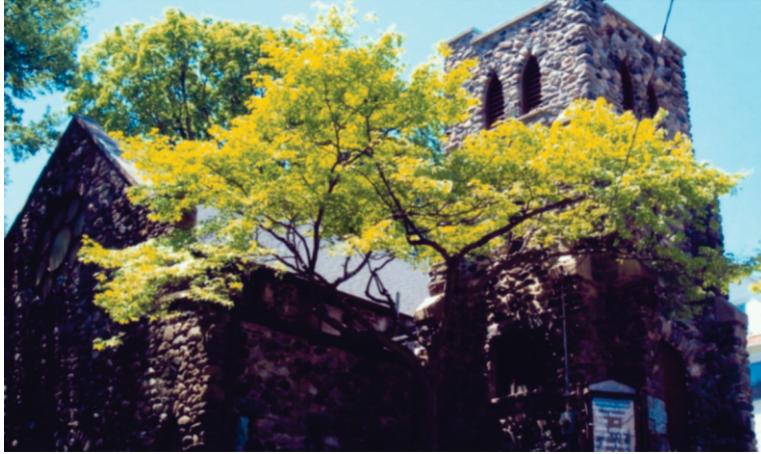


1 CHATTERTON HILL CHURCH



The Chatterton Hill Church was founded in 1905. The present structure opened in 1908, and is made of native fieldstone laid in Portland cement. The tower rises 45 feet above the roomy narthex. The original bell, weighing 800 pounds, is still in use. Beautiful stained glass windows allow light to enter from three sides of the church. The Church recently marked its 100th Anniversary. Originally a Congregational Church, the group is now a member of the United Church of Christ.



2 BATTLE OF WHITE PLAINS

The Battle of White Plains was fought here on October 28, 1776. At that time the area was known as Chatterton Hill after Michael Chatterton who was a tenant farmer on 152 acres of land owned by Frederick Phillipse, Lord of the Manor of Phillipsburgh. Chatterton's house stood near the present intersection of Battle Ave (then called Dobbs Ferry Road) and Tarrytown Road, across from the Main Street bridge that spans the Bronx River.

During the Battle of White Plains, Chatterton and his family hid in the basement of their home, while British and Hessian troops attacked the American forces on the hill above them. They hid until the fighting was over and the Americans were forced to cross the wooden bridge nearby and retreat up Purdy or Dusenbury Hill.

It has been estimated that almost 500 soldiers and officers lost their lives during the Battle of White Plains, most on Chatterton Hill. Throughout the years, various mementos of the Revolutionary War, including skeletons, have been unearthed on Battle Hill.

Before 1900, few homes dotted the hill. Bank Director, John Lester owned a large tract on top of Battle Hill in 1867. His home, later occupied by his descendants, was demolished in the 1960s and is now the site of the Battle of White Plains Park, which today has an exhibit telling the story of the famous battle.

By 1905, developers began to promote several different sections of Battle Hill: Vivian Heights to the west near Central Avenue; Washington Heights Park near the yet to be built County Center; and Battle Hill Park on the south side of Chatterton Parkway. The proximity to the railroad and planned Bronx River Parkway ensured the rapid growth of the area. In Battle Hill Park, lots sold for \$800 and homes started at \$4000.

