



The Flash

Col's Co, RWF in America

August September 2020

Brinkerhoff Estate

OMG. I actually have an event to write about! The weekend of September 19-20 will see the one event of the year at the Brinkerhoff estate in Fishkill New York.

This is just about an hour north of NYC in the Hudson Valley and is a lovely location at just about the most perfect time of year. And so close to the NYC area that if you don't want to encamp you can easily go home for the evening.

Dennis Murphy and Mike Miller have been working hard to put this together and it is a chance to help out a local site, try to get interest going in a new region and re-invigorate two colonial units- because let's be fair the game works best when we have someone to beat.

Dennis will be cooking, something not seen since Ticonderoga but in and of itself well worth the event and there will be fighting.

So bring an appetite and two boxes of ammo.

To get to the site Take the Hutchinson River parkway to I-684 N follow it for almost 30 miles and take exit 9W toward Newburgh onto I-84 W.

Stay on this for 18 miles take exit 50 toward CR-27/Lime Kiln Rd. Turn right onto Lime Kiln after a mile turn left onto Route 52 (RT-52).

Turn right onto Palen Rd (CR-31) and then turn left onto N Kensington Dr.

Arrive at Brinckerhoff House Historic Site/Home of East Fishkill Historical Society. Your destination is on the left.

The Regiment

As the summer months close behind us I found myself thinking of a different war the regiment fought in. at the start of WW1, The RWF was one of the few regiments to have both of it's regular battalions in France.

In pre-war days it was the practice for regiments to keep one regular battalion in the colonies-usually this meant India and one in Europe. So when the war broke out in august of 1914 almost half of the regular regiments were spread around the globe.

For the Royal Welch Fusiliers one battalion was just going out to India while another was coming back. As chance would have it they met in Malta by all accounts resulting in a couple of epic parties among officers and enlisted with a rare photo to be found of the officers of both battalions together, an almost unheard of event for the day.

As it became clear that the European situation was deteriorating orders came for the outward-bound battalion to turn around and return to Britain where it would be part of the reinforcements sent out to help the BEF at 1st Ypres.

As the war unfolded territorial units were sent out to guard the empire and the regulars were brought back to Europe, but in those early months the RWF was one of the very few regiments to have both it's regular units among the "Old Contemptables."