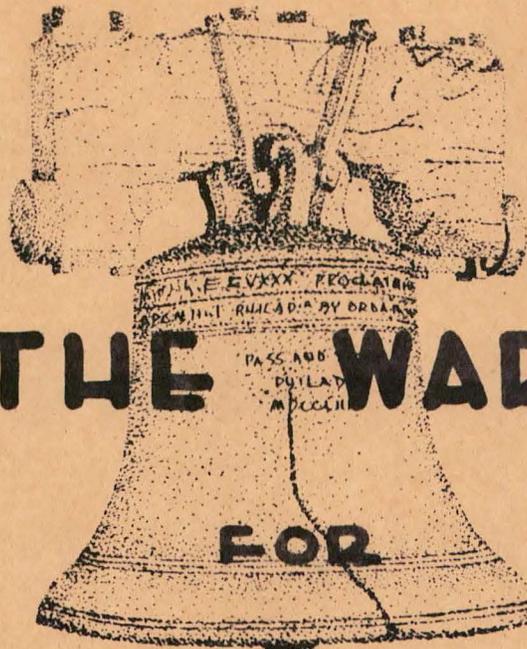


THE NATIONAL SURVEY OF  
HISTORIC SITES & BUILDINGS



**THE WAR  
FOR  
INDEPENDENCE**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings**

**Theme X**

**The War for Independence**

**1960**

**United States Department of the Interior  
Fred A. Seaton, Secretary**

**National Park Service  
Conrad L. Wirth, Director**

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## PREFACE

The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings is a resumption of the Historic Sites Survey begun in 1937, under the authority of the Historic Sites Act of 1935. During World War II, and the emergency following, it was necessary to suspend these studies. The Survey has now been resumed as part of the National Park Service MISSION 66 program.

The purpose of the Survey, as outlined in the Historic Sites Act, is to "make a survey of historic and archeologic sites, buildings, and objects for the purpose of determining which possess exceptional value as commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States." In carrying out this basic directive, each site and building considered in the Survey is evaluated in terms of the Criteria for Classification, which are listed in the Appendix to this report.

When completed, the Survey will make recommendations to the Director of the National Park Service and the Secretary of the Interior as to the sites of "exceptional value." This will assist the National Park Service in preparing the National Recreation Plan, including sites which may be administered by the National Park Service to fill in gaps in the historical and archeological representation within the National Park System. It will also recommend and encourage programs of historical and archeological preservation being carried out by state and local agencies.

Each theme study prepared in the course of the Survey will consist of two parts: a brief analysis of the theme itself, and a discussion of the sites and buildings which were considered in connection with the study. The historians who prepared this report made personal visits to the more important sites in 1960.

This study is the result of a joint effort by two historians of the National Park Service: Frank B. Sarles, Jr., Region One Office, and Charles E. Shedd, Jr., Region Five Office, in consultation with the Branch of History in the Washington Office of the National Park Service. The historical summary of the theme was written by Mr. Sarles, who coordinated and assembled the report.

After completion, the study was presented to the Consulting Committee for the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings. The Committee consists of Dr. Waldo G. Leland, Director Emeritus of the American Council of Learned Societies; Dr. S. K. Stevens, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; Dr. Louis B. Wright, Director of the Folger Shakespearean Library; Mr. Earl H. Reed, Chairman Emeritus of the Committee on the Preservation of Historic Buildings, American Institute of Architects; Dr. Richard H. Howland, President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; Mr. Eric Gugler, member of the Board of Directors of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society; Dr. J. O. Brew, Director of the Peabody Museum of Archeology and Ethnology, Harvard University; and Mr. Frederick Johnson, Curator of the Robert S. Peabody Foundation for Archeology, Phillips Academy.

The over-all Survey, as well as the theme study which follows, is under the general direction of John O. Littleton, Chief, National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, who works under the general supervision of Herbert E. Kahler, Chief Historian, Branch of History, and Daniel B. Beard, Chief, Division of Interpretation, of the National Park Service.

Conrad L. Wirth  
Director

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The work of the National Survey profits from the experience and knowledge of a considerable number of individuals and organizations. Every effort is made to solicit the considered opinions of as many qualified persons as possible in reaching final selection of the most significant sites. Assistance in the preparation of this study from the following is gratefully acknowledged:

Mrs. Olga G. Atkins, New Jersey Department of Conservation and Economic Development, Trenton, New Jersey; Dr. James T. Bryson, Councilman, City of Washington, Washington, Georgia; Mr. Roderick H. Cantey, Kershaw County Historical Society, Camden, South Carolina; Mr. Albert S. Davis, Jr., Trustee, Washington Campground Association, Somerville, New Jersey; Mr. Leon de Valinger, Jr., State Archivist, Public Archives Commission, Dover, Delaware; Mr. Lawrence J. Flynn, Director, Vacation/Travel Promotion, Massachusetts Department of Commerce, Boston, Massachusetts; Dr. Malcolm B. Gilman, State President, The New Jersey Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Red Bank, New Jersey; Lieut. Col. L. F. Hagglund, USAR (Ret.), Middlebury, Vermont.

Mr. Elmore Hane, Columbia, South Carolina; Mr. H. Hobart Holley, Quincy Historical Society, Quincy, Massachusetts; Mr. Marshall T. Mays, President, Greenwood County Historical Society, Greenwood, South Carolina; Mrs. Amos Struble, The Westchester County Historical Society, White Plains, New York; Mr. Lawrence Stuart, Director of State Parks, Augusta, Maine; Mr. J. Truman Swing, Secretary, Brandywine Battlefield

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**THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE**

**A Summary of the Theme**

## PROLOGUE

In 1763, the Peace of Paris stripped France of her New World possessions and left the British dominant upon the continent of North America. Limitless power and influence seemed the destiny of the British Empire -- but even then the seeds of dissolution had been planted. At the very time the American colonists were awakening to the possibilities of unimpeded expansion, the Crown found it expedient to limit that expansion. At a time when the colonies had attained a high degree of autonomy in government, the Crown found it desirable to reinstate firm political and economic controls. The result, during the next dozen years, was a progressive deterioration of relations between England and her continental American colonies.<sup>1</sup>

The series of events leading directly to the outbreak of hostilities began with the "Boston Tea Party" on the night of December 16, 1773. Parliament retaliated by passing the so-called "Intolerable Acts" in April, 1774, which among other things closed the port of Boston to all business until the British East India Company should be reimbursed for the tea destroyed. The other colonies sprang to Massachusetts' assistance: with food and supplies for Boston, with heated words and fiery pamphlets, and with a call for a general meeting of all the colonies.

The First Continental Congress, meeting at Philadelphia on

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<sup>1</sup> This period of increasing tension is discussed in Theme IX, Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775.

September 5, 1774, consisted of fifty-five delegates from twelve colonies, Georgia alone being unrepresented. Before adjourning on October 26, the Congress adopted a Declaration of Rights and an intercolonial non-importation agreement called "The Association," which provided for the appointment of local committees to watch for acts of disloyalty to the colonial cause. A moderate plan of colonial union, offered by Joseph Galloway of Pennsylvania, narrowly failed of adoption.

The actions of the First Continental Congress aroused much resentment in England, and the English people rallied to the support of Lord North's government. On March 20, 1775, Parliament passed the New England Restraining Act, which prohibited those colonies from doing business outside the British Empire. Subsequently the act was applied to all except four of the continental colonies.

By the end of 1774, the situation in America was already beyond hope of reconciliation. The committees of Safety were effectively enforcing the provisions of The Association, and ten of the colonies had organized extralegal provincial congresses. Local committees had begun to accumulate stores of arms and ammunition, a circumstance which would lead to the outbreak of hostilities at Lexington and Concord.

#### POLITICS AND DIPLOMACY

When the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia on May 10, 1775, war had begun. Congress recognized that fact by formal

declaration, then went on to create a Continental Army with one of its own members, George Washington, as commander. The Congress also issued a "Declaration of Causes of Taking Up Arms" on July 6, 1775, but moved for a final attempt at reconciliation in the so-called "Olive Branch Petition." This document, asking the Crown to protect American rights from Parliamentary tyranny, was spurned by George III.

As 1775 passed, American sentiment gradually shifted away from the original desire for a guarantee of rights within the British Empire. On October 26, the King announced plans to hire foreign mercenaries to subdue the colonists. In January, 1776, Thomas Paine's Common Sense was published, sounding the call for a final break with England. The tide soon ran strongly for independence, which was proclaimed on July 4, 1776.

With the Declaration of Independence, the colonies were faced with the necessity of establishing a formal union to carry on the war. Although a committee to consider the problem was appointed in June, 1776, it was not until November 15, 1777, that Congress approved a draft of the Articles of Confederation and sent it to the States for ratification. Most acquiesced within a few months, but the required unanimous approval was not obtained until March 1, 1781, when Maryland ratified.

With the beginning of the movement toward independence in late 1775, the Continental Congress appointed a secret committee to establish relations with foreign governments. Arthur Lee, Massachusetts' colonial agent in London, was assigned to the task. He soon obtained

the support of Caron de Beaumarchais, a popular French playwright and secret agent.

In 1776 the Congress sent Silas Deane to France, and his efforts helped obtain secret aid in the form of arms and supplies. During that summer Deane was joined by Lee and by Benjamin Franklin, the trio being assigned the tasks of securing French recognition of the United States and, if possible, military assistance. Partly because of Franklin's diplomatic ability, and partly because of the course of events in America during 1777, both objectives were obtained in treaties signed on February 6, 1778. Efforts to obtain open Spanish support were not successful, though that government gave clandestine aid and entered the war against England as an ally of France in 1779.

#### THE NAVAL WAR

Aside from monetary and material aid -- which on more than one occasion saved the American cause from collapse -- the most conspicuous French contribution to American independence was made on the sea. Admiral De Grasse, sealing up the mouth of Chesapeake Bay with his French fleet in the fall of 1781, made possible the decisive American victory at Yorktown which marked the end of major operations.

Though the Continental Congress established an American Navy and a Marine Corps in the fall of 1775, the initiative at sea remained in the hands of the powerful British navy until Yorktown. Most of the memorable exploits of our navy during the Revolution took the form of small individual engagements; and, strangely enough, the most significant American naval "victory" of the war was fought on an inland

lake by a force of soldiers under command of a brigadier general, and resulted in the loss of the American fleet.

Among the notable exploits on the seas should be noted the spectacular raid on the Irish Channel coast of England by Capt. Lambert Wickes' three small ships in May, 1777, and John Paul Jones' celebrated cruise around Great Britain in the late summer of 1779. The climax to Jones' exploit was the successful engagement of his flagship, the Bonhomme Richard, with the Serapis on September 23, during which he uttered the immortal words: "I have not yet begun to fight."

#### MILITARY OPERATIONS

For over eight years -- from April of 1775 to September of 1783 -- the American states were at war with England, and during much of that time the armies were marching and countermarching across the land. Along the Atlantic seaboard from Maine to Georgia and inland beyond the Appalachians, men stalked and slew their fellow men, and all the people knew war's heavy hand.

#### THE FIRST YEAR: LEXINGTON TO CHARLESTON

War began on April 19, 1775, when Major Pitcairn's British regulars, marching out from Boston to seize American munitions, came upon the Minutemen lined up on Lexington Green. Pitcairn's men dispersed the "rabble" and continued on to Concord, but they soon found they had tipped the hornet's nest. When the weary remnants stumbled into the defenses of Boston after their nightmarish retreat, they were part of an army besieged.

The American position was strengthened early in May, when New England forces under Ethan Allen seized the British posts of Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point on Lake Champlain. Strategically important, the forts also supplied needed artillery and military material for use in the siege of Boston.

As more and ever more colonial troops arrived in the vicinity of Boston, the British garrison's position became steadily more precarious. In mid-June, the Americans crowded their enemy too closely by entrenching Breed's Hill in Charlestown, overlooking Boston from the north. Disdainfully, Howe's British regulars attacked the American position frontally on June 17. Twice the British ranks were shattered by close-range fire; as American powder ran low, a third British attack carried the position at the point of the bayonet, and the mis-named "Battle of Bunker Hill" was over.

Two weeks later, George Washington arrived to take command of the army around Boston. For eight years to come, he was to bear the hopes of America on his broad shoulders. From this army -- raw militia for the most part, insufficiently supplied, indifferently officered, and enlisted for only short periods at a time -- he was to mould a fighting force which would win independence for the American colonies.

As Washington devoted the latter months of 1775 to building an army in the Boston siege lines, an ambitious project was launched for the conquest of Canada. A two-pronged attack was planned: one army, under Richard Montgomery, was to advance up Lake Champlain, while Benedict Arnold

was to lead another up the Kennebec River in Maine and thence down the Chaudiere to Quebec. It was a desperate chance, but Canada was lightly garrisoned and the Americans hoped the French would rally to their cause. Montgomery moved swiftly and captured Montreal in mid-November, though his army was weakened by hunger, fatigue and sickness. Arnold, after an epic march through the Maine wilderness, reached Quebec about the same time, but his army was too decimated to take the city alone. Montgomery joined Arnold and the combined forces attacked Quebec on December 31, but the assault failed after Montgomery was slain and Arnold badly wounded. The American army held on grimly until the following spring, but in June, 1776, Arnold's successor, John Sullivan, fell back to Lake Champlain.

Meantime, the British in Boston were so thoroughly bottled up that their position became untenable. On March 17, 1776, Howe's army sailed away to Nova Scotia, leaving 250 cannon behind.

Early in 1776, Sir Henry Clinton led an expedition down the Atlantic coast to cooperate with the strong Tory factions in the southern colonies. The expedition was late in starting, and by the time Clinton reached his rendezvous, Tory forces in Virginia and North Carolina had been defeated and dispersed. Clinton then decided to capture Charleston, South Carolina, as a base of operations. A four-week siege, beginning June 1, was beaten off by the determined resistance of William Moultrie's small force on Sullivan's Island.

## OUT OF THE NIGHT: LONG ISLAND TO PRINCETON

With the evacuation of Boston, British and American eyes turned to New York, strategically situated to sever the American colonies. Washington moved his army to the vicinity of New York City in April and May, 1776, posting a part on Long Island and the rest on Manhattan. Howe's army arrived in August and attacked on Long Island on August 27, outflanking the forward line and driving the remnants back to the fortifications on Brooklyn Heights. There Howe commenced siege operations, but Washington, realizing the danger of his position, skillfully evacuated Long Island on the night of August 29-30.

Howe landed on Manhattan on September 15, forcing Washington to evacuate New York City. On the withdrawal, the Americans won a small but encouraging victory at Harlem Heights. Howe's command of the numerous waterways gave him an enormous advantage over Washington. In mid-October the British crossed to the mainland in Washington's left rear, forcing the Americans back to White Plains. After a sharp action there on October 28, Washington again withdrew.

The American situation now deteriorated rapidly. Washington had left a part of his force to hold Forts Washington and Lee, on opposite sides of the Hudson at the upper end of Manhattan Island, and now he left part to hold the highlands of the Hudson while he crossed the river into New Jersey with the remainder. Howe quickly moved to attack the forts, capturing Fort Washington with its entire garrison on November 16 and forcing Nathanael Greene to evacuate Fort Lee three days later.

Washington began a rapid retreat across New Jersey, with the British advance under Lord Cornwallis closely following his disintegrating army. Washington's difficulties were compounded by the inexplicable refusal of Charles Lee to join him with a major portion of the American army, despite repeated orders to do so. In early December, Washington crossed the Delaware River into Pennsylvania with the remnants of his army. Howe left garrisons at Princeton, Trenton, Bordentown, New Brunswick and Perth Amboy, and withdrew the rest of his force to winter quarters at New York City. Another British detachment was sent to capture Newport, Rhode Island, and remained in garrison there.

While Washington had been undergoing these myriad discouragements, affairs on Lake Champlain had taken a turn for the better. Horatio Gates, ordered on June 17 to take command of the army which had retreated from Canada, withdrew the force from Crown Point to Fort Ticonderoga. Learning that Sir Guy Carleton, the British commander in Canada, was assembling a fleet in preparation for a drive through Lake Champlain, Gates ordered Arnold to construct an American fleet. Arnold fell to work with furious energy, and his small "navy", manned by landlubbers, fearlessly engaged Carleton's advance at Valcour Bay on October 11. In two days of fighting, he lost most of his vessels, but the delay convinced Carleton that he could do nothing decisive before the onset of winter. Early in November, the British retired to the north end of Lake Champlain.

Washington, meanwhile, was preparing plans for a stunning surprise to the British. He realized that he must win a victory if he hoped

to recruit his army for another year of service. On Christmas night, 1776, he crossed the Delaware River and struck the Hessian outpost of Trenton. The surprised garrison quickly surrendered, and Washington recrossed the river with prisoners and material.

Though the terms of enlistment of his army expired with the old year, Washington persuaded most of them to serve for six weeks longer. With them, and reinforcements of militia, Washington again entered New Jersey on the night of December 30-31, 1776. A British force under Cornwallis confronted Washington, and the American position seemed hopeless. But Washington, by a swift night march, eluded Cornwallis and struck the British supply base at Princeton on January 3, 1777. Driving the British garrison away, he then moved his army northeast to Morristown. The British evacuated New Jersey, and the front was quiet for several months.

#### CRISIS IN THE NORTH: BRANDYWINE TO MONMOUTH

With the opening of active operations in the spring of 1777, the War for Independence reached a crisis in the north. Strong British forces were poised at opposite ends of the Hudson River-Lake Champlain line, and a coordinated advance by both would almost inevitably have resulted in a British victory of major proportions. Fortunately for the Americans, a divided British command resulted in the defeat of one of those armies while the other stood idly by.

Washington, faced with the double mission of guarding the capital at Philadelphia and preventing a move by Howe up the Hudson River, spent

most of the spring and summer of 1777 marching and countermarching through New Jersey. In mid-August Howe loaded his army on transports and sailed south from New York, arriving after a long and circuitous voyage at the head of Chesapeake Bay. Washington moved his army to Brandywine Creek, southwest of Philadelphia, and there engaged the British advance on September 11. The American army was outflanked and forced to withdraw, and the British entered Philadelphia on September 26.

Washington, from his position northwest of Philadelphia, attacked the main British outpost at Germantown on October 4. After a promising beginning, the American assault was blunted and the attackers were driven from the field. Howe was able then to turn his attention to the American forts along the Delaware below Philadelphia, which were evacuated soon after. Washington put his army in winter quarters at Valley Forge, 20 miles northwest of Philadelphia.

Meantime, John Burgoyne's British army had started south from Canada in June, 1777, expecting a simultaneous advance up the Hudson by Howe. Another British force, under Barry St. Leger, was to advance eastward along the Mohawk Valley from Fort Oswego. St. Leger reached Fort Stanwix early in August, laid siege to the fort and shortly afterward ambushed a militia relief force at Oriskany. Two weeks later, however, Benedict Arnold arrived with a relief column and forced St. Leger to retreat.

Burgoyne reached Ticonderoga on June 27 and speedily forced Arthur St. Clair's American garrison to evacuate that post. In pursuing the retreating Americans, the British left the easier water route southward and began a difficult march overland. Burgoyne's advance was opposed by a weak American force under Philip Schuyler, who hampered the British as best he might by felling trees and destroying bridges. Weak as he was, Schuyler was farsighted enough to send Arnold with the relief expedition which saved Fort Stanwix.

The savage conduct of Burgoyne's Indian allies roused the New York and New England militia, a circumstance which led to the first major defeat suffered by the invading force. A Hessian foraging party, numbering about a tenth of Burgoyne's army, was nearly wiped out near Bennington, Vermont, on August 16.

Burgoyne, though he learned by September 1 that Howe was not coming to join him, decided against a withdrawal to Canada. He crossed the Hudson at Saratoga on September 13 and attacked the American army, now under Horatio Gates, six days later. Unable to break through, Burgoyne remained inactive for three weeks, having received word that a British force under Clinton was advancing north from New York City. Clinton successfully captured two forts below West Point, but failed to follow up his success. Burgoyne, his position growing daily more desperate, made another unsuccessful attack on October 7. Surrounded at Saratoga, he surrendered his army to Gates on October 17.

Washington's army, encamped at Valley Forge, suffered bitter hardships during the winter of 1777-78. The country was far from destitute, but the services of supply were inefficiently managed. Short of

food, clothing, and supplies of all kinds, officers and men existed as best they could in the hope that spring would bring a lessening of their trials.

Two events early in 1778 boded well for the future. One was the French alliance.. The other was a reorganization of the army command which brought the appointments of Nathanael Greene and Jeremiah Wadsworth as quartermaster-general and commissary-general, respectively, and of a new arrival, "Baron" Steuben, as drillmaster. During the last months of the winter encampment, Steuben's tactical instruction and the vast improvement in supply transformed the Continental army into a formidable fighting force.

France's entry into the war convinced the British government that Philadelphia was untenable. Clinton, who had replaced Howe in the British command, began an overland retreat to New York on June 18. Washington immediately took up the pursuit and caught the British army at Monmouth Court House on June 27. A smashing American victory was prevented by the misbehavior of Charles Lee.<sup>2</sup> Nevertheless, the Continental army held its position against heavy counter-attacks, and after dark the British retreat continued.

In furtherance of the alliance, a French fleet with 4,000 regular troops reached America on July 8. Washington planned a joint attack on New York City, but the French ships were unable to cross the sandbar blocking the entrance to New York harbor. The American commander then persuaded the French to support an attack on the British garrison at Newport,

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<sup>2</sup> Lee was subsequently court-martialed and suspended from command.

Rhode Island. An American army under John Sullivan landed on the island successfully, but a gale scattered the French fleet, which then sailed away and left Sullivan to extricate his men as best he could. The American army was saved, but relations between the allies had been severely strained by the affair.

After the abortive attack on Newport, the war in the north became a stalemate. The British held New York City and Newport, while Washington's army held a semi-circular line around those cities.

In the late spring of 1779, Clinton sallied from the New York defenses to seize unfinished American works at Stony Point and Verplanck's Point, on opposite sides of the Hudson River below West Point. On the night of July 15, Anthony Wayne recaptured Stony Point in a daring attack at bayonet point. The Americans were unable to hold the position, but after its abandonment it was not reoccupied in strength by the British.

The only other serious threat to Washington's position came in September, 1780, with Benedict Arnold's treasonable plan to surrender West Point to the British. Fortunately for the Americans, the plot was discovered and Arnold was forced to flee for his life.

#### WAR ON THE FRONTIER

While British armies were attacking American from the seaward side, the long inland frontier from Maine to Georgia was exposed to assault by savage tribes. Most of the Indians sided with the English and, led by British officers, struck time and again at the frontier settlements.

Fortunately for the American cause, those settlements stood firm, else the coastal armies might have faced attack from both sides simultaneously. Midway through the war, the bold vision of one frontier leader and the courage of his small band of followers alleviated the major Indian threat and assured the new nation a boundary on the Mississippi River.

On the southwestern frontier, the Indian threat was negated early. A joint series of campaigns by Georgia, Carolina and Virginia militia in the summer and fall of 1776 reduced the Cherokees to virtual impotence, and a second drive three years later completed the job.

In Kentucky, where settlement began simultaneously with the outbreak of war, the situation was touch-and-go for four years. Boone's Wilderness Road became a tenuous supply line for the few small Kentucky stations, which stood off numerous Indian assaults. In the summer of 1778, George Rogers Clark led a small band of Virginians into the heart of the enemy country north of the Ohio River. In a brilliant eight-month campaign, climaxed by a forced march through flooded countryside, Clark's men captured the major British frontier outposts of Vincennes, Cahokia and Kaskaskia, securing the Northwest Territory for the United States and practically depriving the Indians of British support. Indian raids into Kentucky still continued, however. At the Battle of the Blue Licks, on August 19, 1782, frontiersmen suffered their worst defeat of the war at the hands of marauding warriors.

