

**Inventory of Resources for the
WASHINGTON-ROCHAMBEAU REVOLUTIONARY ROUTE
IN THE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Using the criteria developed in Point 2.3: Goals of the Project, consultant inspected and inventoried on site all resources listed in this report and identified 85 individual resources on 12 separate routes taken by various components and individuals belonging to the two armies in Pennsylvania.

These major routes are as follows:

- Route 1: The Land Route of Generals George Washington and the *comte* de Rochambeau to Philadelphia in September 1781
- Route 2: The Land Route of Continental Army Troops from Trenton, New Jersey to Claymont, Delaware in September 1781
- Route 3: The Water Route of Continental Army Troops from Trenton, New Jersey to Christiana, Delaware in September 1781
- Route 4: The Land Route of *commissaire de guerre* de Granville from Boston to Philadelphia in September 1781
- Route 5: The Land Route of the French Army Troops from Trenton, New Jersey to Claymont, Delaware in September 1781
- Route 6: The Water Route of *comte* de Rochambeau from Philadelphia to Chester on 5 September 1781, and the continuation of the route on land with Washington to Wilmington
- Route 7: The Return Marches of the Continental Army in December 1781
- Route 8: The Return March of the French Army in September 1782
- Route 9: The Philadelphia Conference and the Celebrations for the Birth of the *dauphin*, 14 to 24 July 1782
- Route 10: The March of the Passengers of the *l'Aigle* and *la Gloire* from Dover, Delaware to Yorktown Heights, New York in September 1782
- Route 11: The March of Lauzun's Legion from Yorktown Heights, New York to Winter Quarters in Wilmington, Delaware in December 1782
- Route 12: Route of Rochambeau to Baltimore via Newton, Hackettstown, Baptistown and Philadelphia in December 1782

Rather than divide the resources by route, they have been listed whenever possible and feasible (without undue impact on the flow of the historical narrative) in the approximate chronological order in which they were visited.

(Camp-) sites are only listed once even if they were occupied and/or visited consecutively more than once and/or by both French and American forces.

French Recruiting Stations in Philadelphia in 1780/81

One of Rochambeau's instructions had been that one third of his troops consist of German-speaking troops. The argument was that these units could easily be kept at full strength by recruiting "deserters from the troops that the English have drawn from Germany, and even prisoners, if any are taken."¹ As soon as news of the landing of French forces reached Pennsylvania, the first deserters from Britain's German-speaking auxiliaries approached French minister the *chevalier* de la Luzerne. On 25 July 1780, only two weeks after Rochambeau's arrival, Joseph Reed, President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, informed Luzerne that there was no legal obstacle to their recruitment.² The next day, 26 July, Luzerne told Rochambeau to send recruiting officers to Philadelphia.

By August 1780, advertisements appeared in newspapers in New England and in the Mid-Atlantic States. They called on "all German deserters from the armies of Great-Britain" to enlist "in the hussars, commanded by the Duke of Lauzun, who is in Rhode Island at the head of a Legion, or in the German regiment called Zweybrück or Royal Deuxponts, commanded by the Count of Deuxponts." Concurrently, *sous-lieutenant* Charles de Kilmaine of the Hussars of Lauzun's Legion was sent to Philadelphia to head Lauzun's recruiting station. During the course of the war, Kilmaine and his fellow officers from the Royal Deux-Ponts signed up over 100 soldiers in the two recruiting stations at "the Barracks" and at "Mr. Peter Hays's, in Third-street, near Race-street."³

Resource 1: Site of the Barracks

From Second to Third Street, and from Buttonwood to Green Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Built in 1755/56, the barracks had its officers' quarters, a large three-story brick building, on Third Street, while the parade ground fronted upon Second Street. The houses were of brick, two stories high, with a portico around the whole hollow square. They were torn down soon after the War of Independence. In his *Annals of Philadelphia*, John F. Watson had this to say about the barracks.⁴

¹ The *marquis* de Jaucourt's, chief of staff of the French army's, instructions are quoted in Lee Kennett, *The French Forces in America, 1780-1783* (Westport, 1977), p. 23. See also my "Hessians Fighting For American Independence? German Deserters recruited for Lauzun's Legion in America, 1780-1782" *Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association* Vol. 7, No. 4, (2004), pp. 39-51.

² Luzerne to Rochambeau with insert of Reed's letter, Rochambeau Family Papers, Gen Mss 146, Box 2, No. 123, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

³ The advertisement as quoted here, dated Philadelphia, 29 August 1780, appeared in the *New-Jersey Gazette* [Trenton] Wednesday, 27 September 1780.

⁴ Information on the barracks is based on John F. Watson, *Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania. A Collection of Memoirs, Anecdotes and Incidents of the City and its Inhabitants and of the earliest Settlements of the Inland Part of Pennsylvania from the days of the Founders, Intended to Preserve the Recollections of Olden Time, and to Exhibit Society in its Changes of*

These were built in the Northern Liberties soon after the defeat of Braddock's army; and arose from the necessity, as it was alleged, of making better permanent provision for troops deemed necessary to be among us for our future protection. Many of the people had so petitioned the king -- not being then so sensitive of the presence of "standing armies" as their descendants have since become.

The parade and "pomp of war" which their erection produced in the former peaceful city of Penn, gave it an attraction to the town's people, and being located far out of town, it was deemed a pleasant walk to the country and fields, to go out and see the long ranges of houses, the long lines of kilted and bonneted Highlanders, and to hear "the spirit stirring fife and soul inspiring drum!" Before that time, the fields there were a far land, severed from all connexion with the city by the marsh meadows of Pegg. No Second street road before existed; and for the convenience and use of the army a causeway was formed across those wet grounds in the line of the present Second street, along the front of what is now called Sansom's row.

The ground plot of the barracks extended from Second to Third street, and from St. Tamany street to Green street, having the officers' quarters -- a large three-story brick building, on Third street, the same now standing as a Northern Liberty Town Hall. The parade ground fronted upon Second street, shut in by an ornamental palisade fence on the line of that street. The aged John Brown told me the whole area was a field of buckwheat, which was cut off, and the barracks built thereon and tenanted by three thousand men, all in the same year; the houses were all of brick, two stories high, and a portico around the whole hollow square. These all stood till after the war of Independence, when they were torn down, and the lots sold for the benefit of the public. It was from the location of those buildings that the whole region thereabout was familiarly called Campingtown.

In 1758, I notice the first public mention of "the new barracks in Campingtown"; the Gazette stating the arrival there of "Colonel Montgomery's Highlanders", and some arrangement by the City Council to provide them their bedding, &c.

Private Joseph Plum Martin of the Corps of Sappers and Miners, who spent a few days in there in December 1781, described them as "very commodious. They were two stories high, with a gallery their whole length, and an ample parade in front; they were capable of sheltering two or three thousand men."⁵

Manners and Customs, and the City and Country in their Local Changes and Improvements (Philadelphia, 1857), chapter 57.

⁵ Joseph Plumb Martin, *Private Yankee Doodle* (1830; repr. Eastern Acorn Press, 1992) p. 246.

On 19 April 1784, the Supreme Executive Council instructed Michael Hillegas and Tench Francis to divide the barracks lot up for sale. In their report of 29 April they recommended that all buildings be torn down prior to the sale since these "Houses, all of which are lathed and plaistered, except where the Chimneys are, [were] in a ruinous Condition, as well as the Floors, Window Cases &c., &c."

Nevertheless, the Council ordered the 32 lots be sold with the stipulation that the new owners tear down the buildings. The sale took place on 5 June 1784, and grossed £ 3,820.⁶

Resource 2: Site of Peter Hays House
Third Street, near Race Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

In 1785, Michael Hay, who lived in # 63 Race Street, ran a tavern called "King of Prussia" on Race Street between 3rd and 4th Streets.⁷ This is most likely the site of the 1780-1781 recruiting station.

⁶ .See *Pennsylvania Archives, First Series*, (Harrisburg, 1852-1856), vol. 10, pp. 241, 261, and 268, where the sale is recorded on 7 June as having taken place on "Saturday Last". The same page contains an entry that the sale took place on 27/28 May 1784 and grossed £ 1,082 19/.

⁷ This information is based on the 1785 City Directory of Philadelphia, available on the website *Early Philadelphia, 1682-1800* <http://home.earthlink.net/~shackamaxon/1785dir.html>

Routes 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6: The Marches of the Continental and French Armies through Pennsylvania

Resource 3: Lower Ferry (or Trenton Ferry) site across the Delaware River
Morrisville, PA 19067

The Lower Ferry crossing was downstream from the present-day crossing of Alt Route 1, the "Trenton Makes, The World Takes" and Route 1 bridges, but just a bit upstream of the stone Pennsylvania Railroad bridge.

