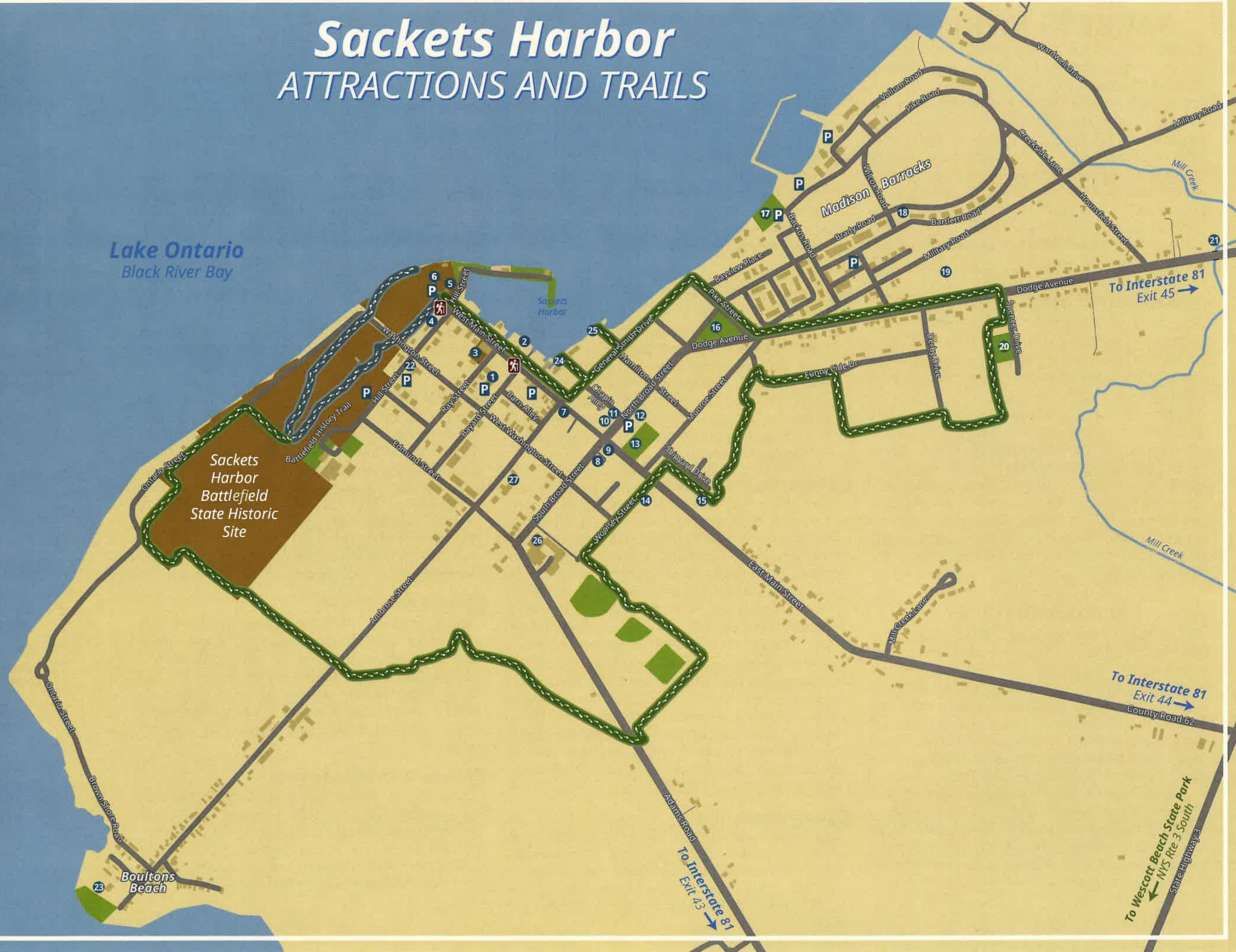


# Sackets Harbor

## ATTRACTIONS AND TRAILS

-  Battlefield State Historic Site
-  Village Parks and Sites
-  Public Parking
-  Trail Head
-  NYS Battlefield Historic Site History Trail
-  War of 1812 Bicentennial Trail

