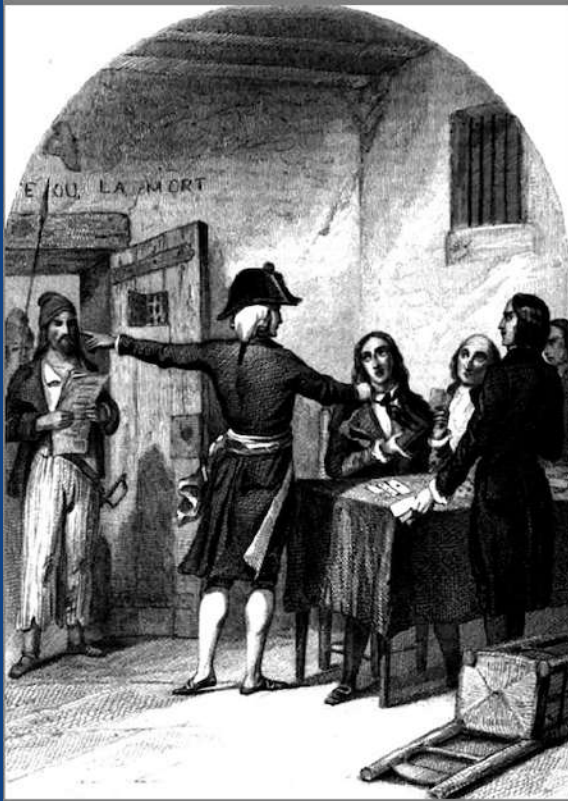
- Much of the furniture that Monroe brought to the refurbished White House was acquired in France during his time as a diplomat. Monroe's father was a carpenter, which likely made the ambassador more aware of the quality of furniture he saw in France.

- A secretary desk, chairs, a commode, and other related items were initially bought for the Folie de la Bouëxière, the Paris residence Monroe bought while he was the minister to France in the Washington administration (1794–96).

The desk stands out as the most significant piece, known as the **Monroe Doctrine Desk**.

- It has been said that the facade of the Pavillon inspired the architects of the White House, although the first official guide to the White House, released in 1962, indicates instead a connection between the White House South Portico and the Château de Rastignac. Thomas Jefferson, who made architectural changes to the White House, did visit the region and met architect Salat earlier while he was the U.S. ambassador to France.

Thomas Paine
Founding Father
French Citizen
Elected to the Convention Nationale



Above:

Left: Thomas Paine in jail, <https://thomaspaine.org/tag/thomas-paine-in-france/page/2/>

Right: Thomas Paine By Laurent Dabos (French, 1761-1835) - Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=127417518>

Left: Plaque honoring Paine at 10 rue de l'Odéon, Paris By Wikimedia Commons / Mu - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=10337350>

Right: Statue of Thomas Paine in Paris in Parc Monsouris, Paris (14e arrondissement) https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g187147-d14177945-Reviews-Statue_Thomas_Paine-Paris_Ile_de_France.html

Thomas Paine is generally considered a Founding Father of the United States, though he occupies a somewhat unique position among that group.

- **Thomas Paine** (1737 - 1809) was an American political thinker born in England. His pamphlets, *Common Sense* (1776) and *The American Crisis* (1776–1783), presented the case for independence from Britain at the start of

the Revolution. Almost every American Patriot read *Common Sense*, which sparked the push for independence. However, his reputation is surprisingly debated among historians. Critics note that he did not sign the Declaration, was not involved in drafting the Constitution, never participated in the Continental Congress, did not hold any political office, and was not a hero of the Revolutionary War. He was born British but moved to America in 1774, pledged allegiance in 1776, and became a naturalized American citizen. Thomas Jefferson called him “the Father of the Revolution”.

- In his later years, his reputation suffered greatly. His extreme views on religion, shared in *The Age of Reason*, undermined much of his earlier success, and by the time he died, only a few people attended his funeral. U.S. His obituary in the New York Citizen stated: "*He had lived long, did some good and much harm.*"
- Over time, history has improved his image. By the early 1900s, Americans gradually began to accept his legacy again, and his passionate support for freedom and enlightenment has secured his position in American political history. He was notably insightful — he predicted the Civil War, the welfare state, and the United Nations, and he played a role in changing the meaning of "democracy" from "mob rule" to "rule of the people."
- His time in France was tumultuous. He was imprisoned during the Reign of Terror and barely escaped execution...

Role during the French Revolution

- Like George Washington who was declared an honorary French citizen by the French National Assembly on August 26, 1792, several other foreigners who were considered to have served the cause of liberty through their "writings and courage" included Thomas Paine, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and Thaddeus Kosciuszko.
- Thomas Paine was elected a deputy from the département of Pas-de-Calais to the French National Convention from 1792 to 1795, as he escaped British sedition charges.
- He represented the Girondin faction, contributed to drafting a new constitution, and advocated for an exile to the United States instead of execution for Louis XVI.
- In 1793, he was imprisoned by the opposing Montagnards but was later released and returned to the convention. He stayed in France until 1802.

Residences in Paris:

- Thomas Paine lived in several places, notably at the [Hôtel de Whites](#) (today's Galerie de Vivienne, 1 and 7, passage des Petits-Pères, 75002 Paris, near the Place des Victoires).
- Thomas Paine was also lodged in Paris by a French family, the Bonnevilles, at 10, rue de l'Odéon, 75006 Paris (formerly 4 Rue de Théâtre Français).

Napoléon Bonaparte made several visits to him there during the years of the Consulate.

Plaque:

10, rue de l'Odéon, 75006 Paris

GPS: [48.851033](#), [2.338617](#)

• Inscription (in French):

"Thomas Paine

(1737-1809)

English by birth

American by adoption

French by decree

Lived in this building from 1797 to 1802.

He put his passion for liberty to the service of the
French Revolution, was a deputy to the Convention,
and wrote *Rights of Man*.

"When opinions are free, the force of truth always prevails."

- As a footnote, Thomas Paine facilitated the emigration of his lodgers, the Bonneville family to the United States, in 1803. Their son (and his godson), **Benjamin Louis Elalie de Bonneville**, became a legendary explorer of the American West and later breveted General of the Union Army, which we narrated in our Bulletins of **July 2024 - French**

pioneers of the American West <https://conta.cc/3W9L44p> and March 2025 “French generals of the U.S. Army” <https://conta.cc/4hongcW>

Statue of Thomas Paine in Paris

- This bronze statue, covered in gold, was commissioned in 1937 from sculptor Gutzon Borglum (1867-1941), of Mount Rushmore fame, by the President of the Free Thinkers of America as a gift to France. It depicts Paine standing before the French National Convention to plead for the life of King Louis XVI. The choice of gilded bronze is a nod to Napoléon Bonaparte, who during a banquet for Paine, raised his glass and proclaimed, *"Every city in the world should raise a golden statue for you."*
- After some deliberation on its location, the Council of Paris decided in 1939 to place the statue in Montsouris Park, directly across from the United States Foundation of the International City. Due to the outbreak of WWII, the statue was not inaugurated until January 29, 1948.

Closer to us in New York, one can visit his cottage and monument in New Rochelle:



Above:

Left: The cottage given to Thomas Paine in New Rochelle, NY—seized from a “Loyalist”— was surrounded by a vast estate. Today, only a small park remains.

Right: The Thomas Paine Monument, New Rochelle, NY,

Photos: TC © ASSFI 2026

- Not far from Manhattan, one can visit the Thomas Paine cottage. It has been owned by the "Huguenot and New Rochelle Historical Association" and has been operated as a historic house museum since 1910.

20 Sicard Avenue, New Rochelle NY 10804 GPS: [40.934522, -73.791184](https://www.google.com/maps/place/40.934522,-73.791184)

- The estate was a 277-acre farm granted to Paine by New York State in 1784 for his Revolutionary War services. In his 1809 will, Paine left the majority of his property, including the farm in New Rochelle, NY, to Marguerite Bonneville in trust for her children's education.

- The monument by preeminent sculptor John Frazee was erected in 1839 and sits at the entrance of Paine Avenue near the cottage with long passages of his pamphlet engraved.

An interpretive marker is placed nearby and also provides extensive quotes from Common Sense, but no text to explain his life, and no mention that Paine was a naturalized American, naturalized French Revolutionary, and an elected Representative to the National Convention in Paris.

Robert R. Livingston
Founding Father
Minister Plenipotentiary, 1801-1804
Negotiator, Louisiana Purchase



Above:

Left: Livingston is depicted on the 1953 postage stamp commemorating the signing of the Louisiana Purchase, By Bureau of Engraving and Printing - U.S. Post Office, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9474849>

Right: Robert R. Livingston oil on canvas 35¼ x 28½ inch, Attributed to Gilbert Stuart - Christie's, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=19780311>

Robert R. Livingston (1746 - 1813) He was an American lawyer, politician, and diplomat from New York, and also a Founding Father of the United States. He earned the nickname "The Chancellor" due to the high legal position he held in New York for 25 years.