In the north, the frontier was fairly quiet until 1778, when Tory-led Iroquois bands perpetrated fearful massacres in the Wyoming

Valley of Pennsylvania and the Cherry Valley of New York. A punitive expedition under John Sullivan invaded the Iroquois country in the summer of 1779 to devastate the Indian villages. Another force under John Brodhead marched north from Fort Pitt about the same time to destroy crops and villages around the west end of Lake Erie.

#### THE SOUTHERN WAR: SAVANNAH TO EUTAW SPRINGS

After the failure of Clinton's Charleston expedition in 1776, the southern states had two years of comparative calm. Failure to win a decision in the north, however, caused the British to turn their attention southward in the fall of 1778. Savannah fell to a British army under Archibald Campbell in December, and the British quickly overran the interior of Georgia, occupying Augusta the following month. The invaders abandoned the latter city in February, 1779, however, after a body of South Carolina Tories en route to reinforce them was crushed by American militia at Kettle Creek.

Benjamin Lincoln was assigned to command American forces in South Carolina, but despite his vigilance the British, now under George Prevost, temporarily besieged Charleston in May. In the fall of 1779, arrival of a French fleet under D'Estaing gave the Americans a temporary superiority of numbers and Lincoln attempted to recapture Savannah. After a four-week siege, the combined army assaulted that city on October 9, but the attack was repulsed with heavy losses which included the brilliant Polish cavalryman, Casimir Pulaski. D'Estaing sailed away to the West Indies, and the Americans once more were on the defensive.

Early in 1780, Clinton sailed from New York with an expedition to capture Charleston. The British army, outnumbering Lincoln more than two to one, began siege operations on March 29. The American commander unwisely allowed himself to be bottled up in the city and on May 12 surrendered his army to the British. This disaster left only one other organized American force in South Carolina -- a small band of militia under Abraham Buford -- and it was surprised and wiped out by Banastre Tarleton's British cavalry at Waxhaws on May 29. The British conquest of the south was nearly complete.

When Charleston fell, a small force of Delaware and Maryland Continentals under Johann Kalb had reached Virginia en route to reinforce Lincoln. Kalb advanced into North Carolina where, on July 25, Horatio Gates appeared to take command of the Continentals and any available militia. Gates almost immediately marched for the British base at Camden, South Carolina. Lord Cornwallis, commanding in that state after Clinton's return to New York, reinforced Camden and took personal charge. The two armies clashed a few miles north of that town on August 16, the American army quickly being routed and driven from the state in disorder. The collapse of organized American resistance brought a period of bitter civil war to South Carolina, with highly effective partisan warfare being led by Francis Marion, Thomas Sumter and Andrew Pickens.

The defeat of Gates' army marked the nadir of the American cause in the south. Within two months, the tide began to turn.

Cornwallis in September invaded North Carolina, simultaneously sending Patrick Ferguson with his "American Volunteers" on a sweep through the back country of South Carolina. Ferguson's march aroused the Virginia and Carolina frontiersmen, who marched swiftly to surround and annihilate the Tories at King's Mountain on October 7. Cornwallis quickly withdrew from Charlotte to Winnsboro, South Carolina.

Early in December, 1780, Greene relieved Gates in command of the American army. To retain the initiative he divided his army, advancing with one part against the British right flank at Camden and sending Daniel Morgan toward the British left at Ninety Six. Cornwallis divided his own army three ways, sending Tarleton after Morgan and reinforcing Camden, while with his main body he marched northward to cut the American supply line.

Tarleton pushed forward with customary impetuosity and came upon Morgan's men at the Cowpens on January 17, 1781. Tarleton flung his men upon the American line and Morgan, in a tactical masterpiece, wiped out the attackers. Tarleton escaped with a few men, but his major usefulness had ended.

Morgan quickly rejoined Greene and the American army began retreating northward. Cornwallis was sternly determined that Greene should not escape punishment. Stripping his army of everything not absolutely essential, he marched rapidly in pursuit. Greene stayed just ahead of Cornwallis, meantime actively encouraging the guerilla leaders in Cornwallis' rear to disrupt his supply lines and harass his isolated outposts.

The Americans barely won the race to Virginia, crossing the swollen Dan River a few hours ahead of their pursuers.

Having failed to catch Greene, Cornwallis withdrew to Hillsboro and sought to rebuild his depleted army. Greene meantime received reinforcements and advanced on the British. At Guilford Court House, on March 15, the armies clashed. Though the British remained in possession of the field, Cornwallis was so badly shattered that he moved his army to Wilmington, on the coast, where the British navy could support and supply it.

With Cornwallis out of the way, Greene returned to South Carolina. His ensuing operations were tactically unsuccessful. The battle of Hobkirk's Hill, on April 25, was an American defeat; the four-week siege of Ninety Six ended in an American withdrawal when Lord Rawdon approached with British reinforcements; and the battle of Eutaw Springs, on September 8, last major engagement in South Carolina, ended indecisively. Nevertheless Greene's maneuvers resulted in strategic victory, clearing the British from the interior of South Carolina by the end of 1781. In his campaign, he was aided immensely by the activities of the guerilla leaders.

#### VICTORY AT YORKTOWN

Major British operations in Virginia began in October, 1780, when an army under John Leslie landed at the mouth of James River. Leslie was preparing for a permanent occupation when the situation in South Carolina called him away two months later.

Soon after Leslie left, Benedict Arnold arrived with another invading army. Washington sent Lafayette with a small force to keep Arnold occupied. Though greatly outnumbered, the young Frenchman skillfully maneuvered so as to keep Arnold under surveillance without risking the loss of his own men.

Late in April, Cornwallis marched his army to Virginia. After vainly pursuing Lafayette's small force for a month, Cornwallis withdrew to the coast. Lafayette, his strength gradually increasing, followed closely. After a brisk engagement at Green Spring, near Jamestown Island, on July 6, Cornwallis crossed the James River and marched his men to Portsmouth. There he received orders to take up a position at Yorktown, on the Virginia Peninsula, which Clinton thought would be a good naval station. The British reached Yorktown by water early in August.

Washington, learning that a French fleet under De Grasse would reach the Virginia capes late in August, saw the opportunity for a coup de grace. He secretly moved his own and Rochambeau's French forces from New York to Virginia, bottling up the British forces in the Yorktown defenses. Meantime, the French fleet had arrived and sealed up the mouth of Chesapeake Bay so the British fleet could not come to Cornwallis' rescue. Siege operations began in late September and on October 19, the British army surrendered.

Cornwallis' capitulation marked the end of major military operations in America, though bitter small actions continued for two more years. The war was officially ended by the Treaty of Paris on September 3, 1783.

## SUGGESTED READINGS

Channing, Edward, A History of the United States. 6 vols. New York. The Macmillan Company, 1932-36. One of the standard authorities, Channing was at the same time one of the more discursive of the discursive historians. The information and interpretation are there, though sometimes difficult to locate. Volume III deals with the events of the War for Independence.

Freeman, Douglas Southall, George Washington: A Biography. 7 vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1948-57 (Vol. VII by John A. Carroll and Mary W. Ashworth). The definitive biography of the great American leader, resulting from painstaking research into all available sources by one of the most gifted of military historians. The fourth and fifth volumes deal exclusively with Washington's career during the War for Independence.

Ketchum, Richard M., editor in charge, The American Heritage Book of the Revolution. New York: American Heritage Publishing Company, c. 1958. A fascinating and well-written interpretation of the background and events of the War for Independence, with narrative by Bruce Lancaster and J. H. Plumb and hundreds of illustrations from contemporary sources.

Montross, Lynn, Rag, Tag and Bobtail: The Story of the Continental Army, 1775-1783. New York: Harper & Brothers Publishers, c. 1952. A fine study of the military phases of the war, notable for thorough research and for the quality of the numerous maps. The author is an admirer of Horatio Gates and considers that Benedict Arnold's pre-treason services to the American cause have been overrated.

Scheer, George F., and Hugh F. Rankin, Rebels and Redcoats. Cleveland and New York: The World Publishing Company, c. 1957. Described by the authors as "a mosaic that tells a developing story," this is an absorbing history of the war told largely in the words of participants. Much of the value and interest of the narrative is due to skilful editing and the informative narration which links the excerpts.

## SURVEY OF SITES AND BUILDINGS

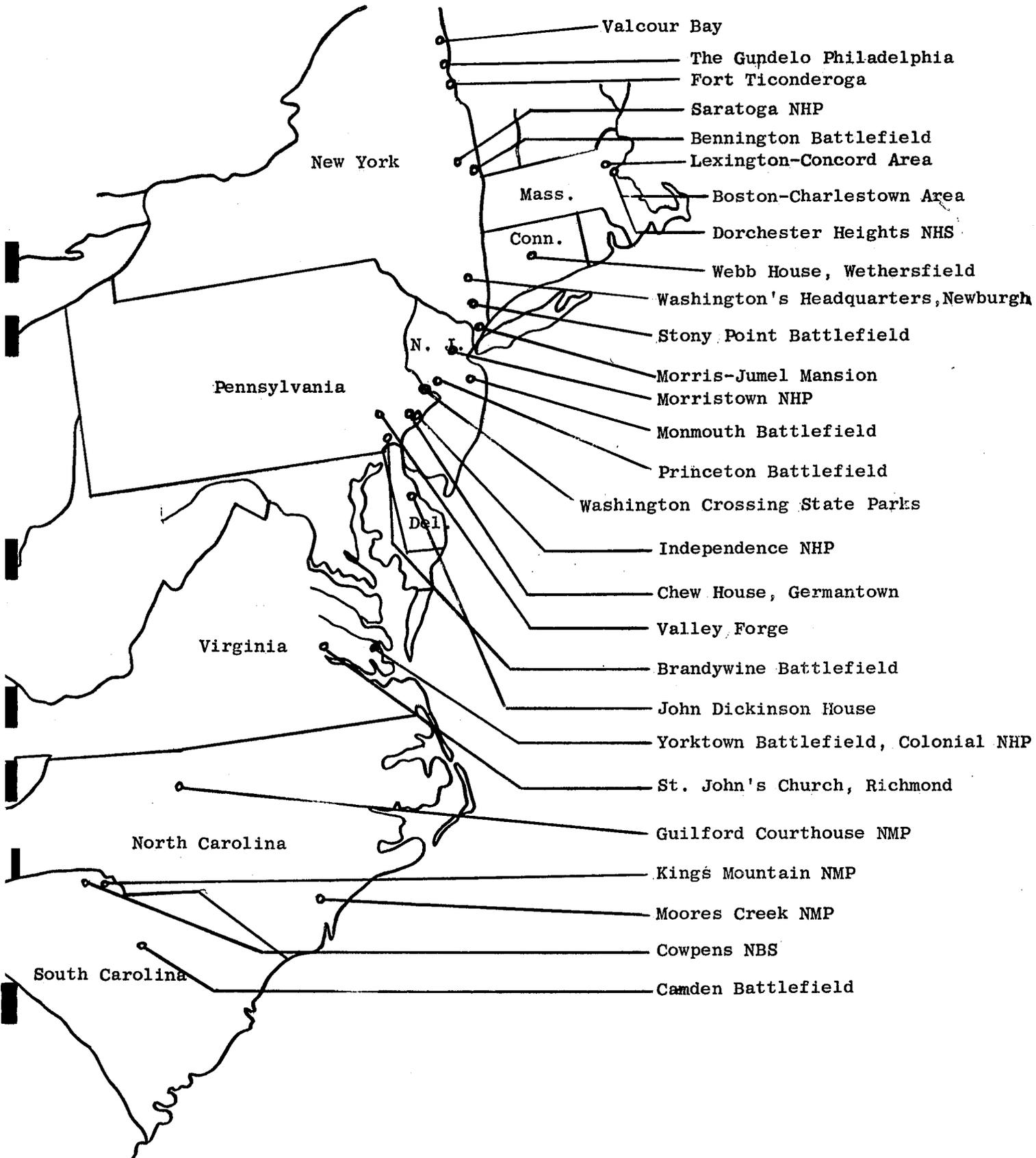
### General Discussion

Logically enough, in view of the length and nature of the contest, sites and buildings connected with the War for Independence are rather plentiful and are distributed along the Atlantic coast from Maine to Georgia. They are most abundant in the area of the northern campaigns, from Pennsylvania to Maine, with a somewhat smaller concentration in the South Atlantic states. Fighting west of the Appalachians during the war period was so closely tied in with the history of the westward movement that those sites, for the most part, are considered under Theme XI, The Advance of the Frontier, 1763-1830. For similar reasons, the homes of many of the outstanding figures of the War for Independence have been considered under Theme XII, Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830.

A large number of the more important sites and buildings of this period have been developed, and are assured continuing protection, by various public and quasi-public agencies on the Federal, State and local levels. Many others, while in private ownership, appear reasonably certain of preservation.

Of the "lost" sites, the majority have simply been swallowed up by the rapid urban development of the intervening years. Included in this category are various sites connected with the siege of Boston in 1775-76; the fighting on Long Island and Manhattan in 1776; and the battlefields of Trenton, Germantown, and Savannah.

Sites of Exceptional Value



## Sites of Exceptional Value

### CONNECTICUT

#### The Webb House

Location: 211 Main Street, Wethersfield.

Ownership-Administration: The Connecticut Society of the Colonial Dames of America (Headquarters of the Society).

Significance: In the spring of 1781, when the weight of active campaigning had shifted to Virginia and the Carolinas, Washington's army lay inactive in and about West Point. On May 22, Washington learned that a new French fleet was en route to the West Indies and, eventually, to the American coast to cooperate with Rochambeau's army in Newport. It was obvious that a combined offensive must be undertaken by the allies if the American cause was not to languish. Already war weariness had settled on the land and much of the Continental Army was scattered along the frontier and in the south.

Washington, fully aware of the gloomy prospect of Continental stalemate, determined to open an offensive in concert with Rochambeau. The old Connecticut town of Wethersfield, lying about half way between New Windsor on the Hudson, where Washington was quartered, and Newport, where Rochambeau was posted, was selected as the place of meeting. On May 19, Washington arrived at Wethersfield and in his own words "lodged . . . at the house of Joseph Webb." Washington's diary for May 21 noted that the plan of campaign with Count de Rochambeau had been fixed. As a result of the conference Rochambeau brought his forces, numbering almost



In the Webb House, Wethersfield, Connecticut, Washington met French General Rochambeau in May 1781 to decide upon the Allied plan of campaign.

National Park Service photograph, 1960

5,000 troops, to join Washington in New York. Part of the original plan of attack by the allies was aimed at the British forts on Manhattan Island, but after thorough reconnaissance of the British fortified lines, the effort wisely was abandoned and Washington turned his attention to the developing situation in the south. On August 14, Rochambeau heard from Admiral de Grasse in the West Indies that the fleet, with a strong land force aboard, would sail for the Chesapeake where it would be available only until October 15. Washington acted quickly to take advantage of this substantial reinforcement, and de Grasse was notified that the French-American army would march south to cooperate with the fleet in cornering Cornwallis in Virginia. If the trap failed, an attack on Charleston was suggested. This crucial decision would bear fruit in the entrapment and surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

Although it is too much to say that the conference in the Webb House laid the specific plans for the victorious Yorktown Campaign, it nevertheless marked the implementation of the Franco-American military alliance in terms of actual field operations, and had the effect of uniting the American and French armies in time for them to move south in conjunction with the arrival of the French fleet from the West Indies.

#### Features and Condition of Site

The Webb House was built in 1752 by Joseph Webb, who occupied it for nine years before his death. The two-story house has considerable architectural interest, with its well-proportioned exterior design

and steep gambrel roof. The south parlor, traditionally identified as the conference room, has been repaneled and the house is excellently furnished, mostly by gifts from members of the Society of Colonial Dames. Several items of furniture, silver and china belonged to the Webb family. The house's setting as an 18th century period is enhanced by the broad tree-lined street which passes in front, and by a number of fine old houses adjacent to it.

References: Historic American Buildings Survey (one photo, 1938); Henry P. Johnston, The Yorktown Campaign and the Surrender of Cornwallis, 1781 (New York, 1881), reprinted June, 1958; Benson J. Lossing, The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution, 2 vols. (New York, 1859), I; "Webb House Built in 1752, Wethersfield, Connecticut," pamphlet published Connecticut Society of the Colonial Dames of America, (n. p., n. d.).

## DELAWARE

### The John Dickinson House

Location: Kent County, five miles southeast of Dover, three miles east of U. S. Route 113 on Kitts Hummock Road.

Ownership-Administration: State of Delaware, administered by Delaware State Museum, Dover.

Significance:

John Dickinson has been aptly termed the "Penman of the Revolution." In the literature of that struggle, his position is as pre-eminent as Washington in war, Franklin in diplomacy and Morris in finance.<sup>1</sup>

At the time of Dickinson's death, Thomas Jefferson, then president of the United States, wrote:

A more estimable man or truer patriot could not have left us. Among the first of the advocates for the rights of his countrymen when assailed by Great Britain, he continued to the last the orthodox advocate of the true principles of our new government, and his name will be consecrated in history as one of the great worthies of the Revolution.<sup>2</sup>

The restored Dickinson House near Dover, Delaware, is the surviving structure most intimately associated with the great writer of the Revolutionary period. The plantation house on Delaware's flat coastal plain was built in 1740 by Judge Samuel Dickinson when John was eight years old, and there the boy lived until 1750, when he went to Philadelphia

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<sup>1</sup> Paul L. Ford, The Writings of John Dickinson, Historical Society of Pennsylvania Memoirs, XIV (Philadelphia, 1895), Preface.

<sup>2</sup> C. J. Stillé, The Life and Times of John Dickinson, 1732-1808, Historical Society of Pennsylvania Memoirs, XIII (Phila., 1891), pp. 236-237.



The John Dickinson House, near Dover, Delaware

National Park Service Photograph, 1960

and began the study of law. Dickinson lived in the house at various times after 1750, although his role in public life kept him in Philadelphia and elsewhere most of the time. He was living in Wilmington in 1804 when fire gutted the old mansion, and over the next two years closely supervised the repair of the dwelling. The recent restoration of the house was based on Dickinson's correspondence and written instructions during the period between 1804 and 1806 when the repairs were completed. From that time on, the house was occupied by tenants and Dickinson, who died in 1808, never again made it his home.

John Dickinson, born in Talbot County, Maryland, in 1732, spent the decade between 1740 and 1750 in the fine house on his father's estate near Dover. In 1750, Dickinson left home to read law with John Moreland, Esq., of Philadelphia and later studied at London's Middle Temple, returning to Philadelphia in 1757 to practice. Manifesting a growing interest in politics, Dickinson became a prolific writer of pamphlets, a chief medium of argument and exposition in the 18th century. In 1760, he was elected to the Delaware Assembly and in 1762 and 1764, was elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly from Philadelphia. As a member of the Stamp Act Congress in 1765, Dickinson helped draw up the Declaration of Rights adopted by that body, but, adhering to his conservative convictions, he opposed all forms of violent resistance. In the years of colonial unrest preceding the Revolution, Dickinson was an articulate spokesman for the rights of the Colonies under established English constitutional principles, but he argued for conciliation - not revolt. Publication of his

famous Letters of a Farmer in Pennsylvania and A Story for American Freedom, both produced in 1768, contributed to his reputation as the "Penman of the Revolution." Ironically enough, although he was a leading spokesman for the colonial cause in the years of mounting tension before the outbreak of the Revolution, Dickinson emerged as the leader of the conservative faction, opposing not only British colonial policy but the radicals' drive toward independence as well. Fearful of a war in which the country presumably would have neither allies nor central government, Dickinson would not sign the Declaration of Independence when the situation reached its political climax. Despite his opposition to the Declaration, Dickinson headed the committee which, in July, 1776, drew up the first draft of the Articles of Confederation. A further touch of irony is the fact that after his years of insistence on non-violent resistance, Dickinson was one of only two members of Congress who served with the army, although his military participation was brief and not distinguished.

Dickinson's stand on the Declaration cost him popular favor but he remained an active leader of the conservatives in Pennsylvania and Delaware, holding high office in both states. In 1786, he headed Delaware's delegation to the Annapolis convention and was elected chairman. In that capacity he prepared the report which recommended the assembling of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in the following year. In the Convention, Dickinson labored to preserve the rights of the small states and took an active role in urging the hasty ratification of the Constitution. The success of his efforts can be seen, at

least in part, in Delaware's being the first state to ratify. Dickinson maintained his active interest in political affairs on both the state and national level in the early years of the Republic, and made his home in Wilmington, Delaware, from 1785 until his death in 1808. During that time he continued to visit his boyhood home to attend to the needs of the plantation. When the house was gutted by fire in 1804, he attended personally to its repair.

#### Features and Condition of Site

The brick mansion, its Flemish-bond front facing south, is one of the most interesting architectural examples of a plantation house of the region. All around it stretch cultivated fields, giving it an air of authenticity as a plantation home - which once it was. The original dwelling was a two-story brick, with hip roof. A story and a half was added shortly before the fire of 1804 which left little of the house save its four walls. In correcting the fire damage, a gable roof was added to the mansion and a small brick kitchen wing built at its west end. The interior of the repaired house was substantial but plain, unlike the expensively decorated and carved woodwork of the original. The repair of the house along simple lines was natural in view of the fact that Dickinson now made his home in Wilmington and apparently intended the house for tenant use. In 1952, the National Society of Colonial Dames of America raised \$25,000 which was presented to the State of Delaware to preserve the Dickinson House, when its destruction appeared imminent. The state

matched this donation with a similar amount and the house and a tract of ground around it were acquired. Architectural, archeological and historical research was accomplished under the direction of the Delaware Public Archives Commission, and with the assistance of an Advisory Committee, restoration was carried out by means of state funds and private gifts. In the course of restoration, materials of the original mansion, when found in good condition, were reused. The house has been restored and furnished as faithfully as possible to the period when Dickinson last knew it. In the course of restoration the National Park Service offered advisory assistance to the State of Delaware. A furnishing committee has furnished the mansion with items once owned by the Dickinson family or which are typical of the region. A garden adjacent to the house, is being recreated with the help of a number of garden clubs and by private donations. The house was formally opened to the public on May 2, 1956.

References: Roy E. Appleman, "The John Dickinson House, Kent County, Delaware," (Ms. Historic Sites Survey Report, National Park Service, October, 1950); Paul L. Ford, The Writings of John Dickinson, Historical Society of Pennsylvania Memoirs, XIV (Philadelphia, 1895), Preface; C. J. Stillé, The Life and Times of John Dickinson, 1732-1808, Historical Society of Pennsylvania Memoirs, XIII (Philadelphia, 1891); Moses C. Tyler, The Literary History of the American Revolution, 1763-1783, 2 vols. (New York, 1897), I; Memorandum of Daniel J. Breslin, Architect, National Park Service, to Regional Director, Region One, National Park Service, December 19, 1952; "The Home of John Dickinson, 'Penman of the Revolution,'" Information Leaflet (n. p., n. d.); Historic American Buildings Survey (one photo, 1936).

