

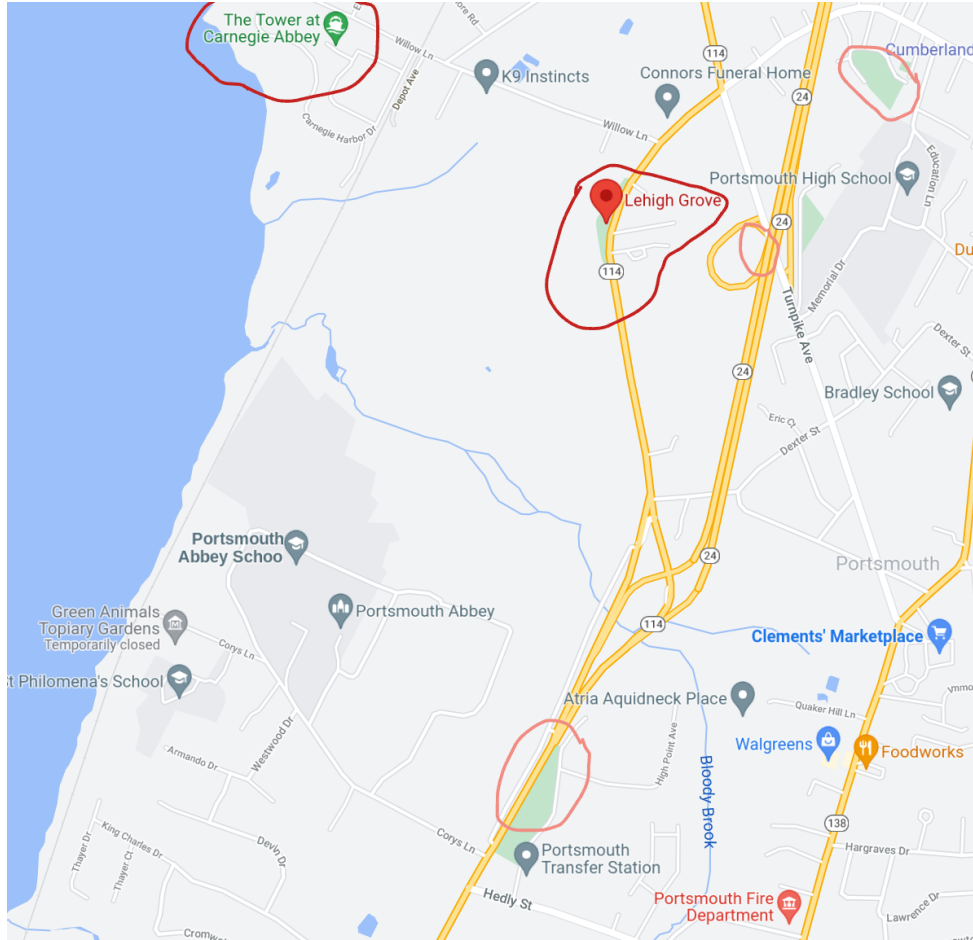
A MOTA-POTA-IOTA-lighthouse holiday adventure with the Newport County Radio Club next Saturday Dec 18, 2021 11am-1pm at Lehigh Grove, Portsmouth

NEW: Raindate Sunday Dec 19, 2021 11am-1pm



Portsmouth Scenic Overlook on West Main Rd (114), officially Lehigh Grove RI State Park
South of Willow Lane (Connors Funeral Home) & opposite Anselmo Dr., Portsmouth, RI

Meet your fellow NCRC radio enthusiasts for an in-person year-end adventure next Saturday December 18, 2021 from 11am-1pm for MOTA-POTA-IOTA-WLOTA activation fun. Or just show up to say hello! Can't make it? Use this info to explore on your own this winter.



Why Here?