"In 1781, there were two or perhaps three ferries over the Delaware in close proximity to the town, - Trenton Ferry," or Old Ferry operated by Hugh Runyan at the foot of Ferry Street and a ferry known as "Beatty's with a landing somewhat west of the Calhoun Street Bridge. Continental Ferry, also known as the "New Ferry, was conducted by Elijah Bond from his own property and crossed about a mile down the river from Trenton Ferry at Trenton Landing, i.e., from a point below the present Riverview Cemetery/Lamberton Road."⁸

The Lower Ferry as well as the landing were owned by William Trent, who on 7 June 1781, had charged the Continent £ 40.16.2 or 108 74/90 Spanish Milled dollars "for the Priveledge of the Landing at his ferry seven months and 13 days from 25 Octr to 7 June 1781."⁹

The ferrying of Continental Army troops in early September 1781 was also paid for with certificates. On 18 April 1782, Daniel Smith received an interest-bearing certificate, payable on 1 May, for £15.0.7 or 40 7/90 Spanish Milled Dollars For "one fourth of an Acct for ferrying the Army across the river Delaware in the Month of September 1781."¹⁰

In an advertisement in the *New Jersey Gazette* of 30 October 1781, prices at the Old Ferry were 5/ for crossing a four-horse wagon, 3/9 for a two-horse wagon, 1/6 for "a chair", 6d for a man and a horse, and 3d for "a foot person". In the same issue George Beatty at the "new ferry a little above the Falls" charged 4/6, 3/6, 1/6, 6d and 3d respectively. To reach the ferry, travelers from Bristol were asked "to

⁸ Hamilton Schuyler, *A History of Trenton, 1679 to 1929* (Trenton, 1929), Chapter 2: "Trenton and Trentonians in the Revolutionary Era" at: <http://trentonhistory.org/Exp/His/revolutionary.htm> See also Samuel C. Eastburn "Ferries spanned the Delaware before advent of bridges" *Delaware Valley Advance*, 1929. The Lower Ferry remained in operation until the first bridge across the Delaware in Trenton was built in 1806.

⁹ The certificate for the landing account, No. 8170, is in John Neilson, Papers ... kept as DQM for NJ, 1780-1782, Box 2, Account Book beginning Trenton, 25 Sept. 1780 to 4 October 1782. Special Collections, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, Ac 589.

¹⁰ The certificate for the ferrying, No. 8082, is in John Neilson, Papers ... kept as DQM for NJ, 1780-1782, Box 2, Account Book beginning Trenton, 25 Sept. 1780 to 4 October 1782. Special Collections, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, Ac 589.

turn off to the left at the 29 mile stone ... and those from the eastward are to turn to the right at the market-house in Trenton.

Resource 4: Eighteenth-century house on Pennsylvania site of Delaware River
211 Delmorr Avenue South (intersection with Bristol Pike)
Morrisville, PA 19067

This property stands at/near the Pennsylvania terminus of the Lower Ferry. It may be the building identified as a landmark on the French map of the crossing.¹¹

Resource 5: Martin's Creek, PA 18063

Martins Creek is an unincorporated town in Lower Mt. Bethel Township, Northampton County, PA located along Martins Creek.

On 3 September 1781, Thomas Graton and the company of artificers who formed the rear-guard of American forces camped in the vicinity of Martin's Creek on their way to Philadelphia.

Resource 6: King George II Inn
102 Radcliffe Street (corner of Radcliffe and Mill Streets)
Bristol, PA 19007

Historical Significance:

Originally established by Samuel Clift in 1681 and known as the Ferry House, the King George II Inn is the oldest continuously operating inn in the country. In 1684, the property was leased by Michael Hurst and, in 1705, opened as an inn by Thomas Brook. After a damaging fire, the King George II Inn was purchased in 1735 by Charles Besonett who rebuilt it on a much larger scale using Clift's Ferry House as the base for this new site. The inn was named the King George II Inn in 1765 and licensed as a hotel in 1768

When General George Washington approached Bucks County the image of King George II was removed and replaced with a likeness of the General. Shortly thereafter, Besonett renamed the King George II Inn "The Fountain House."

During the 1800's, the King George II Inn catered to wealthy travelers drawn to Bristol, a popular resort and spa, to bathe and drink from the nearby "Bristol Springs". In 1892, The Fountain House became "Ye Olde Delaware House" but the name King George II Inn, was restored in the mid 1900's.

¹¹ Rice and Brown, *American Campaigns*, vol. 2, map 70.

Resource 7: Neshaminy Creek Ferry House

1031 Totem Road

Bristol, PA 19007

Immediately to the right on Totem Road following the crossing of the Neshaminy Creek, the first house, #1031, is most likely the ferry house in the foreground of the 1777 drawing "Ferry 3 miles below Bristol" by Charles Willson Peale.¹²

It is however listed as the "Ford Inn", built c. 1800, in the PHMC Cultural Resources Database.

Resource 8: Red Lion Inn Site

Bristol Pike at the Crossing of the Poquessing Creek

Bristol, PA 19007

The Red Lion Inn was an important tavern and stop-over throughout its existence. There is an old photograph of the inn in John T. Faris, *Old Roads Out Of Philadelphia*, (Lippincott, 1917), opposite page 301.

While the American campsite of 1/2 September may have been near the Inn, the French campsites of 2/3 and 3/4 September 1781, were on the hill on either side of the road ahead, which changes its name from Bristol Pike to Frankford Avenue on the other side of Poquessing Creek.

Resource 9: Bridge across Pennypack Creek

constitutes part of Frankford Avenue

Frankford, PA 19124

Built in 1697 as part of the King's Highway, this is one of the oldest bridges in the nation that is still in use.

Resource 10: Independence Hall

Chestnut Street between 5th and 6th Streets

Philadelphia, PA 19107

Both the Continental Army and the French army paraded before the Continental Congress on 3 and 4 September 1781.

¹² The original Peale drawing is in the collections of the Free Library of Philadelphia; a print can be found in Martin P. Snyder, *City of Independence, Views of Philadelphia before 1800*, (Praeger, 1975), page 281, figure 193.

Constructed between 1732 and 1756 as the State House of the Province of Pennsylvania, it was the meeting place for the Second Continental Congress from 1775 to 1783, except for the winter of 1777/78 when Philadelphia was occupied by the British Army. It was in the Assembly Room of this building that George Washington was appointed commander in chief of the Continental Army in 1775, and that the Declaration of Independence was adopted on 4 July 1776. In this room the design of the American flag was agreed upon in 1777, the Articles of Confederation were adopted in 1781 and the Constitution was drafted in 1787.¹³

Independence National Historic Park was established on 28 June 1948, it received World Heritage Designation on 24 October 1979.

Resource 11: Site of the home of Robert Morris
190 High Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Built in 1767 for Mary Lawrence Masters, it had been the home of the Penn family until 1775. French Consul John Holker rented the house in late 1779, but on 2 January 1780, it had a major fire. Robert Morris contracted to buy the fire-damaged building in 1781. Morris had the house rebuilt in 1781, and had just moved into it in August when he received Washington and Rochambeau there. Robert Morris' home also provided lodging for General and Mrs Washington from Thursday, 30 August to Monday, 5 September 1781.

The mansion was demolished in 1832. It was located on what is now the 500 block of Market Street, near the site of the current Liberty Bell Pavilion.¹⁴

Resource 12: Site of Thomas Graeme Building
Chestnut Street (between 6th and 7th Street)
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Luzerne's home was originally built as the residence of Joshua Carpenter. Upon the death of Dr. Thomas Graeme in 1772, it became the property of Colonel John Dickinson, and then of General Philemon Dickinson before it became the residence of French minister Conrad-Alexander Gérard in 1779, and the of his successor, the *chevalier* de Luzerne in 1780. On the evening of 1 September, Luzerne gave a grand dinner for Rochambeau who stayed with him. Baron Closen wrote that "M. de Rochambeau and his staff were housed like princes."¹⁵ It was torn down in April 1826.

¹³ Information on National Parks, National Historic Landmarks, and National Register of Historic Places sites is taken, usually more or less verbatim, from either the websites of these parks, the NHL website <http://tps.cr.nps.gov/nhl/> or <http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/>

¹⁴ Quoted and/or adapted from <http://www.ushistory.org/presidentshouse/plans/pmhb/ph1.htm>

¹⁵ Acomb, Closen, p. 116.