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Bunker Hill Monument

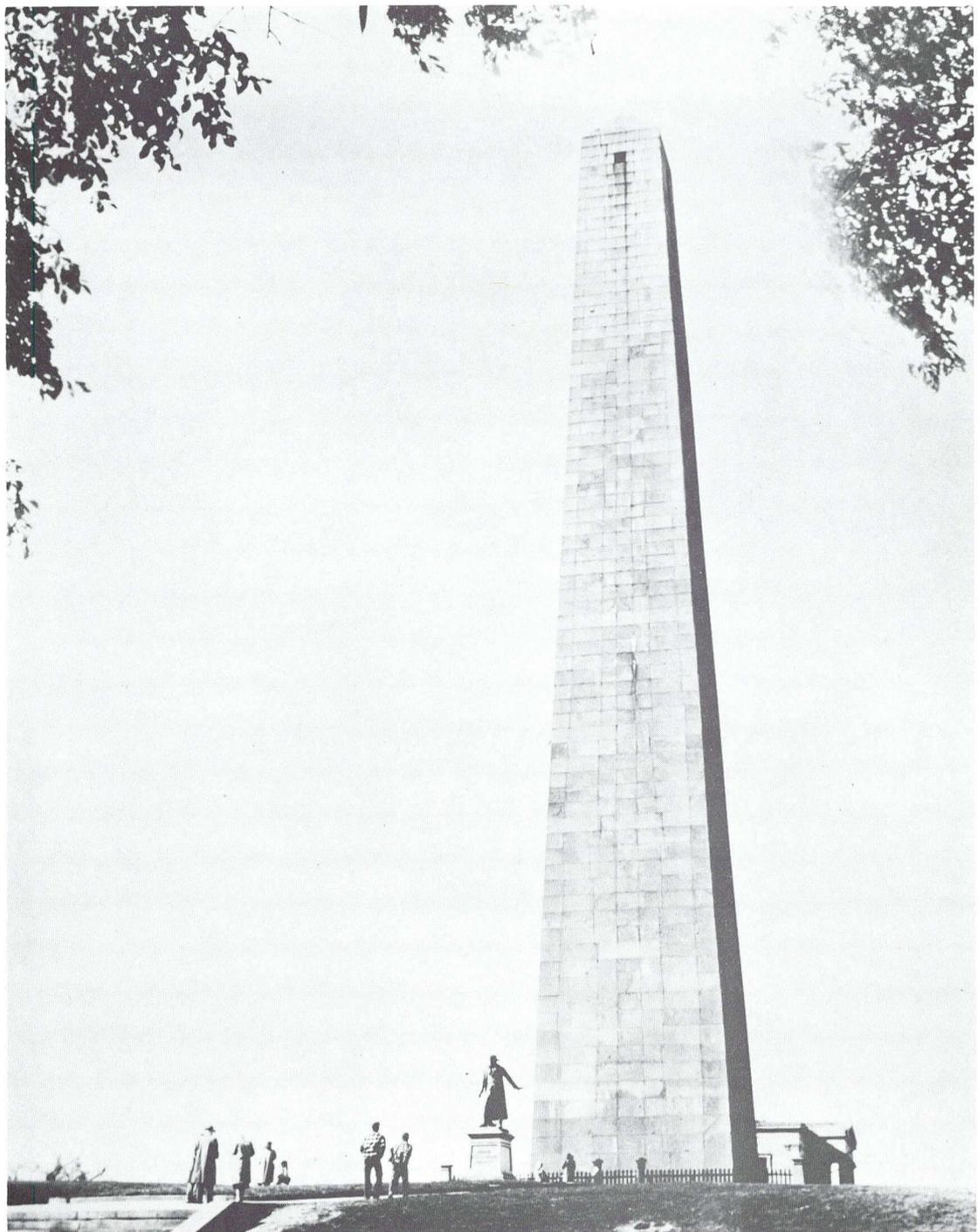
Location: Breed's Hill, Charlestown

Ownership-Administration: Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
Metropolitan District Commission, Boston.

Significance: The battle of Bunker Hill, actually fought on nearby Breed's Hill, June 17, 1775, was the first full-scale action between America militia and regular British troops following the running fight at Lexington and Concord two months earlier. After repulsing two assaults, the raw American Army was driven from its position, although the costly British victory did not alter the situation for the besieged redcoats. The battle convinced the British command that defeating the rebellious Colonists would not be an easy task and in later years the American defeat was translated into virtual victory by the folklore which grew out of the fight. Actually the struggle for Breed's Hill had a harmful effect in creating the optimistic myth that raw militia, suffused with patriotism, could always take the measure of professional troops. Undecisive as it was, the battle has remained in the American tradition as one of the key episodes of the Revolution.

### Features and Condition of Site

The present monument marking the approximate center of the American redoubt on Breed's Hill is surrounded by a four-acre park in a residential section of Charlestown. The monument itself possesses considerable interest as an early example of historical monumentation. The



Bunker Hill Monument (Breed's Hill), Charlestown, Massachusetts

Courtesy Massachusetts Department of Commerce

Bunker Hill Monument Association, chartered by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1825, purchased 25 acres of the battlefield in that same year. Unfortunately, this land was sold in 1834, and the proceeds applied to the building of the present 220-foot obelisk. The cornerstone of the monument was laid in 1825, the seventeenth anniversary of the battle, in a ceremony attended by Lafayette, then on his triumphant American tour. A statue of Colonel William Prescott, commander of the American redoubt on Breed's Hill, stands at the base of the monument and a small museum is open to visitors. The monument is presently much in need of rehabilitation and development, particularly in regard to its interpretation of the battle story.

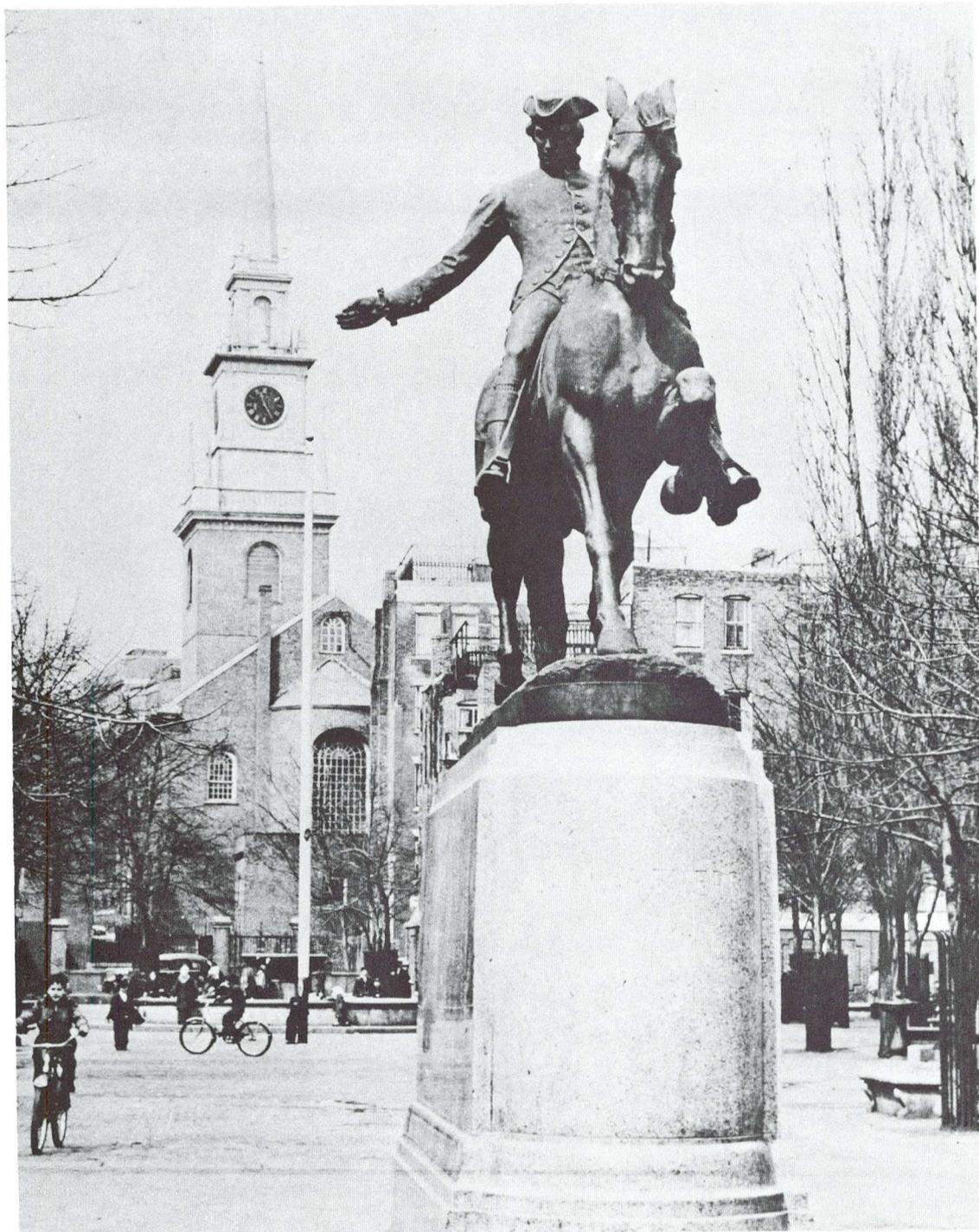
References: J. R. Alden, The American Revolution, 1775-1783 (New York, 1954); Files of Boston National Historic Sites Commission, Region Five, National Park Service, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; letter of Henry R. Hayes, Superintendent of Police, Massachusetts Metropolitan District Police to Thomas M. Pitkin, Historian, National Park Service, March 22, 1954; Edwin W. Small, Survey Inventory Card, Boston National Historic Sites Commission, March 12, 1956; Christopher Ward, The War of the Revolution (2 vols., New York, 1952), I.

Old North Church (Christ Church Episcopal)

Location: 193 Salem Street,  
Boston.

Ownership-Administration: Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts.

Significance: Historically and architecturally, Old North Church is one of the nation's most cherished landmarks. The signal lanterns hung in the church's belfry -- "one if by land and two if by sea," as Longfellow put it -- were not intended for Paul Revere, who already knew what was afoot. Nevertheless, despite the almost legendary quality



Old North Church and Paul Revere Statue, Boston

Courtesy Massachusetts Department of Commerce

of the story today, the lanterns did hang in the belfry on the night of April 18 to notify patriots on the opposite side of the Charles River that British troops were moving out of Boston by water. In addition to its role as a signal station on the eve of the Revolution, Old North possesses further distinction as Boston's oldest surviving church.

Old North Church was built in 1723 by William Price, a print seller, from designs based on Wren's great London churches. Its brick walls were laid in English bond 51 feet wide by 70 feet long, with two tiers of arched windows. A projecting square brick tower almost 100 feet high was added in 1724-37 and topped by a wooden steeple 191 feet high in 1740. This first steeple was blown down in 1804, and replaced several years later by a similar one designed by Charles Bulfinch. This second tower was toppled by Hurricane Carol on August 31, 1954, and has since been replaced.

The interior of Old North reveals the new "church" plan, with longitudinal aisles separating the groups of square box pews. The two-story architectural scheme, with square paneled pillars below and fluted one above, is echoed in this country only in Trinity Church, Newport, but Wren had employed a similar arrangement in three London churches. The arched bays of the galleries and the elliptically vaulted plaster ceiling of the nave follow Wren's St. James's, Piccadilly. The total effect is somewhat amateurish compared with Peter Harrison's superb interior at King's Chapel, built a generation later, but the intimate scale and the old woodwork have much charm. The church was thoroughly restored in 1912.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture (New York, 1952), pp. 432-433.

### Features and Condition of Site

Old North Church and the equestrian statue of Paul Revere adjacent to it constitute a memorable evocation of the night when the call to arms went out on the eve of the War for Independence. The church is well maintained, although its run-down surroundings detract from the setting and constitute a fire hazard to the building. The church is open to the public and attracts more than 100,000 visitors each year.

References: J. R. Alden, The American Revolution, 1775-1783 (New York, 1954); Esther Forbes, Paul Revere and the World He Lived In (Boston, 1942); Historic American Buildings Survey (2 photos, 1941); Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture (New York, 1952); Edwin W. Small, "Old North Church" (Ms. Report, National Park Service, December 19, 1940).

### Paul Revere House

Location: 19 North Square, Boston.

Ownership-Administration: Paul Revere Memorial Association, 19 North Square, Boston.

Significance: The Paul Revere House, although extensively restored, retains its original framework and, in addition to its significance as the home of the Revolutionary patriot, is important as downtown Boston's only surviving 17th century dwelling. The house was occupied by Revere about five years before the outbreak of the Revolution and was his home until 1800.

The original portion of the house was built, probably by John Jeff, soon after the Boston fire of 1676, on the site of the Increase

Mather Parsonage. Architectural investigation indicates that the house originally was of the simple and characteristic one-room type. By the time Revere moved into the house almost a century after its construction, the structure had already been enlarged to a full three stories. In the 19th century the house degenerated into a tenement and store and was considerably altered. In 1908, the structure was studied and restored by the architect, Joseph Everett Chandler, and it stands today as an excellent example of the urban house of the 17th century. This architectural significance, and the house's intimate association with the patriot and craftsman, Paul Revere, make it a treasured landmark in downtown Boston.

#### Features and Condition of Site

The house consists of the main portion, fronting on North Square, and an early kitchen ell at the rear. It was through the back door in the kitchen ell that Revere probably passed for his famous ride on the night of April 18, 1775. The front door would have not been safe, as North Square was full of British soldiers. The main house has a deeply recessed fireplace in the hall and a small porch and winding stair in front of the chimney. The ceiling of the large room or hall is spanned by two summer beams. The main house has the characteristic 17th century overhang and the pendants, windows, front door and roof have been restored in 17th century fashion but the second floor chamber is plastered, panelled and painted as it might have been when occupied by the Reveres. The house is well maintained and is open to the public.

References: Esther Forbes, Paul Revere and the World He Lived in (Boston, 1942); Historic American Buildings Survey (1 photo, 1941); Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture (New York, 1952); Edwin W. Small, Survey Inventory Card, Boston National Historic Sites Commission, March 21, 1956.

MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK (AUTHORIZED)

AND RELATED SITES AND BUILDINGS.

In a move to save some of the most important surviving scenes of action in the fighting around Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775, which opened armed hostilities in the War for Independence, the establishment of Minute Man National Historical Park has been authorized by Congress.<sup>4</sup> The Park will consist of two sections: the first being a four-mile stretch of the Battle Road from Fiske Hill west of Lexington to Meriam's Corner, about two miles southeast of Concord, and the second section including the Concord Bridge Battle area. In both sections will be preserved a number of dwellings and other buildings associated with the first day of armed conflict. Three sites and buildings which are not included in the authorized Park area are recommended for classification of exceptional value. The descriptions are taken from the Interim Report of the Boston National Historic Sites Commission, with specific page references being given at the end of each of the individual descriptions.

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<sup>4</sup> Public Law 86-321, H. R. 5892, September 21, 1959.



"The rude bridge that arched the flood." Concord Battleground showing the replica bridge and the Minute Man statue.

National Park Service photograph, 1960

## Lexington Green

Location: Massachusetts Avenue and Hancock Street,  
Lexington.

Ownership-Administration: Town of Lexington.

Significance: Here on the morning of April 19, 1775, occurred the short but momentous skirmish between the Minute Men and the British expeditionary force from Boston that initiated the armed struggle for American independence. Major Pitcairn, commanding the redcoats, saw the Minute Men confronting his column at Lexington Green and formed his troops into line of battle. Realizing the hopelessness of the situation, Captain Parker, commanding the Americans, ordered his men to file away but before they could do so a British volley and a charge with the bayonet killed eight of the Americans and wounded ten more. These were the first American fatalities in a war that would drag on for eight more years.

### Features and Condition of Site

"Monumentation is the prevalent manner of treating the spots of historical interest on the Green. It was also the site used in 1799 in creating a permanent memorial to the martyrs who now rest in peace not far from where they fell on the fateful morning. The so-called Revolutionary Monument, near the southwest corner of the Common, is of outstanding interest not only for the eight victims of the action it commemorates, but for its pleasingly simple design and forthright spirit of patriotism that were typical of the best examples of monumentation in

the days of the early Republic . . . .

"The bodies of the eight Minute Men who were killed on the Battle Green were first interred together in one lot in the Old Burying Ground nearby, but on April 20, 1835, their remains were taken up and laid in a tomb constructed in back of the Revolutionary Monument. . . .

"Other features of the Battle Green today are two inscribed boulders, a life-size statue of a Minute Man, and a very tall flag-pole for the National Emblem and a scroll bearing the town's favorite sentiment or watchword, 'Birthplace of American Liberty.' One of the boulders marks the site of the Old Belfry, which was not placed on the meetinghouse but stood as a small separate structure on the south side of the Common near the meetinghouse from 1768 until 1797. . . .

"The second boulder on the Green, not far from the northwest corner, identifies approximately one end of the line where Captain Parker's courageous company formed and waited to defy Pitcairn's light infantry. Also inscribed on the smooth face of the boulder are the appropriate symbols of a flintlock musket and powder horn and the inspiring order delivered by Captain Parker to his men:

'STAND YOUR GROUND. DON'T FIRE UNLESS  
FIRED UPON. BUT IF THEY MEAN TO HAVE  
A WAR, LET IT BEGIN HERE.'

"The most ostentatious example of monumentation on the Green stands at the easterly corner facing the thoroughfare the British marched

up at daybreak to find Captain Parker's little band drawn up to oppose them. It consists of a statue of a Minute Man by the sculptor, Henry H. Kitson, perched on a pile of rather obviously contrived rocks over a stone fountain, that is now a nostalgic reminder of the days before all carriages became horseless. . . .

"The Battle Green and the adjacent Buckman Tavern now comprise the major part of one of the three historic districts in Lexington that are protected by an act adopted at the State level in 1956. The other two districts have been set up for the benefit of the Hancock-Clarke House and the Munroe Tavern."<sup>5</sup>

#### Buckman Tavern

Location: Hancock Street, opposite east side of Lexington Green, Lexington.

Ownership-Administration: Town of Lexington, administered by the Lexington Historical Society.

Significance: "The oldest of a dozen hostelries that did a thriving business in Lexington before the age of rapid transportation, the Buckman Tavern is also the one most intimately associated with the initial exchange of shots in the Revolution. Its walls still bear the scars left by British musket balls. Opposite the east side of the Battle Green, it appears in the background of almost every illustration depicting the brief contest between Major Pitcairn's platoons of light infantry and Captain Parker's double row of undaunted Minute Men.

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<sup>5</sup>"Interim Report of the Boston National Historic Sites Commission Pertaining to the Lexington-Concord Battle Road," 86th Congress, 1st Session, House Document No. 57, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1959, pp. 72-74.



Buckman Tavern, Lexington, Massachusetts. The tavern, facing Lexington Green, was a rallying place for the Minute Men prior to the battle of April 19, 1775.

National Park Service photograph, 1960

"The original structure was erected about 1690 by Benjamin Muzzey, who in 1693 was licensed to keep a public house. A section of an original sidewall with its interesting clapboards was saved when a later addition was made and can be seen in the present building, which by 1775 had taken on the form it has for the most part kept ever since. Some restoration, to be sure, has been necessary and some yet remains to be performed. . . .

"The tavern takes its name for John Buckman, who in 1775 was the proprietor and also a member of the Lexington company of Minute Men. His public house was a convenient gathering place for his comrades in arms on the days they trained on the Green, and it was natural they should assemble there again during the evening and through the night that preceded the arrival of the King's Regulars. The first village store was located in the building, and in 1812 it housed the town's first post office.

#### Features and Condition of Site

"The structure was acquired by the town of Lexington in 1913. With the grounds that surround it, the tavern provides a verdant border and significant extension of the triangle formed by the Battle Green. The Lexington Historical Society, already the owner of the Hancock-Clarke House and the Munroe Tavern, made a generous contribution toward its purchase by the town and under a 99-year lease took on the task of furnishing the building and showing it to the public. The officers and members of the Society have persisted in this role with steady and satisfactory progress.

"In addition to being exhibited as a historic house museum, the old tavern, which retains its 18th century taproom with a huge fireplace on the large central chimney, serves as the headquarters for the Lexington Minute Men, Inc., an organization which helps to keep alive the traditions of Captain Parker's company."<sup>6</sup>

#### Wright's Tavern

Location: Center of town of Lexington Road opposite the Burying Ground, Concord.

Ownership-Administration: The society of the First Parish, Concord.

Significance: "A landmark more memorable and significant than is sometimes realized today is Wright's Tavern in the center of town. Built in 1747, this ancient, low-studded hostelry, distinguished by its red clapboards and roof of the monitor or double-hipped style, has come down through two centuries with fewer changes than many of its historic contemporaries. Its first proprietor, Ephraim Jones, who ran it until 1751, was a town official and captain in the Militia. Facing the meeting-house on one side and the training ground on the other, the establishment Jones started was destined to be a resort for the conduct of both town and military business, and where, between the meetings of selectmen and committees, the landlord served up refreshments customary to the time.

"The place was operated by Amos Wright for only a little while, but this short period included the year 1775 and was of enough moment

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<sup>6</sup> "Interim Report of the Boston National Historic Sites Commission Pertaining to the Lexington-Concord Battle Road," 86th Congress, 1st Session, House Document No. 57, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1959, pp. 71-72.

to associate his name with the old tavern forever. Within a few hours on the 19th of April, both Minute Men and Redcoats stepped over its threshold, the former congregating there on hearing the courthouse bell ring out the alarm and the officers of the British expeditionary force after their arrival in the public square. No doubt the latter helped themselves to the innkeeper's liquors and one of their number, whether it was the frequently maligned Pitcairn or some bragging subaltern mistaken for him, stirred his sugar and brandy with a bloody finger in expectancy of similar contact with the blood of Yankees before the day would be over.

"Wright's Tavern, like several buildings along the route of the British march and retreat, has interesting associations with the local citizens in arms and the invader. On top of this connection, however, the old hostelry boasts an added and greater distinction that is seldom stressed or even mentioned. It is the relationship it bore to important events that transpired in the meetinghouse of the First Parish next door. The latter had been built in 1712 and was where 300 delegates from Massachusetts towns, with John Hancock as president and Benjamin Lincoln as secretary, were 'called together to maintain the rights of the people' on October 11, 1774, and remained in session for 5 days. As the Provincial Congress, the assembled delegates assumed the government of the Province of Massachusetts Bay. Through the measures passed at this session and another, which met for 4 weeks before adjourning April 15, 1775, they 'prepared the way for the War of the Revolution.'

The measures passed gave a formal status to the rebellion of the people by ending the payment of taxes to King George and making provision for a force under arms ready to resist his authority.

"While the Congress sat in the neighboring meetinghouse, the little inn beside it served as a convenient meeting place for its committees. Their members passed back and forth between the two buildings in prolonged and serious deliberation of the epoch-making business at hand. Thus was the old tavern made doubly significant by its association with the Provincial Congress and the first day of the war."<sup>7</sup>

#### Features and Condition of Site

The present building is in good condition and until recently had functioned in its original role as a public house. In the years after the Revolution, however, the structure served as a bakery, and was then used variously by a liveryman, bookbinder, storekeeper, tin-smith and shoe dealer. It was saved from a doubtful future through the efforts of the Society of the First Parish and generosity of two of Concord's public spirited citizens. "It deserves more thoughtful recognition than it receives today as a reminder of that important interval of transition in the struggle with the motherland when Colonial resistance in the form of constitutional arguments came to an end and organized

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<sup>7</sup> "Interim Report of the Boston National Historic Sites Commission Pertaining to the Lexington-Concord Battle Road," 86th Congress 1st. Session, House Document No. 57, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1959, pp. 79-80.

and overt acts of revolution began. The change, to be sure, was essential to the unfolding of ideas about independence and the union of the Colonies to create a new nation."<sup>8</sup>

## NEW JERSEY

### Monmouth Battlefield

Location: Monmouth County, northwest of Freehold, along State Route 522.

Ownership-Administration: Privately owned farmland, public roads and abandoned line of Pennsylvania Railroad.

