Welcome to the Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial.

Throughout his life, Kosciuszko put his beliefs into action. Arriving in America in 1776, he offered his military engineering expertise to the Continental Army in the cause of American Independence.

Back in his native Poland, he led the fight in 1794 to resist the Russian occupation. While unsuccessful, he became a hero on two continents, hailed as a champion of liberty and freedom.

While living in this house in 1797-8, Thaddeus Kosciuszko became good friends with Thomas Jefferson. He hoped to secure liberty and an education for enslaved Africans through his American will.

"...I hereby authorize my friend Thomas Jefferson … in purchasing Negroes from among his own or any others and giving them Liberty in my name, in giving them an education…"
—American will of Thaddeus Kosciuszko
Thaddeus Kosciuszko, from a print by Antoni Oleszczynski, engraved by W. Hall, [date] Kosciuszko (KOS-CHOOS-KO) returned to Philadelphia to seek back pay from Congress and medical treatment from Dr. Benjamin Rush. Much of the time, he lived in a modest bedchamber on the second floor of this house.

Thomas Jefferson, by Rembrandt Peale, ca. 1805
Of the many visitors that Kosciuszko received while he lived upstairs, one of the most famous was Thomas Jefferson, then serving as Vice President of the United States. The fur collar on Jefferson’s overcoat shown in this portrait was a gift from Kosciuszko.

Receiving his officer’s back pay of $12, 280, he wrote a will with Jefferson as executor. In it, he directed that any remaining funds be used to free and educate enslaved Africans. The will shows Kosciuszko’s dedication to extending liberty to all.
Andrzej Tadeusz Bonawentura Kosciuszko (1746-1817) arrived on America’s shores in 1776 at age 30, with revolutionary zeal and engineering training but no official commission in the Continental Army.

Eight years later, he had proven his loyalty and his engineering skill in multiple battles and fortifications. His unassuming manner won lasting admiration from officers and enlisted men alike, from his commander-in-chief, General Washington to his orderly, Agrippa Hull.

His legacy is written in the landscape at Saratoga and West Point, where he helped turn the tide of war and defend a young democracy.
George Washington at Princeton, by Charles Wilson Peale, 1779
Washington first came to know Kosciuszko when American independence seemed unlikely. They shared similar backgrounds. Both lost their fathers when they were about 12 years old and came from families whose wealth derived from the unpaid labor of enslaved Africans or Polish serfs.

Sources:
1. Ages of K and GW when their fathers died: K born in 1746 and his father died in 1758 when K was ~12 yrs old; GW born 1732, father died in 1743; GW was ~11.
Portrait of Agrippa Hull, unknown artist, 1848
After a daguerreotype by Anson Clark, 1844
Agrippa Hull, a freeborn soldier from Massachusetts was one of over 5,000 African Americans who joined the Continental Army. He served as Kosciuszko’s orderly from West Point, NY through the long Southern Campaign, the only orderly willing “to go with me so far off.”

Sources:
1) Quote: Nash, manuscript, Chapter 2, “Fighting for Freedom,” p. 60;
2) 5,000 stat: NPS Web page:
http://www.nps.gov/revwar/about_the_revolution/african_americans.html; other sources indicate it might be closer to 5,500: Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities:
http://www.massmoments.org/index.cfm?mid=130
3) Pension note: Sedgewick and Hull letter to Acting Secretary of State Richard Rush, 1828,
"...the great tacticians of the campaign were the hills and forests, which a young Polish engineer was skillful enough to select for my encampment."
—General Horatio Gates to Dr. Benjamin Rush regarding the victory at Saratoga

Quote Source:

Kosciuszko, arriving at the beginning of the war, found Philadelphia vulnerable to attack. The Polish engineer fortified several points along the Delaware River for the Pennsylvania Committee of Defense. This earned him a commission in the Continental Army. He soon considered himself “more than half a Yankee.”

He joined an outnumbered, underfed army. General Greene remarked “Our troops are unfit for any kind of duty; hundreds being without shirts, stockings or any other clothing.”

Sources:
1) Army commission: [Pula, 39]
2) “Half a Yankee”: [Pula, p. 137]

Fort Ticonderoga, Summer 1777
Kosciuszko completed several defensive works, but his superiors did not take his advice to secure the high ground. Instead, the British placed artillery atop Sugar Loaf, and a stinging defeat for the Continental Army followed.
Bemis Heights & Saratoga, Fall 1777
On the retreat from Fort Ticonderoga, Kosciuszko felled trees and dammed streams to slow the British advance. He used the delay to fortify the American position at Saratoga. The subsequent victory persuaded France to support America openly with cash, troops, and naval vessels.

