

Village of Deferiet

Scenic Rt 3 (Proposed as Alternative Byway Route Loop)

Resources are located between NYS DOT Start/End Mile Point Jefferson County 10.95 through 11.88

Located in northern Jefferson County in the Town of Wilna along Route 3, the village like neighboring communities developed around its bountiful natural resources of wood and water along the Black River.

The last big paper mill erected on the Black River was the St. Regis Paper Mill at Deferiet with operations beginning in 1901 as investors capitalized upon the high cost of newsprint around the turn of the 20th century. The location of Deferiet along the Black River provided investors with an opportunity to control low water levels during the summer season with the construction of a canal to divert water from the dam to allow year-round operations at the mill, a significant feat for its time. The company was sold in 1916 to wealthy investors, who invested heavily into the plant and village. By 1922 the village was a company owned municipality with approximately 1,500 residents living in company owned houses. During the mid-late 1960's the company sold the houses. Today few residents work at the plant due to a reduction in operations. Deferiet serves mainly as a bedroom community to neighboring communities.

<i>Resources and Special Sites & Attractions</i>	<i>Recommendations</i>	<i>Likely Partners of Stakeholders</i>
<i>Natural & Recreational</i>		
Black River – traverses along the south side of Route 3. Visitors will be attracted to breathtaking views of the river, landscape, and vegetation enhanced by seasonal displays of growth and color.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a plan to identify and open scenic vistas along the corridor as opportunities and funding become available; • Develop a beautification plan to enhance views along the corridor with debris clean up and strategically removed underbrush; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village of Deferiet, Orion Power Co. NYS DEC
Canoe & kayak portage - located at	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing maintenance and enhancements to the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NYS DEC; DOT, Village

the end of Riverside Drive in Deferiet –outdoor enthusiasts, sportsmen and fishermen/women are invited to enjoy the scenic beauty of the landscape along the river and/or drop a line to fish for Walleye, Chain Pickerel, Rock Bass, Small Mouth Bass, Northern Pike and/or Yellow Perch.	portage area; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directional signage to facilitate visitor access to portage area; • Develop a fish restocking plan and program; 	of Deferient, special interest group/s
<i>Historical</i>		
Roadside Shrine – located on the south side of Rt. 3 between Deferiet and Herrings and constructed in 1921 to provide travelers an opportunity to pause a moment and pray for the safety of their journey. Today visitors are intrigued by the small wooden structure housing the Madonna.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing maintenance and enhancements; • Interpretive signage to inform visitors about the significance of the shrine; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special interest group