He served on the Committee of Five that created the Declaration of Independence, alongside Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Roger Sherman, but was called back by New York before he could sign the document. However, he sent his cousin, Philip Livingston, to sign the document in his place.

- After Thomas Jefferson was elected President of the United States, he took office on March 4, 1801, and appointed Livingston as the U.S. minister to France. Livingston served from 1801 to 1804 and was responsible for negotiating the Louisiana Purchase.

- He first resided rue Auber, in the 9th arrondissement, but in 1804 he moved to the hôtel de Montholon, 23 boulevard Poissonnières, originally built in 1785 for Nicolas de Montholon, president of the Parliament of Normandie.

- His predecessors have brought back to the States quantities of precious furniture — but he brought back a Title, a paper parchment with millions acres of land!

- For more details about Robert R. Livingston and the Louisiana Purchase, we refer our readers to our **May 2025 "222 years ago: the Louisiana Purchase"**

<https://conta.cc/4dsqMvu> (in English)

<https://conta.cc/4jUS0Nu> (in French)

John Armstrong, Jr.
Revolutionary War officer
Minister Plenipotentiary 1811-1812



Above:

Left: Daguerreotype of Armstrong in 1840. This photo is the only one of a person who served as a delegate to the Continental Congress. By Unknown author - Original publication: 1840, New York, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=45246950>

Right: Hugues-Bernard Maret (1763-1839), duc de Bassano, minister of Foreign Affairs. (1811-1813) By Robert Lefèvre, Domaine public, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=15143449>

• A fascinating figure — and one with a delightful connection to France that is quite literally rooted in the soil. Here is a summary:

John Armstrong Jr. (1758 - 1843) was an officer in the Continental Army, aide-de-camp to General Horatio Gates. He had an active political career, serving as a member of the House of Representatives and the Senate, as U.S. Minister to France, and as Secretary of War during the War of 1812.

• President Jefferson chose him to replace Robert Livingston as Minister to France, where he served for six years from 1804 until 1810 negotiating with Napoleon - a period of extravagant opulence, pageantry, as the oil portrait of the French Foreign minister above attests.

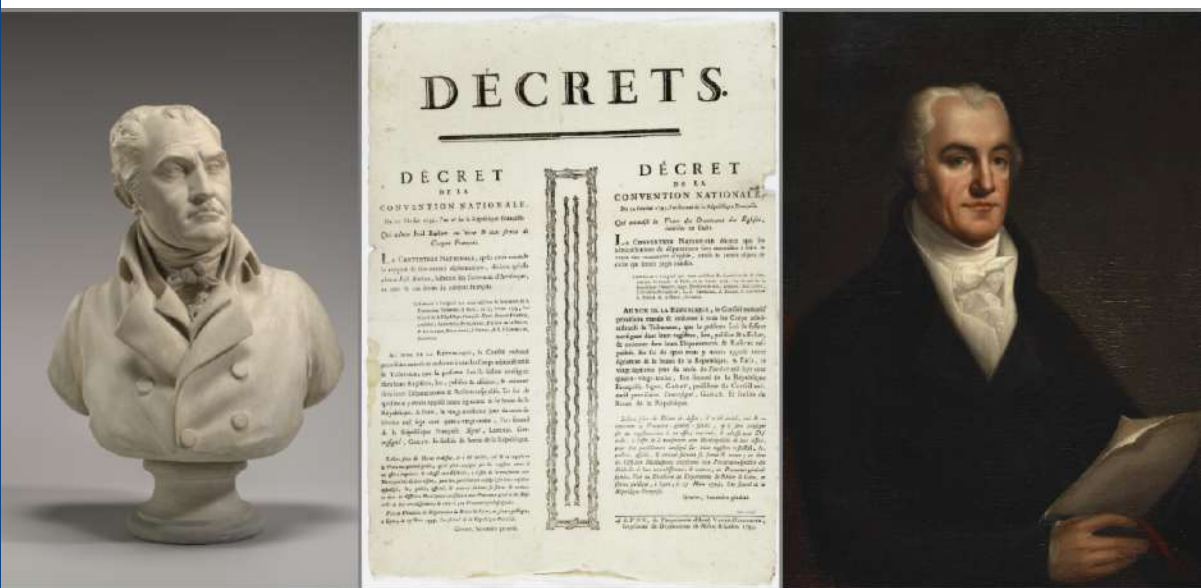
• While in Paris, he initially lived at 15 rue du Renard, Paris (4e arrondissement), then moved to 1 rue de Vaugirard in the 15th arrondissement in 1808 (across from the Jardins du Luxembourg).

• He didn't bring back in his luggage vast tracts of land, or mountains of exquisite furniture.

But what follows is the most charming detail of all. On Armstrong's departure after serving as Minister, Napoléon gifted him Merino sheep. Armstrong named his farm estate in Red Hook, New York "La Bergerie" — French for "the sheepfold" — where he raised these Merino sheep for the rest of his life. So Armstrong's legacy from France was agricultural — a flock of Merino sheep from the Emperor himself, and a French name for his farm that he kept until his death in 1843.

There is still a "La Bergerie Lane" in Red Hook, NY, near the Hudson River.
GPS: [41.986814, -73.919770](https://www.google.com/maps/place/41.986814,-73.919770)

Joel Barlow
American Revolution Patriot
naturalized French Citizen
Minister Plenipotentiary 1811-1812



Above:

Left: Joel Barlow, model 1803, by Jean-Antoine Houdon, National Gallery of Art, Washington DC, <https://www.nga.gov/artworks/176334-joel-barlow>

Center: French naturalization decree by the Convention Nationale, Imprimerie Aimé Vatar-Delaroche, 1793, Musée Carnavalet, Paris, Licence CCO, <https://www.parismuseescollections.paris.fr/en/node/135029#infos-principales>

Right: Portrait of Joel Barlow, by Robert Fulton, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=65882268>

Joel Barlow (1754-1812) is not as well-known, but he was a hero of the American Revolution (he fought at the Battle of Long Island) and a Patriot. We conclude this list with him as he was perhaps the most francophile of all.

Poet, diplomat, and fervent republican:

- Born in Redding, Connecticut in 1754, Barlow was a poet educated at Yale who became a strong supporter of the French Revolution and a dedicated Jeffersonian republican.
- He went to France and never really returned: arriving in Paris in 1788 as an agent for the Scioto Land Company, Barlow became deeply involved in French revolutionary politics and remained there for almost seventeen years.
- Barlow was defeated in his bid to be elected to the French National Assembly but, in a striking display of francophilia among all the Founding-era Americans, received French citizenship on February 17, 1793.
- He turned against the King he once respected: Although he dedicated his epic poem *The Vision of Columbus* to Louis XVI, he joined those opposing the monarchy in calling for the King's execution — a significant political shift.
- He assisted Thomas Paine from prison: Barlow helped Paine publish the first part of *The Age of Reason* while Paine was imprisoned during the Reign of Terror — an act of great personal bravery.
- Appointed U.S. Minister to France in 1811, Barlow traveled to Vilnius in Lithuania, in October 1812 to negotiate with Hugues-Bernard Maret, Duc de Bassano, Napoleon's foreign minister, only to witness the disastrous French retreat from Moscow. He became ill and passed away from pneumonia on December 26, 1812, in the Polish village of Żarnowiec — as far from Paris as one could get, yet still within France's influence until the very end.

Residence in Paris:

When Joel Barlow served as the U.S. Minister Plenipotentiary to France (appointed 1811), he resided in the same building as his predecessor **1, rue de Vaugirard** in Paris. He had resided in the same building years earlier, during his time as a commission merchant.

- The city of Barlow, OH, is named in his honor, as well as Barlow High School in Redding, CT.

EPILOGUE



Above:

The 1/4 replica of *Liberty Enlightening the World* on the Île aux Cygnes, facing New York, was given to Paris by Parisian expatriates in the United States to celebrate the centennial of the French Revolution (1889).

Photo credit : <https://www.flickr.com/photos/dugspr/>

From July 4, 1776, onward: All these historical figures described above were either Founding Fathers, or Revolutionary War Patriots. Almost all of them developed intimate links with France and the French people — or at least Paris and the Parisians.

As we have seen, they brought back for the most part an enduring and reciprocal affection, regardless of the tumultuous events that took place during the French Revolution.

Several of them became President of the United States. This period of history ended with the last of them in the 1840s.

One would have to wait until the 1880s for a renewed strengthening of ties, as both nations were, again, sister republics in a world of monarchs. Then came WWI, and WWII, when the United States and its soldiers came twice to France to fight for freedom and democracy against dictatorships.