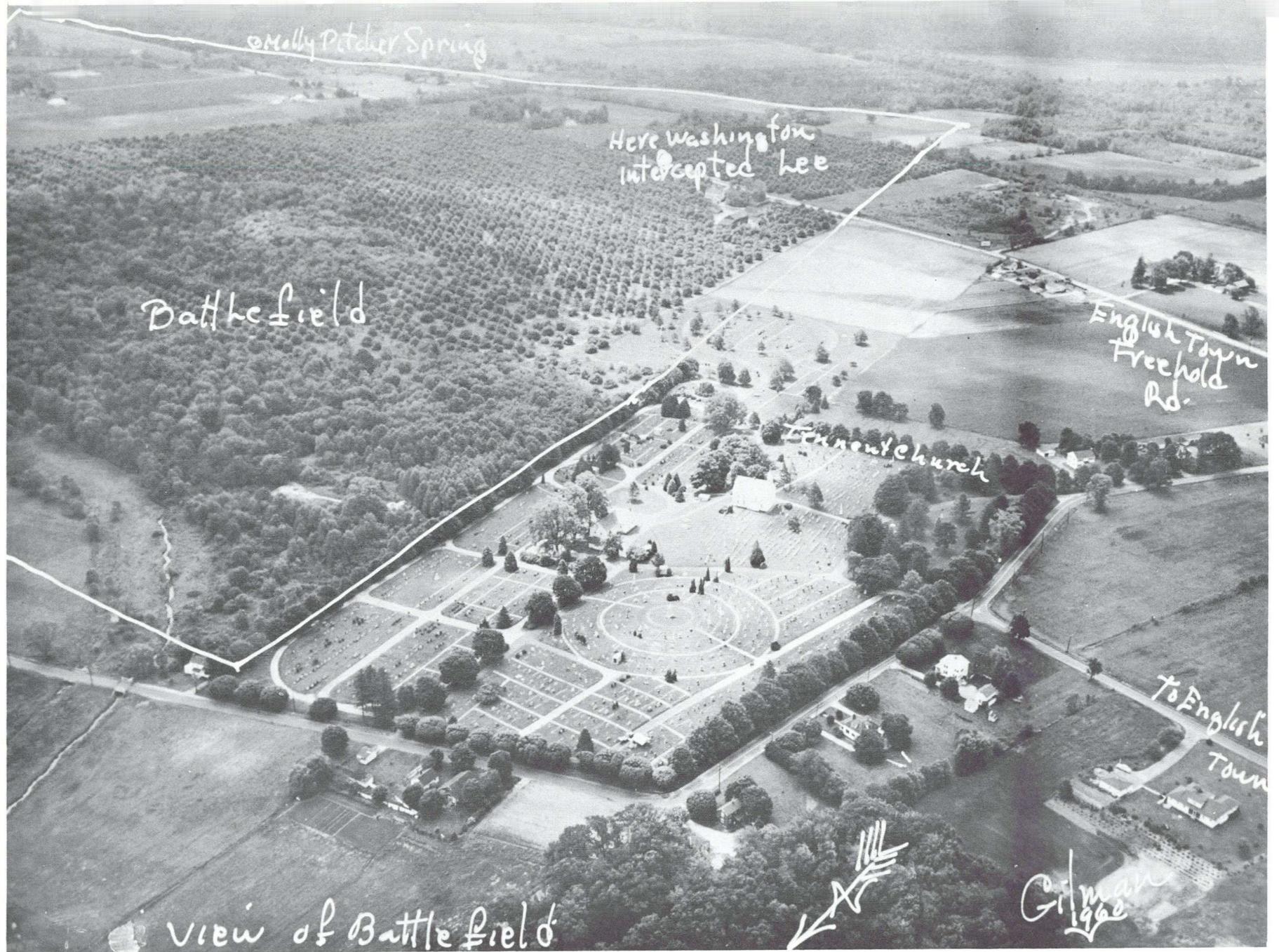
Significance: Called by a biographer of Washington "the hottest day of battle,"<sup>9</sup> and not only because of the scorching weather, the battle of Monmouth of June 28, 1778, marked the combat debut of the American Army after the hard winter's training at Valley Forge. Although Washington failed in his design to break up the British movement across New Jersey after the evacuation of Philadelphia, this last major battle in the north between the two main armies demonstrated to both sides that Steuben had succeeded in molding an American Army able to engage British regulars on even terms.

On June 18, 1778, British General Clinton abandoned Philadelphia and headed toward the Jersey coast where he could embark his 10,000 troops and return to New York by water. Washington, his army now numbering around 14,000 men, pursued the enemy and, against the advice of most of

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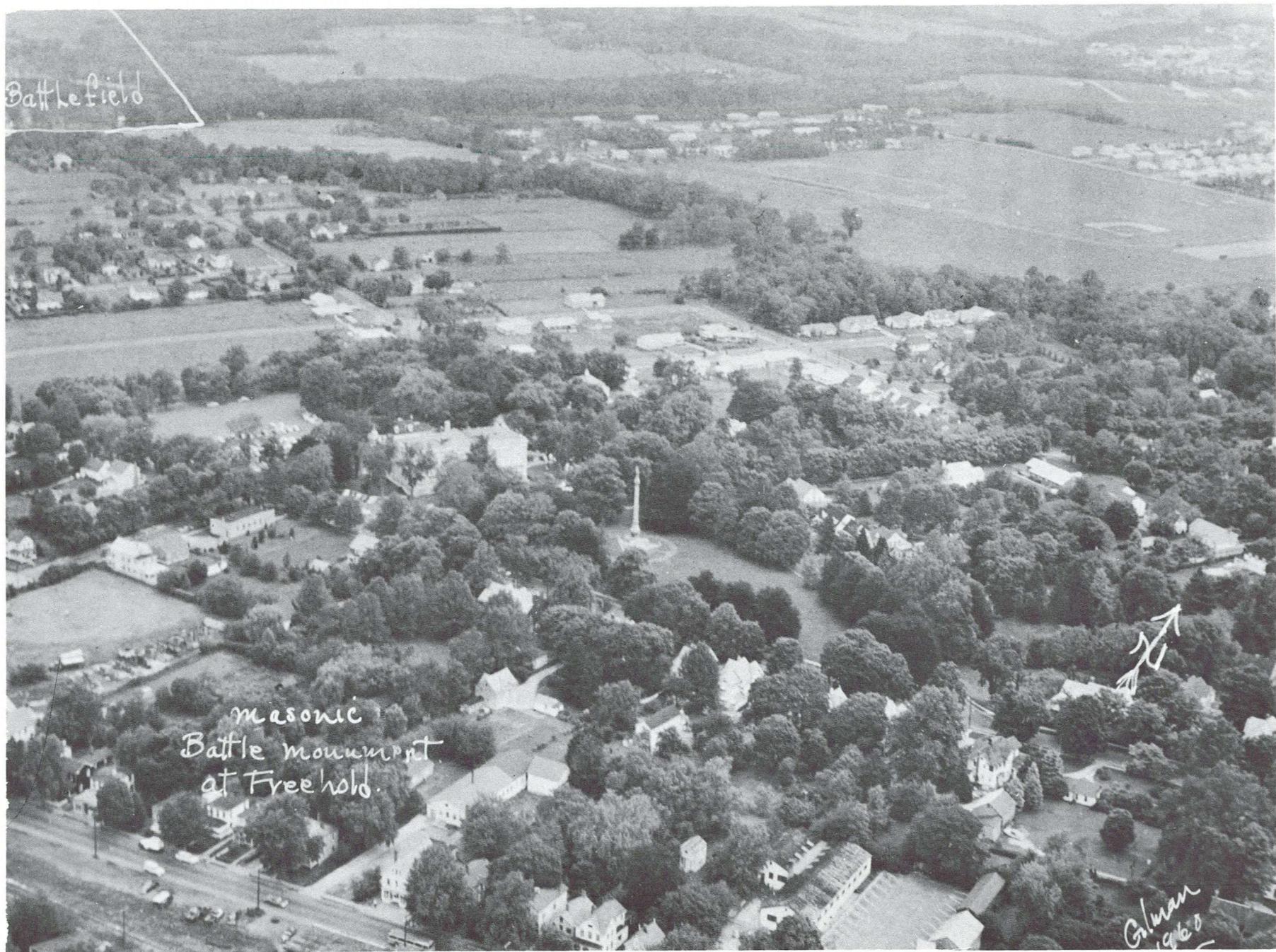
<sup>8</sup> Ibid., p. 81.

<sup>9</sup> Douglas S. Freeman, George Washington, Vol. 5, Victory with the Help of France (New York, 1952), p. 24.



Monmouth Battlefield, showing Old Tennent Church, center, and main battle area, upper left. View is southeast.

Courtesy Dr. Malcolm B. Gilman



Freehold, New Jersey, showing Monmouth Battle Monument, center, and eastern edge of Battlefield upper left.

Courtesy Dr. Malcolm B. Gilman

his lieutenants, determined to attack Clinton and his vulnerable wagon train. The American striking force, commanded by General Charles Lee, was poorly managed and after a feeble blow at the enemy near Monmouth Court House fell back on the advancing main body headed by Washington. The enraged American commander peremptorily relieved the erratic Lee and took over the conduct of the battle in the face of the strong British counter-attack. The fighting raged in 100-degree temperature throughout the day of June 28, heat and sun taking almost as heavy a toll as gunfire. Neither side would yield as the fighting swayed back and forth until dusk in the fields and swamps between Old Tennent Church and the little settlement around Monmouth Court House. The engagement would stand as the longest sustained action in the Revolutionary War. During the night, Clinton pulled away and made his escape, his precious wagon train intact. Washington had failed to prevent Clinton's escape, but he had demonstrated his own superb qualities of leadership and the new prowess of the army created in the misery of Valley Forge.

#### Features and Condition of Site

The present town of Freehold, which in 1778 consisted of a courthouse and a few scattered dwellings, is a modern commercial city. The area northeast of Freehold, where General Lee's initial attack was made, has been largely built up and the character of the war time scene lost, although the preliminary movements of the two armies can still be followed on the ground. In contrast is the remarkably open and unspoiled



Old Tennent Church on Monmouth Battlefield stood behind the American lines and served as a hospital.

National Park Service photograph, 1960

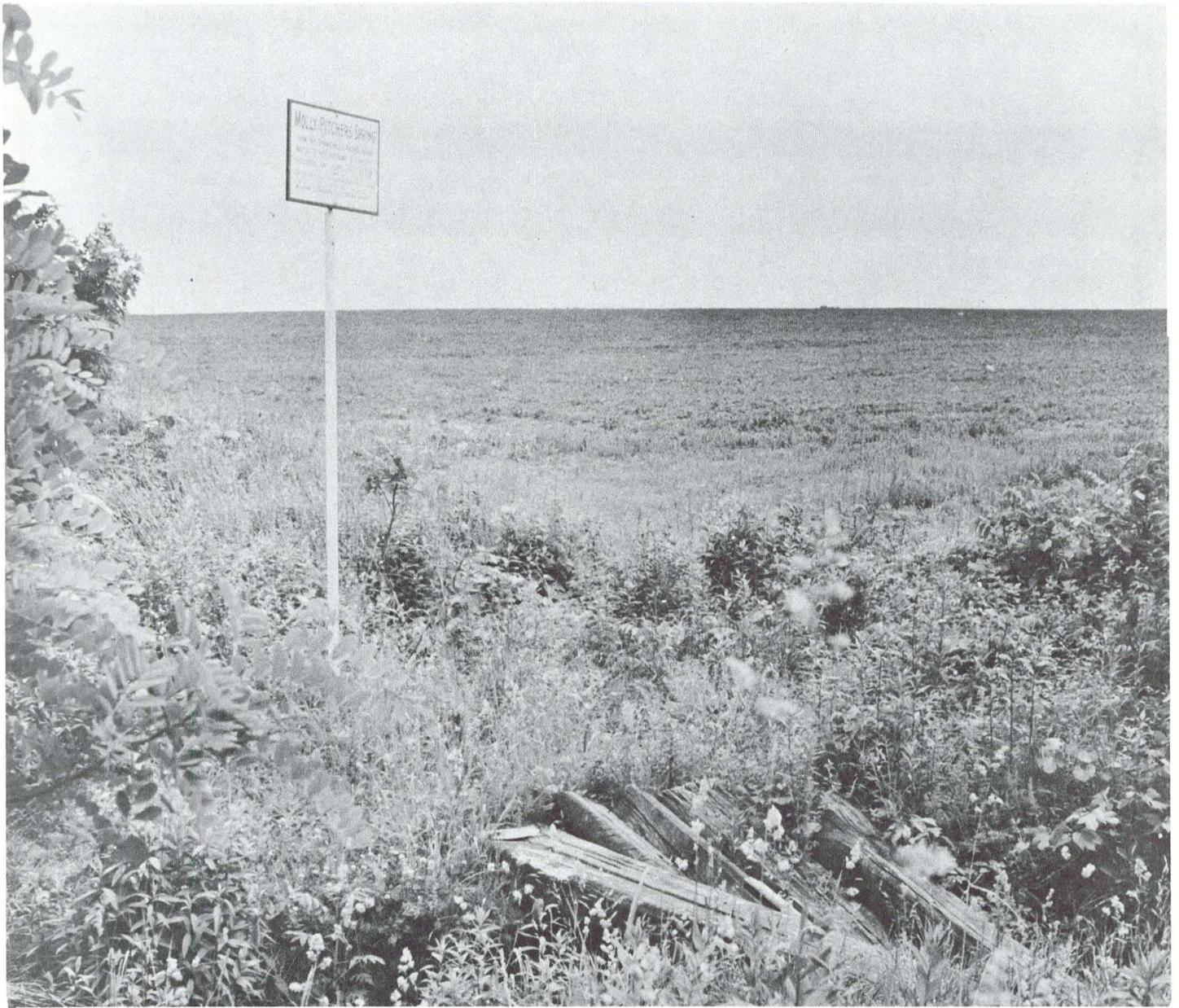


A portion of Monmouth Battlefield, southeast of Old Tennent Church.

National Park Service photograph, 1960

condition of the major scene of battle between Washington's force and the British, northwest of town. The battle area, about one and a half by three miles in extent, has undergone superficial change, but despite the widening of fields and draining of swamps, the terrain has retained its historical character to an unusual degree. The aerial photographs included in this report clearly show the open, relatively unspoiled nature of the field, and delineate the major area of the fighting. One of the traditions which arose from the battle of Monmouth is the story of "Molly Pitcher," who carried water to her husband and other artillerymen during the sweltering day of battle. Two sites on the battlefield are marked as being that of the Molly Pitcher Spring. Of much greater significance as a historical landmark and survivor of the battle is the fine Old Tennent Church, dating from 1751. From the high ground on which the church stands, the battlefield slopes away to the southeast to the town of Freehold and the church is a handsomely preserved point of reference for tracing the combat action. The war-time road from nearby Englishtown to Monmouth Courthouse passed near the church and the road was employed by the American army in its advance on Monmouth. Six farms are included in the battle area and several houses of the Revolutionary period still stand on the field, including the Craig House, now much in need of restoration.

Monmouth is one of the best preserved of the Revolutionary War battlefields, although it has never been accorded formal preservation. It has survived by accident, not design.



Two Molly Pitcher Springs are marked on the Monmouth Battlefield. The one above is at the foot of a slope occupied by American artillery in the battle.

National Park Service photograph, 1960

References: Douglas S. Freeman, George Washington, Vol. V, Victory with the Aid of France (New York, 1952); Leonard Lundin, Cockpit of the Revolution: The War for Independence in New Jersey (Princeton, 1940); W. S. Stryker, The Battle of Monmouth (Princeton, 1927); Historic American Buildings Survey - Craig House (17 sheets, 1939, 2 photos, 1936); Memorandum by Dr. Malcolm B. Gilman to National Park Service, Region Five, June 9, 1960; William Davison Perrine, "Molly Pitcher in Monmouth County, New Jersey, 1778 to 1958," pamphlet (Freehold, New Jersey, n. d.).

### Princeton Battlefield State Park

Location: Mercer County, southern edge of Princeton, on State route 583.

Ownership-Administration: State of New Jersey, Forests and Parks Section of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development.

Significance: Washington's Victory at Princeton on January 3, 1777, "like that of Trenton one week earlier", had an effect on the American cause entirely disproportionate to the number of men engaged. It heartened the people of all the states with hopes of ultimate complete success. Moreover, it strengthened Washington's reputation at home and abroad with a consequent increase of his authority."<sup>10</sup> The twin victories of Trenton and Princeton came at a period when the spirits of the American people had reached a dangerously low ebb, when another defeat might have been fatal to the cause of independence. With success at the year's end, the situation brightened and from every corner militiamen flocked to the colors to fill the ranks while the new Continental Army was created.

Following his defeat of the Hessians at Trenton on December 26, 1776, Washington returned to the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware. Once safely over the river, he determined to hit the enemy again and returned

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<sup>10</sup> Christopher Ward, The War of the Revolution, 2 vols. (New York, 1952), I, 316.



Princeton Battlefield State Park, New Jersey. The arrow indicates the Mercer Oak where, according to tradition, American General Hugh Mercer was mortally wounded.

National Park Service photograph, 1960

to New Jersey on the night of December 30-31. Cornwallis, commanding the British in New Jersey, took a position confronting Washington, who stood with his back to the Delaware. Confident that the rebels could not escape him, Cornwallis decided to wait till morning to "bag" the Americans. In a daring maneuver Washington slipped away in the night, got in the rear of the British force and early on the third of January struck two British regiments just leaving Princeton to join Cornwallis. In the sharp seesaw fight which followed, several American assaults were thrown back in confusion. For a time the army appeared on the verge of defeat, but Washington rallied his forces and finally drove the enemy from the field. One body of the enemy sought refuge in Princeton's Nassau Hall where they were easily taken.<sup>11</sup> A fifteen-minute fight at Princeton cost the Americans 40 men killed and wounded, including General Hugh Mercer, who died of wounds shortly after the battle.

#### Features and Condition of Site

The scene of heaviest fighting in the battle is preserved in a 40-acre State Park on the southern outskirts of Princeton. A gnarled oak tree marks the spot which tradition identifies as the place where General Mercer received his death wound. The Clarke House at the edge of the battlefield was the scene of Mercer's death. A memorial arch on

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<sup>11</sup> Nassau Hall was recommended for classification of exceptional value in Theme IX, Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775.

the western edge of the field marks the site where unknown American dead were buried in unmarked graves. The battlefield tract is surrounded by urban housing but, because of the small-scale nature of the action, the 40 acres of the field now preserved is sufficient to protect the scene. The Park is undeveloped and there is as yet no attempt to interpret on the field the action which occurred there. Of the two crucial battles of Trenton and Princeton, only Princeton remains. The scene of the fighting at Trenton has been obliterated by the growth of the city.

References: Alfred H. Bill, The Campaign of Princeton, 1776-1777 (Princeton, 1948); Alden T. Cottrell, "The Trenton Battle Monument and Washington's Campaign, December 26, 1776 to January 3, 1777," pamphlet (New Jersey Department of Conservation and Economic Development, Trenton, 1951); Benjamin J. Lossing, The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution, 2 vols. (New York, 1859), II; Leonard Lundin, Cockpit of the Revolution: The War for Independence in New Jersey (Princeton, 1940); Christopher Ward, The War of the Revolution, 2 vols. (New York, 1952), I.

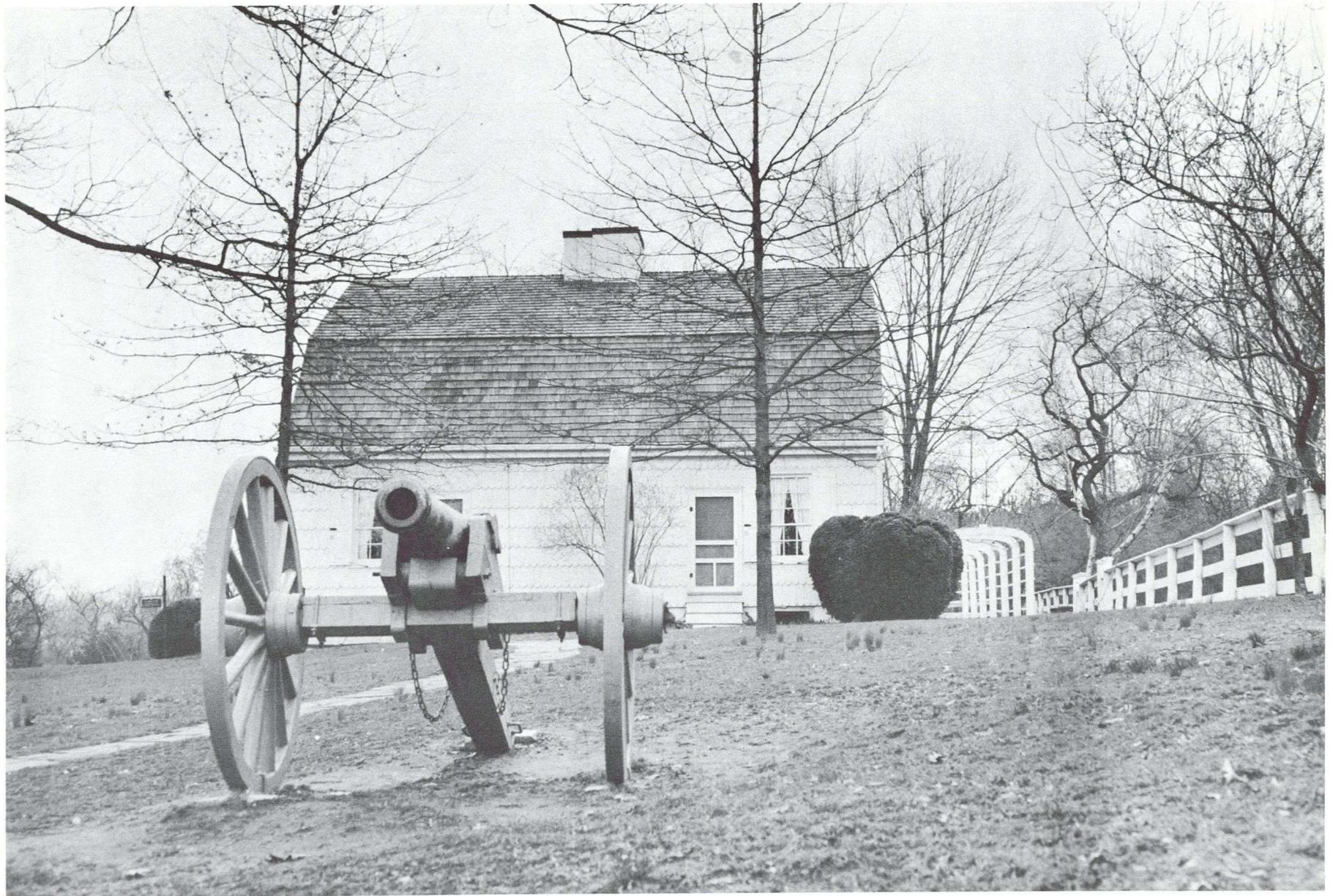
## NEW JERSEY AND PENNSYLVANIA

### Washington Crossing State Parks

Location: New Jersey - Mercer County, State route 546, on Delaware River south of Titusville; Pennsylvania - Bucks County, on State routes 32 and 532, on Delaware River at community of Washington Crossing.

Ownership-Administration: State of New Jersey, Department of Conservation and Economic Development; Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Forests and Waters, Washington Crossing State Park Commission.

Significance: Washington's crossing of the Delaware on Christmas night 1776, for the brilliant raid on Trenton, was a crucial



McKonkey Ferry House, a tavern at the time of the Revolution, marks the site of Washington's landing on the New Jersey side of the Delaware River, Christmas night, 1776.