West Point, Spring 1778 to Summer 1780
Building West Point required every skill Kosciuszko possessed: artistry, engineering expertise, diplomacy, and leadership. On a rare occasion, he lamented his lonely post, calling some of his company “impolite.” His refuge, a simple rock garden, is still maintained by West Point cadets.

Dan River Retreat, Winter 1781
At West Point, Kosciuszko impeded river traffic; in the Carolinas, he facilitated it. Under specific orders from General Greene, he mapped rivers, built a flotilla of flat-bottomed boats, and engineered a hasty retreat from North Carolina into Virginia across the Dan River.

Ninety-Six, South Carolina, May 1781
When General Greene attacked the British stronghold at Ninety-Six, South Carolina (named for its distance from a Cherokee village), Kosciuszko engineered the siege. British reinforcements arrived before the fort fell, however, and Kosciuszko faced harsh criticism for not having first cut off the water supply.
Eutaw Springs, South Carolina, September 8, 1781
At the last major engagement in the Lower South, Kosciuszko led troops onto the field and asked Agrippa Hull to assist army doctors during the gruesome aftermath. General Greene called the battle at Eutaw Springs “by far the most bloody and obstinate I ever saw.”

Sources:
4. “more than one half:” Nash, Manuscript, “Fight for Freedom,” p. 64

—General Horatio Gates, 1777

Source:
1. “best and neatest:” Pula p. 51
Typically, Kosciuszko first surveyed the landscape, then designed, drew, and supervised construction of each defensive element, from protective redoubts (generally square or octagonal fortifications) to bristling chevaux-de-frises (sharp spike barriers) and disruptive abatis (obstructions made from felled trees).

Most of Kosciusko’s drawings were purposely destroyed to hide them from British eyes following Benedict Arnold’s betrayal at West Point. The few that remain reveal his skilled draftsmanship.
Kosciuszko demonstrated a keen understanding of topography, stating “we most always have the works according to the ground and circumstance.” He also wielded humble tools, such as axes, shovels, trees, and chains, to create strong defenses, and consistently advocated his troops’ well being. At West Point he spoke up for masons “in great want of shoes,” and in North Carolina requested clothing for African American soldiers, noting that “their skin can bear as well as ours good things.”

Sources:
1) “paper as upon the ground”: James S. Pula, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, The Purest Son of Liberty, © 1999, p. 130.
2) “great want of shoes:” Pula, p. 143.
3) “their skin:” Nash, Manuscript, “Fight for Freedom,” p. 82.
Touch this relief map to discover how Kosciuszko used a natural bottleneck to set a trap for British troops. Following his stunning victory, General Gates acknowledged, “the great tacticians of the campaign were the hills and forests, which a young Polish engineer was skillful enough to select for my encampment.”

_Quote Source:_


Fort Ticonderoga

On his first major assignment, Kosciuszko encountered chain of command issues, at one point claiming he would prefer to “return home & plant cabbages” than give offense to fellow officers. Yet his efforts at Fort Ticonderoga—notably his prescient advice to seize the high ground on Sugar Loaf Hill—helped secure his position as colonel of engineers.

_Quote Source:_

At West Point, a key point in north/south travel, Kosciuszko created a series of strongholds using the sheer cliffs and promontories. General Armstrong noted that his defenses “frightened the very enemy from all temptations of even trying to take the Highlands.”

*Quote Source:*

**Audio equipment**

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| Akman Flash SR4  
2GB Compact Flash Card  
Stop & Listen Inc. Walker WS-2552-00 Handset (N.I.C.) |

**Audio program**

<table>
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<th>E-02-351</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kosciuszko’s role in revolution. Program to be produced after installation of exhibits. (N.I.C.)</td>
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**Digital graphic layout**

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**Title**

<table>
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<th>L-02-401</th>
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<td>To Serve the Republic</td>
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**Quotation**

<table>
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| “*Omnia reliquit servare Republicam*”  
“He gave up everything to serve the Republic.”  
—Motto of the Society of the Cincinnati |
In 1783, Revolutionary War officers established the honorary Society of the Cincinnati. They honored Washington by comparing him to the Roman General Cincinnatus who twice successfully defended Rome from attack, then gave up his absolute power and returned to his farm as a civilian.