- **Resilience story - British invasion December 8, 1776** - October 1779 when 8000 troops occupied Aquidneck Island, **burning an estimated 200 houses for firewood**. Portsmouth coal pressed into service, but not commercially developed until 1808.
- **MOTA - Mines on the Air** **THANKS TO Rob KB1ZZU and Jack N1JK**
 - started by DStar ham in Colorado JohnnyF – WJ0NF, 2016-Jan 2021 [D-Star Reflector, XRF144B]. **THANKS to Ted W1GRI for D-Star reflector linking Sat.**
 - resource: <https://www.arcc.osmre.gov/about/states/ri.shtm>
 - U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
 - *Commercial coal mining in Rhode Island began in 1808 near Portsmouth when coal was found in Cumberland between the Blackstone River and Abbotts Run, a little north of Pawtucket. **The coal at Portsmouth seems to have been known at least as early as 1760. It is said that during the Revolutionary War the British soldiers in Newport used the coal from the island for heating purposes.** The Portsmouth coal venture operated until 1912; over a million tons of anthracite was mined.*
 - For location and in-depth history, see [▶ Portsmouth Coal Mines - Jim Garman](#)
 - https://youtu.be/_SGRXe3y72A




- **1808-1913, main South Shaft on site of now Carnegie Tower, but the coal operation extended 700 acres:**
 - **from Cory's Lane to Bristol Ferry and across the island under Butts Hill Fort, Portsmouth High School the wind turbine and over to another coal mine shaft near Sprague St.**

- **By 1910, this coal mine was producing 400 tons/day of compacted briquettes**



You can also activate this site from the Willow Lane Public Boat Ramp Parking, clearly marked off Elliot St near the end of Willow Lane (formerly Coal Mine Lane)

Don't miss Portsmouth historian Jim Garman's lecture on coal mining in Portsmouth!