National Park Service photograph, 1960

episode in the struggle for independence. Despite the almost legendary character which the event has assumed in the American tradition, it was a realistic and carefully planned stroke to rescue a waning cause. By his daring act Washington carried the war to the enemy and gave the new nation and his often-defeated army a taste of victory at the war's lowest ebb.

The close of 1776 found the cause of independence staggering under a succession of defeats. In October, the Continental Congress had made provision for a long-term military force, but at the end of the year this establishment was on paper, not in the field where it was desperately needed. Washington, in his camp on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware, realized that he must strike a blow at the enemy before his army melted away and he determined to hit the Hessian garrison at Trenton. On the night of December 25, the American main force was ferried across the Delaware by Colonel John Glover's hardy Marblehead fishermen and in the bleak early morning hours assembled on the New Jersey shore for the march on Trenton, about ten miles downstream. Surprise was complete, and within an hour and a half after the action opened the Hessians surrendered. Their loss was about a thousand men captured, wounded and killed, at a cost of fewer than ten American casualties. On learning that the other column of his command had failed to cross the Delaware to join him, Washington returned to the Pennsylvania side of the river. A few days later he recrossed to New Jersey and defeated another enemy force at the Battle of Princeton. A critical turning point was



Traces of the road to Trenton used by Washington's Army are preserved in Washington Crossing State Park, New Jersey

successfully passed, and valuable time won for the creation of the new military establishment. The epic crossing of the Delaware was a key to final victory.

#### Features and Condition of Sites

On the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware, the well-maintained State Park of approximately 500 acres preserves the site of the embarkation of Washington's main force. On the river bank is the old Ferry Inn, the present structure being superimposed on the original ferry house of the Revolutionary period. In the Park is Emanuel Leutze's famous painting, "Washington Crossing the Delaware," displayed in the auditorium of the handsome memorial building. Whatever the artistic merits and historical accuracy of the picture, it constitutes an inspiring interpretation of the event in spirit if not in factual detail. The Washington Crossing Monument, erected in 1916, overlooks the embarkation site. At Bowman's Hill, a detached section of the Park four miles north of the crossing site, is preserved the Thompson-Neely House, headquarters of American officers in 1776. The older section of the house was built in 1702 and the building is furnished and open to the public. At the old mill near the Thompson-Neely house, grain was ground for the American Army. Beneath the memorial flagstaff are the graves of unknown American soldiers who died during the encampment of 1776. The Bowman's Hill section of the Park also contains a state wildflower preserve and a memorial observation town.



Site of Washington's crossing of the Delaware as seen from the Pennsylvania shore. State parks on both sides of the river commemorate the crossing.

National Park Service photograph, 1960

On the New Jersey side of the river is a 372-acre State Park preserving the scene of the landing above Trenton. A short distance from the river bank is the McKonkey Ferry House, now a museum. An interesting Park feature is the preserved trace of the old road used by the American Army in its march from the river bank. Trees planted on either side of the "Continental Lane" preserve this historic roadway.

The parks on either side of the Delaware, connected by an automobile bridge, constitute an outstanding preservation of a key site in the winning of American independence.

References: Alfred H. Bill, The Campaign of Princeton, 1776-1777 (Princeton, 1948); George Athan Billias, General John Glover and His Marblehead Mariners (New York, 1960); Alden T. Cottrell, "The Trenton Battle Monument and Washington's Campaign, December 26, 1776 to January 3, 1777," pamphlet (New Jersey Department of Conservation and Economic Development, Trenton, 1947); "Washington Crossing Park, Bucks County, Pennsylvania," leaflet (Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters, n. p., n. d.); Leonard Lundin, Cockpit of the Revolution: The War for Independence in New Jersey (Princeton, 1940); Christopher Ward, The American Revolution (2 vols., New York, 1952), I.

## NEW YORK

### Bennington Battlefield State Park

Location: Rensselaer County, State route 67, near Walloomsac.

Ownership-Administration: State of New York, administered by New York State Education Department, Albany.

Significance: The American militia's victory at the battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777, was a significant contribution to the defeat of Burgoyne's British Army at Saratoga, two months later. The battle of Bennington cost the British about ten per cent of their entire

strength and denied them supplies sorely needed for the offensive down the Hudson River. The British defeat greatly discouraged Burgoyne's uneasy Indian allies and encouraged militia enlistment in the American Army.

General John Burgoyne, camped near Fort Edward, New York, desperately needed supplies and horses for his descent upon Albany. Consequently, a force of some 800 men, mostly German mercenaries, was ordered to seize supplies stored at Bennington, Vermont. Appraised of the enemy raid, General John Stark aroused the countryside and on August 16 the farmers swarmed out to deal the Germans a crushing blow, before they crossed the New York line into Vermont. Enemy reinforcements threatened for a time to undo Stark's work but timely help from Seth Warner and his Green Mountain Rangers threw back the relief column. The day's end found the foraging expedition virtually annihilated and Burgoyne's army in a more dangerous position than before. The shortage of supplies and loss of troops would have a telling effect in the campaign around Saratoga, now about to open.

#### Features and Condition of Site

The 208-acre Bennington Battlefield Park includes the center of heaviest fighting on the high ground overlooking the little village of Walloomsac and affords a wide view of the battle terrain. A bronze relief map indicates the various units and their battle positions, while other monuments commemorate the service of the Vermont and Massachusetts volunteers and their stout leader, General Stark.

References: "Historic Sites of New York State," pamphlet (New York State Education Department, n. p., n. d.); Edward J. Lowell, The Hessian and Other German Auxiliaries of Great Britain in the Revolutionary War (New York, 1884); Howard P. Moore, The Life of General John Stark (New York, 1949); Hoffman Nickerson, The Turning Point of the Revolution (Boston, 1928).

### Fort Ticonderoga

Location: Essex County, off State Routes 8 and 9N.

Ownership-Administration: Fort Ticonderoga Association, Ticonderoga.

Significance: Fort Ticonderoga, the "Gibraltar of the North," was already well known in America when the Revolution broke out. Since 1755, first in French and later English hands, it had guarded the Champlain-Hudson route between Canada and the American colonies. Bloody battles had been fought for its possession and, when the Revolution came, seizure of Fort Ti was one of the first aggressive acts by the Patriots. The Fort was a base for a number of important operations early in the Revolution and, in 1777, Burgoyne captured the post during his invasion from Canada. After the British surrender at Saratoga, Ticonderoga was returned to American hands. The British retook Ticonderoga but abandoned it a few months later and the fort was never again occupied by a military garrison. Other landmarks associated with the fall of Ticonderoga in 1777 are the restored fortifications on Mount Hope and the road on Mount Defiance which follows the route up which British cannon were hauled to dominate Ticonderoga and make it untenable.

Ticonderoga is noted only briefly here as it has been previously recommended for classification of exceptional value in Theme IX, Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775.

### Morris-Jumel Mansion

Location: 160th Street and Edgecombe Avenue,  
Washington Heights, New York City.

Ownership-Administration: City of New York, operated  
by Washington Headquarters Association, Daughters of  
the American Revolution, under the direction of New York  
City Department of Parks.

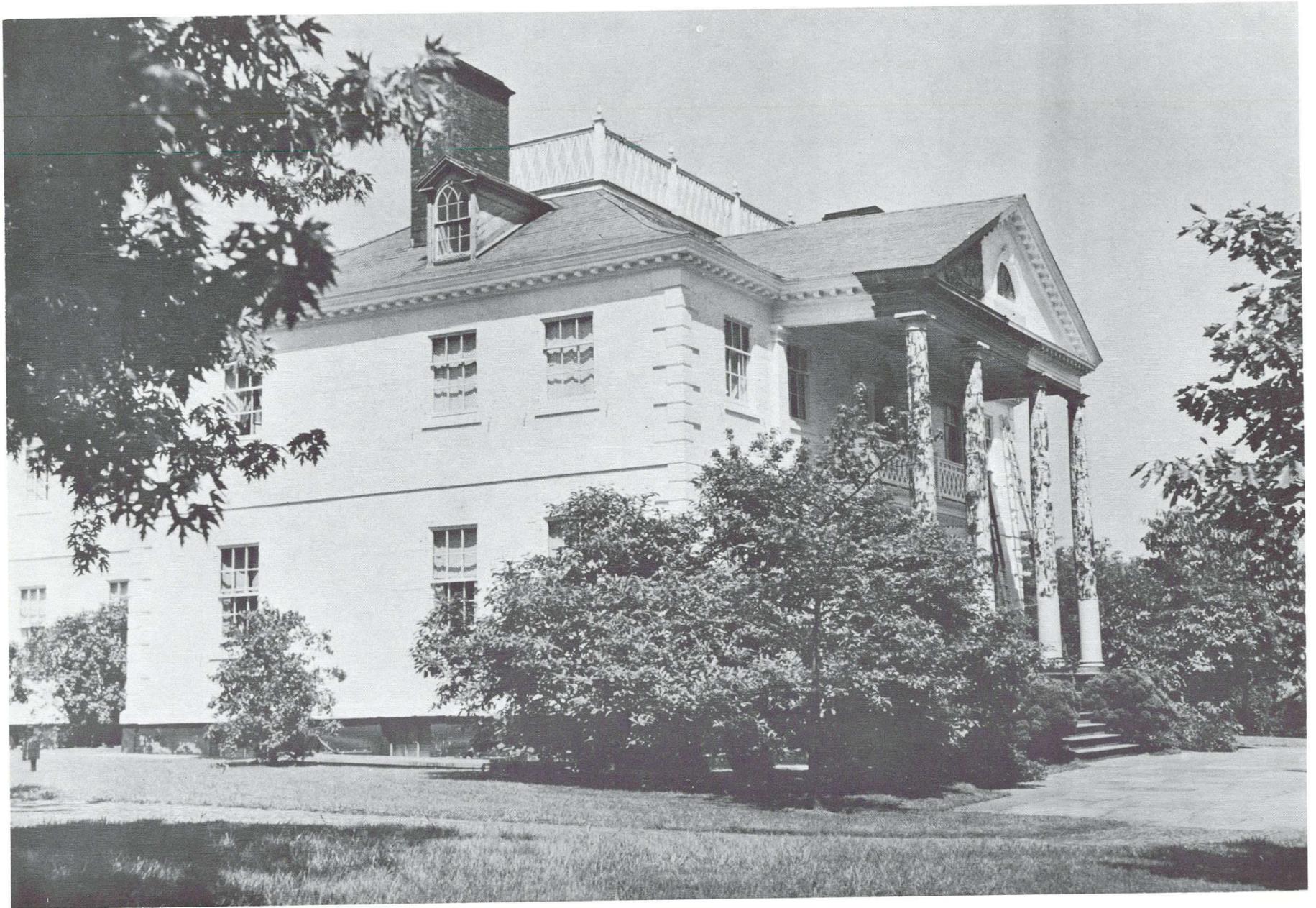
Significance: In addition to its distinction as the only im-  
portant pre-Revolutionary house still standing in Manhattan, the Morris-  
Jumel Mansion is the major surviving landmark of the battle of Harlem  
Heights. Although a small-scale affair, the important effects of the  
battle were immediately evident. One major result was the restoration  
of the offensive spirit of the American Army, after the recent succes-  
sion of defeats and retreats.

To the British this affair was an eye-opener. The  
rebels could stand up and fight bravely against the best  
of the British and Hessian regulars. The campaign was  
not going to be an easy succession of Kip's Bay. In the  
light of this discovery, some thought must be given to  
the next move. So, for nearly four weeks, Howe contented  
himself with fortifying his lines, forgoing further of-  
fensive movements until what he had gained had been  
secured.<sup>12</sup>

The Jumel house served as the headquarters of Washington from  
September 14 to October 18, 1776. Following their victory of Long Island  
the British had easily occupied New York City on September 17, routing  
a portion of the American Army at Kip's Bay that same day. The Americans  
retreated to their fortified lines on the heights north of present 125th  
Street. In this vicinity the battle of Harlem Heights was fought on

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<sup>12</sup> Christopher Ward, The War of the Revolution (2 vols., New York, 1952),  
I, p. 252.



The Morris-Jumel mansion was Washington's headquarters during the battle of Harlem Heights on September 16, 1776.

Courtesy New York Convention & Visitors' Bureau

September 16. Here, for the first time in the campaign, the patriots succeeded in forcing the British to give ground. Hoping to lure the enemy into ambush, Washington feinted an attack in front and sent a flanking party to catch the advancing enemy in a cross-fire. Before the flankers gained the rear of the British line a few over-eager -- or frightened -- officers gave the command to fire and alerted the redcoats to their danger. The British withdrew, reformed their battle line, resumed firing and retreated again. As the fight went on both commanders threw in more troops and at about two o'clock in the afternoon, the British withdrew again, this time to within a short distance of their massed reserve. Washington had no desire to bring on a general engagement and called off the advance with no little difficulty, due to his Army's reluctance to give up the unusual opportunity of actually chasing the enemy. Lord Howe, surprised by the Americans' determined stand, spent the next four weeks in fortifying his lines, leaving Washington to the comforts of his headquarters in the Morris Mansion. When Washington left the house it was occupied, during the remainder of the war, by General Clinton and other British officers.

The Morris-Jumel Mansion was built by Lieutenant Colonel Roger Morris in 1765. Morris, who had come to America in 1746, had been wounded during the Braddock expedition of 1754 and had become a friend of Washington at that time. A loyalist, Morris fled the country at the outbreak of the Revolution and at the end of the war his house and land were confiscated and sold. In 1810 the house became the property of Stephen Jumel

and was restored in Federal period style. After passing through several other hands the house was saved from demolition in 1903 when the City of New York purchased the property for \$235,000 and by special legislation gave over its care to the Washington Headquarters Association of the DAR. This group restored the house and it was again renovated and refurnished in 1945. The attractive grounds were landscaped at the same time.

#### Features and Condition of Site

The white painted house is mid-Georgian in design, built of brick encased in wood. The giant entrance portico has four columns two stories high, with a pediment at the top. The flattened top of the hip roof is surmounted by a balustrade. The interior, distinguished by its spacious rooms, is handsomely furnished in the period of late 18th and 19th centuries, in consideration of the occupancy of the house by two distinguished families widely separated in time and origins. The early period is carried out on the lower floor while the American Federal and French Empire of the early 19th century is confined to the upstairs where furniture belonging to the Jumels is displayed. The third floor, probably used originally as guest chambers, houses a collection of early American household utensils. The kitchen and servants quarters are in the basement. Of particular interest is the suite of three small rooms on the second floor which served as Washington's quarters during the Army's stay on Harlem Heights. The house is open to the public daily except Monday throughout the year.

References: Benson J. Lossing, Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution (2 vols. New York, 1958), II; Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture (New York, 1952); John Kent Tilton, "Roger Morris-Jumel Mansion Built in 1765 - Washington Headquarters in New York," pamphlet (New York, n. d.); Christopher Ward, The War of the Revolution (2 vols., New York, 1952), I.

### Stony Point Battlefield Reservation

Location: Rockland County, on U. S. Highway 9W and 202 north of community of Stony Point.

Ownership-Administration: State of New York, administered by State Conservation Department in cooperation with the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society.

Significance: The small scale battle of Stony Point, July 16, 1779, was the last military action of any consequence in the northern theater of war. Although the battle has been dismissed by some historians as having significance only as a morale builder for the patriots and as a demonstration of the developing skill of the American Army, it did have more important consequences. A recent study has noted that "the assault paralyzed Clinton [the British Commander]. When his reinforcements failed to show up, he dared not, after his loss in men in Connecticut and at the Point [Stony Point], make an offensive move . . ."<sup>13</sup> By the action at Stony Point, Washington asserted his grip on the Hudson and especially on West Point, "the key to the Continent."

The battle of Stony Point came after a long period of stalemate in the north following the battle of Monmouth in June, 1778. At

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<sup>13</sup> George F. Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin, Rebels and Redcoats (Cleveland, 1957), p. 364.



On July 16, 1779, General "Mad Anthony" Wayne's troops stormed and captured Stoney Point on the Hudson River.

National Park Service photograph, 1960

the beginning of June, 1779, the British had taken without opposition the unfinished American fort at Stony Point, a few miles below West Point. Verplanck's Point on the east side of the river opposite Stony Point was captured at the same time. Stony Point was a steep promontory jutting a half mile into the Hudson and rising 150 feet above the water which all but surrounded it. Having secured this strong position, Clinton pushed the fortifications to completion and manned them with a garrison of some 600 men. Washington was greatly concerned over the loss of the two strong points on either side of the river and after a thorough reconnaissance of the fort, ordered "Mad Anthony" Wayne to regain Stony Point. On July 15, Wayne made his approach, and at about midnight his elite corps launched its assault with muskets unloaded and with orders to use the bayonet. Within twenty minutes the fort had been secured and its surprised garrison made prisoner. Washington concluded that the post could not be held by his troop and ordered the fortifications dismantled and abandoned. The British reoccupied Stony Point but not in sufficient strength ever again to threaten the American stronghold at West Point.

#### Features and Condition of Site

Stony Point Battlefield is preserved in a 45-acre State reservation. There are extensive earthwork remains, and historical markers trace the course of the American assault up the steep slopes into the fort. A

small museum administered by the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society contains relics of the battle and tells the story of the action. The Point is heavily wooded but foot trails give access to the important points of interest. A spectacular view of the Hudson River Valley may be had from the summit of the Point.

References: Henry P. Johnston, The Storming of Stony Point (New York, 1900); George F. Scheer and Hugh F. Rankin Rebels and Red-coats (Cleveland, 1957); Christopher Ward, The War of the Revolution (2 vols., New York, 1952), I.

#### The Gundelo Philadelphia

Location: Essex County, New York Route 22, Willsboro - Essex Road on the west shore of Lake Champlain.

Ownership-Administration: Privately owned.

Significance: The United States Gundelo Philadelphia is the only surviving gunboat built and manned by American forces during the Revolutionary War. Further, the vessel is one of the 15 small craft with which Benedict Arnold fought 29 British vessels in the battle off Valcour Island, Lake Champlain, October 11, 1776. The year of grace won by the building of Arnold's "fleet" and the battle off Valcour Island paved the way for the decisive American victory at Saratoga in the fall of the following year.

Little more than a rowboat compared with modern vessels, the Philadelphia was one of the hastily-built fleet constructed in early summer of 1776 at the present Whitehall, New York. On September 23, 1776, the fleet took position in the small bay west of Valcour Island, about

seven miles south of what is now Plattsburg, New York. The sound between the Island and the mainland was about three quarters of a mile wide, divided by a high bluff projecting from the west side of the Island. Arnold's fleet formed its line south of the bluff and in this position fought the heavier British fleet to a standstill on October 11. The American force was badly damaged in the action and only with considerable luck was Arnold to elude the enemy and escape southward during the night. The Royal Savage, the American flagship, and the Philadelphia had gone to the bottom on October 11, and only four of Arnold's vessels managed to elude the British pursuit during the next two days.

In 1934, the wreck of the Royal Savage was recovered and the pieces saved. In the following year the Philadelphia, remarkably well-preserved by the cold water, was identified and salvaged from the sandy lake bottom near the mid-channel of Valcour Bay. After her guns, a twelve-pounder and two nine pounders, were lifted, the hull was raised 57 feet to the surface and towed to the beach. In addition to her guns, hundreds of other relics were found on the vessel -- shot, cooking utensils, tools, buttons, buckles and human bones. In the ensuing years the vessel was exhibited at various points on Lake Champlain and the Hudson, prior to her installation at the present place of exhibition.

#### Features and Condition

The Philadelphia's hull is 54 feet in length, 15 feet in beam and approximately five feet deep. Construction was almost entirely of

oak, and sap still remained in the bottom planking. The mast, almost 36 feet high, was found intact except for the top portion, and the hull timbers were still in place. Three shot holes were visible in the hull and in one of them a cannon ball was lodged. Considering the punishment it took in battle and its long years under water, the Philadelphia is an exceptionally well-preserved survivor of the small fleet with which Benedict Arnold won an invaluable year for the American cause. The wreck is exhibited to the public by its private owner.

References: L. F. Hagglund, "A Page from the Past: The Story of the Continental Gundelo Philadelphia on Lake Champlain - 1776-1949," pamphlet (Lake George, New York, 1949); Alfred T. Mahan, The Major Operations of the Navies in the War of American Independence (Boston, 1913); R. G. Skerrett, "Another Revolutionary War Vessel Recovered," Compressed Air Magazine, XLI (July, 1936); Christopher Ward, The War of the Revolution (2 vols., New York, 1952), I.

#### Valcour Bay

Location: Seven miles south of Plattsburgh, between Valcour Island and the west shore of Lake Champlain.

Ownership-Administration: State of New York.

Significance: Benedict Arnold's daring fleet action off Valcour Island on October 11, 1776, had a far-reaching effect on the outcome of the War of Independence. Although the American force was defeated, its very presence on the lake and its stubborn fight proved to be a strategic victory. The British invasion of the northern colonies in 1776 was delayed while a fleet was built to engage Arnold's small flotilla, and by the time the lake had been cleared of American vessels the British commander concluded that the season was too far advanced to carry out his

projected movement toward Albany. The invasion did not resume until the following year by which time the Americans were better able to meet and repulse it. This they did at Saratoga, the turning point of the Revolution. Wrote Mahan, the naval historian, "That the Americans were strong enough to impose the capitulation of Saratoga was due to the invaluable year of delay secured to them in 1776 by their little navy on Lake Champlain, created by the indomitable energy, and handled with the indomitable courage of the traitor, Benedict Arnold."<sup>14</sup>

By early fall of 1776, Sir Guy Carleton, British commander in Canada, was ready to cooperate with Howe in New York by moving on Albany down Lake Champlain and the Hudson River. By early October, Carleton's fleet was built and ready for action -- 29 vessels, mostly gunboats carrying a single gun, against the American fleet of 15 vessels, three of which had been taken from the enemy and the others hurriedly built on the lake in the race against Carleton's advance.

Between Valcour Island and the west shore of Lake Champlain is a sound about three-quarters of a mile wide. Midway on the island a high bluff juts into the sound dividing it into a north and south bay. On the day of battle, October 11, 1776, Arnold's fleet lay anchored in line across the bay south of the bluff, concealed from the enemy fleet approaching from the north. Carleton's vessels sailed down the eastern

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<sup>14</sup> Alfred T. Mahan, The Major Operations of the Navies in the War of American Independence (Boston, 1913), p. 25.

side of Valcour and were south of it before the crewmen caught sight of Arnold's fleet waiting in the shelter of the island. Carleton had to attack against the wind, a decided disadvantage in the age of sail. Closing to short range, the opposing battle lines hammered each other from about eleven in the morning until dusk. One of the two American ships lost that day was the Gundelo Philadelphia, which sank about an hour after the battle. This vessel, recovered from the lake bottom in 1935 is described elsewhere in this report.

The end of the day found Arnold's surviving vessels heavily damaged and low on ammunition. Further fighting was out of the question. The British line still lay between Valcour and escape to the south, but in darkness and a providential fog the survivors of the fight slipped past the left of the enemy fleet. In the next two days, Carleton's pursuing vessels knocked out ship after ship and some of these Arnold burned to keep them from enemy hands. Arnold and other survivors of the action eluded capture, but when the final score was counted it was discovered that of the 15 ships engaged at Valcour only four had reached safety. The American fleet on Champlain was destroyed, but its work had been done; the invasion from Canada had been halted for one crucial year.

#### Features and Condition of Site

Valcour Island is about two miles long from north to south and approximately a mile and a quarter wide. It is rocky, high and wooded and, as seen from the west shore of Lake Champlain, probably looks much

as it did when it sheltered Arnold's makeshift fleet. The sound, or bay, between the island and the west shore of the lake is three-quarters of a mile wide. Although the shore of Lake Champlain has been built up to some extent, and Valcour Island is the property of several private owners, the island, and more importantly, the bay which was the scene of the battle have suffered little loss of integrity as landmarks of the War for Independence. No effort has been made to preserve or interpret the scene of the battle off Valcour, and the only marking is a small monument on the mainland about five miles south of Plattsburgh, in view of the island. This was erected in 1928 by the State Education Department and the Saranac Chapter, D. A. R.