Resource 13: City Tavern
138 South Second Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Built in 1773, the three-story tavern was the centerpiece of Philadelphia society when it opened in December and the tavern of choice for the members of the First Continental Congress meeting in near-by Carpenter's Hall in 1774, and of the Second Continental Congress meeting in Independence Hall in 1775 and 1776. It was here where John Adams, who called it "the most genteel tavern in America", first met George Washington, where Benjamin Franklin, Peyton Randolph and Thomas Jefferson finished their discussions after Congress had adjourned, and where Paul Revere and Benedict Arnold relaxed from their exertions. And it was here that the first Independence Day celebration was held on 4 July 1777. Six years later, on 4 October 1783, the Pennsylvania State Society of the Cincinnati was founded in the City Tavern by officers of the Continental Army who had fought together in the War of Independence, and in 1787, the Constitutional Convention held its final banquet there.

Torn down in 1854, it was rebuilt and re-opened as a historically accurate replica of the original tavern in time for the Bicentennial in 1975.

During his conference with Rochambeau in July 1782, Washington frequented the City Tavern as well. His expense account for July 1782, which runs from 15 July to 24 July, shows three dinners on 21 July; five breakfasts on 23 July; two breakfasts on 24 July and four "gentleman's breakfasts" this same day at a cost of fifteen shillings.¹⁶

Resource 14: Campsite of the Artificer Regiment
On the Pennsylvania side on the banks of the Delaware
Morrisville, PA 19067

The exact location of the campsite is unknown but was likely along the continuation of the ferry landing road (today's East Philadelphia Avenue, which no longer goes to the river's edge) and Delmorr Avenue.

The artificers constitute the first American forces who crossed the Delaware on 31 August 1781 as part of the Yorktown Campaign.

Resource 15: Landing site of Continental Army troops in Philadelphia
Philadelphia, PA 19107

The landing site of these Continental Army troops was along Front Street.

¹⁶ ¹⁶ The expense account is part of the Washington papers in the Library of Congress available on the internet at <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gwhtml/gwhome.html>

Resource 16: Ford across the Delaware River at Trenton
Morrisville, PA 19067

The French army and possibly the American as well as used this ford to cross their wagons and artillery over the Delaware.¹⁷

Resource 17: Lower Ford across Neshaminy Creek
Bristol, PA 19007

This ford, postulated to be between 3/4 and 1 mile upstream from Bristol Pike, would have been around Grundy's Corner, which is about one mile up-stream from the ferry. Once across the creek the troops could have entered Bensalem Boulevard which they followed to Bristol Pike, which they entered just west of today's I-95 about 1/2 mile from Totem Road and the ferry crossing. There is, however, no known ford crossing in that vicinity.

Resource 18: Upper Ford across the Neshaminy Creek
south side of Newportville
Newportville, PA 19056

If they took that second, known, ford, they followed Newportville Road along the Neshaminy Creek from Grundy's Corner to Ford Road. Crossing at Ford Road (which today no longer goes to the creek's edge), the troops would have entered onto Bensalem Boulevard, which they followed south to Bristol Pike.

Resource 19: American Campsite at Red Lion Tavern
Bristol, PA 19007

American forces under General Lincoln spent the night of 1/2 September "*encamped at the Red Lyon*".¹⁸

While the American campsite of 1/2 September may have been near the Inn, the French campsites of 2/3 and 3/4 September 1781, were on the hill on either side of the road ahead, which changes its name from Bristol Pike to Frankford Avenue as it enters the City of Philadelphia and Philadelphia County on the other side of Poquessing Creek.

¹⁷ On 31 August, Pickering had written to Colonel Dearborn from Philadelphia: "*Colonel Neilson will show you a ford at Trenton which he was to try with a waggon if found practicable, you will cross the carriages there.*" French artillery lieutenant *comte* de Clermont-Crèvecœur wrote in his journal: "we crossed the Delaware by ford and ferry. It is not very deep here. In summer the average depth is only 2 to 3 feet".

¹⁸ Samuel Shute, "Journal of the Cornwallis Expedition commencing at Dobbs Ferry, Augt. 19th, '81". Shute was a surgeon from Bridgeton, NJ, who served with the Second New Jersey Regiment; his unpublished journal is in the US Army Military History Institute in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Resource 20: Campsite in Lower Township
Frankford, PA 19124

The exact location of this campsite of the Light Infantry from 1/2 September is unknown, but was most likely just east of Holmesburg/ Holmes' Tavern along Pennypack Creek by the 1694 bridge crossing the creek. No remnants of the Holmes Tavern which apparently stood to the southeast of that bridge were located during route reconnaissance.

The townships of Dublin date to 1684, when Edward Tanner named his land grant "Upper and Lower Dublin." Lower Dublin Township ceased to exist and was incorporated into the City of Philadelphia in 1854. It was bisected by the Pennypack Creek, known as the Dublin Creek in the eighteenth century. Modern-day Bustleton, Fox Chase and Holmesburg were in this township.

Resource 21: Campsite of Sergeant-Major John H. Hawkins' Regiment
"about 2 Miles from Chester"
Chester, PA 19103

The exact location of this campsite is unknown but two miles above Chester would put the campsite between Crum Creek and Little Crum Creek.

Resource 22: Campsite of the Continental Army
Across the Schuylkill
Philadelphia, PA 19107

On 2 September, Jacob Hiltzheimer, Continental ADQMG in Philadelphia, "Accompanied Colonel Dearborn, deputy quartermaster, over Schuylkill, to select a site for an encampment."¹⁹

Later that day, Lieutenant Reuben Sanderson of the Fifth Regiment of the Connecticut Line doing duty with Scammel's Light Infantry, "*Marched thro^d Philadelphia about five miles, encamped near the Schoelkill.*"²⁰

Dr. Shute wrote in his journal:

*"Sunday 2d Septr. Marched thro Philada. & crossed Schuylkill & encamped --
- 16 miles."*

¹⁹ *Extracts from the diary of Jacob Hiltzheimer, of Philadelphia, 1765-1798.* Jacob Cox Parsons, ed., (Philadelphia, 1893), p. 45

²⁰ The journal is published in Johnston, *Yorktown Campaign*, p. 170-173, the quote on p. 170. The Continental Army campsite is most likely identical with that occupied by the French, which arrived there in the evening of 3 September. Stevens, "Route," p. 18. Thacher, *Eyewitness*, p. 273, has the light infantry encamped on 3 September, continuing its march through Wilmington on 4 September.

The exact location of the campsite is unknown but it was probably in the vicinity of the 30th Street Railroad Station.

Some Continental Army troops did not cross the Schuylkill but camped where French forces would encamped the next day. Thacher has the light infantry march through Philadelphia on 2 September and only cross the river on 3 September "and encamped four miles from Philadelphia" and 18 miles from Wilmington. These distances are contradictory since it is exactly 27 miles from downtown Philadelphia to the bridge across Brandywine in Wilmington and 28 miles from Philadelphia to the Wilmington waterfront, leaving a gap of five to six miles. Since Thacher indicated a rest on 3 September "to give the men time to rest and wash their clothes", a stop in the vicinity of Darby Creek/Morton Homestead not quite six miles from the Schuylkill seems the most likely stopping place.²¹

Resource 23: Galloway's Ford
Hulmeville, PA 19047

According to French artillery lieutenant the *comte* de Clermont-Crèvecœur, the artillery may have crossed the Neshaminy here.²²

Resource 24: French army campsite
Red Lion Inn
Frankford, PA 19124

The French camp site at the Red Lion of 2/3 and 3/4 September 1781, was the last stop before the march into Philadelphia.

Resource 25: Blue Bell Tavern
Cobbs Creek Park
7303 Woodland Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19142

Built in 1766, the Blue Bell Tavern was purchased by the city in 1909, and is now part of the Fairmount Park system. It is currently closed for restoration.

On 6 September 1781, Thomas Graton records: "*ye 6th marched 5 miles and encamped.*" Since Graton and the artificers had encamped on the Philadelphia side of the Schuylkill on 5/6 September, a five-mile-march takes them about 7 miles from Philadelphia, which places their camp along Cobb's Creek at the Blue Bell Tavern about a mile before the center of Derby.

²¹ Thacher, *Eyewitness*, p. 273

²² Clermont-Crèvecœur, "Journal", p. 45.

Resource 26: The Woodlands
4000 Woodland Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Built in 1742 in the Federal style as the estate of Andrew Hamilton, a colonial lawyer who helped design Independence Hall, it is located near the Schuylkill River. The house was expanded in 1788-89 and is now surrounded by a cemetery and administered by the nonprofit Woodlands Trust for Historic Preservation.²³

The grandson of one of Philadelphia's richest men, Hamilton had used his considerable wealth to pursue the life of a country gentlemen and to indulge his interests in art, science, and horticulture. At *The Woodlands*, his 600-acre country estate, Hamilton presided over the finest greenhouse and horticultural gardens in the nation. There he modeled his gardens after the country estates he had visited while making a "grand tour" of England in 1785.²⁴

The Woodlands has been National Historic Landmark # 67000022 since 1967.