“Among the most useful and agreeable of my companions in arms was Colonel Kosciuszko.”
— General Nathaniel Greene, 1783

Sources:
1. “companions in arms:” Pula, p. 200
General Nathaniel Greene, by Charles Wilson Peale, 1783

Gold leaf picture frame.
Reference for frame style.

The Surrender of General Burgoyne at Saratoga, New York, 17 October 1777, by John Trumbull
The American victory at Saratoga, made possible by Kosciuszko’s strategic recommendations, convinced France to support us with money, supplies and troops.

Key:
[to come]

HL comment/question:
2nd line: the use of the second person (us) is inconsistent with the rest of the script. Could we go with America? Or the colonies?

West Point, etching by John Hill, ca. 1820
George Washington considered the fortification of West Point “the most important post in America.” High above the Hudson River, West Point controlled access to New York and Canada. The American fortress stopped the British plan of using the river to bring troops from Canada.
Companions in Arms

In 1783, America faced the future victorious yet broke. Kosciuszko pressed Congress for full pay, but settled for a certificate of indebtedness for $12,280.

Intangible accolades abounded, however. General Greene praised him as one whom “no pleasure could seduce, no labor fatigue and no danger deter.” General Washington gave him credit “for the defense of West Point.” Back in Stockbridge, MA, Agrippa Hull never tired of “telling…stories of the Revolution,” and of the 2,000 miles he trekked with the Polish engineer.

Sources:
2. “defense of West Point:” Pula, p. 145

[Question: was certificate of indebtedness for $12,280.49 (Kajencki p. 187) or $12,280.54 (Pula p.287)]?
Link from West Point Chain and Boom
Kosciuszko devised methods to keep the Great Chain afloat and to remove it before ice immobilized it in winter. This link is from the boom used to raise and lower the Great Chain.
Man is Born Free

All Men Are Created Equal

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights—Preamble to the Declaration of Independence

After eight years of service to America, Kosciuszko returned to Poland weakened financially yet enriched by the ideals of the new republic. On the eve of his departure, he confided, “I am prepared for the worst” back home.

After tending to personal affairs, Kosciuszko twice took up arms to defend Poland’s dream of Independence. Echoing ideals that rang throughout the American Revolution, “The first step,” he proclaimed, “is to dare to believe ourselves free.” Although unrealized in his life time, Kosciuszko’s impassioned quest to liberate Poland inspired generations to come.

Sources:

1. “prepared for the worst:” Pula, p. 212
2. “first step:” Pula, p. 224
Full length portrait of Kosciuszko, [artist name to come], [date to come]

Endorsing the liberal constitution passed by the Polish senate (Sejm) in 1791, Kosciuszko asserted: “There should be no unfree man in any civilized state, indeed the word ‘unfree’ itself ought to be banished from every legal code.”

Sources:

As Pure a Son of Liberty

“…as pure a son of liberty, as I have ever known, and of that liberty which is to go to all, and not to the few or the rich alone.”
—Thomas Jefferson

Thaddeus Kosciuszko: His name is hard to pronounce. His friends agreed “he was not very eloquent.” His modesty prevented him from seeking higher rank during the Revolution. Few have heard of him, yet his name is engraved on thousands of landmarks, buildings, boats, and bridges around the world.

What distinguishes Kosciuszko is that he put his philosophy into practice. For a gentle soul, he lived a cloak and dagger, action-packed life. He set as his goal liberty for all, not just for “the few or rich alone.”

Source:
Three years after Kosciuszko’s death in 1817, the city of Krakow planned a monument as long-lasting as the pyramids. People from every part of Poland brought soil to create this huge stone and earth mound. In 1926 soil from the United States was added.

Source:
1. Fodor’s: web address:
   • http://www.fodors.com/miniguide/mgresults.cfm?destination=krakow@84&cur_section=sig&property_id=4799
Interactive Program

E-04-051

As visitors approach the touchscreen monitor, they see an elegant dissolving montage of famous Kosciuszko landmarks – bridges, battleships, monuments, city streets, towns, mountains, and more. To begin the program, a text and audio prompt invites them to “Touch a landmark to learn more.”

The next screen displays a list (some with photos) of all of the Kosciuszko landmarks in that category. The tentative categories include: Place Names, Statues, Streets, Natural Landmarks, Bridges, Boats, Parks, etc.

Each individual landmark will be represented by photos, text, and audio descriptions. Approximately 50 landmarks will be featured.