3 THE CANNON

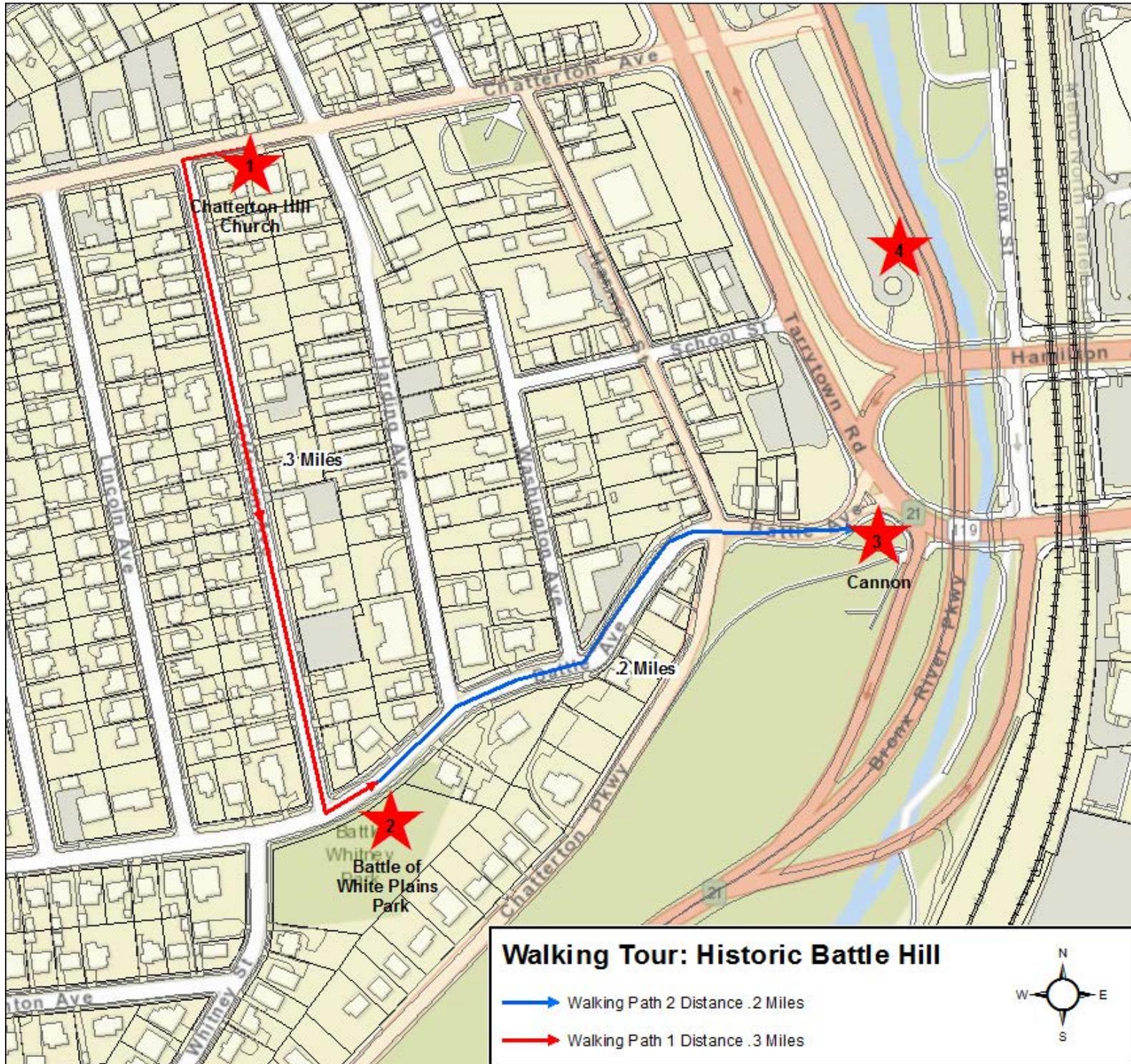
The Cannon at the bottom of Battle Hill, near the entrance to the Bronx River Parkway, is a replica of a Revolutionary-era cannon. The original cannon, unearthed in White Plains in 1890 was on display a little further south on the Bronx River Parkway beginning in 1926. It was stolen from its perch atop a boulder in 1963; that time it was recovered, but it was again stolen in 1971

and was never found. A \$1000 reward for its return still stands in White Plains!



4 BRONX RIVER PARKWAY

When the Bronx River Parkway opened in 1925, it was the first public parkway designed specifically for automobile use. In the 1890s, pollution was a severe problem in the Bronx River. Animals at the Bronx Zoo were being poisoned by the polluted water. The Bronx Parkway Commission was founded in 1906, and plans were drawn for a linear park, which stretched from the Bronx to the northern terminus at the Kensico Dam. White Plains was one of the most densely settled areas along the reservation, and many court battles ensued in the effort to obtain land for the project. In 1991, the portion of the Bronx River Parkway Reservation north of Bronxville was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Today residents enjoy the long bike/hiking trail that runs alongside the Parkway.



Historic Battle Hill



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