As we celebrate America250, may we remember on both sides of the Atlantic the strong bonds that our forebears forged in happy times as well as in tragic times, and may we live up to their legacy!

PART TWO

Tribute to the American Volunteers who joined the Lafayette Flying Corps:

Every month, we are paying tribute to an American volunteer who fought for France, freedom and democracy. This month, we honor:

Caporal Charles Louis Trinkard

at Manonville (near Toul, Meurthe-et-Moselle)

A black and white photograph of two men in military uniforms standing outdoors. The man on the left wears a flat cap and a light-colored jacket with a dark belt. The man on the right wears a dark jacket and breeches. They are standing in front of a wooden structure.

PARTIE À REMPLIR PAR LE CORPS.

TRINKARD

Nom

Prénoms Charles Louis

Grade *adjudant - pilote*
en substituant au 1^{er} Groupe d'aviation.

Corps *Personnel des Ateliers de la Légion étrangère*

N^o *34809* au Corps. — Cl. *E. K. 1914*

Matricule. *5255* au Recrutement *Paris Central*

Mort pour la France le *29 novembre 1917*
au Dessus de Courmouille (Ais. M. A.)

Genre de mort *par accident au terrain, commandant*

Né le *25 mai 1891*
Fézery

Département *Suisse*

Arr^o municipal (p^r Paris et Lyon), }
à défaut rue et N^o.

Cette partie
n'est pas à remplir
par le Corps.

Jugement rendu le *26*
par le Tribunal de
acte ou jugement transcrit le
à *29 : Paris (17^e)*
N^o du registre d'état civil

209-708-1022. [30434]

[illegible]

Ord. Arm.-Aux.

Mec.

Nom *Trinkard*

Prénoms *Charles*

Grade *Captain 7-8-1917*

Recrutement *Seine Cal* N° M^{ts} au Recrut^{ts} *L.M. 5255*

Classe *1914* N° M^{ts} au 2^e Groupe d'Aviation

Engagé *le 24-8-1914 au 4^e Legion Changen*
Appelé

Passé à l'Aviation le *5-3-17* en qualité de *EPilote*

Emploi à l'Aviation *Pelote 34-7-17 Division N*

Venu de *Paris* le *12 Août 1917*

Né le *25-Mai-1896* fils de *Pierre*
Neveu, ET. Louis *Henriette Rouvier*

Célibataire, marié, veuf, divorcé, père de garçons et filles

Profession avant la mobilisation *Comptable*

Engagé le *24-8-1914* au *8^e Changen*
1^{er} Changen - Dyon - avad - Paris

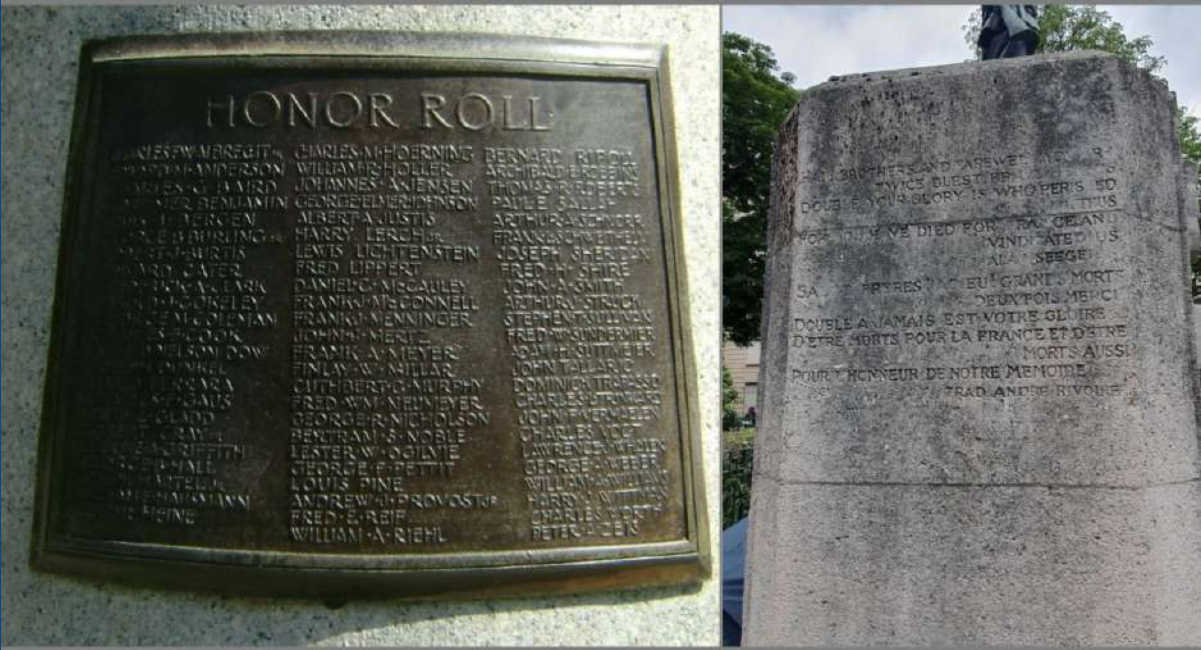
Active - Protestant

Décorations { Chevalier Légion d'honneur, Médaille Militaire,
Officier
Croix de guerre, Coloniales.

RÉGIMENT ou AÉRONAUTIQUE	RÉGIMENT	DIVISION	Corps d'Armée	ARMÉE

Citations

Signature : *Chas. Trinkard*



Above:
Top Left: Charles Trinkard (right) with Wainwright Abbott (left) at Avord in April of 1917, added by Mark on 03 Mar 2017, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/175428641/charles-louis-trinkard#view-photo=152610952>
Top Right: Livret Militaire, Mémoire des Hommes, Ministère de la Défense, https://www.memoiredeshommes.defense.gouv.fr:443/ark:40699/m00523a02c0a785f.moteur=arko_defaut_66fa612acbc0d
Middle Left: The sun, March 24, 1918 page 57 "of the original Americans who joined the Legion with me in August 1914, there remains only four of us"...Trinkard is captioned on the photo taken in 1917. <https://www.nyshistoricnewspapers.org/>
Middle Right: French muster roll, https://www.memoiredeshommes.defense.gouv.fr:443/ark:40699/m00523ad2a65b374.moteur=arko_default_66fa612acbc0d
Bottom Left : Richmond Hill War Memorial, Forest Park <https://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/forest-park/monuments/1339>
Bottom Right: American World War I Volunteers Memorial, Paris France
photographed by J. Makali Bruton, June 3, 2024, <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=248837>

Charles Louis Trinkard

Rank: Corporal
Serial #: L.M 5255
Unit: Régiment de Marche de la Légion Etrangère (enlisted August 24, 1914)
Transferred to Aviation in 1917
Unit: Lafayette Escadrille
Date of Death: 1917-11-29
State: New York
Decoration: Croix de Guerre with star
Official Designation: "Died for France"

"Orphaned at a young age, Charles L. Trinkard was raised by his older sister Josephine. On August 24, 1914 he joined the French Foreign Legion and served as an infantryman on the front lines. He was awarded France's Croix de Guerre for his service. On March 1, 1917, Charles transferred to France's Service Aeronautique. He underwent aviation, acrobatic, and gunnery training at Avord, Pau, and the G.D.E. earning his brevet on the Caudron on July 24, 1917 and graduating from the training pipeline on August 30, 1917. He was assigned and flew at the Front with Escadrille N.68. On Thanksgiving Day, 1917, Charles was killed when his aircraft crashed while stunting for his comrades after returning from a patrol. He was initially buried in the De Choloy cemetery at Toul. In 1919 his remains were moved to the St. Mihiel American Cemetery at Thiaucourt. Finally, in 1928, his remains were moved to the Lafayette Flying Corps Monument just West of Paris."
[Source: "The Lafayette Flying Corps: The American Volunteers in the French Air Service During World War One," by Dennis Gordon. Schiffer Military History, Atglen, PA: 2000.]