In addition to providing access to the database of Kosciuszko landmarks, the program will also provide a means for visitors who can not access the theater upstairs a chance to view the film. Park rangers will initiate the program (from a DVD or from the CPU hard drive) by way of a hidden button on the touchscreen interface.

Secondary text

L-04-100

Intro copy for case artifacts

Artifacts

A-04-101

TBD
Sacred Love of Freedom

“We pledge ourselves to each other to spare no sacrifices whatsoever...to use all the means which the sacred love of freedom can inspire...”
— Act of Insurrection, Krakow, March 24, 1794

Source:
1. Act of Insurrection, Pula p. 303

Several years before Kosciuszko defended America’s independence, he witnessed his own country lose one third of its territory. Fifteen years later, he twice took up arms to protect Poland from further aggression.

Kosciuszko’s experience in the American Revolution gave him valuable experience in defensive tactics and leading troops from all walks of life. He firmly believed that “the sacred love of freedom” enabled even small armies to topple oppressive regimes.

Source:
1. Act of Insurrection, Pula p. 303
Kosciuszko held Poland’s peasant soldiers in high esteem, as he did the farmers and shopkeepers who defended America. He adopted the peasant’s white cloak (sukmana) and cap as his own uniform. The motto emblazoned on regimental banners honored the peasants’ contributions: “They feed and defend.”

Source:
2. “sukmana:” Pula, p. 226

While loyal to the monarchy during an insurrection in 1768, Kosciuszko later criticized King Stanislaw August’s hasty surrender to Russia. “He excuses himself on the grounds that there was no money,” Kosciuszko wrote, and yet “The American Revolution is an example of waging war without money.”

Source:
As Kosciuszko came of age, Poland became a tempting target for neighboring countries. An unusual parliamentary feature in which a single delegate could block an entire piece of legislation, the *liberum veto*, led to a corrupt and ineffective government.

Map Notes or Legend:
- Russia gained 93,000 square kilometers in the east
- Austria gained 81,900 square kilometers in the south
- Prussia gained 36,300 square kilometers in the northwest

*Source:*
Second Partition of Poland, 1793

In response to Poland’s liberal reforms of 1791, known as the Constitution of the Third of May, Russia invaded again. The King of Poland recruited Kosciuszko to lead the resistance, but chose to surrender. Rather than watch Poland shrink to 80,000 square miles, Kosciuszko fled to France.

Map Notes or Legend:

Russia gained 3,000,000 people and most of Lithuania, western Ukraine, and Podolia
Prussia gained 1,100,000 people and obtained Gdansk, Torun, and Wielkopolska

Source:

Third Partition of Poland, 1795

Kosciuszko returned to Poland in 1794 to make a final bid for Poland’s independence. Leading an inexperienced army expanded by peasant recruits, he nearly defeated the Russian army. His Polaniec Manifesto of May 1794 temporarily abolished serfdom.

Map Notes or Legend:

Russia: the Ukraine, Lithuania, Courland, and 1,200,000 people
Prussia: Mazovia, including Warsaw, and 1,000,000 people
Austria: Krakow and vicinity, and 1,000,000 people
Kosciuszko moved with equal ease among the nobility and peasantry. As a contemporary observed, "He slept equally well on bare soil and in down; he shared the food of the soldier and did not…refuse a good supper only if his soldiers had something to eat too."

Source:
1. "equally well on bare soil and in down:" Pula p. 218.
Raised in a country that practiced religious tolerance, schooled in Enlightenment principles about equality, and battle tested in America, Kosciuszko squared off against Catherine the Great in 1794. Two years earlier, when the King of Poland surrendered to the Russian empress, Kosciuszko briefly fled to France.

Resuming his quest to liberate Poland, Kosciuszko issued his Articles of Insurrection on March 23, 1794. “The first step to victory,” he told a throng in Krakow’s Market Square, “is confidence in our strength.”

Source:
1. “first step to victory:” Pula, p. 224

Declaration of Independence

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

“But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.”

“The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States.”

“We mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.”
Articles of Insurrection

“She tramples under her feet the most sacred rights of the liberty, the safety, and property of citizens. Opinions and Freedom of thought in Poland find no shelter from her persecuting suspicions…”

“Borne down by an immense pressure of evils, vanquished by treachery, …having lost our country, and with her the enjoyment of the most sacred rights of liberty, or personal safety and of property; …we citizens, inhabitants of the Palatinate of Krakow, …will avail ourselves of all the extreme and violent measures, that civic despair suggests to us.