Resource 27: John Bartram House and Gardens
54th Street and Eastwick Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19107

John Bartram was America's first native-born botanist and well known in 1781. His property lies just off Woodland Avenue.

The house and gardens are a National Historic Landmark (listed 10/15/1966, #66000676) administered by Fairmount Park Commission.

Resource 28: Continental Army Camp at Morton Homestead
100 Lincoln Avenue
Prospect Park, PA 19076

Upon reaching Philadelphia some Continental Army troops did not cross the Schuylkill but camped near where French forces would encamped the next day. Thacher has the light infantry march through Philadelphia on 2 September and only cross the river on 3 September "and encamped four miles from Philadelphia" and 18 miles from Wilmington. These distances are contradictory as it is exactly 27 miles from Philadelphia to the bridge across the Brandywine in Wilmington and 28 miles to the waterfront, leaving a gap of five to six miles. Since Thacher indicated a rest on 3 September "to give the men time to rest and wash their

²³ Concerning the ongoing efforts to restore the beautiful property to its previous grandeur see <http://www.bizjournals.com/philadelphia/stories/2005/06/06/newscolumn4.html>

²⁴ Quoted from <http://www.explorepahistory.com/hmarker.php?markerId=597>

clothes", a stop in the vicinity of Darby Creek/Morton Homestead not quite six miles from the Schuylkill seems the most likely stopping place.²⁵

Resource 29: Morton Homestead
100 Lincoln Avenue
Prospect Park, PA 19076

On their way the troops passed the Morton Homestead, the ancestral home of John Morton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. The homestead is a National Historic Register site since 1970, #70000546.

Resource 30: The Plough
Between Darby and Chester
Prospect Park, PA 19076

Samuel Shute camped near the "Plough", which located about 3 1/2 miles from Darby and 3 1/2 miles from Chester.²⁶

Resource 31: French Army Campsite along the Schuylkill
23rd and Market
Philadelphia, PA 19107

The march of Rochambeau's troops through Philadelphia provided a morale boost for the Americans. In a letter to Meshech Weare, President of New Hampshire, delegate Samuel Livermore described the scene:

*I had yesterday the pleasure to see the first division of the French. They marched through Front & Chesnut streets by the state house and so out to the common where they encamped. The members of Congress were at the door of the state house and recd. from the officers of the army as they passed a royal salute. The ceremony on their part was to let fall the point of the sword, likewise the colours, and the members of Congress took off their hats. The engaging figure and behaviour of the officers of all ranks, their dress, the cavalry, musick, arms, artillery, the figure & behaviour of the privates, and the uniform motion of the whole, afforded the most pleasing prospect of the kind I ever saw.*²⁷

²⁵ Thacher, *Eyewitness*, p. 273

²⁶ It is identified in Joshua John Moore and Thomas W. Jones, *The traveller's directory, or, A pocket companion shewing the course of the main road from Philadelphia to New York, and from Philadelphia to Washington, with descriptions of the places through which it passes, and the intersections of the cross roads; illustrated with an account of such remarkable objects as are generally interesting to travellers; from actual survey* (Philadelphia, 1804), map 2.

²⁷ Quoted from the on-line edition of Letters of Delegates to Congress.

Resource 32: Plaque commemorating the 1781 French encampment
City Hall Courtyard
Philadelphia, PA 19107

This plaque erected by the Pennsylvania Order of the Founders and Patriots of America on 5 October 1908 is the only monument/marker commemorating the French encampment in Philadelphia found in the course of the research for this resource inventory and site survey.

The following is a sample of sites, some still in existence, some not, known to have been visited by American and French officers and men during their stay in and around Philadelphia in 1781 and during the return march in 1782.

Resource 33: Site of Dr. Abraham Chovet home
On Water street near Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Englishman Abraham Chovet had studied medicine in France and came to the US via the West Indies. In 1774 opened his "Anatomical Museum" of wax human figures on Vidal's Alley off Second Street in Philadelphia as a tool to provide knowledge about the human body to assist in the training of physicians. Baron Closen visited there on 31 August 1781. Chastellux visited there as well.

The house is no longer standing.

Resource 34: Site of Pierre Eugene du Simitière Home
Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Born in Geneva, Switzerland, Simitère went to the West Indies about 1750, and to Philadelphia in 1766. Simitière was a well known collector of curiosities, and was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society in 1768. In 1782, he opened the "American Museum" to display his collections to the public.

Baron Closen visited Simitière on 1 September. In the evening he joined the generals for dinner at home of Joseph Reed who resided in the house of the Tory Galloway which had been confiscated for the use of the Continental Congress.

The house is no longer standing.

Resource 35: Site of Joseph Galloway home
Southeastern corner of Sixth and Market Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19107

The house is no longer standing.

Resource 36: Site of Anthony Benezet home
No. 115, Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Closen met Benezet on 2 September 1781, when the well-known quaker went to pay his compliments to Rochambeau.²⁸

The house was torn down as early as 1818.

On 2 September 1781, Baron Closen wrote in his journal that he "went with the generals to see the battlefield of Germantown," after which the group went "to dine at the home of M. [John] Holker, the French consul, who entertained us magnificently in his charming country house, 3 miles from Philadelphia."

Resource 37: Chew House or Cliveden
6401 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia PA 19107

Cliveden is the most important landmark of the battle of Germantown fought on 4 October 1777. Although not decisive in military terms, the battle had vast political implications. Combined with the victory at Saratoga in the same month, it convinced France to sign the alliance with the United States in February 1778.²⁹

It received National Historic Landmark designation on 20 January 1961, #66000677.

Resource 38: American Philosophical Society Hall
104 South Fifth Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Since 1789, this building has housed the bi-monthly meetings of one of America's oldest and most honorable learned societies. The organization traces its origins to 1743, when Benjamin Franklin publicly urged the creation of an institution to stimulate interest in learning. Over the years the Society has counted America's intellectual elite among its members. Thomas Jefferson was one, and at his urging, the records of the Lewis and Clark Expedition are preserved in the Hall. The Society's journal, *Transactions*, continues as the country's oldest scholarly periodical.

The American Philosophical Society Hall is a National Historic Landmark, designated 12 January 1965, #66000675.

²⁸ Acomb, *Closen*, p. 119.

²⁹ Adapted from <http://tps.cr.nps.gov/nhl/detail.cfm?ResourceId=504&ResourceType=Building>

Resource 39: Carpenters' Hall
310 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Erected in 1770-71 as a guild hall for the Carpenters' Company of Philadelphia, the building served as a meeting place for the First Continental Congress in 1774, as a hospital for both British and American troops, and as the temporary office of both the First and Second Banks of the United States.

Carpenter's Hall is a National Historic Landmark, designated 15 April 1970, #70000552.

Resource 40: Powell House
244 S. 3rd St., between Spruce and Walnut Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Samuel Powel was the last colonial mayor of Philadelphia before the Revolution. He was the first mayor after the Revolution and a third-generation Philadelphian. The elder Powell's son, Samuel Powell Jr., was a merchant. He dropped the second "l" in Powell to become Powel. The elder Powel passed on in 1756, having outlived his son by nine years, and so the bulk of the elder's estate was passed on to the future-mayor when the youngster turned 18.

As the scion of one of Philadelphia's wealthiest families, Samuel Powel did what many of the well-educated, well-to-do did: he traveled Europe. Whereas most stayed on the Continent for one or two years, young Powell stayed for seven years. Among those he met on his travels were the Duke of York, the Pope and Voltaire, who urged him to hate "priests." Powel did not heed Voltaire, for while in England he converted from Quakerism to the Anglican Church.

Upon returning to Philadelphia, Powel married Elizabeth Willing, the daughter of Charles Willing and Ann Shippen. Young Samuel, no doubt influenced by his European travels, declined to move into one of the 90 houses he now owned and instead purchased the present house on 3rd Street from Charles Stedman. Stedman was the part-owner of a forge and a substantial landowner, who eventually fell upon hard times and wound up in debtors' prison in 1774.

The Powels became known as great entertainers. George and Martha Washington became good friends of Samuel and Elizabeth, often eating at the 3rd Street residence. The Washingtons returned the favor by having the Powels to Mount Vernon a half dozen times. Powel sided with the Colonies during the Revolution, thus earning himself the sobriquet, "the Patriotic Mayor." He died, among too many others, in the Yellow Fever epidemic of 1793.³⁰

³⁰ Quoted/adapted from http://www.ushistory.org/tour/tour_powel.htm

Resource 41: Site of Benjamin Chew home
110 S. Third Street (between Walnut and Spruce)
Philadelphia, PA 19106

The Chew House, which until his death in April 1780 had been the residence of the Spanish ambassador Don Juan de Mirailles, was one of the most magnificent houses in Revolutionary Philadelphia. It was torn down around 1830. Washington made his winter quarters in this house on 26 November 1781 upon his return from Yorktown. He stayed until his departure for the Hudson on 22 March 1782.