• **Burial:**
[Lafayette Escadrille Memorial](#)

• **Memorial Plaque, Richmond Hill Memorial, Forest Park, Queens, NYC:**

Charles L. Trinkard is listed among 72 other killed in WWI:

Park Lane S. & Myrtle Ave, Richmond Hill, NY 11418

GPS: [40.701335](#), [-73.841558](#)

• **Inscription:**

"Erected By The / People Of Richmond / Hill

In Memory Of / Her Men Who Served /

And Died In The / World War / 1917 /

Pedestal, Proper Left Side:

An Expression Of Ever / Lasting / Gratitude / And Love / 1918 "

American World War I Volunteers Memorial:

Charles L. Trinkard is listed in the Escadrille Lafayette section

1 Pl. des États-Unis, 75116 Paris, France

GPS: [48.867755](#), [2.295008](#)

"To the American Volunteers who died for France

Hail brothers and farewell, you are

twice blest brave hearts

double your glory is who perished

thus

for you have died for France and

vindicated us

Alan Seeger"

PART THREE
SAVE THE DATES
NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

The American Friends of Lafayette

An amazing compilation of the
Bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour
in Lancaster, Pennsylvania

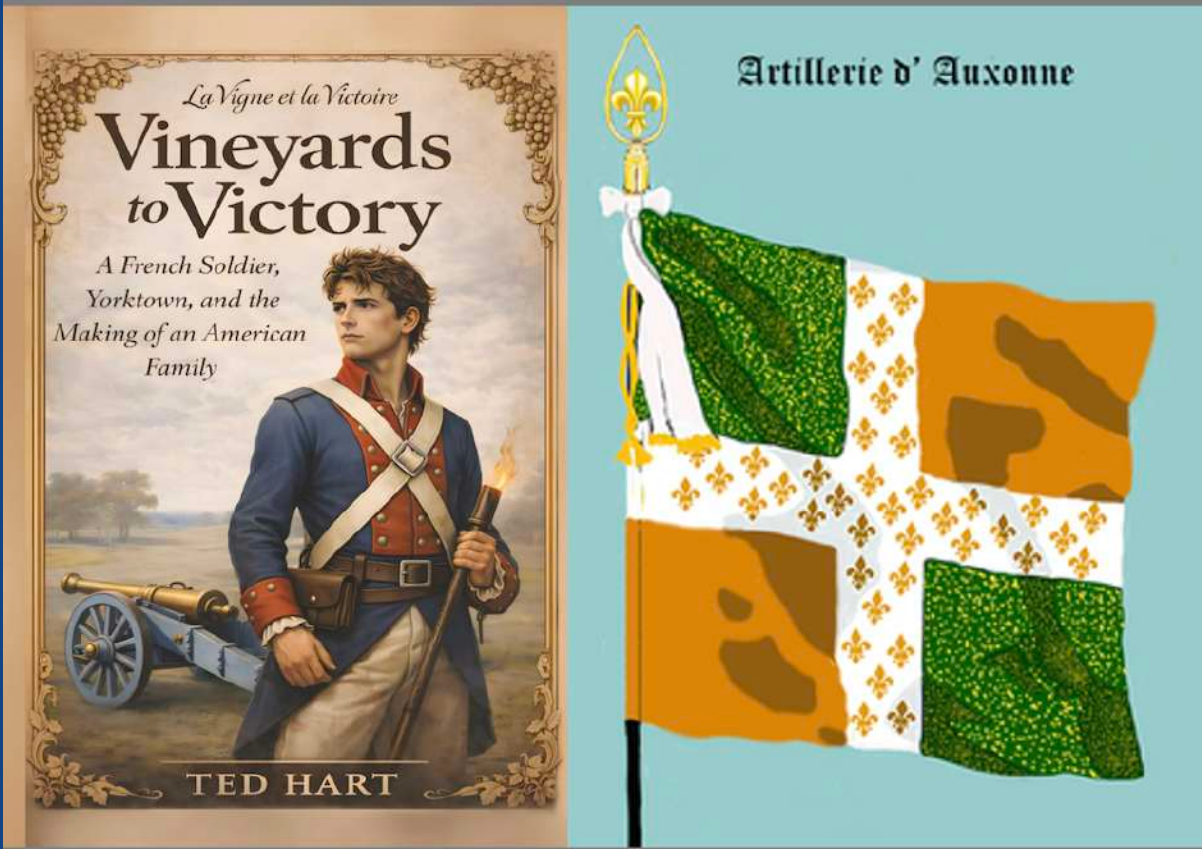


The Lancaster Lafayette200 article is available in its entirety by clicking the photo above or [HERE](#)

This compilation of dozens of photos and accompanying text, carefully assembled and edited by AFL member Kathleen Hood is a book by itself. These memories will live on forever. One will never be able to appropriately thank the hundreds of volunteers who celebrated the Marquis' triumphal visit of

1824-1825, throughout 24 States. This article shows the enduring affection and love that Americans of all age and political opinons share towards this great hero of the Revolutionary War and staunch advocate of democracy and human rights.
We applaud Kathleen Hood, Alan Hofman, President, and Jan O'Sullivan, Associate Editor, *Gazette of the American Friends of Lafayette* for their *important work*.

"From Vineyards to Victory"
A new book by Ted Hart



The Lafayette Speaker series

"From the vineyards of France to the battlefield of Yorktown, one young French artilleryman unknowingly shaped an American family for generations to come. Vineyards to Victory tells the true story of Siméon Gaugien, a farmer's son from rural Haute-Saône who joined Rochambeau's expeditionary force and sailed to America in 1780 to fight for a nation not his own. Trained as a French artilleryman, he endured a seventy-day Atlantic crossing, a winter encampment in Newport, and the decisive Siege of Yorktown, where French cannon helped force Lord Cornwallis's surrender and secure American independence.

The stories of Washington, Rochambeau, and Lafayette have been told. This is the story of the men who fought alongside them.

Grounded in four years of archival research across French and American archives, this meticulously documented narrative gives voice to the 30,000 French soldiers and sailors whose sacrifice helped make American independence possible. Every soldier named in these pages is a documented historical individual. Every major event is drawn from primary sources....

...and the AFL helped. Alan Hoffman and Frank Womble assisted Mr. Hart with their editing prowess.

It is the story of deep roots, cultivated in the vineyards of France, that weathered the storms of revolution and found new life in America.

PLEASE do not order from Amazon. For the same price as Amazon, please order from the following website because the AFL get's a donation for each book sold. Please order this fantastic book by clicking: [HERE](#)

Thank you Ted Hart !!!

With sincere appreciation and vive Lafayette!! "

Below is the full lineup of our speaker series...

~~~~~  
John Becica on May 12th at 7:30pm, EDT. He wrote the wonderful book Trail Tales. John will discuss the numerous interesting and quirky things that happened to Lafayette during his Grand Tour.  
The Zoom link is here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81191571220>  
~~~~~

Frank Womble on June 2nd at 7:30pm, EDT. AFL board member Frank Womble will present "Road to Yorktown: The 1781 Virginia Campaign." Of course Frank will elaborate on the impact Lafayette had on what could be the most important military campaign in American History. The Zoom link is here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89860387103>

Michael Halbert on June 16th at 7:30pm, EDT (rescheduled from April 16th). Nobody interpreted Lafayette's Grand Tour more prolifically and expertly than Michael. Like Lafayette, Michael traveled to (nearly) all 24 states. Michael was the quintessential Lafayette during our bicentennial. The Zoom link is here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84584744814>

An Atlantic crossing from Brest to New York by sailboat to celebrate 400 years of the French Navy

250 YEARS OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE & 400 YEARS OF THE FRENCH NAVY

TRANSATLANTIC INTREPIDE SAIL FOR LIBERTY

As a symbol of enduring friendship, cadets from the French Naval Academy and the U.S. Naval Academy will cross the Atlantic in May 2026 aboard the "Intrepide".

This sailboat, acquired in 2023, is named after the 74-gun ship that distinguished itself in the American Revolutionary War. After sailing 10,000 nautical miles from Brest to Norfolk, the crew will continue to Annapolis and finally New York for the 250th July 4th celebrations.

Beyond a sporting feat, this challenge provides officer cadets with vital hands-on training that strengthens leadership and combat readiness, while honoring a shared legacy and promoting the reputation of both navies.

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US AS A PARTNER!

* Intrepid is a life changing investment for us since it reinforces our cooperation today and prepares us our interoperability for tomorrow. We know 10 years from now we will meet again during our career and the bonds the Intrepid already creates just the starting point of a new adventure for all our schools.

John, midship

THE PROJECT

SEPTEMBER 5, 1781: BATTLE OF THE CHESAPEAKE

The first French-American naval cooperation. Although mostly known to maritime historians, this crucial naval battle was strategically decisive in the outcome of the American Revolution – and is, to this day, remembered by the French Naval Academy and units of the French Navy. The relationship between France and the United States is deeply rooted in shared history, common values, and a strong alliance that spans military, economic, and diplomatic cooperation. France, as the U.S.'s oldest treaty ally, provided crucial support during the American Revolution. Through their enduring friendship and shared objectives, France and the United States continue, to this day, to strengthen their alliance for a peaceful, prosperous, and secure world.

Thus, in addition to strengthening ties within the French-American crew of the "Intrepide", another goal of this demanding crossing is to continue exchanges ashore, reinforcing the bonds of friendship between our two nations.