“Catherine II, who in concert with the perjured William (of Prussia) has sworn to extirpate even the name of Poland, has accomplished her iniquitous designs…”

“We pledge ourselves to each other to spare no sacrifices whatsoever, but on the other hand, to use all the means which the sacred love of freedom can inspire in the breast of man.”

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Tertiary text
L-05-105

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Audio equipment
E-05-150

Akman Flash SR4
2GB Compact Flash Card
Stop & Listen Inc. Walker WS-2552-00 Handset
(N.I.C.)

Audio program
E-05-151

Kosciuszko’s leadership in Poland. Program to be produced after installation of exhibits.
(N.I.C.)

Digital graphic layout
D-05-200

201-211

Secondary title
L-05-201

Personal Oppression of None
As leader of the Polish Insurrection, the freedom loving Kosciuszko assumed the power of a dictator. He pledged, however, to “use the power entrusted to me for the personal oppression of none.”

Starting with a modest army of 5,000, Kosciuszko soon recruited 150,000 soldiers, including many peasants armed only with their own scythes. As in the American Revolution, Kosciuszko drew praise from all ranks. His troops called him “Father Thaddeus.” An admiring Prussian officer observed, “he did so much with peasants who knew nothing.”

Source:
1. personal oppression of none:” Pula, p. 224
Julian Niemcewicz, Kosciuszko’s former classmate and fellow captive, described Kosciuszko as “a man half dead” after the battle of Maciejowice. “He has on his head a large wound from a sword, and three on his back above the loins, from the thrust of a pike.”

Source:
1. “a man half dead:” Pula, p. 233

No Country to Defend

Under house arrest in St. Petersburg, Russia, watched over by an English physician who lost all “hopes of curing him,” Kosciuszko received the bitter news of Poland’s third partition and its disappearance from the map of Europe.

When Catherine the Great passed away in 1796, her son and successor, Czar Paul I, offered Kosciuszko his liberty in exchange for an oath of loyalty. The Czar also offered 1,500 serfs, 12,000 rubles, a cloak, and a sword. Kosciuszko rejected the deal, especially the sword, stating “I have no country to defend.” Only when the Czar offered to free 12,000 other captive Poles did Kosciuszko accept the terms.
Kosciuszko left St. Petersburg, Russia for Stockholm, Sweden in December 1796, accompanied by the writer Julian Niemcewicz, a former Polish soldier named Libiszewski, and his African American servant John, shown at the far left. John decided to stay in Stockholm.

Sources:
1. Negro John, Nash Manuscript, pp. 177-178
Greatness of Soul

“...the Corinthians highly applauded Timoleon for the hatred of wrong and the greatness of soul that had made him...prefer that which is good and just before gain and interest and his own particular.”
—Plutarch’s Lives, Timoleon, hero of the Corinthians, 334 BC

Growing up in a country surrounded by more powerful neighbors, aware of the gap between serfs and lords, and rejected as too common a “sparrow” to marry the “ring dove” he loved, Kosciuszko experienced inequality first hand.

As a young boy, he read stories of Timoleon the Corinthian, whose “hatred of wrong” made him “prefer that which is good and just” before personal “gain and interest.” Years later, Kosciuszko’s commanding general, George Washington, would be compared to this same boyhood hero.
Emboldened by Enlightenment ideals “against ignorance, injustice, and the inequality of societies and nations,” Kosciuszko returned to Poland in 1774 to find his family’s estate in shambles and his country divided over Russia’s growing influence. He became a tutor in the home of a wealthy family, and soon fell in love with the youngest daughter, Ludwika. Turned away by her father, Kosciuszko cast his lot with the revolutionary movements in America and later in France.

At age nineteen, Kosciuszko entered the Royal Military Academy founded by King Stanislaw August. Initially ranked 79th out of 80, he graduated with high marks and became an instructor at the Academy in 1768. Following the death of his mother that same year, Kosciuszko studied at the Academie Royale de Peinture et de Sculpture in Paris and, he later recounted, “endeavored to master those arts which pertain to a solid government, aiming at the happiness of all.”

Source:
1. “pertain to a solid government:” Pula, p. 233
Kosciuszko’s mother, Tekla Ratomska, educated him at home until the age of nine, when he went away to a boarding school. Several years after his father, Ludwik Tadeusz, passed away in 1758, Kosciuszko returned home to help his mother run the estate.