Resource 42: Jacob Graff House (Declaration House)
701 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

In this building Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence in June 1776. The original building of 1775 was torn down in 1883, but was recreated by the National Park Service in 1975 at its original location.

Mentioned specifically by writers such as Antoine de Verger, a lieutenant in the Royal Deux-Ponts, as sites worth seeing are the Catholic church, the markets, and the hospital.

Resource 43: Old St. Joseph's Catholic Church
321 Willing's Alley
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Founded in 1733, it is the oldest Roman Catholic church in the city. The first church was built in 1733, enlarged in 1821 and rebuilt (the present building) in 1838. It is more than likely that some French officers and men worshiped there.³¹

The sermon preached here by M de Bandolle, chaplain to the French Embassy before the members of Congress on 4 November in celebration of the victory at Yorktown was printed in the *New Jersey Gazette* of 5 December 1781.

Resource 44: Site of the Brick Market (1709/10)
On High Street and Third Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

In the 1830s, Watson wrote that "for many years, its Third street front was marked with the appendages of pillory, stocks and whipping-posts."

³¹ Adapted from <http://www.oldstjoseph.org/> and http://www.ushistory.org/tour/tour_stjoe.htm . There is no proof for the claim made on these sites that Rochambeau worshiped at Old St. Joe's.

Resource 45: Site of Brick Market (1773)
On High Street and Fourth Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

The markets were torn down in the 1830s.

Resource 46: Site of the Pennsylvania Hospital
Fifth and Market Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19106

The Pennsylvania Hospital was founded in the year 1755 at Fifth and Market; the present site on Eighth Street and Spruce (a National Historic Landmark) came in the nineteenth century.

Resource 47: "A Man Full of Trouble"
125-127 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

The only tavern remaining from Colonial Philadelphia. It was built about 1759 on the banks of Little Dock Creek. It is more than likely that some French soldiers had a drink there.³²

In his *Reisenbeschreibung*, Flohr wrote: "*When a soldiers was walking about in the city or anywhere else and a German met him he immediately took him and led him to a tavern and paid more than could be consumed only to be able to discuss things with him.*"

Resource 48: Site of the Workhouse
on Spruce Street between Tenth and Eleventh
Philadelphia, PA 19107

The (second) House of Employment or orkhouse was completed in 1767, fifty years after the first workhouse had opened in Philadelphia. It was used until 1835, when a new Almshouse and Workhouse were built.

In late August 1781, Rochambeau asked President Moore to establish a hospital for the sick of his army. On 29 August 1781, the Supreme Executive Council "Resolved, that the Deputy Quarter Master General be directed to apply to the managers of the House of Employment to appropriate a sufficient part of that building for said purpose, and that it be got ready with all expedition."³³

³² Quoted/adapted from http://www.ushistory.org/tour/tour_manfull.htm

³³ *Pennsylvania Archives* vol. XIII (1853), p. 42. See also *Minutes of the Supreme Executive Council. Vol. XIII: 13 July 1781 to 31 December 1783* (Harrisburg, 1853), p. 47.

Above the city in today's Fairmount Park are a number of sites that are of great importance for the context of this study.³⁴

Resource 49: Belmont Mansion
West Fairmount Park
2000 Belmont Mansion Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19131

William Peters (1702-1786), the builder of Belmont Mansion, was a successful attorney and landowner in Liverpool, England, who came to the colonies in 1739. Peters became a wealthy man who owned properties in the city of Philadelphia in addition to Belmont, which he referred to as his "country retirement." His general support of the Loyalist cause forced him to return to England in 1768. His son Judge Richard Peters inherited the property. He became an ardent patriot, was Secretary of War until late 1781, and welcomed Washington, von Steuben, Madison and Franklin at Belmont.

Resource 50: John Boelsen Cottage
West Fairmount Park
2120 Martin Luther King Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19131

In 1677, the Swedish Court at Upland granted John Schoeten 300 acres on the west side of the Schuylkill. At the same time John Boelson was granted 100 acres of land and became a neighbor of Schoeten.

In 1684, William Penn confirmed these Swedish holdings. By that time a house had been constructed on the tract. This is believed to be the small cottage still standing on West River Drive.

Constructed sometime between 1678 and 1684, this building has certain architectural features common to early Dutch and Swedish vernacular architecture of the American colonies; a gambrel roof, small casement windows and internal divisions to accommodate two families.

³⁴ All materials on properties in Fairmount Park is quoted from/adapted from information on these properties available at the Fairmount Park website <http://www.fairmountpark.org/index.asp>

Resource 51: Laurel Hill

East Fairmount Park
7201 North Randolph Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19121

In 1763-64, Francis and Rebecca Rawle erected the center section of this brick mansion on the laurel covered hill overlooking the Schuylkill River. Laurel Hill was confiscated by the Pennsylvania legislature because of Shoemaker's Loyalist sympathies and was sold to Major James Parr. In 1784, when anti-British feelings waned, Rebecca Rawle Shoemaker bought her house again.

Dr. Philip Syng Physick, father of American surgery and next owner of Laurel Hill, gave the estate in trust to his daughter, Sally Randolph, in 1828. The Randolphs sold it to the City of Philadelphia for \$68,000 in 1869.

The house which is operated by the Women for Greater Philadelphia.

Resource 52: Mount Pleasant

East Fairmount Park
3800 Mount Pleasant Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19121

With a fortune acquired by privateering, Scottish sea captain John Macpherson built Mount Pleasant from 1762-65. John Adams dined there and described it in 1775 as "the most elegant seat in Pennsylvania."

The house had several illustrious owners. Benedict Arnold bought it as a wedding gift for his bride, Peggy Shippen, but was convicted of treason before they could occupy it. Jonathan Williams, a great nephew of Benjamin Franklin and first superintendent of West Point, was a later owner. It was incorporated into the park in 1868.

Resource 53: Ridgeland/The Wellness Community

West Fairmount Park
4200 Chamounix Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19131

Ridgeland was originally part of the Bowles / Schoeten tract in the late 17th century. In 1718, John Schoeten sold twenty-five and a quarter acres to William Couch, a Yeoman, who erected the original portion of Ridgeland c.1719-20.

Called Mt. Prospect by its owner in the early 1800's, the name was changed to Ridgeland by the last owner, Jacob S. Waln, before it was incorporated into the Park in 1869. Presently occupied by the Wellness Center.

Resource 54: Woodford

East Fairmount Park
2450 Strawberry Mansion Bridge Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19132

This 1756 mansion has been called "one of the most charming examples of colonial architecture in America." The first owner, Judge William Coleman, Justice of the Provincial Pennsylvania Supreme Court, was a Quaker and Franklin's confidant. After his death in 1769, the house became a Tory residence - first with Alexander Barclay, King George III's Controller of Customs at the Port of Philadelphia, and later as the home of Rebecca Franks, beautiful daughter of a highly placed father, David Franks. Franks added the second floor, with an unusual stair hall, and a Palladian window above the nine-foot high entrance doors. Franks was exiled in 1780 because of his Tory activities, and Woodford reverted to Quaker ownership. The Wharton family held it for several generations until it became part of Fairmount Park in 1868.

In May 1980, Woodford was designated a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service.

In addition there are a number of resources in Fairmount Park which are worth a stop even if they were not around in 1781/82.

Resource 55: Lemon Hill Mansion

Sedgeley & Lemon Hill Drives
East Fairmount Park
Philadelphia, PA 19130

Robert Morris, signer of the Declaration of Independence, financier of the Revolution, and close friend of George Washington, purchased 350 acres of land along the banks of the Schuylkill River and built a farm and greenhouses in July 1770, named "The Hills."

By 1798, he had over extended his financial empire and was sentenced to Debtors' Prison. "The Hills" was sold to Henry Pratt, son of a Philadelphia portrait painter, who developed the property into one of the finest garden spots in Philadelphia. Lemon trees flourished in the greenhouses and the estate became known as "Lemon Hill."

Pratt built the present house, a graceful masterpiece of late 18th century architecture, in 1800. Lemon Hill is a formal Early Republic / Federal house. It displays a two story symmetrical plan with a stone basement, scored stucco walls and chimneys, two wooden side porches and a shingled hip roof. Its most distinctive exterior and interior features are the projecting three story oval rooms on the south facade of the house facing the Schuylkill River and the entrance hall checkerboard floor of Valley Forge marble.