THE TEAM

As the undergraduate college of the country's naval service, the US Naval Academy prepares young men and women to become professional officers of competence, character, and compassion in the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. Cadets from the USNA undergo a rigorous academic and military education, preparing them to navigate the complexities of modern naval operations. Just like their American counterparts, French naval officers are trained to handle the most sophisticated and challenging systems, contributing to both the French Navy and to global maritime security.

The participation of both French and American officer midships in this transatlantic crossing will be a unique opportunity for them to forge stronger bonds as future defenders of their respective nations.

The shared experience at sea, and navigating the challenges of a transatlantic voyage together, will create lasting connections and deepen mutual understanding between them.

CELEBRATING A 250-YEAR OLD FRIENDSHIP

A CHALLENGE OF LEADERSHIP AND RESILIENCE AT SEA

This crossing offers the officer cadets a unique opportunity to develop both technical and human skills that are crucial for their future command roles. They will need to prepare to manage a large sailing vessel, applying precise navigation techniques, coordinating maneuvers, and assuming various responsibilities on board.

In the face of the challenges posed by the crossing and unpredictable weather conditions, they will need to demonstrate resilience. Managing sleep, nutrition, and task distribution on board will be crucial to maintaining their endurance throughout the journey. The role of watch leader and the organization of shifts will highlight their ability to lead and maintain a smooth and efficient organization. This crossing will thus serve as a true training ground for combativeness, where success will depend on collective effort, perseverance, and solidarity.

Cadets from the USNA and French Naval Academy and 4 skippers from the French Naval Academy (Ecole navale)

A UNIQUE MARITIME JOURNEY

To complete this 10,000-nautical-mile crossing, the crew will have to prepare themselves physically, train to maneuver the exceptional and demanding sailboat "Intrepide", and complete offshore training, World Sailing course, first-aid training, etc.

SCHEDULING

2025 - EARLY 2026 : PREPARATION	MAY TO AUGUST 2026 : THE TRANSATLANTIC
- Spring 2025 : refit of the Intrepide : overhaul of hull, rigging and fittings. Purchase of a new mainsail. - Autumn 2025 : 20 days of ocean sailing. Training courses for crew members, first aid, and rescue. - Winter 2025 : sailboat configuration for the transatlantic journey and short navigation voyages. - Spring 2026 : Welcome French students and short navigation voyages.	20 May : Welcoming the USNA students 5 May : Depart from the French Naval Academy in Brest 19-23 June: Arrival in Norfolk and participation in SAIL 250, a global gathering of tall ships and military vessels attended by Admiral Pierre Vasselier, NATO Supreme Allied Commander Transformation 23 June: Arrival at the USNA in Annapolis, French-American exchanges and events 4 July: Participation in the Independence Day celebrations in New York - End of July: Return to France

BUDGET

By supporting us, you will be actively participating in every stage of this journey. Every 10 nautical miles covered represents a contribution of \$350 towards the following costs:

- Preparation upgrading and acquisition of a new mainsail
- Equipment required for a long-distance crossing
- Specific training for the crew
- Logistic expenses

The total estimated budget for the crossing is 290,000 US dollars.

THE SAILBOAT, THE INTREPIDE

L'Intrepide is a 70-foot carbon sailing yacht with a technical, sporty, and demanding character, designed for offshore crewed racing. Developed by New Zealand skipper Chris Dickson, renowned for his participation in the America's Cup, it was specifically built to win the Transpacific race: its design combines simplicity, performance, and reliability.

SUPPORT THIS PROJECT

By supporting this project, you:

- Empower future naval leaders
- Strengthen the bond between the U.S. Naval Academy and the French Naval Academy through an unforgettable maritime adventure
- Celebrate the enduring French-American friendship
- Help showcase the excellence and reputation of our two navies worldwide

COMPANIES

REASONS TO SUPPORT

- To leave a legacy during the crossing and at various stopovers and events
- To participate in exclusive moments around the celebrations of these anniversaries
- The chance to benefit from the feedback of our midships

Contact us for more information: partenariats@ecole-navale.fr

INDIVIDUALS

Together, let's turn their maritime adventure into a lifelong legacy and celebrate the French-American friendship.

Scan to support them today!

The **École navale**, which trains tomorrow's French Navy sailors at its Lanvéoc-Poulmic site in Finistère, Brittany, and its American counterpart, the **United States Naval Academy** (USNA), will cross the Atlantic in May 2026. It is organized as part of the 400th anniversary of the French Navy and the 250th anniversary of American independence. **We are issuing an urgent appeal to our supporters and Franco-American companies to contribute to the success of this project, which will culminate on July 4 in front**

of the Statue of Liberty.

Please contact us if you could assist in hosting one of the Cadets in New York at your home (July 2-July 6)

Click above to help make this crossing a reality!

Upcoming Ceremonies Dedications & Inaugurations 2026

From the Federation of French War Veterans, Inc.



**The Federation of French War Veterans, Inc., along with
The Association of French Reserve Officers in the United States,
and The American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc.**

Invite you to join at the public ceremonies:

• **Friday, May 15, 2026 – 11:00 a.m. – Flanders Field Memorial**

Wreath-laying organized by the Government of Flanders, Belgian General Consulate, at deWitt-Clinton Park, 11th Ave. &, W 54th St, New York, NY 10019

• **Sunday, May 24, 2026 - 10:00 a.m. - Park Avenue Armory**

Procession from the Armory, 68th Street & Park Avenue, to the 107th Infantry Regiment Memorial, East 67th Street & Park Avenue, NY, NY 10065 and wreath laying

• **Monday, May 25, 2026 - 11:00 a.m. - Memorial Day Parade**

Little Neck Parkway, Douglaston, Queens, NY 11004

**Lafayette Flag Changing Ceremony
Wednesday, May 20, 2026 - 11:00am**



Traditionally held around July 4th, the annual ceremony of the changing of the flag (which flies permanently over Lafayette's tomb) will occur on a different date in 2026 because of the busy schedule of the United States Ambassador during the 250th Anniversary of American Independence. Since the Ambassador will lead the ceremony, it has been planned to align with the anniversary of General Lafayette's death.

Thus, this tribute—featuring military units and notable French and American civil and military officials—will be held on **Wednesday, May 20, 2026**, at 11:00 AM sharp, at Lafayette's tomb at **Picpus Cemetery**, 35 rue de Picpus, Paris (12^e).

If you wish to attend, please RSVP to sarfrance.sons@gmail.com. If you plan to bring friends, they are also asked to RSVP to sarfrance.sons@gmail.com.

It is requested that all in attendance arrive by 10:30 AM at the latest.

Honoring CPT. John F. Hasey
Columbia Gardens Cemetery, Arlington, VA
May 30, 2026 at 11:30AM





INVITATION

You are cordially invited to a

Dedication Ceremony
honoring

CPT John F. HASEY
French Foreign Legion
Compagnon de la Libération

In the presence of
Colonel Thibaud Thomas
French Military Attaché

Saturday, May 30, 2026
11:30 AM – 12:00PM noon

Columbia Gardens Cemetery
3411 Arlington Boulevard • Arlington, Virginia 22201

In honor of his service, and the historical bonds of freedom and democracy
between France and the United States.

Please R.S.V.P. [HERE](#) for admission to the ensuing refreshments & buffet

The replica of the bronze medallion of the Compagnons de la Libération was made possible by the Ordre de la Libération, and the financial support of the Association of French Reserve Officers in the United States, TheFrenchWillNeverForget, and the Federation of French War Veterans, Inc.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN JOHN FREEMAN HASEY

French Foreign Legion.
Compagnon de la Libération

November 3, 1916 – May 9, 2005

John “Jack” Hasey was a man whose life read like the great adventure novels of his era — and yet every word of it was true. Born into a wealthy New England family in Brockton, Massachusetts, he could have chosen comfort and convention. Instead, he chose France, freedom, and the field of battle.

After college, Hasey crossed the Atlantic in 1936 and made his home in Paris, where his charm and connections earned him a coveted role as a high-jewelry salesman for Cartier, counting the Duchess of Windsor, Douglas Fairbanks, and Marlene Dietrich among his clients. When the Soviet-Finnish War erupted in 1939, he volunteered as an ambulance driver, earning the Finnish Liberty Cross for his service before being wounded in February 1940.

The fall of France in 1940 was for Hasey not a moment of retreat but of resolve. Witnessing firsthand the collapse of French institutions in Biarritz and Bordeaux, he escaped to England and, on August 9, 1940, dined with General Charles de Gaulle and his family at a home in Putney. The very next day, he volunteered to join the Free French Forces — one of the first Americans to do so.