Kosciuszko’s boyhood home in Mereczowszczyzna, a small town in the province of Polesie

The youngest of four, Kosciuszko grew up in a serf-owning family of minor nobility. The practice of primogeniture—in which the eldest son inherits the entire estate—limited Kosciuszko’s financial options.
While Kosciuszko lived in exile in France and Switzerland, he became quite fond of his host family, the Zeltners.

When Conrad Zeltner became a teenager, Kosciuszko penned him a letter with loving advice.
L-06-053

Flipbook:

There are two options for the flipbook. One is to do an illustrated booklet that emphasizes the moral development and education of children that Kosciuszko revealed in a letter to the teenage Conrad Zeltner, during his retirement and exile in France and Switzerland. This booklet could be illustrated with period illustrations for children’s books.

For example, some selections from the following passage:

“Be always frank and loyal…and always speak the truth;

Shun selfishness and egotism; before speaking something or answering, reflect well and reason…

Never fail to make obvious your gratitude in all circumstances to a person who takes charge of your happiness.

If a secret is entrusted to you, keep it religiously; in all your actions you must be upright, sincere and open, no dissimulation [in] any of your talk,

Never argue, but seek truth serenely and modestly;

Be polite and considerate to everyone, agreeable and obliging in society; always humane and succor the poor according to your means;

Read instructive books to embellish your mind or better your heart,

Never degrade yourself by making bad acquaintances, but be always with persons full of morals and of good reputation;

At last, your conduct must be such that everyone approves of it.”

[Pula, p. 266]

Or: Serf/Slave Comparison

What’s the difference between a serf and a slave?
How many days did they have to work for their lords or masters?
Serfs: 2 to 4
Slaves: 6 to 7

Could they own property?
Serfs: No.
Slaves: No

Could they move about freely?
Serfs: They couldn’t leave the land or village of their lord, or master.
Slaves: They needed to carry a pass, signed by their master, that permitted them to visit family members on other plantations or in other towns.

Dear Conrad …

Read instructive books to embellish your mind or better your heart…

Be always frank and loyal…and always speak the truth…

Shun selfishness and egotism…

…before speaking something or answering, reflect well and reason…
Never fail to make obvious your gratitude in all circumstances to a person who takes charge of your happiness.

If a secret is entrusted to you, keep it religiously…

Never argue, but seek truth serenely and modestly;

Be polite and considerate to everyone, agreeable and obliging in society…

… succor the poor according to your means…
Never degrade yourself by making bad acquaintances…

At last, your conduct must be such that everyone approves of it.”

“It is not the cover of the book, but what the book contains…Many a good book has dark covers.”
—Agrippa Hall, as recorded by a neighbor in Stockbridge, Massachusetts
After serving as the general’s orderly, during the war, Hull declined Kosciuszko’s invitation to travel with him to Poland. Instead he went home to Stockbridge, Massachusetts, married and raised a family. When Kosciuszko returned to America in 1797, Hull met him in New York.

His neighbors in Stockbridge appreciated Hull’s wit, wisdom and stories of the war, including the time he assisted in the surgeon’s bloody tent in South Carolina.

What would Kosciuszko and Hull pack?
Open the trunk to discover the kinds of equipment and supplies you would need if you were in the Revolutionary army.

- Akman Flash SR4
- 2GB Compact Flash Card
- Stop & Listen Inc. Walker WS-2552-00 Handset

Audio program
Incorporates Niemcewicz audio from upstairs and incorporates item in the Discovery Trunk.
Program to be produced after installation of exhibits.
(N.I.C.)
Return to Philadelphia

Followed by Russian agents to Stockholm, the aging and wounded warrior proceeded to London, where he received a hearty welcome in the country he once fought. British physicians evaluated Kosciuszko’s health, which a magazine described as “such that he cannot move himself without excruciating torture.”

Tempted to support a new Polish Legion forming in France, yet aware that Russian agents still watched him closely, Kosciuszko chose to return to “his second country.” On August 18, 1797, amid cheers of “Long Live Kosciuszko!,” he arrived in Philadelphia, then the capital city of the United States.

Source:
1. “excruciating torture”: Pula, p. 238
General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, by Benjamin West, 1797
Among the many visitors Kosciuszko received during his two-month stay in England was the Pennsylvania born artist Benjamin West, who painted this portrait from memory. A friend who visited the same day wrote that Kosciuszko “laid on a couch—had a black silk band round his head—& was drawing landscapes…his principal amusement.”