References: Richard M. Ketchum, ed., The American Heritage Book of the Revolution (New York, 1958), pp. 132-133, shows a contemporary map of the action and a water color sketch of the battle; L. F. Hagglund, "A Page from the Past: The Story of the Continental Gundelo Philadelphia on Lake Champlain - 1776-1949," pamphlet (Lake George, New York, 1949); Benson J. Lossing, Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution (2 vols., New York, 1859), I; Alfred T. Mahan, The Major Operations of the Navies in the War of American Independence (Boston, 1913); letter from Mr. William G. Tyrrell, Historian, New York State Education Department, to National Park Service, Region Five, April 14, 1960.

Washington's Headquarters,  
Newburgh

Location: Liberty and Washington Streets, Newburgh.

Ownership-Administration: State of New York, State Education Department.

Significance: None of Washington's military headquarters during the War for Independence is of greater historical significance than the Hasbrouck House at Newburgh. Arriving at Newburgh on April 1, 1782,

the Commander-in-Chief remained at the Hasbrouck House, save for occasional enforced absences, until August 19, 1783. This was a longer period than Washington spent at any other headquarters. More importantly, Washington drafted three memorable documents at his Newburgh headquarters. In these, the Commander-in-Chief reaffirmed the fundamental principle of subordination of the military establishment to civilian control and helped lay the foundation for orderly transition of the nation from war to peace. The first was Washington's vehement rejection of the suggestion that the new nation should become a monarchy, with Washington at its head. The second important document drafted at Newburgh was Washington's address in the "Temple" at the nearby army encampment on March 15, 1783. In this document Washington effectively quelled an incipient movement provoked by the so-called Newburgh Addresses, looking toward the coercion of Congress by the army to secure settlement of officers' claims against the government prior to demobilization. The third notable act at Newburgh was Washington's drafting of his oft-quoted circular letter to the Governors of the states, in which he outlined his views respecting the future development of the nation he had led to independence. These views were elaborated around four cardinal points: "an indissoluble union of the states under one federal head," "a sacred regard to public justice," "the adoption of a proper peace establishment," and "a pacific and friendly disposition among the people of the States, which will induce them to forget their local prejudices and policies; to make mutual concessions, and to sacrifice individual advantages to the interests of the community."

In addition to these statements at Newburgh, an act of some interest was the establishment of the military award, the "Order of the Purple Heart," proposed by Washington and noted in the General Orders of the Day, August 7, 1782. Aside from its intimate association with Washington, the Hasbrouck House has the distinction of being the first historic site preserved by a state. The state obtained the property in 1850 for non-payment of debt.

#### Features and Condition of Site

In 1749, the widow of Joseph Hasbrouck bought the property overlooking the Hudson River on which the headquarters building now stands and in the following year her son, Jonathan, erected the northeast portion of the building. The southeast section was added some time before 1770 and in that year an addition extending the length of the west wall of both earlier sections was constructed. An initialed date-stone confirms the date of this last addition. Walls of all three sections are of fieldstone. The house includes a large seven-doored chamber used as a dining room and living room, two bedrooms, parlor and kitchen on the ground floor, another bedroom on the second floor and a spacious attic where can be seen the maze of hand-hewn timbers which support the roof. Period furnishings give the house great charm. The building is the original, excepting the kitchen and dining room floors. Adjacent to the headquarters building is a museum offering exhibits of local historical interest as well as material relating to General and Mrs. Washington and the role of the Newburgh Headquarters in the Revolution. Maintenance of both the house and museum is excellent.

References: Douglas S. Freeman, George Washington, vol. 5, Victory with the Help of France (New York, 1952); E. Irvine Haines, "When Washington Sealed the Republic" (The New York Times Magazine, March 19, 1933); "Historic Sites of New York State," pamphlet (New York State Education Department, n. p., n. d.); Historic American Buildings Survey (26 photos and 3 sheets, 1940); Melvin J. Weig, "Historic Sites and Buildings of the Colonial-Revolutionary Period located in and Around Newburgh, New York" (Ms. Report, National Park Service, February 25, 1937).

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Brandywine Battlefield Park

Location: Delaware County, U. S. Highway 1 (Baltimore Road), Chadd's Ford.

Ownership-Administration: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, administered by Brandywine Battlefield Park Commission.

Significance: The Battle of Brandywine on September 11, 1777, was the only major clash of the two main armies during the campaign which resulted in the British capture of Philadelphia. Although the battle was an American defeat, Washington extricated his force in good order and the Continentals demonstrated their ability to withstand the determined attack of British regulars.

In the spring and much of the summer of 1777 Washington and Howe had engaged in fruitless maneuvers in New Jersey. At last, in mid-August, Howe moved to New York and embarked most of his army for a move against Philadelphia, the American capital, by way of the Chesapeake Bay. Washington countered with a move to the southward to meet Howe's advance. On September 11 the American Army took up a defensive position near Chadd's Ford on Brandywine Creek, across the main road to Philadelphia, 30 miles distant.

Washington deployed his army in two main parts, one under his personal command at Chadd's Ford and the other under General Sullivan guarding the right flank upstream. As he had often done before, Howe attempted a wide flanking movement, marching up the Brandywine, crossing it and moving around to take Sullivan in the rear. Washington mistakenly believed the diversionary attack in his front to be the main British thrust and only at the last minute, when Sullivan was in retreat, did Washington dispatch General Nathanael Greene with two brigades to support the collapsing right flank. Greene's stout action saved the army from entrapment, but by his move to the right Washington's defenses at Chadd's Ford were weakened and the General was forced to retreat. Despite its narrow escape, the army got away intact and returned to Chester. A few days later Washington, still between Howe and Philadelphia, attempted to strike a surprise blow at the British but was foiled by bad weather. After further skirmishing, marked by the disastrous defeat of "Mad Anthony" Wayne's American rear guard at Paoli, Howe occupied Philadelphia on September 26.

#### Features and Condition of Site

Brandywine Battlefield Park comprises 50 acres of rolling ground overlooking the main battle areas to the north and west. The restored headquarters of Lafayette is situated within the Park and Washington's headquarters has been reconstructed. A portion of Lafayette's headquarters dates from the late 17th century and the restoration today exhibits three periods of construction, the original structure, a mid-18th century stone addition on the west and the 1782 north wing. The

treatment of Washington's and Lafayette's headquarters was carried out by C. Edwin Brumbaugh, authority on the early houses of southeastern Pennsylvania. The Park contains well-maintained picnic areas and excellent roads. Although the Park does not contain the areas of heaviest fighting in the Battle of Brandywine, it preserves the area from which the battle was observed and directed and affords an excellent view of the terrain over which the action was fought.

References: "The Brandywine Story, 1777-1952," published by the Brandywine Battlefield Park Commission (n. p., 1952); Willard M. Wallace, Appeal to Arms - A Military History of the American Revolution (New York, 1951); Christopher Ward, The War of the Revolution (2 vols., New York, 1952), I; Melvin J. Weig, "Historic Sites Survey Report on Brandywine Battlefield Site" (Ms. Report, National Park Service, June 10, 1938).

#### Chew House (Cliveden)

Location: Germantown Avenue between Johnson and Cliveden Streets, Germantown.

Ownership-Administration: Privately owned.

Significance: The fine Georgian home is the most important surviving landmark of the hard-fought battle of Germantown, October 4, 1777. In that action, Washington's Army narrowly missed winning a significant victory over a large contingent of the British Army guarding the northwestern approaches to newly-occupied Philadelphia. Although undecisive in its immediate military results, the battle of Germantown had vast political implications in that, combined with the victory at Saratoga in the same month, it proved to be a major influence in the consummation of the alliance with France that spelled final victory for the new American nation.

Following his victory over Washington's Army on September 11, 1777, Howe occupied Philadelphia on September 26. With the American capital in his grasp, Howe dispersed his forces to cover the city, stationing some 9,000 men in Germantown on the north, 3,000 in New Jersey and the remainder in Philadelphia and on the supply lines into the city. Washington concluded that the situation was favorable for a blow against the enemy at Germantown, then a small village stretching for two miles along the Skippack Road which ran from Philadelphia to Reading. The American plan of attack called for a complicated four-column movement against the enemy, resembling the earlier pincers movement against Trenton but more intricate in timing and maneuver. In the early fighting on the foggy morning of October 4, the Americans drove the redcoats back until six British companies took possession of the stout stone house of Chief Justice Benjamin Chew, on the outskirts of the village. From this fortress they harassed the American advance. Units of Washington's force marched to the sound of the firing at the Chew House, throwing the carefully arranged battle plan into confusion. In the fog and smoke American troops fired on one another and fled panic-stricken from the field. The British counterattack threw back the exhausted and confused Americans, and Washington withdrew some 25 miles to an earlier camp at Pennybacker's Mill. The might-have-beens of Germantown had passed into history.

The battle had been a near thing for the British. But for the fog and, more especially, the confusion created in the American ranks by the stubborn enemy stand in the Chew House, Germantown might have

been a decisive victory for the patriot forces. As it was, despite their defeat, the Americans derived a significant advantage from Germantown. John Adams, American Commissioner to France, writing to a member of the Continental Congress about the battles of Saratoga and Germantown, said: "General Gates was the ablest negotiator you had in Europe; and next to him General Washington's attack on the enemy at Germantown. I do not know, indeed, whether this last affair had not more influence upon the European mind than that of Saratoga. Although the attempt was unsuccessful, the military gentlemen in Europe considered it as the most decisive proof that America would finally succeed."<sup>15</sup>

Affirming Adams' interpretation of the significance of Germantown, the British Historian Trevelyan wrote: "Eminent generals and statesmen of sagacity, in every European court, were profoundly impressed by learning that a new army, raised within the year, and undaunted by a series of recent disasters, had assailed a victorious enemy in its own quarters and had only been repulsed after a sharp and dubious conflict . . . . The French government, in making up its mind on the question whether the Americans would prove to be efficient allies, was influenced almost as much by the battle of Germantown as by the surrender of Burgoyne."<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Orville T. Murphy, "The Battle of Germantown and the Franco-American Alliance of 1778," The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, LXXXII, No. 1 (January, 1958), pp. 63-64.

<sup>16</sup> Christopher Ward, The American Revolution (2 vols., New York, 1952), I, 371.

### Features and Condition of Site

The two-story Chew Mansion was built by Benjamin Chew in 1763 at Cliveden, his country estate. The house was constructed of Germantown stone quarried a short distance from the site. The front wall is built of regular ashlar masonry while the others are of stuccoed rubble masonry grooved to resemble ashlar. The belt course, window sills and lintels are of dressed sandstone. Five huge urns adorn the roof. The house has an imposing entrance hall, brightened by 24-light facade windows and separated from the stair hall by a screen of four columns -- a most unusual feature. Small office rooms open on either side of the entrance hall, with the two main rooms, dining and drawing rooms, at the back. The kitchen and servants' rooms originally were in detached wings at the rear. An early barn, part of which now houses the office of the private owner, stands at the rear of the house. Benjamin Chew's commission as Chief Justice is displayed in the office. The house is not open to the public except on special occasions.

References: J. R. Alden, The American Revolution, 1775-1783 (New York, 1954); Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture (New York, 1952); Orville T. Murphy, "The Battle of Germantown and the Franco-American Alliance of 1778," The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, LXXXII, No. 1 (January, 1958); Christopher Ward, The American Revolution (2 vols., New York, 1952), I.

## Valley Forge State Park

Location: Montgomery and Chester Counties, at Fort Kennedy, off Valley Forge interchange of Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Ownership-Administration: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Valley Forge Park Commission.

Significance: No name in American history conveys more of suffering, sacrifice and triumph than Valley Forge. The bitter winter of 1777-1778 endured here by Washington's ragged, hungry troops saw the emergence of a real American Army, risen from the wreckage of the defeated force which staggered into the camp on December 19, 1777. The military training and discipline imposed at Valley Forge created a force which from that time on would meet its professional enemy on equal terms and at last defeat him.

Following the defeat at Brandywine in September 1777, the disappointing near-victory at Germantown early in October and a series of fruitless marches and costly skirmishes, Washington, in December, took about 11,000 troops, most of them unfit for service, into quarters at Valley Forge. From this camp, named for a small iron mill on Valley Creek which the British had destroyed earlier, the army could defend itself and observe the approaches to Philadelphia. Approximately 900 log huts were raised and fortifications protecting the camp and commanding nearby roads and rivers were thrown up. The soldiers were not allowed to huddle in their cabins but were rigorously drilled and disciplined by "Baron" Steuben who, if he magnified his European rank and title, was,

nevertheless, a drill master of surpassing ability. When spring came, the army was ready for the field as never before, and at Monmouth on June 18, 1778, it made its debut as a skilled force able to meet and defeat British regulars in open combat.

#### Features and Condition of Site

Valley Forge State Park, embracing 2,300 acres on both sides of the Schuylkill River, includes extensive remains of major forts, miles of earthworks, the artillery park, Washington's headquarters house, quarters of other top officers and the Grand Parade Ground where von Steuben rebuilt the army and where news of the French alliance was announced on May 6, 1778. An observation tower affords a comprehensive view of the camp site and the countryside it was designed to command. A museum, reconstructed officers' hut and handsome memorials and monuments, plus a few historical markers, tell the story of the men, famous and unknown, who at Valley Forge wrote an imperishable chapter in the story of America's struggle for independence.

References: J. R. Alden, The American Revolution, 1775-1783 (New York, 1954); Roy E. Appleman, "Historical Report, Valley Forge Proposed National Park" (Ms. Report, National Park Service, n. d.); Historic American Buildings Survey - Washington's Headquarters (7 photos, 1937); "The Story of Valley Forge," leaflet (Valley Forge Park Commission, 1957); Harry E. Wildes, Valley Forge (New York, 1938).

#### SOUTH CAROLINA

##### Camden Battlefield

Location: Kershaw County, 5 miles north of Camden on county road just west of U. S. Highways 521 and 601.

Ownership: two acres held by Hobkirk Hill Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution; remainder is privately owned.



CAMDEN BATTLEFIELD, South Carolina - A general view of the field, looking south from the American position toward the area of the British advance.

June 8, 1960

National Park Service photograph

Significance: The Battle of Camden, August 16, 1780, was the climax to a series of disasters which began with the fall of Charleston to Clinton's British army in May. Though a tactical defeat for the Americans, Camden was the turning point of the war in the South, because it brought Nathanael Greene to the American command. Second only to Washington as a field commander, Greene began a brilliant campaign which, though barren of decisive tactical victories, cleared the southern interior of British troops in less than a year.

The surrender of General Benjamin Lincoln with 5,500 men at Charleston on May 12 left only one organized American force in the South. This force, 350 Virginians under Col. Abraham Buford, was wiped out by a British raiding force under Lieut. Col. Banastre Tarleton at Waxhaws on May 29. Clinton meanwhile had returned to New York, leaving Cornwallis with 8,000 men to complete the subjugation of the southern interior. As Cornwallis slowly extended inland to Ninety Six and Camden, a bitter civil war broke out between southern loyalists and American guerillas led by Thomas Sumter, Andrew Pickens and Francis Marion.

When Clinton besieged Charleston, Washington sent a small force of Delaware and Maryland Continentals south to reinforce that city. Stranded in Virginia when Charleston surrendered, the Continentals advanced into North Carolina and halted to await orders. On July 25, Gen. Horatio Gates arrived to assume command of the Southern Department,

having been appointed to that post by Congress without Washington's knowledge.

Gates' Continentals soon were reinforced by Virginia and North Carolina militia, and on July 27 he began moving forward. Taking the most direct route toward Camden, which led through a hostile and desolate country, Gates witnessed a rapid deterioration in the condition of his small army. The troops, forced by necessity to subsist on green corn and peaches, began to suffer from diarrhea.

Additional militia joined Gates en route but the American commander, confident that he greatly outnumbered his enemies, detached a part of his force to aid Sumter in a raid on distant British supply lines. Meantime Cornwallis, alarmed at the approach of Gates' army, sent troops from Ninety Six to reinforce Lord Rawdon's garrison and himself went to Camden to take command.

During the night of August 15, Gates moved his men south from Rugeley's Mill toward Sanders Creek, seven miles from Camden. At the same time, Cornwallis marched out from Camden in order to be in position for an attack on Gates early the following day. Early on the morning of August 16, the two forces collided. Each commander drew his men back slightly, waiting for dawn to renew the fight.

The battle, which began early the following morning, was of short duration. Gates was formed with his Continentals, commanded by General Kalb, on the right, and the militia on the left. As the British

advanced, the militia suddenly gave way completely and began streaming from the field in wild flight. The British dashed through in pursuit of the fugitives, and the outnumbered Continentals were soon surrounded. They continued to fight gallantly until Kalb was shot down, when the remnants were forced to quit the field.

Gates, swept off the field when the militia bolted, was unable to bring the troops to a stand. Once away from the field of battle, the army simply disintegrated. Gates himself reached Hillsborough on August 19, and there gradually reassembled a portion of his defeated army. As Cornwallis fell back to Winnsboro, South Carolina, after Ferguson's defeat at King's Mountain, Gates moved his small force forward to Charlotte. There, on December 2, he was relieved by Nathanael Greene.

The battlefield today probably is little changed from its original appearance. It is a flat area of open fields and pine woods, bordered on the east and west by small streams, with no major intrusions on the historic scene. A stone monument erected by the Hobkirk Hill Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, marks the approximate sites of Kalb's fall, and a roadside narrative marker completes the interpretive development of the field.

References: H. L. Landers, The Battle of Camden, South Carolina, August 16, 1780. 71st Congress, 1st Session - House Document No. 12 (Government Printing Office, 1929); Thomas J. Kirkland and Robert M. Kennedy, Historic Camden (2 vols., Columbia, 1905 and 1926), I.

## VIRGINIA

### St. John's Episcopal Church

Location: East Broad and 24th Streets, Richmond.

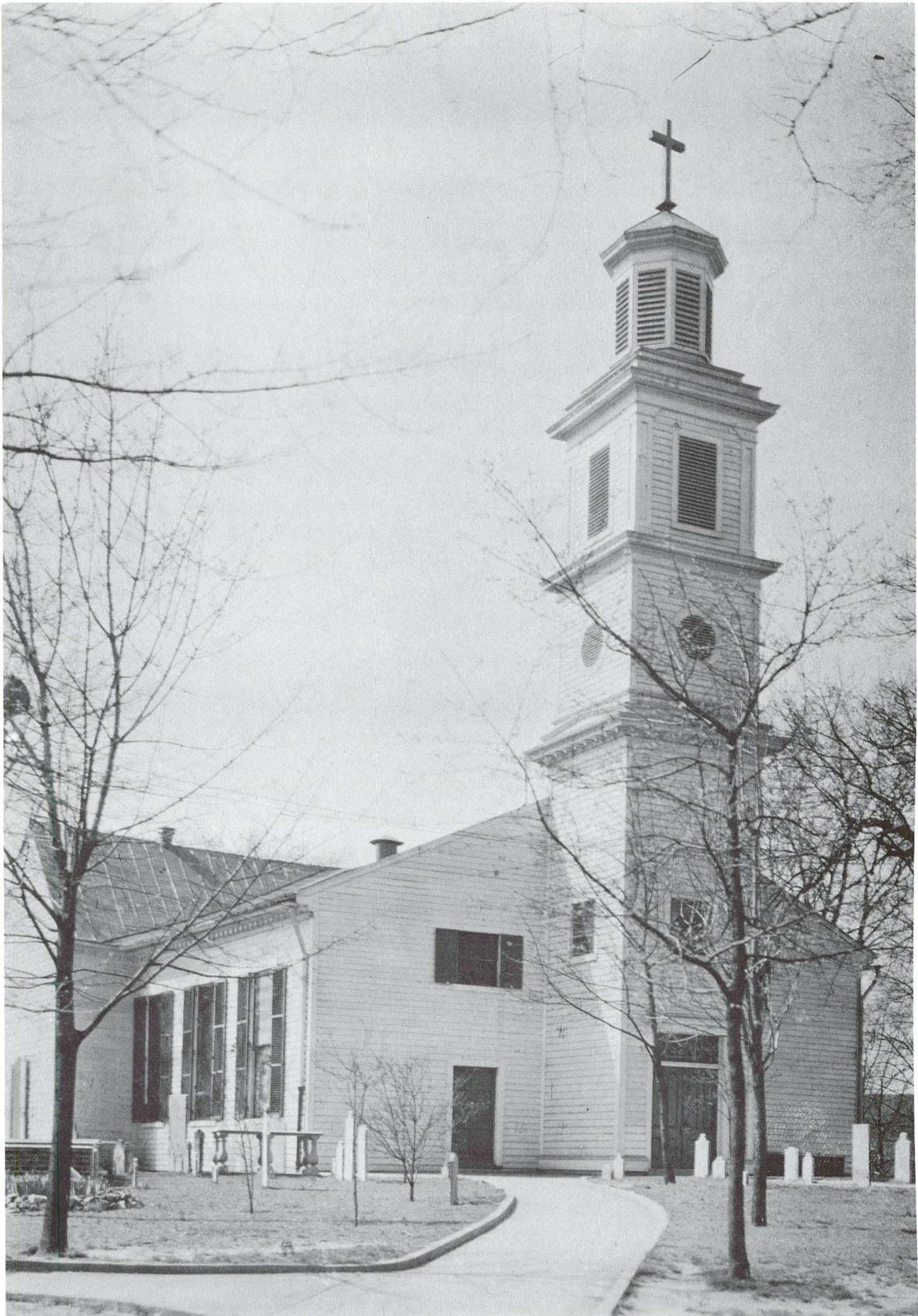
Ownership: Church and southern half of cemetery, by the congregation of St. John's Episcopal Church; northern half of cemetery, by the city of Richmond.

Significance: In St. John's Church on March 23, 1775, Patrick Henry delivered the stirring "Liberty or Death" speech which sounded a clarion call for his fellow Virginians. There, in the third great speech of his career, the spellbinding orator of the War for Independence attained a measure of undying fame.

Henry already had been in the public eye for a dozen years, since his brilliant defense of colonial self-government in the "Parson's Cause" of 1763. Two years later, his "Virginia Resolutions" respecting the infamous Stamp Act stirred the colonies and brought him to recognized leadership of the radical party in Virginia. None who heard him was likely to forget the fiery speech which ended with the words: "Caesar had his Brutus -- Charles the first, his Cromwell -- and George the third -- may profit by their example."

He continued to hold the forefront of action during the next decade of increasing colonial agitation. As a delegate to the First Continental Congress in September, 1774, Henry was a strong supporter of radical measures, and his conduct gave evidence of strong nationalist leanings.

Back in Virginia, the royal governor, Lord Dunmore, called a



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, Richmond, Virginia - A view of the north facade, showing the steeple which has been added since Patrick Henry made his famous "Liberty or Death" speech in the church on March 23, 1775.

meeting of the General Assembly for late in November, but prorogued the meeting when he learned of the participation of the Virginia leaders in "The Association" to boycott British goods. Members of the prorogued assembly arranged to meet in Richmond on March 20, 1775. For the meeting place they chose the largest building in the community, the "New Church" or the "Church on Richmond Hill," as it was variously known at the time.

When the Convention assembled on the appointed date, its membership included most of the leaders of Virginia politics. With most counties represented by two delegates, the membership of approximately 120 men included George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, George Wythe, Benjamin Harrison, Edmund Pendleton, Robert Carter Nicholas, Carter Braxton, George Mason, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Nelson, Jr., Richard Bland, and Andrew Lewis.

