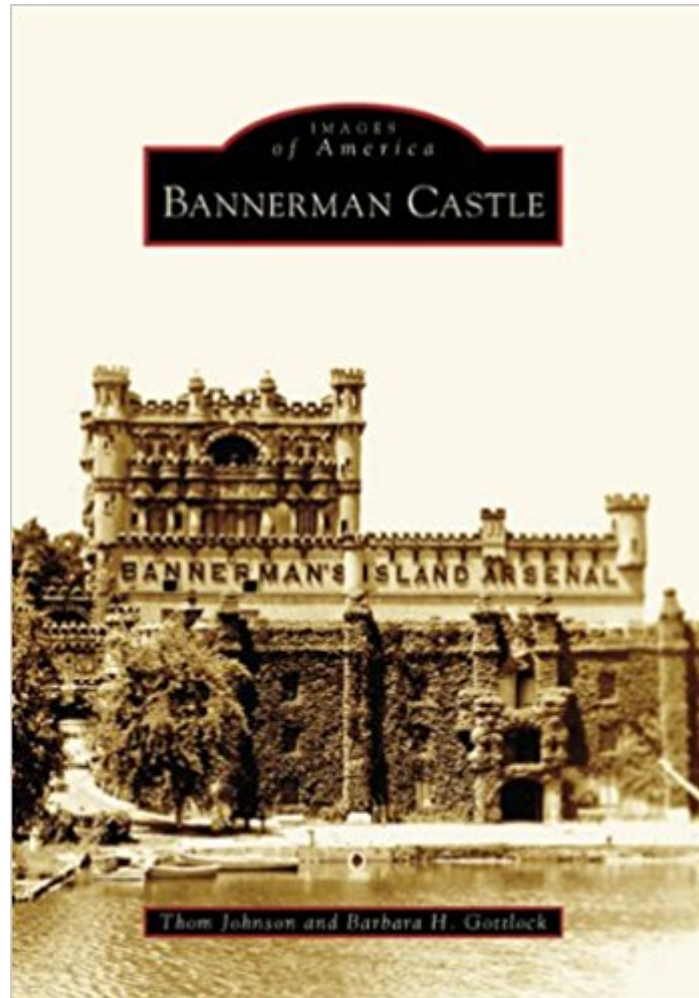




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Bannerman Castle (NY) (Images Of America)



Synopsis

For generations, boaters and train passengers have been mystified and intrigued by the sight of a castlelike structure looming in the Hudson River, near Fishkill. Bannerman Castle unveils the history of this site: an island arsenal, built to resemble a Scottish castle. The story begins in 1900, when Francis Bannerman VI purchased the island—officially Pollepel but later called Bannerman's Island—for storing used military goods purchased from the government. A native of Scotland, Bannerman designed his arsenal to resemble a Scottish castle.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Through research and photographs, Thom Johnson and Barbara H. Gottlock provide insight into the island's rise as a glorious and unique landmark to its eventual neglect and decline. Both authors serve as guides for island tours and as members of the Bannerman Castle Trust, which was founded in 1993 by Neil Caplan, Johnson, and other concerned individuals. The trust works with New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation to protect the island, now part of Hudson Highlands State Park.

Many collectors cut their collecting teeth drooling over the catalogs published for many years by Francis Bannerman. But what of the man, his family, and the fabled island he maintained? This book covers all of those aspects of the legend, and more. Period and contemporary photographs will fascinate anyone that has wondered what was there and how it came and went. The book has a

proud place on the shelf with my Bannerman catalogs that span nearly a century.Hueyman

I used to commute to New York City on Metro-North every day. Twice a day, I would pass Pollepel Island and the ruins of Bannerman's Castle. No matter how many times I passed it, I always found it a fascinating sight. Now there are tours of Bannerman's Castle; I recently went on one, and though they provided a lot of information, and I took a ton of photos, I wanted more. This book has just about everything you might want to know about Bannerman's Castle. The photos and detailed information are great; this book was clearly a labor of love. The pictures date from while the castle was being built to the present day. It's really interesting to compare the photos of the castle in its prime with its current state. It would be nice if there were some color photos, but that's a minor complaint. Most of the photos date from the days of black and white anyway. Excellent book on a Hudson Valley landmark.

Neat to learn the history.

Excellent. This book is exemplary its presentation of images and information about Bannerman Castle. It was very helpful to me as I prepared my anniversary trip with my wife. The images of America series seems to be a bit hit or miss in its quality, but this is definitely at the high end of the spectrum. For those who love history, this book contains interesting and obscure information about this nearly forgotten part of New York history.

What an interesting story!

We found an old photograph of the castle on a trip to Cold Spring, NY a number of years ago. My wife got interested in the castle, the history and the legends. We ordered the book and went on a tour of the island not long after. Very enjoyable.

Great piece of history which no one would think of reading but it is part of history! I loved it. What no one except the locals realizes, is that the island is one of very few abandoned islands in the world and it's right on the Hudson River which helped shape our country.

very interesting. This Castle on the Hudson looks like one of the 'robber baron' castles on the Rhine river. I stared at it from West Point for four years and was always interested in it origins. Now i know

- and what an interesting story.

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