



# THE PUTNAM VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## OUR AMERICAN HISTORY

A PROGRAM SERIES - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

### Mr. Lincoln's Secret Visit to West Point

with Historian and Author Anthony J. Czarnecki

Saturday, June 13, 2015 at 10:00 am

Unknown to many at the time, and remaining a little known historical fact until now, President Abraham Lincoln made a clandestine trip to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in June of 1862 - in the middle of the Civil War. It was his longest journey away from the White House and his only trip to New York State



during his entire Presidency. He boarded a train in Washington D.C. and got off right here in Putnam, at the Garrison Depot. He also toured the West Point Foundry in Cold Spring. Based upon original research, Anthony J. Czarnecki, reveals why Lincoln came to West Point, what he did during his three-day stay in the Hudson River Valley, and how history changed as a result of this secret visit to the U.S. Military Academy. Join the Putnam Valley Historical Society on June 13<sup>th</sup> to learn the whole story.



### Anthony J. Czarnecki

A Past-President of the Lincoln Society in Peekskill, one of the nation's oldest Lincoln Societies, Anthony Czarnecki currently heads the Chartwell Group USA, a criminal justice consulting firm, having retired after 35 years of public service in the probation and corrections field. He also teaches courses at both Iona College and Westchester Community College.

Mr. Czarnecki serves on the Board of Trustees of the Westchester County Historical Society and is a member of the Society of Civil War Historians. His extensive research on "Mr. Lincoln's Secret Visit to West Point" was published in the Winter 2012 issue of *NEW YORK HISTORY JOURNAL*. He is the author of "Mr. Lincoln's Visit to Peekskill: The Sesquicentennial of an Inaugural Journey," published in *WESTCHESTER HISTORIAN* Magazine in 2011. In his review of this work, noted Lincoln scholar Harold Holzer commented that: "This is the last and best overview of President-elect Lincoln's historic visit to and through Westchester in February 1861." Chief White House Correspondent Kenneth T. Walsh added: "I'm fascinated by your research about Lincoln's trip to West Point. It certainly adds to our understanding of what he was going through during that very difficult period and how he tried to get the best information possible."

**This program will be held at the Putnam Valley Historical Society Museum  
311 Peekskill Hollow Road ♦ Putnam Valley, NY 10579 at 10:00 am**