In 1844, the house and 45 acres were purchased by the City in its initial endeavor to keep the river unpolluted and create public park land. Restored in 1926 and again in 1976 by the City of Philadelphia, Lemon Hill is furnished and operated by the Colonial Dames of America.

Resource 56: Sweetbriar Mansion
West Fairmount Park
1 Sweetbriar Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19131

Samuel and Jean Breck built Sweetbriar in 1797 to escape the yellow-fever epidemic that killed 10,000 Philadelphians between 1793 and 1800. The house stands now exactly as it did in 1797, a three story, Federal mansion displaying refined ornament over geometric simplicity as developed by the Adam Brothers of England and interpreted by late 18th century English and Philadelphia architects..

Breck was a patron of artist-naturalist John Audubon and supported many philanthropic community projects. Influential French visitors enjoyed his hospitality, including the Marquis de Lafayette when he toured the United States in 1825.

Sweetbriar was incorporated into "Faire Mount" Park in 1868 and bordered the 1876 Centennial Exhibition site. Restored in 1932 by the Junior League of Philadelphia and in 1976 by the City of Philadelphia, Sweetbriar is operated by the Modern Club of Philadelphia.

Resource 57: Strawberry Mansion
East Fairmount Park
2450 Strawberry Mansion Bridge Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19132

Strawberry Mansion acquired its name in the mid-nineteenth century when it was a dairy farm serving strawberries and cream. In earlier days it was the property of Philadelphia judges.

In 1783 the Quaker Judge William Lewis purchased this wooded land near the falls of the Schuylkill River. Remodeling an earlier structure, he completed the central portion of this house about 1790 in the popular Federal style. He named the house "Summerville."

Judge Joseph Hemphill bought 'Summerville' in the 1820's. He added the flamboyant Greek revival wings to the house and entertained John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, the Marquis de Lafayette and Daniel Webster of Massachusetts.

His son Coleman built a race track on the property, raised Dalmatian dogs and grew strawberries from roots he imported from Chile.

Strawberry Mansion became City property in 1868 and is now the largest house in Fairmount Park. It is now operated by the Committee of 1926 and is furnished with a mixture of Federal, Regency, and Empire styles popular during the mansion's varied ownership. The attic is filled with antique toys. The collection of Tucker porcelain in the library, one of the first true porcelains made in America, was a product of the partnership of Tucker & Hemphill.

Enlisted men could not leave the columns for sightseeing or to educate themselves, but officers such as the *vicomte* de Rochambeau, the *comte* de Lauberdière, Baron Closen, or Cromot du Bourg used the opportunity provided by the march through Pennsylvania to visit battlefields of the Revolutionary War. Rochambeau not only encouraged his officers to continue their military education but himself visited important sites along the route as well. In his journal, Rochambeau's son, the *vicomte* de Rochambeau, penned this brief description of the march through Pennsylvania indicating some of the sites he visited.

The troops passed in review before the President of Congress in the best order and in the finest appearance possible.³⁵ They even astonished the inhabitants of this section by the excellent discipline which they kept and by their extreme neatness after so long a march.

That beautiful city had been the stopping place of the English and American armies during 1777 and part of 1778. Also we felt obliged to visit the battlefields of Brandywine and Germantown (the defensive points of the river in 1777), and last, the good winter quarters that Washington held from 1777 to 1778 at Valley Forge.

The first was won by General Howe from General Washington. In the second this latter held his own. Trenton and Princeton won for him the reputation of a general. After a day of rest we once again began marching and came on: September 5th to Chester.³⁶

Resource 58: Battlefield at Germantown
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

Closen in his journal for 2 September that he "went with the generals to see the battlefield of Germantown," after which the group went "to dine at the home of M. [John] Holker, the French consul, who entertained us magnificently in his charming country house, 3 miles from Philadelphia."

³⁵ The *vicomte* marched through Philadelphia on 3 September 1781.

³⁶ Weelen, *Journal of the vicomte*, p. 226. Rochambeau's son is the only officer who mentions a visit to Valley Forge.

Resource 59: Continental Army Winter Quarters at Valley Forge
1400 North Outer Line Drive
King of Prussia, PA 19406

As early as 1781, a visit to Valley Forge, site of one of the most difficult winter quarters of the Continental Army, was a required stop on the itinerary of any visitor to the area.

Valley Forge was designated a National Historic Landmark on 20 January 1961; establishment of the park was authorized on 4 July 1976.

Resource 60: Battlefield of Brandywine
Route 1
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

The Brandywine Battlefield was designated a National Historic Landmark on 20 January 1960, #66000660.

At Brandywine, Washington's Continental army fought British forces under Lord Howe on September 11, 1777. Although the battle was an American defeat, the Continentals withstood the attack of British regulars, even while sustaining heavy losses.

Cromot du Bourg, Baron Closen and the *vicomte* de Rochambeau left the columns during the march to Wilmington to see the battlefield of Brandywine. Washington himself, according to Closen, had told him the details of the battle, heightening the officer's interest in the affair.³⁷ Cromot du Bourg, who rode with the Second Division, recorded that on 6 September "we marched to Wilmington over a very fine road. ... I turned off from the road to see the battle-field of Brandywine."³⁸

Resource 61: The stopover of the Second New York Regiment at "Brister"
Along the waterfront of the Delaware River in Bristol
Bristol, PA 19007

On 3 September Tallmadge and the 2nd New York regiment briefly made landfall in Bristol, most likely on the waterfront at or near the King George II Inn, overlooking the Delaware.

³⁷ Acomb, *Closen*, p. 124, footnote 35. Lauberdière's *Journal* contains a long description of the battle of Mud Bank of 1777. (ff 101r - 106r)

³⁸ Marie-François *baron* Cromot du Bourg, "Diary of a French Officer, 1781" *Magazine of American History* Vol. 4, (March 1880), pp. 205-214, (April 1880), pp. 293-308, (May 1880), pp. 376-385, (June 1880), pp. 441-452, p. 384.

Resource 62: Campsite of the Second New York Regiment

"Six miles below brister"

Bristol, PA 19007

In the evening of 3 September, Tallmadge and the men of the Second New York Regiment sailing down the Delaware River camped for the night approximately one mile upstream from the Red Lion Inn. The exact location of the campsite is unknown.

Resource 63: 1724 Chester Courthouse

Market Street below 5th Street

Chester, PA 19013

Built in 1724, this is the oldest public building still standing in the United States and was used as a courthouse until 1967.

It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on 27 May 1971, #71000702.

Resource 64: Campsite of the Second New York Regiment in Philadelphia

Along Front Street

Philadelphia, PA 19107

The exact location of the camp in Philadelphia for the night of 4/5 September is unknown, but it was presumably in the harbor along the waterfront.

Resource 65: Campsite of the Company of Artificers

in/near Frankford

Frankford, PA 19124

On 4 September Thomas Gratton wrote in his "Book": "*Ye 4th marched to Bristol Frankford and encamped.*"

The exact location of the campsite of the Company of Artificers is unknown.

As Washington left Philadelphia in the morning of 5 September 1781, Rochambeau decided to make a detour to see Red Bank with Fort Mercer, Fort Billingsport and Fort Mifflin on Mud Island. Visits to such sites formed part of the continuing education process for his senior officers and his aides. On the journey Rochambeau was accompanied by Artillery Captain Mauduit du Plessis, who had been in command of the American artillery at Fort Mercer as a lieutenant colonel in the Continental Army during the British siege of 1777. His travel

expenses were covered by the public. On 10 September 1781, the treasurer was ordered to pay Joseph Robenett "the sum of Nine pounds twelve shillings and six pence, Specie," to cover the "expenses in carrying down the French Generals to view the Forts at Mud Island and Billingsport."³⁹

According to Closen's account, the group started its excursion at Fort Mifflin, and then continued on to Fort Mercer and Fort Mifflin. Red Bank with Ft. Mercer and Fort Billingsport lie on the New Jersey side of the river but are listed here since they form an integral part of Rochambeau's journey through Pennsylvania.

Resource 66: Red Bank Battlefield Park
100 Hessian Avenue
National Park, NJ 08063

On 22 October 1777, American forces successfully defended Fort Mercer, an earthen fort erected to guard the river approach to Philadelphia, in the Battle of the Red Bank. Their victory delayed the opening of the Delaware River as a route of supply for General Howe's army, which had occupied Philadelphia on 26 September 1778.

On 28 November 1972, the battlefield became a National Historic Landmark, #72000796. The U.S. Government owns the 44-acre site.