He fought in the Dakar operation, the Gabon campaign, and in Eritrea against Italian forces. His courage under fire was unwavering. On June 20, 1941, during the Syrian campaign at the gates of Damascus, he was gravely wounded by six machine-gun bullets, one of which took away part of his face. From his hospital bed — head bandaged, a tube in his throat — he dictated his memoirs, later published as *Yankee Fighter: The Story of an American in the French Foreign Legion*.

In April 1942, General de Gaulle honored him with the highest distinction the Free French could bestow: Hasey became the first American citizen to be named a Companion of the Liberation. In his personal letter, de Gaulle wrote that just as Hasey had been the first American to shed his blood for Free France, so he wished him to be the first to receive this honor. He went on to serve as aide-de-camp to General Pierre Koëning during the liberation of Paris in August 1944.

Demobilized in 1945 as a reserve captain, Hasey returned briefly to Cartier before embarking on a second remarkable career with the CIA, where he served in 17 countries over 24 years until his retirement in 1974. He is buried at Columbia Gardens Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

“To us, the memory; to them, immortality”

**Rochambeau honored
in the United States:**

Save the Date JUNE 6-7, 2026

Fourth Annual Rochambeau Festival

ROCHAMBEAU PARK A.K.A. YORKTOWN GRANGE FAIR GROUNDS
99 MOSEMAN ROAD, YORKTOWN HEIGHTS

NOON - 5 PM



Two Day Immersive Experience for Families



- ★ Relive events that shaped our nation's history
- ★ Living history debate at "Hunt's Tavern"
- ★ Skirmishes & military tactical demonstrations
- ★ Experience colonial life, animals of the day
- ★ Bus tour of Yorktown's encampment sites
- ★ Colonial games, heritage booths, history hunt
- ★ Live music, performances, food & beverage

Produced by Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route-New York, Yorktown Heritage Preservation Commission / Yorktown 250 and Yorktown Grange P of H #862
in Partnership with the Brigade of the American Revolution

... And at his hometown in France:

Dimanche
07 juin
10h-18h

Fête au château de Rochambeau



Benjamin Franklin
Inventeur & Imprimeur



Thomas Jefferson
Le Diplomate amateur
Médiateur des terroirs français

Exposition
Deux américains
amoureux
de la France



Ateliers des Sciences (pour tous)

- Fabriquer Cerf-Volant
- Participer à des jeux découvertes
- Déguster avec modération
- Rencontre de viticulteurs

Tarif : 5€ - gratuit - 12 ans



Infos :

07 68 31 04 78

Route de Varennes - D 917 - 2, rue de la Bondé - Naveil

www.lesamisderochambeau.org lesamisderochambeau@gmail.com



- Fête au château de Rochambeau -

- Dimanche 7 JUIN 2026 -

de 10 heures à 18 heures

Deux américains amoureux de la France



Benjamin Franklin
Inventeur & Imprimeur



Thomas Jefferson
Amateur des terroirs français

Ateliers Scientifiques pour enfants et adultes

Fabriquer un
Cerf-Volant

Participer à des
jeux découvertes

Déguster avec modération
Rencontre de viticulteurs

Restauration sur place

Tarif : 5€.

GRATUIT Pour les moins de 12 ans.

ACCÈS

Route de Varennes - D 917 - 2, rue de la Bondé - Naveil

- Tél. 07 68 31 04 78 -

Site : www.lesamisderochambeau.org

Mail : lesamisderochambeau@gmail.com

Ne pas jeter sur la voie publique

Inauguration

**Rochambeau Memorial Park
Meadowview Park, Middlebury, CT
June 27, 2026**



Middlebury's Role in the American Revolution

The Rochambeau Monument Project is a major initiative of the Middlebury Historical Society, commemorating a pivotal moment in our town's Revolutionary War history. Timed to coincide with the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the start of the Revolutionary War, the monument honors the French troops who marched through Middlebury in 1781 under the leadership of General Jean-Baptiste de Rochambeau. Their presence was part of the critical French-American alliance that helped turn the tide of the war. More than 2,000 of these soldiers died in the fight for American Independence.

It is now confirmed that the Memorial Park and statue will be inaugurated on Saturday, June 27, 2026.

As Ms. Alice DeMartino, Board Secretary of the Middlebury Historical Society wrote: "What makes this monument especially distinctive is that it does not portray a general or statesman— instead, it honors the *French foot soldiers* themselves: the men who marched, suffered, and in many cases died for American independence. Their courage and sacrifice are too often overlooked. Our project includes a major fundraising effort, a commissioned sculpture by Tony Falcone, and educational materials for the public".

The groundbreaking ceremony took place on Saturday, October 7, which was attended by our 1st Vice President, Col. (H) Patrick du Tertre. He paid tribute to both nations' shared struggle for liberty, declaring, "*Our duty today is to protect this heritage, to cherish and defend all that unites us—for the good of the world and of the next generations.*"

Our Society is honored to contribute to the erection of the bronze statue of a French soldier, and will be represented by our 1st Vice President, Col. (H) Patrick du Tertre on the day of the inauguration, June 27, 2026.

The Middlebury Historical Society need your help!
We invite you to visit our dedicated website to learn more:
<https://www.middleburyhistoricalsociety.org/>

Dedication

**The Sacred Earth Marker
From France to America
Arlington National Cemetery
July 5, 2026**

The Sacred Soil Marker of Arlington

Restoring a lost memorial honoring America's fallen World War I heroes and their mothers

UNITED STATES of AMERICA
EMBASSY and CONSULATES
FRANCE



La Borne de Terre Sacrée d'Arlington

Restauration d'un mémorial dédié aux Américains morts en 14-18 et à leurs Mères

The Sacred Earth Markers, containing earth from World War I battlefields, were conceived in early 1927 by sculptor Gaston Deblaise, a French veteran of that war. Their purpose was to provide a tangible form of remembrance to families of soldiers who died on the field of honor, "those whose graves are made of wounded earth."

Seven large Sacred Earth Markers were created in the late 1920's and early 1930's. The only one to be placed outside France was presented to the Arlington National Cemetery at Arlington in 1929. Unfortunately, this memorial was destroyed in 1938.

A new **Sacred Earth Marker** will be dedicated on **July 5, 2026** in Arlington as part of the celebration of Franco-American relations for the 250th anniversary of the Independence of the United States.

Wishing to express his gratitude for the life-saving arrival of American troops in 1918 and moved by their courage at the front, Gaston Deblaise sculpted a large Sacred Earth Marker to be placed in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

This marker was escorted to the United States in February 1929 by General Eugène Mariaux, Governor of Les Invalides and Director of the Army Museum.

The marker was placed west of Clayton Avenue in the Section 18 of the cemetery, where many American soldiers who fell in France during the First World War were buried.

In March 1929, a delegation of 39 French veterans traveled to the United States for a goodwill tour, intended to reciprocate a similar visit made by representatives of the American Legion in 1927. The group was led by Admiral Emile Guépratte, founding president of the Association of the Croix de Guerre, General Boulet Desbareau, and the Count de Pusy de Lafayette, a descendant of the Revolutionary War hero. The rest of the party consisted of French recipients of the Croix de Guerre, including a nurse, Elizabeth Sancerne.

Upon arriving in New York City on March 11, the group was received by the American Legion, local French leaders and Mayor Jimmy Walker. The delegation next traveled to Philadelphia, and then on to Lafayette, Indiana, before returning east to Washington, D.C. While the party was traveling, news arrived of the death of French General Ferdinand Foch, the supreme commander of the Allied armies on the Western Front at the end of World War I. The passing of this French national hero dominated the news cycle and overshadowed the rest of the tour. Nonetheless, on March 21, the delegation was received at the White House by President Herbert Hoover.

The next day, March 22, 1929, at a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, the delegation placed soil from the American battlefields of the Great War (Aisne, Marne, Bois Belleau, Château-Thierry et Montfaucon) into the marker, and it was permanently sealed.

In the 1930's the Arlington Sacred Earth Marker and its overseas counterparts played a significant role in joint Franco-American remembrance efforts. From 1930-1933, the U.S. and French government began a series of pilgrimages for American mothers and widows to visit the graves of their lost loved ones.

Unfortunately, due to an apparent flaw in its construction, the original Sacred Earth Marker at Arlington did not last long. After nine years of exposure to the elements, the marker deteriorated. Its remnants were removed in September, 1938.

The new identical marker was created using plans provided by the Friends of Renée and Gaston Deblaise Association.