Source:

Exhibits on the second floor include:

• A short film about Kosciuszko and his friendship with Thomas Jefferson
• Period furnished bedchamber where Kosciuszko resided from November 1797 to May 1798
Accessibility, Then and Now
Still recuperating from a severed sciatic nerve, stab wounds, and head trauma, Kosciuszko had limited mobility while he lived here. He used a cane and relied on his manservant, Libiszewski, to carry him up and down stairs when necessary.

In the 1790s, neither the boarding house where Kosciuszko stayed, nor this house next door had an elevator to the second floor.

Please ask the Ranger about accessibility.

the JOURNEY CONTINUES UPSTAIRS
Kosciuszko as a teenager

Portrait of General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, from the Josef Grassi School

Kosciuszko w/ Peasant’s Cap

Portrait of Kosciuszko

Kosciuszko on horseback - again

Kosciuszko by Peale
| Artifact A-08-013 | Panasonic 54” flat panel monitor.  
(2) Peavey ISM5T speakers.  
Support equipment in A/V cabinet below.  
DVD Player (Pioneer DVD-V7400 or equivalent)  
Technovision KPC2-NPS6.  
Controller w/cables.  
Stewart Audio PA50B amplifier. |
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<tr>
<td>Theater Equipment E-08-100</td>
<td>Existing video program</td>
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Dear Friend and General

“He ought to have a bed of roses amongst us.”
—John Armstrong, Kosciuszko’s close friend from the Revolutionary War, 1797

Pula, p. 241

Although one friend hoped Kosciuszko would enjoy “a bed of roses amongst us,” the returning hero found America’s political scene rather thorny. Brittle relations between the U.S. and France escalated into undeclared war, and the two leading political parties differed sharply on policy.

During his nine-month stay, Kosciuszko rekindled old friendships and formed new ones. He exchanged letters with presidents John Adams and George Washington, visited fellow veterans, and enjoyed a brief reunion with Agrippa Hull in New York City. While living in the bedchamber beside you, Kosciuszko became close friends with Thomas Jefferson, then Vice President.
Chief Little Turtle

General Horatio Gates, by Charles Wilson Peale, 1782

Lucetta A. Pollock, sketch by Kosciuszko, 1797-8. Lucetta was one of a number of young ladies who visited the celebrated Polish General in this house. Kosciuszko used his artistic skill to make informal portraits of some of them.

Portrait of Thomas Jefferson, by Thaddeus Kosciuszko, ca. 1797. The young republic’s political differences extended to the executive branch, with the Federalist party leader, President John Adams, often sparring with Vice President Thomas Jefferson, leader of the Democratic Republican party.

I Beg Mr. Jefferson
In May 1798, Kosciuszko slipped out of the country alone and in secrecy. He traveled as Thomas Kanberg, bearing a false passport obtained by Thomas Jefferson, to carry out an unofficial diplomatic mission in France.

Before he left, he placed part of his back pay in American investments and wrote a remarkable will. “I beg Mr. Jefferson,” he wrote, to “buy out of my money so many Negroes and free them.” He also intended “to give them education” in order to fulfill the “duty of a citizen in the free government.”

Thomas Jefferson rewrote the will in more formal, legal English, and agreed to be Kosciusko’s executor. Following Kosciuszko’s death in 1817, Jefferson referred the will to probate court, concerned that it could take “many more years to complete than I have to live.”

Jefferson was right. Due to competing claims from later wills written in Europe, the case was finally settled by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1852. The remaining funds went to relatives and the chance that Kosciuszko’s legacy would liberate or educate slaves slipped away.

During Kosciuszko’s lengthy exile in France and Switzerland, he kept up a lively correspondence with Jefferson.
Written just before he left for France, Kosciuszko’s American will illustrates his life long interest in freedom and education.

We Will Find the Way
Linking the end of the Revolution to the eve of Civil War, Kosciuszko’s will took on symbolic importance to many African Americans. An 1850s article in Frederick Douglass’ newspaper, *The North Star*, called it a “grateful tribute to the neglected and forgotten colored man.”

While another newspaperman, Eli Cornish, “feared that we shall be defrauded of the money,” he also asked readers to honor Kosciuszko’s true legacy:

“Let not the WILL, which was in him, be wanting in us for whom he so nobly willed, and with the will we will find the way…”

*Source:*  
The city Kosciuszko returned to in 1797 was twice the size of the colonial capital he first visited in 1776. From 1790-1800 Philadelphia was the temporary capitol of the United States. The President lived and worked at 6th and Market Street with the Congress, the Supreme Court and the U.S. Mint clustered nearby. It was the economic and cultural capital as well, with a housing and shipbuilding boom going on.