Resource 67: Fort Mercer Commemorative Monument (1906)
In the northern section of the Red Bank Battlefield Park
100 Hessian Avenue
National Park, NJ 08063

Fort Mercer was one of three military installations, which guarded the Philadelphia harbor and the communities along the Delaware River.

Resource 68: Fort Billingsport
Borough of Paulsboro, NJ 08066

On 5 July 1776, Margaret Paul, sold 96 acres of Billingsport for £ 600 Pennsylvania currency to the Council of Safety of Philadelphia. The land was charged to Congress. In 1777, a redoubt and fort was erected at Billingsport by troops from Pennsylvania, Virginia, South Carolina and New Jersey as part of a defense system for the lower Delaware river. The other posts were Fort Mercer at Red Bank and Fort Mifflin on Mud Island. After its capture in 1777, by British forces under Lord Howe, the fort was briefly occupied, but evacuated in 1777.

³⁹ Pennsylvania Revolutionary Council Minute Book for Tuesday, 28 August 1781, pp. 386, RG 27, microfilm reel 691, Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg.

The fort was again occupied by American troops in the War of 1812. After the peace treaty was signed, the fort was deserted and forgotten.

Resource 69: Fort Mifflin

Fort Mifflin Road
Philadelphia, PA 19153

Begun by the British, just below the mouth of the Schuylkill River, in 1772, to defend river approaches to Philadelphia, it was completed by Major General Thomas Mifflin after the War for Independence started. After the British captured Philadelphia in September 1777, their water transportation was blocked by Forts Mifflin and Mercer and a series of obstructions, i.e., *cheveaux des frises*, in the Delaware River. The forts were attacked in October and November and defended stubbornly. Mifflin was evacuated and destroyed by the Americans on 16 November, Fort Mercer at Red Bank a few days later. A new Fort Mifflin was completed in 1795 of stone faced with brick and banked with earth. Further construction and repairs were carried out during the War of 1812, during the 1830's and 1840's. During the Civil War it served as a Confederate prison and disarmed in 1904. It was used for military storage in World War II. Its transfer to the City of Philadelphia was authorized by Congress in 1956. Restored to its 1834 appearance it is open to the public except during winter months.

Fort Mifflin was designated a National Historic Landmark on 29 August 1970, #70000554.

From Billingsport, the group sailed toward Chester. Washington's private secretary Jonathan Trumbull recorded that "About 3 miles below Chester meets an Express from Admiral de Grasse. The fleet arrived in the Chesapeake 26 ult^o. News welcome though strangely delayed. The General returns to Chester to meet and rejoice with Count Rochambeau, who was coming down by water, and to communicate the joy to Congress."⁴⁰ As they approached the banks of the Delaware near Chester, Baron Ludwig von Closen "discerned in the distance General Washington, standing on the shore and waving his hat and a white handkerchief joyfully. There was good reason for this; for he informed us as we disembarked that M. de Grasse had arrived in Chesapeake Bay with 28 ships of the line and 3,000 troops."⁴¹

Three miles below Chester places the two generals at Marcus Hook, and Trumbull's account as well as Washington's and Rochambeau's letters leave no doubt that the two generals returned to Chester to write their letters. It is unknown, however, where Rochambeau and Washington spent the night of 5/6

⁴⁰ Trumbull, "Minutes", p. 332.

⁴¹ Acomb, *Closen*, pp. 121-123; the quote is on p. 123.

September 1781. The *comte* de Lauberdière writes: "M de Rochambeau and M Washington departed on the 6th from Chester to betake themselves to Head of Elk." This indicates that the two men stayed in Chester where they could have slept in *the Blue Anchor Tavern* at Fourth and Market, the *Pennsylvania Arms* on Market Street across from the Court House, or even in the Blue Ball Tavern in near-by Marcus Hook.⁴²

This stands however in contradiction to Trumbull, who wrote in his "Minutes of Occurrences": "At evening [GW] proceeds to Wilmington. 6. Breakfast at Christiana Bridge, where our boats, stores &c. are brought from Delaware Water through the Christiana Creek, debarked and carried across by land about 12 miles to the head of Elk where the troops and a great part of the stores are arrived and beginning to embark."⁴³

Resource 70: Landing Site in Marcus Hook
Market Square Memorial Park
Marcus Hook, PA 19061

It was probably at this spot that Washington on 5 September 1781 awaited the arrival of the *comte* de Rochambeau from his visits to the Delaware River fortifications.

Resource 71: Site of the Blue Anchor Tavern
Fourth and Market
Chester, PA 19013

The Blue Anchor Tavern represents a potential site where Washington and/or Rochambeau may have spent the night of 5/6 September 1781.

Resource 72: Site of the Pennsylvania Arms Tavern
on Market Street across from the Court House.
Chester, PA 19013

The Pennsylvania Arms Tavern represents another potential site where Washington and/or Rochambeau may have spent the night of 5/6 September 1781.

Resource 73: Eagle Tavern
46 East Delaware
Marcus Hook, PA 19061

The Eagle Tavern represents another potential site where Washington and/or Rochambeau may have spent the night of 5/6 September 1781.

⁴² The tavern is identified in Christopher Colles, *A Survey of the Roads of the United States of America* 1789 Walter W. Ristow, ed., (Cambridge, 1961), p. 160.

⁴³ Trumbull, "Occurrences," p. 332.

Resource 74: Marcus Hook Plank Log House
221 Market Street
Marcus Hook, PA 19061

Also known as Blackbeard's Mistress's House, this is one of the oldest buildings (1683) in Pennsylvania. Blackbeard's presence in that area in the early 1700's can be documented, and there is evidence to suggest that the house was once owned by a woman who was Blackbeard's mistress, known only by the name of "Margaret."

Resource 75: Site of the Blue Ball Tavern
Blue Ball Tavern Street
Marcus Hook 19061

The name of the street is all that remains today of the tavern, the site of which is in the middle of the SUNOCO refinery in Marcus Hook.

Resource 76: French Campsite Marker
Morton Avenue and McDowell Avenue
Chester, PA 19013

The marker is meant to commemorate the 1781 campsite of French forces in Chester. It is, however, on the wrong location. In 1781, French forces camped along Old Chester Pike on the other side of Chester. It was only on their return in 1782 that French forces camped here.

Resource 77: French Army Camp
along PA-SR 13 (Post Road) between Main and Gilbert Streets
Marcus Hook, PA 19013

The First Brigade spent the night of 5/6 September on this campsite in Chester; the next morning it marched on to Wilmington, Delaware. The Second French Brigade occupied the same site on the night of 6/7 September 1781.

Route 7: The Return Routes of the Continental Army, December 1781

Identifying sites for the return marches of the Continental Army in December 1781 poses some difficulties. Once again as in September 1781, and unlike for the French army, there are no route maps or campsite maps. Journals and diaries by participants such as Thacher, Shute, Graton or Sanderson are even shorter and more imprecise than for the march to Yorktown. Very often, the journey to the northward is covered in two or three sentences only. Orderly Books too are either non-existent or contain little more than a single sentence per day. This makes locating and identifying routes and sites even more guess-work than the march to Virginia. Consultant has therefore refrained from listing individual campsite as resources until additional primary sources come to light.

The first units of the Continental Army began to depart from Yorktown for New York State within less than two weeks after the end of the siege. Unlike during the march to Yorktown in September 1781, American forces returned north in smaller detachments of sometimes only a few dozen men. Among the first to leave was Colonel Elias Dayton of the First New Jersey Regiment, who left Yorktown on 1 November with a group of about 40 convalescents.⁴⁴ It is unknown when this group reached Pennsylvania and Philadelphia, but since the group was small and the men were sick, it is very likely that they spent their night in private houses or public installations such as the barracks in Philadelphia.

Next came another small group of about two dozen men under Lieutenant Ebenezer Wild of the Light Infantry, who landed "(near a wharf) at the North end of Philadelphia" around noon on 16 November. After a visit to the "Coffee House" they continued their journey to Trenton a few hours later.⁴⁵

There were a number of coffee houses in Philadelphia, the most famous of which, and a likely candidate for the stopover because of its location close to the city's docks, was the London Coffee House, which was opened in 1754 by William Bradford.

Resource 78: Site of the London Coffee House
Front and High Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19107

The London Coffee House was one of the centers of Philadelphia's business and political life, the other being the City Tavern.

⁴⁴ New Jersey Historical Society, Elias Dayton Papers, MG 94. The account ends with the arrival at Elkton.

⁴⁵ "Journal of Ebenezer Wild", *Massachusetts Historical Society Proceedings* Second Series, No. 6, (Boston, 1891), pages 78 - 160, p. 158.