The tone of the Convention at first was conciliatory, but Henry soon offered a series of resolutions to put the colony into a state of defense. Henry's resolutions were defended by Washington, Jefferson, and Richard Henry Lee, though the conservative leaders -- including Pendleton, Bland, Nicholas, and Harrison -- attacked them as rash and provocative. On March 23, Henry rose to defend the resolutions in a short speech which closed with the stirring words:

There is no retreat but in submission and slavery!  
Our chains are forged. Their clanking may be heard  
on the plains of Boston! The war is inevitable --  
and let it come!! I repeat it, sir, let it come!!!

It is vain, sir, to extenuate the matter. Gentlemen  
may cry, peace, peace, but there is no peace. The

war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God -- I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death.<sup>17</sup>

Henry's speech swept the Convention to his viewpoint, and his resolutions were passed. True to the prophecy of his words, news of the outbreak of fighting at Lexington and Concord came within a short time, and the colonies were at war.

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The church in which Henry made his stirring speech was built in 1740-41 on land donated by Col. William Byrd and remained the only church in Richmond until 1814. Originally constructed as a simple rectangular building, 25 feet wide and 40 feet long with the long axis running east and west, the church was enlarged in December, 1772. At that time, an addition was built onto the north side of the church and the interior was so rearranged that the addition became the nave. A belfry was constructed over the west end of the original church at the same time. This was the church which existed at the time of Henry's famous speech.

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<sup>17</sup> William Wirt, Sketches of the Life and Character of Patrick Henry (25th ed., Philadelphia, 1875), pp. 141-42, quoted in Roy E. Appleman, "National Historic Site Survey Report on St. John's Episcopal Church, Richmond, Virginia" (Ms. report, National Park Service, October 4, 1946), pp. 4-5.

<sup>18</sup> The first known recorded use of the name "St. John's" appears in the vestry book under date of April 25, 1829. Appleman, p. 11.

The church has been altered several times since 1772, In 1830, the nave was increased in size and the interior of the church was rearranged. In the next few years the original belfry was taken down and replaced by a tower and bell at the north end of the church. A chancel and vestry room were added to the south end of the church in 1880, giving it the cross shape it now has. A hurricane blew down the church spire in 1896, and the replacement was similar to the original spire which stood on the church at the time of Henry's speech.

In 1799, the City of Richmond added two lots to the church property, and the church cemetery became a public burying ground. It was the only public cemetery in Richmond until 1826. Among the graves are those of George Wythe and of Elizabeth Arnold Poe, mother of Edgar Allen Poe.

The church is attractively maintained and is one of the most noted of Richmond's historic sites. Despite a lack of adequate parking space, visitation averages about 50,000 persons a year.

The area surrounding St. John's Church has been designated as a historic zone and plans for its restoration are being carried out by the Historic Richmond Foundation. In the few square blocks of the historic zone are some 70 ante bellum homes, a number of which already have been restored.

References: Roy E. Appleman, "National Historic Site Survey Report on St. John's Episcopal Church, Richmond, Virginia" (Ms. report, National Park Service, October 4, 1946); Historic American Buildings Survey, 11 sheets and seven photographs, 1934-35; Joseph S. Moore, History of Henrico Parish and Old St. John's Church, Richmond, Virginia, 1611-1904 (Richmond, 1904).

Sites of Exceptional Value  
in the National Park System

Cowpens National Battlefield Site, South Carolina

A one-acre site established in 1929 commemorates the brilliant victory won by Daniel Morgan against the British cavalry under Banastre Tarleton on January 17, 1781. Located near the center of the American line, the site contains a memorial shaft erected by the United States Government and trailside exhibits explaining the movements of the opposing forces.

Dorchester Heights National Historic Site, Massachusetts

This non-Federally owned area consists of a memorial tower and green marking the site of American batteries which helped force the British evacuation of Boston in March, 1776. The Americans seized and began fortifying the heights on the night of March 4, and foul weather prevented a British attempt to recapture them before they were rendered impregnable.

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, North Carolina

The 148-acre park near Greensboro, established in 1917, commemorates the battle of March 15, 1781, between Cornwallis' British army and an American army under Nathanael Greene. Though technically a British victory, the battle left Cornwallis so weakened that he was forced to move his army to Wilmington on the coast. The park contains a museum, monuments and field exhibits describing the battle.

### Independence National Historical Park, Pennsylvania

In the City which witnessed so many of the dramatic events immediately before and during the war, and which served as the capital of the United States during all but the darkest period of that war, the major buildings associated with those stirring times are included in Independence National Historical Park. Around Independence Square are located Independence Hall, meeting place of the Second Continental Congress and scene of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; Carpenters' Hall, site of the meeting of the First Continental Congress in 1774; and a number of other buildings of major historical importance.

### Kings Mountain National Military Park, South Carolina

A 4,000-acre park established in 1931, this contains the battlefield on which American frontiersmen won a smashing victory and annihilated a Tory force led by Patrick Ferguson on October 7, 1780. Ferguson is buried on the field not far from where he fell; and the park contains several monuments and markers telling the story of the battle, as well as a museum building.

### Moore's Creek National Military Park, North Carolina

At Moore's Creek, on February 27, 1776, a Tory force under Donald McDonald, en route to the coast to join Sir Henry Clinton's British expeditionary force, was defeated and dispersed by an American force under James Moore. This American victory undoubtedly postponed a British invasion of the southern colonies for over two years. The park contains a museum, original earthworks, and field markers describing the battle.

Morristown National Historical Park, New Jersey

The 960-acre park contains sites associated with the encampments of Washington's army around Morristown in the winters of 1777 and 1779-80. Among them are the Ford Mansion, Washington's headquarters during the latter period; the reconstructed Fort Mifflin, which American troops first built in 1777; the Wick House, in Jockey Hollow, used as military quarters by Gen. Arthur St. Clair in 1779-80; and the encampment site of the troops during that period, which includes several reconstructed buildings in Jockey Hollow.

Saratoga National Historical Park, New York

Included in the 2,200-acre park are the fields of fighting on September 19 and October 7, 1777, which left John Burgoyne's British army in such condition that it was forced to surrender on October 17. The park area contains original earthworks, a museum and field markers describing the battle. In Schuylerville, to which Burgoyne withdrew his army after the last battle, is located the Philip Schuyler House, home of the American general who commanded the American forces at the beginning of Burgoyne's advance southward.

Yorktown Battlefield, Colonial National Historical Park,  
Virginia

Site of the siege and surrender of Cornwallis' British army, the area includes original earthworks and campsites, a visitor center, and field markers, as well as the Moore House, where the articles of capitulation were drafted on October 18, 1781.

## Recommendation for Additional Study

### The Arnold Trail, Maine

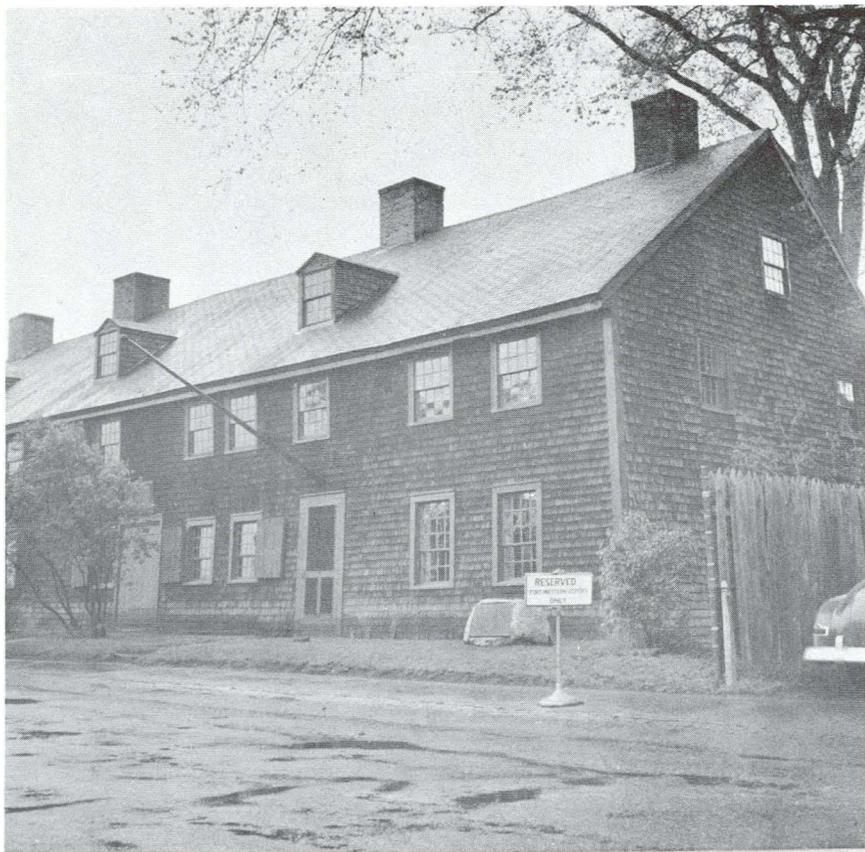
Benedict Arnold's march to Quebec in the fall of 1775 is an epic of American military history. Although not as well known as some of the decisive battles of the war, the expedition, carried out against almost impossible odds, "is one of the most famous military marches recorded in history. If it had resulted in the capture of that stronghold /Quebec/ it would have been celebrated as a great triumph. That it failed, by so little as it did, should not obscure its fame as a magnificent exploit. For sustained courage, undaunted resolution, and uncomplaining endurance of almost incredible hardships, those men who grimly persisted to the end deserved high honor and unstinted praise."<sup>19</sup>

Another historian points out that the attack on Quebec aroused far more interest in London than had the skirmish at Lexington and Concord, and the siege of Boston. When news of the American move on Quebec reached England, soldiers and supplies were being assembled for Howe's army and the first detachment of troops were ordered to Canada to protect Quebec, or retake it if it had been captured. "The Canadian expedition of 1775-1776, which seemed so foolhardy in thought and fruitless in result, was really of the highest importance to the American cause. It divided Howe's army into two parts, thus depriving him of the preponderance of force that was necessary for the conquest and occupation of the Middle States in 1776; and the attempt to reunite the two portions

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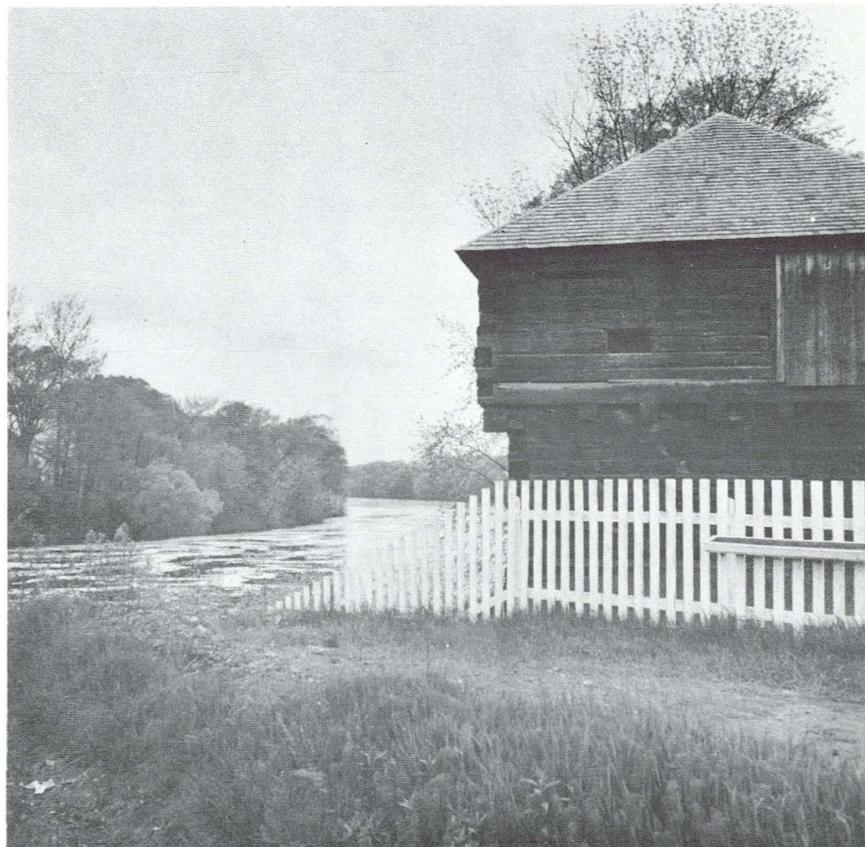
<sup>19</sup> Christopher Ward, The War of the Revolution (2 vols., New York, 1952), I, p. 180.

ARNOLD TRAIL, MAINE



Fort Western, on the site of modern Augusta, Maine, was the starting point for Arnold's march to Quebec, in late September 1775. The restored garrison house, built in 1754, is all that remains of the original fort.

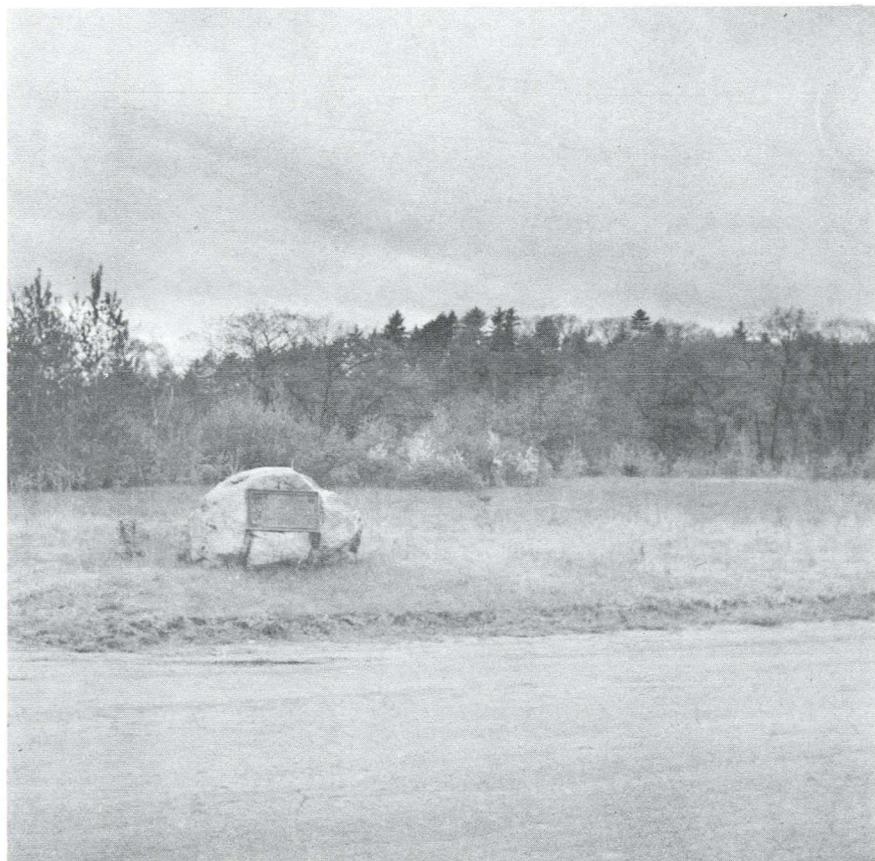
NPS photo, 1960



The expedition passed abandoned Fort Halifax, on the north bank of the Sebasticook River, 18 miles north of Fort Western. The blockhouse of Fort Halifax is the only one surviving of pre-Revolutionary date.

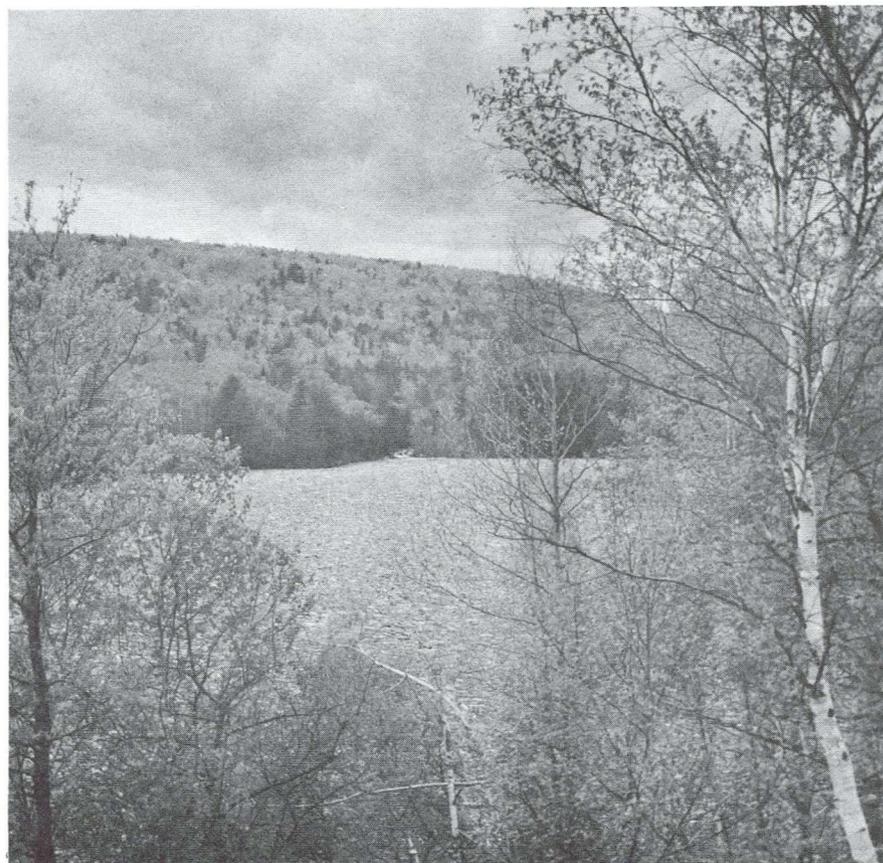
NPS photo, 1960

ARNOLD TRAIL, MAINE



At Old Point on the Kennebec River, the expedition spent nearly a week preparing for the portage around Norridgewock Falls, about a mile to the north. Old Point was the site of an Indian village and French mission, abandoned many years earlier.

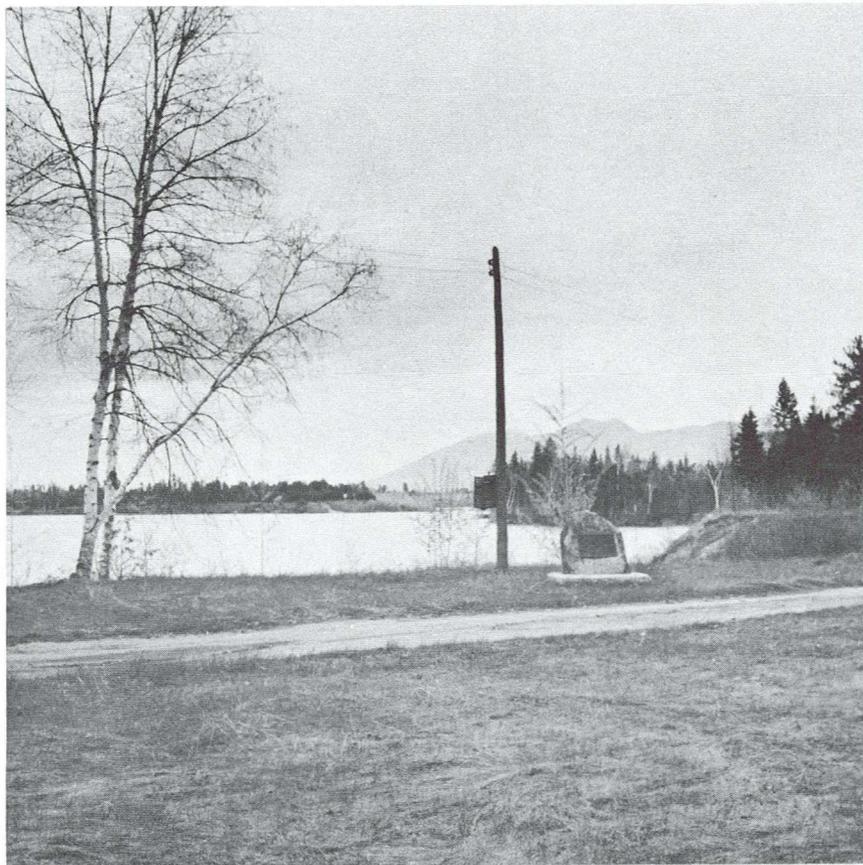
NPS photo, 1960



Around October 11, the expedition left the Kennebec, marching from the west shore in a northwesterly direction toward the Dead River. The view above is from the east bank of the Kennebec looking across the log-filled river to the area where the expedition turned west.

NPS photo, 1960

ARNOLD TRAIL, MAINE



Late in October the expedition camped on the Dead River near present Eustis, Maine. The town is about 25 miles from the U. S.-Canadian border. A portion of the Dead River is now part of Flagstaff Lake, a man-made body of water of recent date.

NPS photo, 1960

76729

of his army on the next year brought about the first serious disaster to British arms."<sup>20</sup>

While the great historical significance of Arnold's march can be assessed, the evaluation of the integrity of the route itself is more difficult. The expedition left Fort Western, now Augusta, on September 24, moving up the Kennebec River for about 70 miles, then left the Kennebec and portaged to the Dead River, followed the Dead to Chin of Ponds near the present Maine-Canadian border, crossed the Height of Land to Lake Megantic, on the Canadian side, and moved on to Quebec, reaching there early in November with approximately 600 men of the 1,100 who started the march. As the expedition utilized rivers wherever possible, the route can be determined with considerable accuracy. However, the sites of numerous portages and camp grounds need fuller study to determine their value as historical survivors. Based on a preliminary field investigation, it appears that many of these sites have survived in remarkably good condition, although others have been altered or obliterated by modern developments. Before an informed recommendation of the value of the entire route of march can be made, a comprehensive and up-to-date ground study will be needed. Fortunately, such a study is now contemplated by the Maine Division of State Parks, based on a recommendation by the recently-appointed Historic Sites Committee for the state.

When the results of this on-the-ground study are made available, it appears likely that they will present an adequate justification for classifying the Arnold Trail as having exceptional value.

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<sup>20</sup> Edward Channing, A History of the United States, Vol. III, The American Revolution, 1761-1789 (New York, 1912), p. 243.

## Other Sites Evaluated

### CONNECTICUT

Ethan Allen Birthplace, Litchfield.

Fort Griswold, Groton: Remains of Fort stormed by Benedict Arnold in 1781.

Jonathan Trumbull "War Office," Lebanon: According to the Historic Site Report of National Park Service Historian Frank Barnes, this building has been moved twice and extensively restored. Its authenticity as a War Office rests on tradition only and its role in the Revolution appears to be mainly in terms of Connecticut affairs.

Nathan Hale Birthplace, South Coventry: This house, built in 1776, has an ell which tradition identifies as the surviving part of an earlier house, dating from around 1746. Nathan Hale, the Revolutionary martyr, supposedly was born in the ell and the present house is believed to contain building material from the original structure.

### DELAWARE

Cooch's Bridge, Newark: Site of the only battle of the Revolution in Delaware, September 3, 1777, during the British campaign against Philadelphia. Tradition names this site as one of the several where the American flag was flown for the "first time."

### GEORGIA

Kettle Creek Battlefield, Wilkes County: Scene of the defeat and dispersal of a Tory band under Col. John Boyd by Georgia and South Carolina militia under Elijah Clarke, John Twiggs, John Dooly and Andrew Pickens on February 14, 1779. The Tories, en route from South Carolina to join Archibald Campbell's British army which had just captured Augusta, were surprised by their pursuers shortly after they had crossed the Savannah River. In the battle which followed, Boyd was mortally wounded and 70 of his men were killed, while the remainder were scattered to the four winds. As a result of the American victory, Campbell evacuated Augusta within a few days and withdrew from the interior of Georgia.

