HRES Fall Field Trip

On Saturday September 12th, HRES sponsored a trip to Constitution Marsh and the West Point Foundry, both in Cold Spring.

We started at Constitution Marsh, where Eric Lind explained the Audubon Preserve and its role in studying and preserving the marsh. Figure 1. We then paddled the Preserve's canoes out into the marsh, Figures 2, 3, 4 where Eric showed us the wild rice Figure 5 and other plants of the swamp Figure 6 and told us about the history of the swamp and the cadmium pollution by the Marathon Battery Factory in Cold Spring Figure 7. Although we had paddlers of every experience and ability, we all had a wonderful time on a beautiful fall morning Figure 8.

We then drove over to the West Point Foundry, where Reed Sperling gave us the background of the Foundry during lunch and then showed us around the Scenic Hudson Preserve Figure 9. I had not been to the Foundry since it was under excavation Figure 10, and was very impressed by the job Scenic Hudson has done with the trails Figure 11, the interpretive signage Figure 12, the stabilization of the standing remains Figure 13, and the creation of an elegant model Figure 14 of one of the overshot waterwheels that provided energy to run the Foundry machines.

Everyone had a wonderful time and we look forward to future field trips. If there are places in our valley that you would particularly like to visit with expert guides, let us know, and we will see if we can add them to our roster of HRES trips.

Submitted by
Lucy Johnson
President of the Board

Figure 1 credit Lucy Johnson

Figure 2 credit Tracy Johnson

Figure 3 credit Helena Andreyko

Figure 4 credit Lucy Johnson

Figure 5 credit Helena Andreyko

Figure 6 credit Tracy Johnson

Figure 7 credit Lucy Johnson

Figure 8 credit Helena Andreyko

Figure 9 credit Lucy Johnson

Figure 10 credit Lucy Johnson

Figure 11 credit Lucy Johnson

Figure 12 credit Lucy Johnson

Figure 13 credit Lucy Johnson

Figure 14 credit Lucy Johnson