

# TRAILS

**CHANCELLOR'S TRAIL** · This trail winds through the Chancellor's park east of the ruins of his residence, later known as Arryl House. The forests on this trail were once pleasure gardens and fields cultivated with hay and clover. The foundation and remnants of the walls of Arryl House are visible at the entrance to this trail.

**RIVERSIDE TRAIL** · One of Clermont's most popular trails, running along the avenue of Locust trees and past the Arryl House ruins, offers views of the Saugerties Light House. The gentler part of these slopes was once cultivated with wheat fields, on which the Chancellor experimented with gypsum and lime fertilizers.

**FARM ROAD TRAIL** · Clermont was a working farm from the 1720s until the Great Depression. This trail takes visitors by the Cow Barn, and by the Sylvan and Gardener's Cottages. Both cottages have original sections dating from the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, and are slated for restoration.

**ROSE ALBA TRAIL** · A section of this trail was treasured by members of the Livingston family who often used it for Sunday strolls. In the 1840s, Montgomery Livingston built a racetrack that circled this area for exercising his trotters and pacers.

**FORMAL GARDEN TRAIL** · The garden trail meanders past gardens once meticulously cared for by Alice Livingston, including the Walled Garden and the Wilderness Garden. The Walled Garden is based on the design of 1920s Italian gardens and the Wilderness Garden is reminiscent of rural English gardens.

**BRIDLE TRAIL** · This trail follows sections of the trails that were used by several generations of Livingstons for horseback riding.

# THE VIEWSHED



You can enjoy Clermont's magnificent viewshed, dominated by the Hudson River and storied Catskill Mountains, from many locations on the property. The mountain view, as seen from the east shore of the river on a sunny day, inspired the name of the Livingston family's home and estate—"clear mountain." Robert Livingston Jr. (1688–1775) purchased a half-million acres of Catskill Mountain property as an investment. On the eve of the Revolutionary War, the Livingstons took satisfaction in the knowledge that they owned everything they could see from Clermont's front steps.

Directly across the Hudson from Clermont, occupying land in Ulster County, is the hamlet of Malden-on-Hudson. Dominating the western view are the towering peaks of the Catskill Mountains, the tallest of which is the 3,140-foot Overlook Mountain. Further inland are Hunter Mountain (4,040 feet) and Slide Mountain (4,180 feet).

The "clove," or crevice in the mountain escarpment, visible directly across from Clermont is the Plattekill Clove. To the south is the clove of the Sawkill, which leads to the Village of Woodstock. This community developed a reputation as a retreat for artists during the nineteenth century; its "patron saint" is said to be Clermont resident and Hudson River School artist Montgomery Livingston.

FRONT COVER DETAIL: Montgomery Livingston, *Untitled Sketch (River with Sailboats)*, 1850s. Oil on paper. Collection Clermont State Historic Site. Montgomery Livingston often painted scenes of the Hudson River showing the new technology of the steambot, developed by his grandfather the Chancellor, alongside the older sloops and sailboats.

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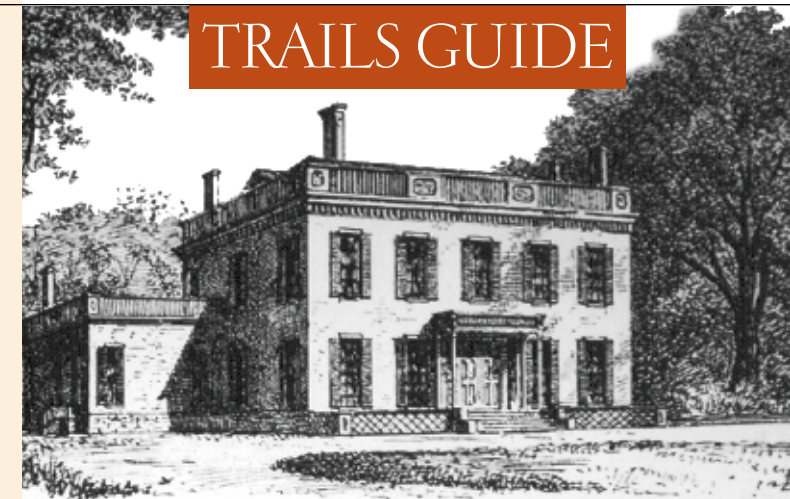
# Clermont Nature Trails

FOR HIKING AND HORSEBACK



Clermont State Historic Site  
1 Clermont Avenue, Germantown, NY 12526 · (518) 537-4240

CLERMONT STATE HISTORIC SITE



## Wildlife at Clermont

### BIRDS

- American Goldfinch
- American Robin
- Bald Eagle
- Baltimore Oriole
- Black-capped Chickadee
- Canada Goose
- Double-crested Cormorant
- Downy Woodpecker
- Eastern Bluebird
- Great Blue Heron
- Mute Swan
- Northern Cardinal
- Pileated Woodpecker
- Purple Finch
- Red-headed Woodpecker
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Ruffed Grouse
- Scarlet Tanager
- Sharp-shinned Hawk
- Tufted Titmouse
- White-breasted Nuthatch
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
- Yellow-rumped Warbler

### REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

- Box Turtle
- Frog
- Garter Snake
- Milk Snake
- Snapping Turtle
- Spotted Salamander
- Toad

### COMMON MAMMALS

- Bat
- Chipmunk
- Gray Squirrel
- Opossum
- Raccoon
- Red Fox
- Skunk
- White-tailed Deer
- Woodchuck

-  Estate Lands
-  Chancellor's Trail
-  Riverside Trail
-  Bridle Trail
-  Farm Road Trail
-  Rose Alba Trail
-  Formal Garden Trail



Between 1728 and 2000, Clermont was home to seven successive generations of the Livingston family. The present historic site includes 500 acres of field, forest and formal landscape. The original estate encompassed 13,000 acres. Tenant farmers who rented the land from the Livingston family developed much of this acreage for agriculture. During the nineteenth century, the Livingstons gradually sold off these farms as freeholds.

Clermont State Historic Site is preserved to its circa 1930 appearance. Visitors today can enjoy some of the same views that enchanted earlier guests. The noted landscape designer A.J. Downing, writing in the 1840s, described the "level or gently undulating lawn... the rich native woods, and the long vistas of planted avenues, added to [Clermont's] fine water view" that captured the imagination of visitors then.

Clermont has five miles of marked trails to explore. All of these trails were developed as carriage or farm roads and as recreational trails for the enjoyment of the Livingstons and their guests. Clermont also offers three miles of marked bridle trails.

As you embark on your outdoor adventure, please remember that you are one of many visitors here. Travel quietly, stay on the path, carry out your litter, and do not remove the vegetation. Take nothing but memories, leave nothing but footprints.