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CHANGE IN THE HISTORICAL RECORD**

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THE ORIGIN OF THE POST PARADE: A CHANGE IN THE HISTORICAL RECORD

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The Origin of the Post Parade – A Late Change in the Historic Record

We see it reported most everywhere that first post parade in America came in the 14th running of the Belmont Stakes in 1880. See for example, NTRA Thoroughbred Notebook, The Associated Press, June 12, 2003, Belmont Stakes Facts & Stats, The Sports Network, June 2, 2003 and also
http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/more/horseracing/events/1998/belmont/belmont_facts_w.html
<http://www.belmont-stakes-betting.com/facts.htm>
<http://www1.nyra.com/belstakes2002/>
http://www.4reference.net/encyclopedias/wikipedia/Belmont_Stakes.html

It ain't necessarily so. Scratch 1880. While the first post parade did occur at the Belmont. It actually took place during the running of the 5th Belmont on June 10, 1871 at Jerome Park. As recounted by the Spirit of the Times:

The eleven colts and fillies **paraded by the stand, and thereby enabled the ladies and gentlemen to observe their fine size, spirit, and beauty and to fix the colors of the jockeys in their minds. We have often recommended such a parade, and the Jockey Cub is to be thanked, on behalf of the people, for having required it.** They then went over to the foot of the Club-house bluff and there assembled for the start, to the admiration of the ladies and gentlemen in the lofty balconies. The Spirit of the Times, The American Gentleman's Newspaper, p. 275 (1871) [Emphasis added]

The record is clear and should be corrected to support the 1871 date , and Tom Gilcoyne of the Racing Museum and Hall of Fame should be commended for helping us set the record straight.