- 1 Heritage Area Visitor Center
- 2 Market Square Park, Bandstand, Village Dock, & Boat Launch
- 3 Former Union Hotel
- 4 Pickering-Beach Museum
- 5 Lieutenant's House
- 6 Commandant's House
- 7 Sackets Harbor Arts Center
- 8 Hay Memorial Library
- 9 United Presbyterian Church
- 10 Sackets Harbor Historical Society
- 11 Fire Pumper & Memorial
- 12 Village Hall and Fire Department
- 13 Stoodley Park
- 14 St. Andrew Catholic Church
- 15 Old Stone Chapel
- 16 Washington Park
- 17 Fort Pike Park
- 18 Stone Water Tower
- 19 Lakeside Cemetery
- 20 Military Cemetery
- 21 Mill Creek Bridge
- 22 Town Justice Building
- 23 Ambrose Street Park
- 24 Chapin Alley Park
- 25 Hamilton Street Park
- 26 Sackets Harbor Central School
- 27 Sackets Harbor American Legion
- 28 Horse Island Lighthouse



# SACKETS HARBOR

Sackets Harbor was settled in 1801 by Augustus Sacket, who recognized the potential of the only protected harbor on the American side of this portion of Lake Ontario. Because of its strategic location on the lake, Sackets Harbor had a long significant military history dating back to the War of 1812, when two battles were fought here because of the large naval shipbuilding activity. Sackets Harbor declined after World War II, following the closure of Madison Barracks. In the 1970s, the community began a revitalization effort, which has transformed Sackets Harbor into the vibrant historic village you see today.

## Battlefield State Historic Site

Following the outbreak of war between the United States and Great Britain in June 1812, Sackets Harbor became the center of American naval and military activity for the upper St. Lawrence Valley and Lake Ontario.

The Second Battle of Sackets Harbor was fought on the New York State Historic Site, which has preserved much of the actual battleground. Today the Sackets Harbor Battlefield is interpreted to the public by exhibits, outdoor signs, guided and self-guided tours, and a restored 1850s Navy Yard and Commandant's House. During the summer months, guides dressed in military attire of the War of 1812 period reenact the camp life of the common soldier.

## Madison Barracks

Realizing the importance of trained troops after the War of 1812, Madison Barracks was established in 1816 as one of the first planned U.S. Army posts. Named for President James Madison, it was a substantial link in the nation's defenses. Among the first buildings was the still existing stone barracks, now known as "Old Stone Row." It was enlarged and improved to meet the military's needs throughout its existence. Madison Barracks played a role in all of our nation's wars from the War of 1812 until its closure after World War II. It was the predecessor to Ft. Drum. Madison Barracks is recognized in the National Registry of Historic Places and has been reborn as an integral part of the Sackets Harbor community.

### 1 Heritage Area Visitor Center

Begin your visit to Sackets Harbor at the Visitor Center, located in the Augustus Sacket House, which was built by the Village's founder in 1802. The Visitor Center has an excellent orientation exhibit and video about the history and attractions of Sackets Harbor. It's open from May to October.

### 2 Market Square Park

Market Square Park was originally planned by founder Augustus Sackets to be the commercial center of the Village. It's now a center for residents and visitors with public docks, boat launches, picnic tables, restrooms, and a beautiful Bandstand.

### 3 Union Hotel (former)

The Union Hotel, built in 1817-18, is considered to be one of the finest surviving federal-era buildings in New York State, with its expertly-crafted masonry and well-preserved interiors. It's been long associated with the Masonic Order, which took over the building in 1864, when it was no longer operated as a hotel. The building is now owned and managed by NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

### 4 Pickering-Beach Museum

The Pickering-Beach Museum depicts life in Sackets Harbor in the mid-19th century. The Museum is located in the house built in 1818 by Joshua Pickering, who was a naval and commercial shipbuilder during and after the War of 1812. The House continued to be owned and used by descendants of the Pickering and Beach families. In 1862, Olivia Pickering married NYS Lieutenant Governor Allen Beach and used the House as a summer home.

Their daughter, Amy, bequeathed the House and its contents to the Village in the 1940s for use as a museum. The Museum includes an extensive collection of items from the Pickering and Beach families, as well as items donated by the public. The Museum is open in the summer and by appointment. For more information, contact the Heritage Area Visitor Center.

### 5 Lieutenant's House

The Lieutenant's House was built in 1849 as an officer's quarters at the US Naval Station established in response to Canada's Patriot War in 1837-40. This fine, Georgian-style building now houses the Historic Site's Visitor Center and gift shop.