*HL question/comment: Is there any quote we could use to spice this up?*

*Source:
Dr. Benjamin Rush

As the seat of government and home of Dr. Benjamin Rush, Philadelphia helped Kosciuszko meet two goals: lobbying Congress for his soldier’s pay and receiving medical treatment. Dr. Rush was the preeminent physician in Philadelphia and he fearlessly remained in the city during the Yellow Fever epidemics which had plagued the city from late August to November since 1793.

Source:
View in Third Street from Spruce Street, engraved by W. Birch & Sons, 1799

In 1790 the population of what the well traveled La Rochefoucauld-Liancourt called "one of the most beautiful cities in the world" totaled 28,522, with contiguous suburbs bringing it to 54,336. Citizens and visitors alike enjoyed proximity to the Library Company of Philadelphia, the American Philosophical Society, and multiple theaters.

Source:
   http://cip.cornell.edu/Dienst/UI/1.0/Summarize/psu.ph/1133210175
Caption for image of state house:
Congress Hall and New Theatre in Chestnut Street, engraved by W. Birch & Sons, 1799
Philadelphia functioned as America’s seat of government from 1790 to 1800, during which time Congress formally added the Bill of Rights to the Constitution, established the U.S. Mint, ratified Jay’s Treaty with England, admitted Vermont, Kentucky, and Tennessee to the Union, and passed the Alien and Sedition Acts during the undeclared war with France.

Source:

Philadelphia’s African American community

When Kosciuszko lived here, his neighbors included Absalom James, founder and minister of St. Thomas’ African Methodist Episcopal Church, and Richard Allen, founder of Mother Bethel African Methodist church. James Forten, a fellow revolutionary war veteran and prosperous sail maker lived nearby.

Source:
1. Info on James and Allen: Nash, p. 186
Richard Allen, portrait by an unknown artist, 1784

James Forten, sail maker

James Forten, portrait by an unknown artist, c. 1800 [Park to verify]

Portrait of Absalom Jones

Absalom Jones, by Raphaelle Peale, 1810

Relf’s boarding house
[Reference photo. New photo to come from park]

Mrs. Relf’s Boarding House

Kosciuszko wanted a quiet, economical place to stay in Philadelphia, so Dr. Rush recommended this place. Some of his medical students stayed at Ann Relf’s, who supported herself by running a boarding house, a respectable occupation for a widow. She is buried in the church burial ground across the street.
In the 1790s these two houses, now joined as one museum, were considered very spacious homes.
Digital graphic layout

**D-10-001**

002-012

Low-tech interactive

**E-10-002**  
Push button interactive highlighting elements in the bed chamber.  
Selecting button activates corresponding LSI spotlight to illuminate related objects in room.  
8 Push Buttons.

Primary text

**L-10-003**  
Kosciuszko’s Bed Chamber

B/W illustration

**G-10-005**  
Key illustration for bedchamber exhibits  
[Reference, New color artwork required]

Tertiary text

**L-10-005**  
1. Text for bed chamber

**L-10-006**  
2. Text for bed chamber

**L-10-007**  
3. Text for bed chamber

**L-10-008**  
4. Text for bed chamber

**L-10-009**  
5. Text for bed chamber

**L-10-010**  
6. Text for bed chamber

**L-10-011**  
7. Text for bed chamber

**L-10-012**  
8. Text for bed chamber
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Digital graphic layout</th>
<th>D-11-001</th>
<th>002 - 004</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exit &amp; Credit Panel</td>
<td>L-11-002</td>
<td>Kosciuszko’s Legacy</td>
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<tr>
<th>Color illustration</th>
<th>G-11-002</th>
<th>Portrait of General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, from the Josef Grassi School</th>
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</table>

| Exit & Credit Panel | L-11-003 | Kosciuszko’s legacy lies more in his deeds than his words. He believed philosophers belonged not in armchairs, but on battlefields, in town halls, and city squares. He encouraged citizens everywhere to fight “against ignorance, injustice and…inequality.” |
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Yale University Art Gallery
Czartoryski Museum, Cracow
Kosciuszko Museum, Soleure, Switzerland
Allen Memorial At Museum
Independence National Historical Park

Partial Bibliography

Nash, Gary. [Manuscript Title]


Source:

1. “against ignorance:” Pula, p. 28