A segment of the Light Infantry regiment including James Thacher began its land march from Elkton on 24 November. It marched through Pennsylvania and Philadelphia around 27-30 November.⁴⁶ Its itinerary and campsites are unknown.

Another group that included Thomas Graton of the Company of Artificers departed from Elkton on 25 November, a day after Thacher. On 26 November it marched "within 2 miles of Chester [i.e., half-way between Marcus Hook and Chester] and encamped,"⁴⁷ The following day, 27 November, he encamped at an unknown campsite "two miles" past Philadelphia (the edge of town?) toward Trenton. He encamped at an unknown site in Bristol on 28 November; on 29 November he left the state.

Another Light Infantry detachment that included Lieutenant Sanderson, who had left Head of Elk with the Rhode Island Regiment on 8 December, arrived in Darby on 11 December 1781, and encamped at an unknown location. On 12 December, it lodged in Philadelphia, presumably in the barracks, and left the state the next day.

Considerably larger was Colonel Lamb's Second Continental Artillery Regiment (ca. 200 men) and Joseph Plum Martin's Sappers and Miners (ca. 50 men), which had also taken the sea route to Elkton. From there it followed the route of the Light Infantry and the Artificers. Upon reaching Philadelphia these two units quartered in the barracks for about two weeks.⁴⁸ From there, they marched on 5 December to Bristol and encamped, possibly at the site where Grafton's Artificers had encamped a few days earlier. Here they crossed the Delaware to Burlington, where they arrived on 7 December.⁴⁹

The remainder of the Continental Army, i.e., the two New York Regiments, the New Jersey Line, and Moses Hazen's Canadians and the Rhode Island Regiment, were charged with accompanying the prisoners to the north. They departed from Yorktown in the days after Sunday, 4 November, as well.

On 1 December 1781, the troops (except for the Rhode Island Regiment) completed their crossing of Delaware and camped at Marcus Hook, possibly on the site where the Second New York Regiment had encamped on 6 September 1781.⁵⁰ From there they continued their march through Chester and Darby and on 2 and 3 December 1781 camped "four miles from Philadelphia".

Upon arrival in Philadelphia, Moses Hazen's regiment branched off toward its winter quarters in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where it performed duties guarding British prisoners.

⁴⁶ Thacher does not give precise dates for the journey.

⁴⁷ Pension application of Thomas Graton, National Archives and Records Administration, (Washington, DC), W 14824, 34 p., Aug. 1, 1767-Sept. 29, 1790, roll 1110, frames 302-325.

⁴⁸ *Private Yankee Doodle*, p. 246.

⁴⁹ *Private Yankee Doodle*, p. 246. It marched to the Hudson from Burlington in August 1782.

⁵⁰ Tallmadge, *Journal*, p. 767.

Resource 79: Winter Quarters of Canadian Regiment
Location: Barracks
Lancaster, PA 17573

→ I'm still waiting for this article: Overton, Albert G., and J. W. W. Loose. "An Unusual Discovery: Prisoner-of-War Barracks in Lancaster Used during the Revolutionary War." *Lancaster County Historical Society Journal*, 84 (Trinity 1980), pp. 131-134.

Resource 80: Camp Security
PA State Route 462 (Old US Route 30)
York County, PA 17402

At Camp Security, British POWs from Yorktown were kept and guarded by Moses Hazen's regiment that had marched north with them to Pennsylvania. Only a few POW camps were established during the Revolutionary War, and Camp Security is the only one of these sites that remains largely untouched. Between 1781 and the end of the war in 1783, more than 1,500 captured British soldiers and their families were confined at Camp Security. Since the area has remained mostly undisturbed, extensive archaeological evidence of the camp and the life of its occupants almost certainly rests beneath the surface of the ground. Scientific exploration of the site could yield much information available nowhere else. The site has been identified as one of the most endangered places by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Resource 81: Site of the Stone Prison
Southwest corner of Third and High streets
Philadelphia, PA 19107

The Rhode Island Regiment, which arrived in Philadelphia on 12 December 1781, took quarters in the barracks in Philadelphia. They did not leave winter quarters until late May, when the "Account of Public Ferriages" provided by Hugh Runyan on 31 May ferried "470 men Rhode Island Regt" for £ 2 18/9 across the Delaware. Eight four-horse waggons paid £ 1 10/, 7 horses 2/7.⁵¹

One of the tasks the regiment had been assigned was that of guarding prisoners in the "new Jail", i.e., the on Third and High Street. On 24 May 1782, General Lincoln as Secretary of War informed William Moore, President of the State of Pennsylvania, that "The Rhode Island Regiment will march next Wednesday to join the troops in the highlands - which lays me under the necessity of soliciting a guard for the prisoners in the new Jail."⁵²

⁵¹ "Account of Public Ferriages" by Hugh Runyan in folder: Official papers ca. 1780-1782, in John Neilson, Papers ... kept as DQM for NJ, 1780-1782, Box 2, Account Book beginning Trenton, 25 Sept. 1780 to 4 October 1782. Special Collections, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, Ac 589.

⁵² Lincoln's letter is printed in *Pennsylvania Archives* vol. IX (1854), p. 549.

Route 8: The Return Route of the French Army, August/September 1782

French forces crossed over into Pennsylvania on 30 and 31 August 1781. The First Brigade entered its Camp 26 at Chester in Pennsylvania on 30 August.

Resource 82: French Army Campsite
on high ground between Crum Creek and Ridley Creek
Near intersection of Morton Avenue and McDowell Avenue
Chester, PA 19013

Coming from Wilmington, Lauzun's Legion is the first French unit to enter Pennsylvania and to encamp in Chester on 29 August 1782. Rochambeau's infantry follows over the next four days. See Resource 76.

On the 31st, the Bourbonnais approached Philadelphia, followed by the Royal Deux-Ponts on 1 September. Once again, French forces marched through the city in their full splendor on 2 and 3 September and camped to the north of the city.

Resource 83: French Army Campsite
east side of North 2nd Street, the 1000 block & Germantown Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Historical Significance:

On 30 August, Lauzun's Legion camps in Philadelphia. Between 31 August and 3 September, Rochambeau's infantry marches into Philadelphia, parades before Congress, and encamps here. On 4 September the Saintonge regiment is the last French unit to leave Philadelphia.

Resources 84: Site of the Black Horse Tavern
Corner of Second and Black Horse Alley
Philadelphia, PA 19107

During his stay in Philadelphia, Lieutenant Verger of the Royal Deux-Ponts lodged at Black Horse Tavern

Resource 85: French Campsite at the Red Lion
near current Grant Avenue, east of Holy Family University and
west of the Torresdale-Frankford Country Club
Frankford, PA 19124

The campsite at the Red Lion Inn was the last French camp in Pennsylvania

These routes are covered in as detailed a manner as possible in the text of the study. There is no additional and/or more specific information available that would identify specific resources other than those mentioned there.

Route 4: The Land Route of *commissaire de guerre* de Granville from Boston to Philadelphia in September 1781

Route 9: The Philadelphia Conference and the Celebrations for the Birth of the *dauphin*, 14 to 24 July 1782

Route 10: The March of the Passengers of the *l'Aigle* and *la Gloire* from Dover, Delaware to Yorktown Heights, New York in September and October 1782

Route 11: The March of Lauzun's Legion from Yorktown Heights, New York to Winter Quarters in Wilmington in December 1782

Coming from Burlington, New Jersey, Lauzun's Legion, close to 600 officers and men, passed through Philadelphia in late December 1782 on their way to winter quarters in Wilmington, Delaware. A first detachment of the Legion spent the night of 21/22 December in Philadelphia before moving on to Chester the next day. On the 22nd the remainder of the Legion arrived to spend the night in Philadelphia. Then, on 23 December, Hiltzheimer recorded in his diary that "This morning the last of the French Legion left for Delaware."⁵³ Once the Legion was re-united Lauzun took stock of his unit; the first review of the Legion is dated 24 December 1782.

The Legion would return one last time to Philadelphia: on 11 May 1783, the 528 men left of the *légion*, and most of the remaining troops of the *expédition particulière* sailed from Philadelphia for Europe.⁵⁴

Route 12: Route of Rochambeau to Baltimore via Newton, Hackettstown, Baptistown and Philadelphia in December 1782

⁵³ Hiltzheimer, *Diary*, p. 52. CTHS JW Papers, Box 144 Folder November 1782, contains numerous receipts for wood and other supplies signed in Burlington during November 1782, viz. Edward Collins on 8 November 1782, supplied 820 lbs beef for which he received £ 20 10/. Another account with Starr covers the dates of 2 November to 27 November. There are receipts dated as late as Burlington, 21 December, when Edward Collins sold 44 lbs beef French weight.

⁵⁴