

Why Fishkill residents should oppose Continental Commons

What is Continental Commons?

- Continental Commons is a plan submitted to the Town of Fishkill by the Pelham, NY-based entity GLD3, LLC on July 11, 2015 which calls for the commercial development of a 10.47 acres wooded lot located on the east side of U.S. Route 9, south of the Speedway station (formerly Hess), north of the Maya Café, and across from the Dutchess Mall area.
- The developer acknowledges the 10.4 acre lot as a Revolutionary War site but intends to only preserve .25 acres where a Continental Army cemetery containing multiple bodies is located.
- Proposed for the site are an iHop restaurant, small hotel, boutique shops, and a petting zoo with live animals, the creation of which will require the destruction of over 95% of the historic site.

Why should I oppose this development plan?

- The wooded lot is located at the very center of a Revolutionary War site known as the Fishkill Supply Depot that was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in January 1974.
- Archeological studies conducted over the past decades have shown that the wooded lot contains building foundations, countless artifacts, and various other ruins associated with the Continental Army's occupation at Fishkill. Due to its wartime supply and logistical mission, the site's archeological features are unique among the already preserved Revolutionary War sites.
- Archeological studies also identified a long-lost soldiers' cemetery where an estimated 320 soldiers lie in unmarked graves. Independent research has identified 83 Americans, 2 Canadians, and a French soldier believed to be buried at the same spot.
- Commercial development will destroy unique ruins, dishonor the memory of the heroes who served (and are buried) at the site, and permanently scar the historic landscape of Fishkill.

What will happen if development is stopped?

- Our group will continue to seek community engagement and partnership to secure funding, acquire the wooded lot, and preserve the site for future archeological and historic study in a format similar to the Jamestown Project in Virginia.
- We will also seek to acquire, study, and interpret other lots within Fishkill Supply Depot's historic footprint so that, over time, a single historic site is created and joined to the Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve.

What can I do to help?

- Contact the Town of Fishkill Planning Board (807 Route 52, Fishkill, NY 12524) and voice opposition to Continental Commons.
- Serve as an active volunteer with our group on projects relating to education and outreach.
- Donate to our Preservation Fund that was established for the acquisition of historic property.

About Us / Contact

The Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot (FOFSD) was founded in 2009 as a registered 501c(3) historic preservation organization with goals preserving, studying, and interpreting (for public benefit) the Fishkill Supply Depot site

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