The following organizations have supported this patriotic endeavor:

- The United War Veterans Council (uwvc.org)
- The Friends of Renée and Gaston Deblaise
- The American Society of Le Souvenir Français (www.SouvenirFrancaisUSA.org)
- The Croix de Guerre association (croixdeguerre-valeur militaire.fr/)
- The French Naval Academy (ecole-navale.fr/)
- The US Embassy to France (fr.usembassy.gov/fr/)
- American Battle Monument Commission (abmc.gov)
- American Battle Monument Foundation (abmf.org)
- The American Gold Star Mothers (americangoldstarmothers.com)

- American Legion, Paris Post 1 (parispost1.com/)
- VFW Dept of Europe (vfw.eu.org)

Dedication

Marker honoring
Capt. Louis d'Ohicky Arunder
First French officer Volunteer killed
of the American Revolutionary War
Gwynn Island, VA.
July 9, 1776 - 2026



Above:

Left: Collage of the new additional plaque, co-signed with the Virginia S.A.R., which will be installed next to the "Dunsmore's last stand" bronze plaque and a new interpretive marker. Photo courtesy of VA-S.A.R.

Right: aerial view of Gwynn Island, VA. photo: <https://allthingsliberty.com/2016/05/battle-of-gwynns-island-lord-dunmores-last-stand-in-virginia/>

It is confirmed!

On Thursday July 9, 2026, at 10:00AM, at Morningstar Marinas, 249 Mill Point Rd, Hudgins, VA 23076 we will inaugurate a bronze marker entirely funded by our Society honoring Capt. Louis d'Ohicky Arundel at a ceremony organized by the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, exactly 250 years later after the tragic death of the first French casualty of the War of Independence. Virginia and French Embassy officials will be present. Invitations will be sent shortly.

In our March 2025 Bulletin, we publicized an article written by Mr. Patrick Hannum published in the Journal of the American Revolution of February 26, 2025.

<https://allthingsliberty.com/2025/02/cricket-hill-and-gwynns-island-captain-arundels-only-fight/>

Dedication

of our Memorial honoring
Four soldiers of the
Royal Deux-Ponts
Odell Rochambeau Museum
Greenburgh, NY
September 19, 2026



Our granite memorial honoring 4 Soldiers of the French Army who died in the vicinity while American and French troops camped side-by-side will be inaugurated this Fall. This was the site of Rochambeau's headquarters from July 6 to August 19, 1781, and the site where Rochambeau and George Washington met to adopt the winning strategy to march to Yorktown.

The names of the 4 Soldiers of the Royal Deux-Ponts Regiments engraved on the memorial are:

David Petter, † July 18, 1781
 Antoine Houllier, † July 31, 1781
 Adam Steel, † July 14, 1781
 Johannes Anneury, † August 9, 1781

At this time the dedication is planned for September 19, 2026.

A confirmation will be announced by Friends of Odell House Rochambeau Headquarters and their president Susan Seal.

Click on the photos above to watch the video produced by the Odell Rochambeau Museum, "Dear France, thank you"

Dedication of our Memorial to French Navy Sailors Riverwalk, Yorktown, VA October 18, 2026



In 2022, we installed an interpretive marker dedicated to Admiral de Grasse explaining the crucial role of the French Navy 1778-1783. It has been seen by thousands of tourists on the Riverwalk, a few steps from the 4 sculptures of General Washington, Rochambeau, Lafayette and admiral de Grasse.

We have received the authorization from Yorktown authorities to install a granite memorial "to the Memory of 3,520 French Navy sailors who lost their lives for American independence", who do not have tombs as there are resting at the bottom of the ocean. We have received the support from the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution. The inauguration is planned for October 18, 2025, on the eve of the 245th anniversary of the joint French-American victory.

**Re-dedication
of the
Lapérouse Memorial
and inauguration of our Society's marker
Maui, Hawaii
Postponed to Fall 2026 (date to be announced)**



This restoration of the lava rock monument and installation of the marker would not have been possible without the constant support of **Marc Onetto**, West Coast Regional Delegate. Our interpretive marker, in three languages (English, Hawai'iian and French) and in Hawai'iian style, was installed last October and already visited by many tourists.

We were hoping to officially re-dedicate the site by the end of May 2026. Due to the French Ambassador's other pressing obligations, the ceremony has now been postponed until the Fall of 2026.

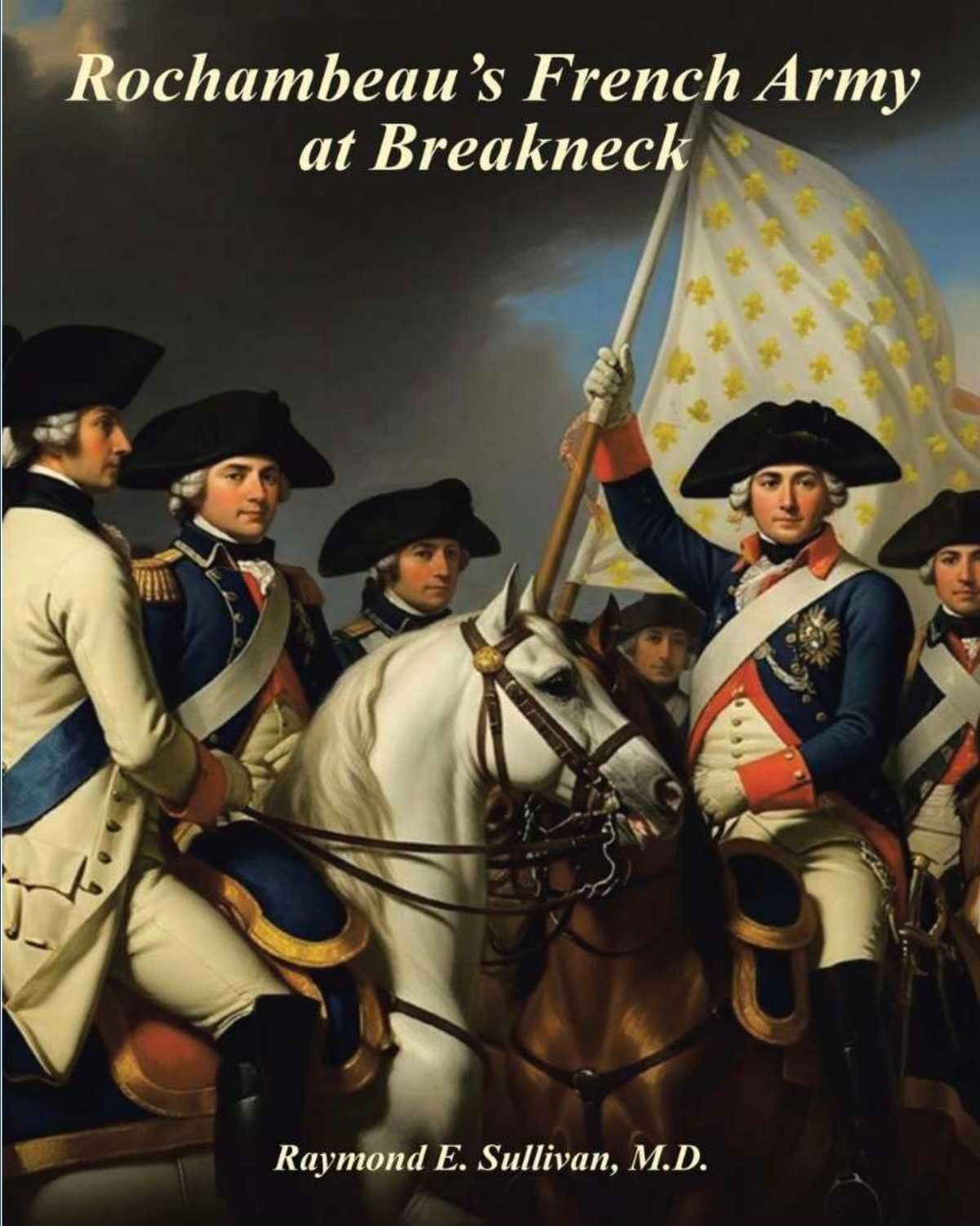
We will announce the exact day of the rededication ceremony in a future Bulletin!

Publications from our Members:

**Rochambeau's French Army at Breakneck
Dr. Ray Sullivan
Middlebury Historical Society, CT**

Foreword by Thierry Chaunu

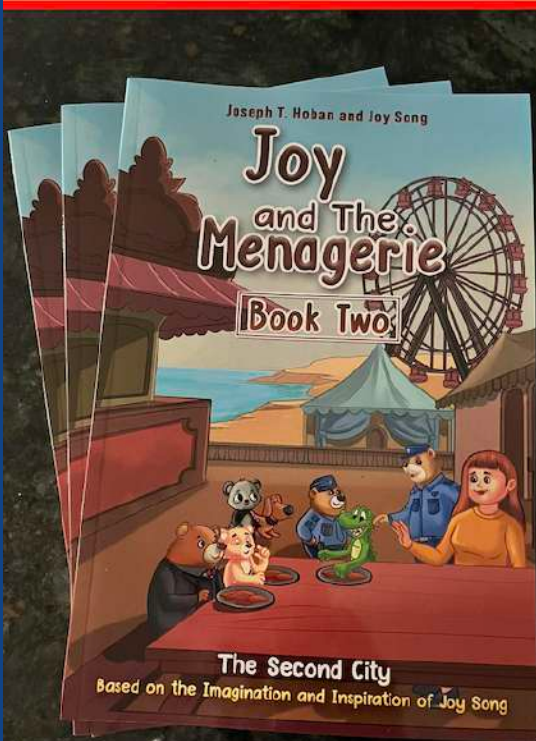
Rochambeau's French Army at Breakneck



Raymond E. Sullivan, M.D.