### 6 Commandant's House

Also constructed in 1849, the Commandant's House served as the residence for the Commander of the Naval Station. The House now displays period furnishings and exhibits. Tours are provided from May to October.

### 10 Sackets Harbor Historical Society History Center

Located in the 1836 Bank Building, the History Center offers temporary exhibits about Sackets Harbor and genealogy services.

### 15 Old Stone Chapel

Construction on the former Christ Episcopal Church was begun in 1823, and it notably features Gothic arches and a Doric portico. Long one of the most significant ecclesiastical buildings in the North Country, the church was acquired by the Sackets Harbor Historical Society in 2021 in order to preserve and use it as a cultural center.

### 17 Fort Pike Park

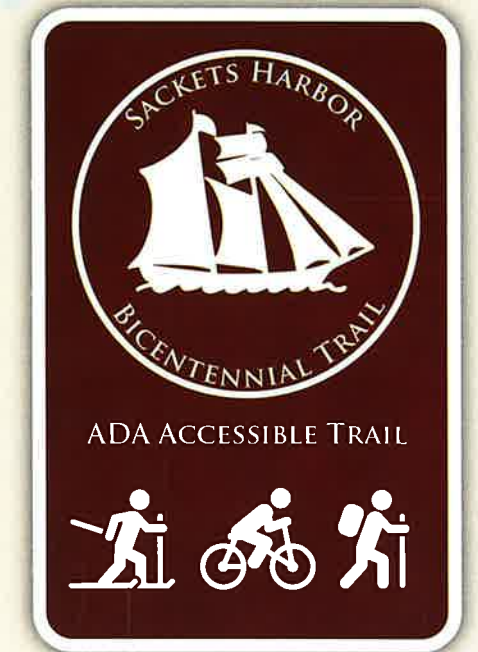
Fort Pike was built in 1813 and served as the northern anchor for a defensive ring of fortifications that eventually was built to surround Sackets Harbor during the War of 1812. The earthworks at Fort Pike are the only surviving remains of these fortifications. Fort Pike was named in honor of General Zebulon Pike (as was Pike's Peak), who was killed leading an attack from Sackets Harbor on Fort York (Toronto). He is buried in the Military Cemetery. Fort Pike is now a Village Park.

### 18 Stone Water Tower

Constructed in 1892 to provide water to an expanding Madison Barracks, the Stone Tower was architecturally based on the Romanesque Revival Style. Next to the Water Tower is "Old Stone Row", which was part of the original barracks built in 1816. Ulysses S. Grant lived there while stationed at Madison Barracks as a young officer.

### 28 Horse Island & Lighthouse

Located just off the mainland, Horse Island was the landing point for British Forces during the Second Battle of Sackets Harbor in 1813. A lighthouse has existed on the northwest side of the Island since 1831. Horse Island was recently made part of the Battlefield State Historic Site.



For more information, contact:

#### Sackets Harbor Heritage Area Visitor Center

301 West Main Street, P. O. Box 335,  
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685  
[www.visitsacketsharbor.com](http://www.visitsacketsharbor.com)  
[visitsackets@gmail.com](mailto:visitsackets@gmail.com)  
(315) 646-2321

#### Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site

504 West Main Street, P.O. Box 27  
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685  
[www.parks.ny.gov/historic-sites/7/](http://www.parks.ny.gov/historic-sites/7/)  
(315) 646-3634

#### Sackets Harbor Chamber of Commerce

100 West Main Street, P. O. Box 17  
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685  
[www.sacketschamber.com](http://www.sacketschamber.com)  
[sacketschamber@gmail.com](mailto:sacketschamber@gmail.com)  
(315) 646-1700

#### Sackets Harbor Historical Society

100 West Main Street, P. O. Box 398  
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685  
[www.shhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.shhistoricalsociety.org)  
[shhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:shhistoricalsociety@gmail.com)  
(315) 778-0156

#### Village of Sackets Harbor

112 North Broad Street, P. O. Box 335  
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685  
[www.sacketsharbor-ny.gov](http://www.sacketsharbor-ny.gov)  
(315) 646-3548

#### Town of Hounsfield

18774 Co. Rt. 66, Salt Point Road,  
Watertown, NY 13601  
[www.townofhounsfield-ny.org](http://www.townofhounsfield-ny.org)  
(315) 782-6380