Twelve acres of the battlefield are owned by the Kettle Creek Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. Located on the DAR plot is a memorial shaft erected by the United States Government in 1930. The battlefield probably appears much as it did at the time of the battle.

## INDIANA

George Rogers Clark Memorial, Vincennes: Memorial rotunda on site of Fort Sackville, captured by Clark in the memorable winter campaign of 1779. Fort was important in the Revolutionary War on the frontier, but site no longer has original character.

## KENTUCKY

Blue Licks Battlefield State Park, Nicholas County: A 100-acre State park commemorates the battle of August 19, 1782, in which an invading band of Indians ambushed and badly defeated a pursuing force of Kentucky frontiersmen. Often called the "last battle of the Revolution," it was the worst defeat suffered by an American force in Kentucky during the war. Daniel Boone was one of the Kentucky commanders, and a son, Israel, was slain in the fighting. Some of the American dead are buried on the field, and the museum contains a small relief model of the field, with points of interest identified. Most of the battlefield is included in the park area.

## MARYLAND

Carroll-Caton House, Baltimore: Where Charles Carroll of Carrollton spent last years.

Smallwood's Retreat, Mason Springs: Reconstructed home of Revolutionary General William Smallwood.

## MAINE

Fort George, Castine: Surviving earthworks of a fort built by the British in 1779. American government took possession in 1815.

## MASSACHUSETTS

Birthplace Houses of John and John Quincy Adams, Quincy: Recommended for classification of exceptional value in Theme XII, Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830.

Boston Sites and Buildings: A number of buildings important in the years of crisis before the Revolution have been recommended for classification of exceptional value under Theme IX, Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775. These include Faneuil Hall, King's Chapel, Old South Meeting House and the Old State House (Second Town House).

Cushing House, Quincy: Occasional summer residence of the great patriot orator, James Otis.

Hancock-Clarke House, Lexington: House where John Hancock and Samuel Adams were staying on the night of April 18, 1775, on the eve of the opening battle of the Revolution. House has been moved to opposite side of street from original location.

Munroe Tavern, Lexington: Principal surviving building relating to General Percy's rescue party which marched from Boston to relief of British expeditionary force on April 19, 1775.

Jason Russell House, Arlington: Scene of mass murder of a dozen patriots on April 19, 1775. The house has architectural interest, but has been turned around and moved back from the road on which it originally stood.

Quincy Homestead, Quincy: Birthplace and home of Dorothy Quincy, who became wife of John Hancock; has some architectural interest and should be noted further in Architectural Subtheme under Theme XX, Arts and Sciences.

Vassall-Craigie-Longfellow House, Cambridge: Has some importance in Revolutionary War -- was headquarters of Washington in 1775-1776. Has greater significance as home of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and should be noted further in subtheme of Literature, Painting and Sculpture under Theme XX, Arts and Sciences.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE

Fort Constitution, New Castle: Originally a British fort, captured in raid by Americans in one of the first armed clashes of the Revolution, December, 1774. Present fort is an unfinished structure of 1863-66, built around a War of 1812 remnant.

General John Stark House, Manchester: Home of Revolutionary officer from 1758 to 1765. Headquarters of Molly Stark Chapter, DAR.

General John Sullivan House, Durham: Substantial house built in 1716, later home of Sullivan, a distinguished Revolutionary soldier. Near home is Sullivan monument and grave.

John Paul Jones House, Portsmouth: Quarters of the Naval hero while he was waiting for completion of the Ranger and America.

## NEW JERSEY

Berrien Mansion, Rocky Hill: Washington wrote farewell address to his army here.

Boxwood Hall (Boudinot Home), Elizabeth: Home of Elias Boudinot, first president of the Continental Congress, and an individual of some importance among the secondary figures of the Revolutionary period.

Middlebrook Encampment, Bound Brook: The Middlebrook area was the main base of operations of Washington's American Army in late May and June of 1777, and the Army's principal encampment from the end of November, 1778, to June, 1779. During the former period, the American Army's maneuvers from its base at Middlebrook covered Philadelphia and balked the British plan of operation in New Jersey, contributing in great measure to Howe's withdrawal from the state. Washington achieved this strategic success without risking a major engagement. It is from this skillful employment of an army in being to defeat the movements of a stronger, better-trained enemy that Middlebrook derives its greatest significance. The use of Middlebrook as one of the several camps of Washington's army in the winter and spring of 1778-79 is an interesting and neglected episode, although in human drama and significance it does not equal the more widely known winter camps at Morristown and Valley Forge. At this period, the choice of the camp was more for convenience than for strategic purposes. Nevertheless, the case for the strategic importance of Middlebrook in 1777 is a good one and in our study of the site this importance is not questioned. The major consideration concerning Middlebrook relates to the integrity of the site; i. e., to what degree does it preserve the physical setting and remains associated with the historical event?

The heart of the surviving portion of the Middlebrook Camp is the twenty-three acre tract owned by the Washington Camp Ground Association, at the north edge of the town of Bound Brook and at the foot of the First Watchung Mountain. This tract is undeveloped except for a small summer cabin used by the Girl Scouts, a speaker's stand and a memorial flag pole.

Aside from those physical developments, the site is covered by second growth trees, shrubs and underbrush. In the first and most important period of the Army's use of Middlebrook, there is no evidence that the present site was of any significance other than it was on the southern slope of the First Watchung Mountain, from the heights of which Washington planned to observe the country from Amboy to New Brunswick and the road to Philadelphia, and from which he hoped, if possible, to intercept Howe's British Army. As noted above, a contemporary map of the army's disposition in June of 1777, shows its encampments on the eastern branch of the Middlebrook in the valley between the First and Second Watchung Mountains, not on the Bound Brook side of the mountain where the present Washington Camp Ground is situated.

In the second period of the army's activity at Middlebrook, in the winter and spring of 1778-79, the site was within the general area of the camp of Baron De Kalb's Maryland-Delaware Division. However, none of the sources consulted was able to do more than locate the main camp in general terms. Contemporary accounts and maps are somewhat vague in delineating the camps, although it is clear that the Virginia and Maryland Divisions which comprised the main body of the Army at Middlebrook lay below First Watchung Mountain behind Bound Brook "with some huts located on the slope of the mountain and the rest extending downward to the plain below."<sup>21</sup> Further evidence of the general location of the Maryland Division in the area of the present Camp Ground is in the contemporary Erskine Map, No. 70E, in the collection of the New York Historical Society.

While documentary references are sufficient to locate the general sites of the various encampments, the exact relationship of the present "Washington's Camp Ground" to the entire encampment can be drawn by inference only. The Pennsylvania Division encamped south of the Raritan and other units, artillery, quartermaster, hospitals, etc., were widely dispersed in the Raritan Valley. Much of this area has been built over and it would be impracticable, if not impossible, to relate them physically into a comprehensive picture of the entire Middlebrook Encampment.

Aside from documentary evidence which places the Maryland Division in the area of the present Washington Camp Ground, in the course of his survey of the site in 1936-37, National Park Service Historian Charles E. Marshall was informed by Mr. George Smalley, then President of the Washington Camp Ground Association, that he had seen ruins of huts in the vicinity of the Washington Camp Ground but that these remains were hauled away for construction purposes elsewhere. Earlier accounts cited by Historian Marshall also mentioned hut remains in the area but none of these were evident in 1937, nor are they evident now. Despite the lack of physical remains, available evidence does indicate that the present Camp Ground site is within the general area occupied by the Maryland Division.

Although there is good evidence that the twenty-three acres of the Washington Camp Ground are within the general area of the American Encampment, the ground that remains, and any additional land which might be acquired, would not constitute an adequate preservation or interpretation of the maneuvers around Middlebrook in 1777 or the encampment of 1778-79. In all, perhaps 300 acres in the vicinity of the present site have been relatively undisturbed but much of this is on the steep slopes of the First Watchung Mountain for which there is no adequate evidence of occupation by the American Army. Suburban development has encroached on the area to an extensive degree and the area adjacent to the present Washington Camp Ground bears little relation to the setting of the Revolutionary period. Because of this development, only a small part of the total camp area could be preserved.

Unlike Morristown or Valley Forge, where virtually the entire camp sites are preserved together with headquarters houses, fortifications and other physical traces of the Army's occupation, the present Middlebrook Camp Ground has no significant physical links with the historical events which occurred there other than a few acres of ground. The Wallace House, Washington's Headquarters in Somerville, is several miles distant from the Camp Ground and a number of other historical houses in the vicinity of the Camp Ground have been extensively altered and are private residences.

Any development of the site would be closely restricted by the modern suburban development already present and the site would be purely memorial in character. To set aside what could at best be only a fraction of the camp is a worthy memorial project on the part of local groups but it does not constitute an adequate preservation of what was an extensive military encampment. Development of a small museum and reconstruction of a soldier's hut, as proposed by the Washington Camp Ground Association, would be a valid educational exhibit but would not require nor justify administration by the National Park Service. In any event, the outstanding significance of Middlebrook was its strategic role in the New Jersey campaign of 1777 rather than its use by a portion of the American Army in 1778-79, when it was more a camp of convenience than of strategic value. The present Camp Ground does not figure in the earlier and more important episode of 1777.

Old Barracks, Trenton: Quarters of British, German and American troops during the Revolution, extensively reconstructed.

Pluckemin, New Jersey: This little community was, occasionally, in the line of military operations during the Revolution, but no great significance can be ascribed to it. The American army camped around Pluckemin for two days in January, 1777, before going into quarters at Morristown. During the winter of 1778-79, while a portion of Washington's army lay at Middlebrook, the artillery park was located near Pluckemin and there is some evidence that the commissary of military stores was located near the settlement. None of these associations appear sufficient to justify the classification of exceptional value for Pluckemin, particularly in view of the lack of physical remains.

Red Bank Battlefield, Red Bank: Site of Fort Mercer where Americans defeated German troops on October 22, 1777, during Howe's operations against the Delaware forts to open the river supply line into Philadelphia.

Wallace House, Somerville (near Middlebrook Camp): Washington's Headquarters in winter of 1778-79. Here was planned the punitive Indian campaign of 1779.

"Westminster," Perth Amboy: Extensively altered house occupied by last Colonial Governor of province, headquarters of British officers during Revolution.

## NEW YORK

Temple Hill Camp Ground, New Windsor: Five miles from Newburgh: During 1782-83, while negotiations to end the Revolutionary War were going forward, six to eight thousand veterans of the Continental Army were encamped about five miles southwest of Newburgh. Central feature of the camp area was Temple Hill, so called for the log "Temple" built by the troops, which served as a meetinghouse and auditorium. It was in this structure that Washington addressed his discontented army and quelled its incipient attempt to coerce Congress into settling the issue of pay due the troops. Washington's affirmation of his faith in the new Nation, and subsequent resolution by the army in support of Washington and the Congress, did much to avert the possibility of civil strife on the eve of peace with England.

Unfortunately, the Temple has long since disappeared, and today a fieldstone pyramid marks its site. The monument and road leading to it are owned by the State of New York. A small tract adjacent to the monument has been optioned by the National Temple Hill Association, which hopes to reconstruct part of the "Temple". A hut, moved to the site some years ago, is claimed to be an officer's quarters from the original encampment. Most of the camp area around Temple Hill is in cultivation and physical features relating to the Revolutionary camp have disappeared. The great significance of the encampment is best interpreted and preserved at Washington's headquarters in nearby Newburgh.

The Conference House (Billopp House) Staten Island: Scene of the "peace conference" on September 11, 1776, convened by Lord Howe after the battle of Long Island. Representing the Continental Congress were Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Edward Rutledge, who refused to consider peaceful settlement without recognition of American independence.

Constitution Island, Hudson River off West Point, New York: This site has been noted previously as a part of the Military Academy, recommended for classification of exceptional value in Theme XII, Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830. In itself the island does not merit classification. Fort Constitution was not attacked during the Revolution and the defensive effort which centered on the Island in 1775 was, a short time later, transferred to Forts Montgomery and Clinton.

Field of Grounded Arms, Schuylerville: Site where Burgoyne's defeated army stacked its weapons, October 17, 1777, after it was defeated in the Saratoga campaign.

Fort Ann: Site of fort taken by Burgoyne in his advance to Saratoga, 1777.

Fort Edward: Site of fort taken by Burgoyne in his advance to Saratoga, 1777.

Fort Niagara, Youngstown: Important in Revolution but recommended and approved for classification under Theme V, French Exploration and Settlement. Should be cross-referenced in present study.

Fraunces Tavern, New York City: A cherished New York landmark, notable in the present theme as the scene of Washington's farewell to his officers on December 4, 1783. Much restored.

Herkimer Home, Fort Plain: Home of the hero of the battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777 - the hard-fought battle in which an American force attempting to relieve Fort Stanwix repulsed a Tory and Indian attack and lost more than one-half its numbers.

Elijah Miller House and "Washington Headquarters House," White Plains: Two houses occupied by Washington during the Revolution.

Knox Headquarters, near Vails Gate: A field stone house which served at various periods as the headquarters of Generals Knox, Greene and Gates. The house is about five miles southwest of Washington's Headquarters in Newburgh.

Newtown Battlefield, near Elmira: Site of only major battle in the Sullivan-Clinton punitive expedition against the Indians, August 29, 1779.

Old Stone Fort, Schoharie: Repulsed a Tory attack in 1780.

Oriskany Battlefield, eight miles west of Utica: Scene of hard-fought battle between New York militia under Nicholas Herkimer and Joseph Brant's Tories and Indians. Herkimer's men managed to beat off the enemy, weakening the British movement down the Mohawk Valley toward Albany. Herkimer died of wounds ten days after the battle.

Thomas Paine Cottage, New Rochelle: Home of the great propagandist of the American and French Revolutions; not on original site.

Schuyler Mansion, Albany: Home of Revolutionary War General, Philip Schuyler. General Burgoyne and retinue quartered here for a time after the British surrender at Saratoga.

"76 House," Tappan: British spy, Major John André was imprisoned here prior to his execution.

## NORTH CAROLINA

Historic Halifax: On April 12, 1776, the Fourth Provincial Congress of North Carolina, meeting in the court house here, adopted the "Halifax Resolves" -- the first official State action for independence, recommending to the Continental Congress that that body should declare independence on the part of all the colonies. A copy of these resolves was sent to Congress, and the movement for independence rapidly gained momentum.

A restoration of the historic section of Halifax has been undertaken by the Historical Halifax Restoration Association, Inc. The court house in which the Halifax Resolves were adopted is gone, though its site is marked. Several other buildings connected with the period of the War for Independence still survive, among them the Colonial Clerks Office, built in 1758; the Colonial Gaol, also built in 1758, which housed 41 Tories captured in the battle at Moores Creek in 1776; and the Constitution House, in which the first State Constitution was drafted in 1776, which has been moved from its original site and restored by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

## PENNSYLVANIA

Fort Mifflin, Philadelphia: Remains of a later fort incorporating remains of a Revolutionary War post which was part of the Delaware River defenses below Philadelphia. The fort withstood almost continuous siege from the beginning of October until its fall on November 15, 1777. Mud Island, on which the fort stood, is now part of the mainland.

Main Magazine, Carlisle: On Carlisle Barracks Military Reservation, ammunition storehouse built in 1777, now a museum.

Market Square Presbyterian Church, Germantown: Washington supposedly worshipped at this church while residing in the Deshler-Morris House, although the present building dates from 1887. On November 9, 1732, Trustees of the German Reformed Church purchased the lot, and by 1733 had erected a stone church upon it. This church was enlarged in 1761 and in 1839 was replaced by a new, brick structure. This church was enlarged in 1857 but in 1887 was demolished and the present structure<sup>21</sup> erected. The congregation united with the Presbyterian Church in 1856.

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<sup>21</sup> Information from Staff, Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia, Pa., citing Wm. P. White and Wm. H. Scott, eds., The Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia (Philadelphia, 1815), pp. 15-17.

Charles Thomson Home, Lower Marion Township: Home of the long-time Secretary of the Continental Congress.

#### RHODE ISLAND

General Nathanael Greene Homestead, Anthony: Home built in 1770 by the Revolutionary War hero.

Vernon House, Newport: Scene of conference between Washington and Rochambeau, March 6, 1781. Rochambeau and aides occupied the house in 1780-81.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA

Belleville Plantation and Associated Sites, Calhoun County: The plantation of Col. William Thomson, a hero of the siege of Charleston in 1776, located on the south side of the Santee River below the junction of the Wateree. After the fall of Charleston in 1780, when the British occupied the interior of South Carolina, they established a fortified post on Thomson's plantation, overlooking the river. A major British supply base was established in the area, from which food and munitions were sent to various outposts. In February, 1781, Thomas Sumter captured Thomson's fort in a daring raid against several British posts along the Santee, affording the Americans an opportunity to harass British supply boats along the river.

Among the historical remains in the area are earthwork fortifications overlooking the Santee; the Thomson cemetery, said to contain the graves of troops who died in the area; and a camp and hospital site. Nearby is McCord's Ferry, which during the war was the strategic crossing of the Camden road over the river; and Gillon's Retreat, the 5,500-acre plantation of Alexander Gillon, a commodore in the South Carolina navy during the war.

Daniel Elliott Huger House, Charleston: The home in 1775 of Lord William Campbell, the last royal governor of South Carolina. When the American forces occupied Fort Johnson, the governor fled the house and escaped down nearby Vanderhorst Creek to the waiting British warship, H. M. S. Tamar. He was on a British warship during the attack on Charleston in the summer of 1776 and was wounded. The house is the ancestral home of a family long prominent in South Carolina history.

Eutaw Springs Battlefield, Orangeburg County: Scene of the last major engagement in South Carolina, fought by Nathanael Greene's Continental army and a British force under Col. Archibald Stuart on September 8, 1781. Stuart withdrew his shattered force to the coast, and a short time later the British evacuated Orangeburg, leaving the American army in undisputed possession of interior South Carolina. Now a State Park.

Star Fort, Ninety Six: Most noted for Greene's unsuccessful siege in May and June, 1781, Ninety Six was an important frontier post for years before the war and figured in the first land engagement of the war in the South.

Ninety Six was established as an Indian trading post early in the 18th century, the first known official mention of the name being made in 1730. By the time of the war it was seat of the Ninety Six judicial district, with court house, jail, and a number of houses. It was the scene of a three-day siege, November 19-22, 1775, between a patriot force under Andrew Williamson and a Tory group led by Joseph Robinson and Patrick Cunningham. The affair ended in a stalemate after each side had suffered several casualties. The siege of 1781 ended with the approach of British reinforcements under Lord Rawdon, but the British soon abandoned the fort and returned to Charleston.

The remains of the Star Fort are still in good condition, as are the underground passageways remaining from American mining operations during the 1781 siege. The townsite is largely covered with a growth of underbrush, but apparently has been undisturbed since the town was abandoned. Plans for development of the site of the fort and the town are now being formulated by the Greenwood County Historical Society.

#### VERMONT

Ethan Allen Park, Burlington: Site of the farm where the Revolutionary War hero spent his last years.

Hubbardton Battlefield, Hubbardton: Scene of a costly defeat of the American forces opposing Burgoyne's advance from the Hudson-Champlain Valley. Fought on July 7, 1777, the battle did little to delay Burgoyne's advance and cost the already weakened American army more than 300 officers and men killed, wounded and captured.

Old Constitution House, Windsor: Former tavern where Vermont's constitution was written in 1777; now a museum.

#### VIRGINIA

Mount Vernon, Fairfax County: Home of George Washington from 1752 until his death in 1799. Classified of exceptional value under Theme XII, Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830.

Scotchtown, Hanover County: Built by Charles Chiswell about 1698, Scotchtown was the home of Patrick Henry from 1771 to 1777, and later the home of Dolly Payne, who became the wife of James Madison. The house is being restored under the auspices of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

(Addendum)

KENTUCKY

Locust Grove, Jefferson County: Built by Maj. William Croghan, brother-in-law of George Rogers Clark, in the years 1802-05, this house near Louisville was Clark's home during the last nine years of his life. After his death in 1818, Clark was buried on the property and his body remained there until 1869, when it was moved to Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville. A red brick house of architectural distinction, especially noted for its fine interior panelling, Locust Grove will be considered under the Architectural subtheme of Theme XX, the Arts and Sciences.

Other Sites Noted

CONNECTICUT

Putnam Cottage, Greenwich

Eels-Stowe House, Milford

Pardee-Morris House, New Haven

Nathan Hale School, East Haddam

Nathan Hale School, New London

FLORIDA

Fort George, Pensacola

Fort Tonym, Nassau County

GEORGIA

Spring Hill Redoubt Site, Savannah

KENTUCKY

Boonesborough Site, Madison County

Bryan's Station Site, Fayette County

Fort Harrod, Harrodsburg

MAINE

"Montpelier," General Henry Knox House (Replica), Thomaston

MARYLAND

"The Hermitage" and Hollingsworth Tavern, Elkton

MISSISSIPPI

Fort Rosalie, Natchez

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Cincinnati Hall, Exeter

Governor Meshech Weare House, Hampton Falls

John Paul Jones House, Portsmouth

NEW JERSEY

Hulse House and Village Inn, Englishtown

Hankinson Mansion, Freehold

Indian King Tavern, Haddonfield

Steuben House, North Hackensack

"Morven," Governor's Mansion, Princeton

Cannonball House, Springfield

NEW YORK

Ten Broeck Mansion, Albany

Raynham Hall, Oyster Bay, Long Island

Bush Homestead, Port Chester

NORTH CAROLINA

Brunswick Town, Brunswick County

Tryon's Palace, New Bern

PENNSYLVANIA

General Greene Inn, Buckingham

Fort Augusta, Sunbury

SOUTH CAROLINA

Blackstock Battlefield, Union County

Colonial Powder Magazine, Charleston

Fort Dorchester, Dorchester County

Fort Moultrie, Mount Pleasant

Musgrove's Mill Battlefield, Union County

Tamassee (Andrew Pickens Home), Oconee County

VERMONT

Battle Monument, Bennington

VIRGINIA

Green Spring Battlefield, James City County

Monticello, Albemarle County (Classified under Theme XII,  
Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830)

Soldier's Rest (Daniel Morgan Home), Berryville

WEST VIRGINIA

Prato Rio (Charles Lee Home), Jefferson County

Traveler's Rest (Horatio Gates Home), Jefferson County

## APPENDIX

### Criteria for Classification

In order to be designated as possessing "exceptional value as commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States," a site or building must meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. Structures or sites in which the broad cultural, political, economic, military, or social history of the Nation is best exemplified and from which the visitor may grasp the larger patterns of our American heritage. Such sites are naturally the points or bases from which the broad aspects of pre-historic and historic American life can best be presented.
2. Structures or sites associated importantly with the lives of outstanding historic personages.
3. Structures or sites associated with important events which are symbolic of some great idea or ideal of the American people.
4. Structures which embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type-specimen, exceptionally valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction; or a notable work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual genius reflected his age.
5. Archeological sites which have produced information of major scientific importance by revealing new cultures or by shedding light upon periods of occupation over large areas of the United States. Such sites are those which have produced or which may reasonably be expected to produce data which have affected theories, concepts, and ideas to a major degree.
6. All historical and archeological sites and structures in order to meet the standards of exceptional importance should have integrity; that is, there should not be doubts as to whether it is the original site or building, original material, or workmanship, and original location. Intangible elements of feeling and association, although difficult to describe, may also be factors in weighing the integrity of a site or structure.
7. Structures or sites of recent historical importance relating to events or persons within 50 years, will not, as a rule, be eligible for consideration.