After the American victory at Saratoga in 1777, France formally entered the Revolutionary War under the command of General Rochambeau. In 1780, over 5,000 French troops landed in Rhode Island and later marched through Connecticut to join General Washington's army on the way to the decisive victory at Yorktown. This book tells the powerful story of that journey - focusing on their encampment at Breakneck Hill - and honors the sacrifice of the thousands of French soldiers whose courage helped secure America's independence.

Joy Song
"Joy and the Menagerie" Book Two



After settling into a routine in their new downtown Chicago home, Joy and the Menagerie, in partnership with their bosses and coworkers, participate in various community events. Officer Gerard Bear, who works for the French Consulate of Chicago, invites Kita Panda to accompany him for the volunteer cemetery cleanup effort. They are assigned to Graceland Cemetery, where they discover a grave marker containing a fleur-de-lis symbol. Gerard reports this finding to his employers at the Consulate, who conduct follow-up inquiries and learn that the gravesite belongs to a member of the French Volunteers who had served with the Marquis de Lafayette and General George Washington at Yorktown. With the upcoming summer vacation months, Gerard looks forward to traveling more frequently with his family, and in Book 3, with the help of his team at the Consulate, Gerard expands his knowledge about the French explorers and their impact on US history.

Please note that the book is now available for purchase on Amazon. (As with the prior book, the publisher will release the Kindle version at a later date.)

Join Us!

If you have not done so already....

Please renew now your Membership for the year 2026!

Whether you are renewing, joining us for the first time, or after an absence, we send you our warm greetings of welcome.

Your contribution is essential to our activities!

- \$ 25 for Veterans and Students
- \$ 50 for a membership (\$80 for a couple)
- \$100 for a Supporting Level membership
- \$150 for a Benefactor Level membership
- \$250 donation for the 'America250 special fund' (installation of a bronze plaque at Gwynn Island, VA)
- \$500 donation for our granite memorial at Riverwalk, Yorktown, VA to honor the 3,250 French sailors who died at sea for the independence of the United States (1778-1783)
- Any amount for the sculpture of Le Petit Prince and Antoine de Saint Exupéry in Miami (with \$1,000, *your name will be on the Donors plaque inside the Museum*)
- **We are an IRS-qualified 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Dues and/or donations are tax deductible. Donations of \$250 or more automatically include membership for 2026**

Note: We heartily thank those who responded to our last bulletin. If you joined in the final quarter of 2025, your membership is automatically extended through the entirety of the calendar year 2026.

The list of our activities, achievements, projects, is extensive and can be discovered on our site: www.SouvenirFrancaisUSA.org as well as our monthly Bulletins.

Please help us promote the historical ties between France and the United States. We thank you for your membership and any donations you may make to help us promote our missions and values!

***You can send your Membership or donation
via PayPal:***

<https://souvenirfrancaisusa.org/donate/>

(100% secure - no need to have an account with PayPal - major credit cards accepted)

or

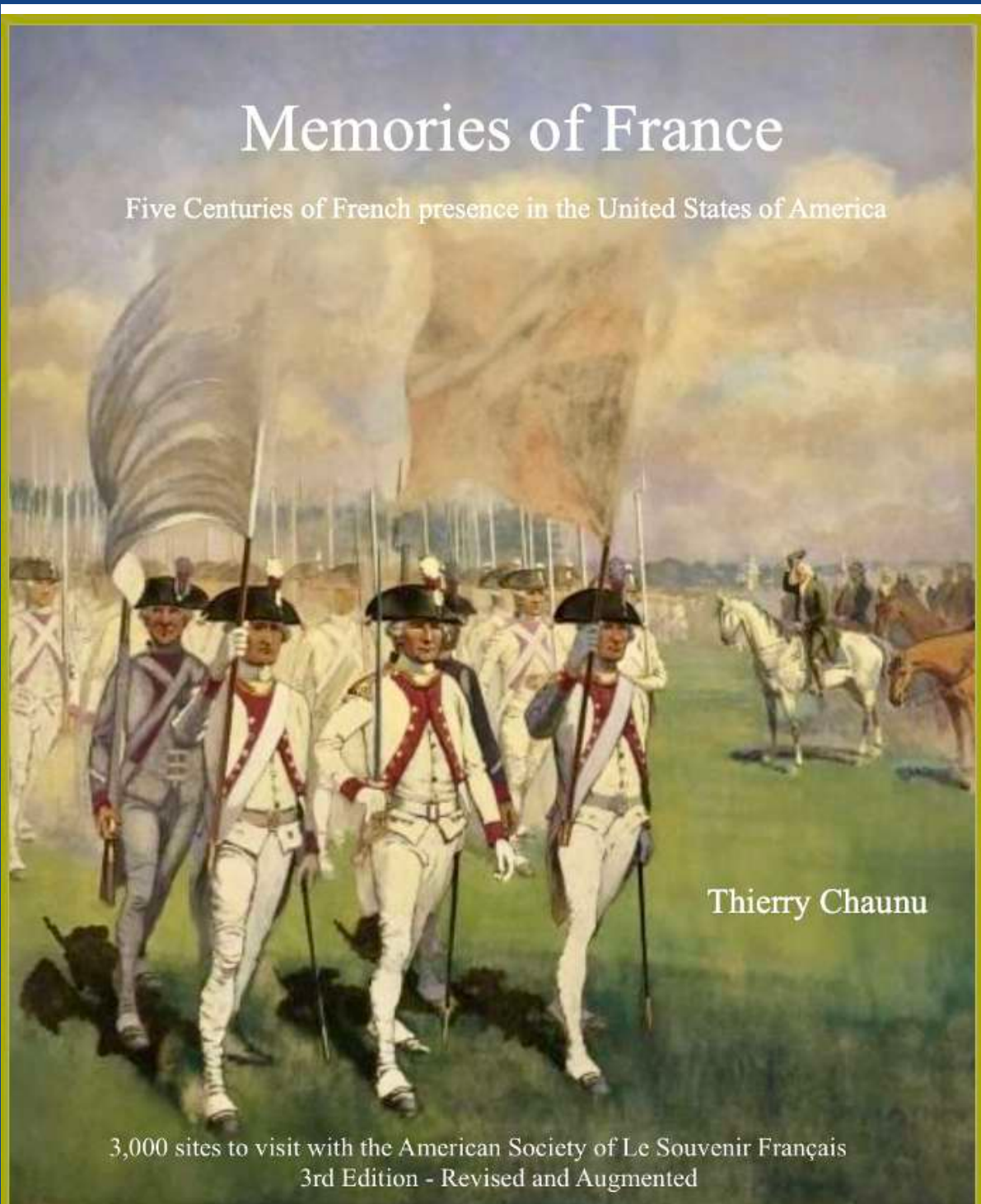
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Yves de Ternay, General Secretary
5650 Netherland Avenue #4G Bronx NY 10471

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(a \$19.5 value)*

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The 3rd edition of Memories of France (Revised & Augmented) is now available on Amazon documents 3,000 sites of French presence across all 50 states and five centuries of American history, up from 2,000 from the previous edition.

Join us and receive a special link to access a free PDF special version !

OUR MISSIONS:

- To preserve the memory of the French soldiers, sailors and airmen who gave their lives for freedom, and who are buried in the United States.
- To honor French Citizens who did great deeds in the United States, or with a strong connection with the United States,
- To promote the appreciation for French culture and heritage in the United States, and the ideals that unite our two nations, in order to pass the torch of memory to younger generations.
- To strengthen the long-standing traditional bonds of friendship between the American and French peoples, and to this end: erect or maintain memorials and monuments and encourage historical research, public presentations and publications in the media.

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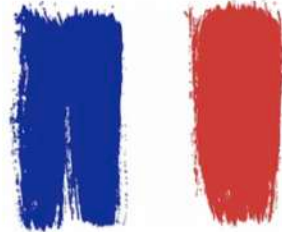
MONTHLY BULLETINS

OUR AIM: To turn the spotlight on a famous, or less famous, episode or historical figure during the long shared history between France and the United States, with illustrations and anecdotes.

You can have access to our past monthly Bulletins

(in English and French) at: www.SouvenirFrancaisUSA.org

Click on the illustrations on each page for further access to sources and references



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