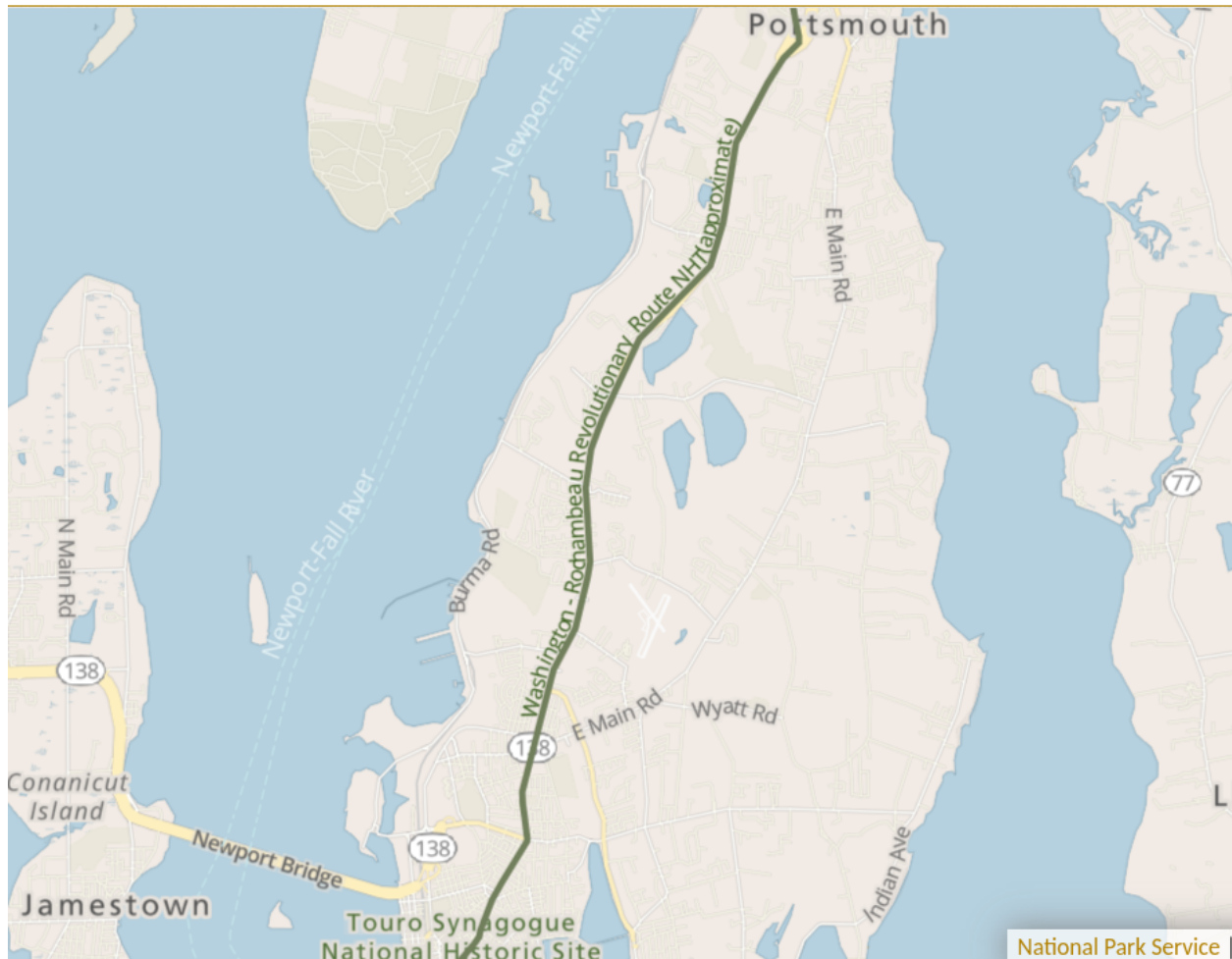
 Portsmouth Coal Mines - Jim Garman

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- **Helping Santa's Supply Chain**

- Since folklore has it that Santa delivers coal to those who haven't been nice, this activation helps Santa's supply chain database.

POTA - Parks of the Air K-4582 in Newport County Washington-Rochambeau (multi-state) Trail



source: <https://www.nps.gov/waro/planyourvisit/maps.htm>

Battle of Rhode Island (August 29, 1778) - the major Revolutionary War battle fought in Rhode Island

Principle Battle of Rhode Island sites (From [Wikipedia](#))

- "The principal battle site is roughly centered at 41.596°N 71.263°WCoordinates: 41.596°N 71.263°W [off Hedley St, Portsmouth, after the Transfer Station]
 - GeoHack:
https://geohack.toolforge.org/geohack.php?pagename=Battle_of_Rhode_Island_Site¶ms=41.596_N_71.263_W_&title=Battle+of+Rhode+Island
- See also Patriot's Park in honor of 1st Rhode Island Regiment - "widely regarded as the first Black battalion in U.S. military history".
 - <https://portsmouthhistorynotes.com/tag/patriots-park/>

- While traveling north on RI 114 North from Portsmouth to Bristol, bear left at the entrance ramp to RI-24 to stay on RI-114. The Patriots Park pulloff is immediately on your left.
- In June 2021 the Butts Hill Fort was added to POTA site K-4582, the **Washington Rochambeau (multi-state) Trail**. There is a Portsmouth organization planning to develop the site in time for the commemorative events of the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Rhode Island in 2028.



IOTA & WLOTA

Aquidneck Island is an Island on the Air: <https://www.iota-world.org> NA-031 [North America]
"RHODE ISLAND STATE group (=Block, Coasters Harbor, Conanicut, Dutch, Dyer, Goat, Goose-berry, Gould, Hog, Hope, Patience, Prudence, Rhode Island [aka Aquidneck], Rose) (Note: most of Rhode Island state is mainland USA. Submit a QSL only if it shows an island QTH. QSOs with Newport, Middletown and Portsmouth, the principal towns on Rhode Island itself, count OK.) 41°08–41°41N071°07–071°54WN"

Jack N1JK pointed out you can see **Hog Island Shoal Light [WLOTA #1240]** from our meeting point, making this activation possibly a World Lighthouse On the Air activation?
<https://www.wlota.com/index.php/wlota-lists/north-america?id=3176>

Sounds like lots of NCRC members sharing backstory and activation adventure tips in store! Hope to see you in-person to wrap up 2021. Wishing us all the best for 2022!

Many thanks to Rob KB1ZZU, Jack N1JK and the breakfast club for their enthusiasm bringing MOTA to NCRC!

Activations at Lehigh High Grove State Park appears to offer these possibilities:

- **MOTA (Mines on the Air): new??**
- **POTA (Parks on the Air): K-4582 Washington-Rochambeau Multi-state Trail**
 - **+ this new RI state park as one to add to POTA?**
- **IOTA (Islands on the Air): NA-031**
- **US Islands on the Air: RI006S**
- **ARLHS (Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society): USA-373**
- **WLOTA (World Lighthouse on the Air): 1240**