SPARKS
CONFLAGRATION
EMBERS
Andre, John. 1751-1780
Pen and ink, partially colored
topographical map of the
area between Bound Brook
and Newark noting the
position of the "Rebel
Army."
Attributed to André by style.
[Part of the modern counties of Union, Middlesex, and Somerset, New Jersey and Staten Island, New York]. Andre, John. 1751-1780. Pen and ink, topographical map of the area between Bound Brook and Newark. Attributed to André by style.
WOODBRIDGE

In 1784
Second largest town in Middlesex County after New Brunswick

Area (sq. miles) 49.9
Population 2,594
Farms 318
Acres of improved land 22,158
Horses 820
Horned cattle 1,870
Single men 32
Single men with horse 11
Slaves 39
Houses & lots of less than 10 acres 39
Householders 246
Riding Chairs 49
Merchant shops 5
Taverns 2
Grist Mills 8
Saw Mills 2
Tanyards 3
Vessels 4 5/6
Revolutionary
Woodbridge
A few of Woodbridge's soldiers. Many of whom left behind mothers, wives, children, sisters & sweethearts.

Sarah Mundy
Hope Bloomfield
Sarah (Bayles) Bailey
Temperance (Weeks)
Wickes
Elizabeth Moore
Heard

Archibald Auger
Benjamin Ayers
Ellis Ayers
James Ayers
Levi Ayers
Ellis Barron
Shotwell Bishop
Ezekiel Bloomfield
James Bloomfield
Jonathan Bloomfield
Joseph Bloomfield
Moses Bloomfield
Smith Bloomfield
Timothy Bloomfield, Sr.
Timothy Bloomfield, Jr.
Thomas Brown
William Brown

Anna Youmans
Elizabeth Moores
Mary Freeman
Experience Ilsley
FitzRandolph
Margaret Ilsley
Hannah Marsh
Sarah Bloomfield
Tabitha
FitzRandolph
Mary Jones
Mary Freeman

William Brown
Charles Clark
David Clark
Jeremiah Clarkson
David Coddington
James Coddington
Robert Coddington
Kelsey Cutter
Samuel Cutter
Stephen Cutter

Jeremiah Dally
Samuel Dally
Elisha Dunham
Lewis Dunham
David Edgar
James Edgar
William Edgar
Ambrose Elston
Crowell Evans

Elizabeth Wood
Patnot
Mary McIlvaine
Phebe Holmes Ward
Sarah Ford
Frances Moores
Elizabeth Dunham

Mary Freeman
Mary Freeman

Mary Freeman

Isabella Manning
Catherine Brown
Experience Ilsley
Sarah Bird
Mary Scudder
Mary Read
Margaret Bloodgood
Margaret Cothel
Sarah Haines
Mary Ford
Elizabeth Pike
Grace Moores
Annabel Brown
Asher FitzRandolph
Nathaniel FitzRandolph
Samuel Force
Hiram Frazee
Morris Frazee
David Freeman
Henry Freeman
Jedediah Freeman
Jonathan Freeman
Matthew Freeman
Melanchton Freeman
John Gilman
Joseph Gilman
Charles Gilman
Thomas Hadden
Nathaniel Heard
John (Ilsley) Inslee
Jonathan Inslee
Jonathan (Jaques) Jaquish
Samuel Jaquish
William Jones
Abram Laing
Nathaniel Leonard
Jeremiah Manning
Christopher Marsh
Merrick Martin
Oliver Martin
Eliphalet Moore
Peter Noe
Samuel Franklin Parker
James Paton
John (Pain) Payne
Zebulon Pike
Robert Ross
Isaac (Sayers) Sears
Richard Skinner
Thompson Stelle
David Stewart
John Storey
Benjamin Thorp
Israel Thornell
Peter (Latourette) Tourette
Samuel Willis
Sarah Brittain Skinner

[Handwritten text]

Sarah Brittain Skinner

[Handwritten text]
Sarah Brittain Skinner


Claims for War Damages
(Some of) The Estate of Cap'n Richard Skinner of Woodbridge
To 3 Cows & Calf
Sheep - 2 Horses 1, 20 yrs old
200 lbs beef taken Nov 1776
11 Hogs pled to weigh 1680 lbs
100 Cock and Chics
2 P's of new linen Stockings
1 Copper Tea Kettle 15/- - 6 new pewter planks
1 Doz. Knives & forks
1 Dol : in hard Cash
1 pewter Teapot good

1 P's of mens new Shoes
1 new bed Cov's
7 yds of linen
1 pitch fork
30 fowls 15/- - 2 Cedar pails

Sarah Skinner widow & Adm'n to the
Estate of Richard Skinner being Sworn
the Above Inventory is Just and true and
that she was knowing to the British taking
the above Articles And that she is
confident & [?] has not any Satisfaction
been made.
Old Cross Keys Tavern, where George Washington stopped in 1789, Woodbridge, N. J. P. C. N. J. Jan. 7, 0

FROM MISS RUTH WOLK'S COLLECTION
COURTESY SHELL OIL COMPANY
Timothy Bloomfield, “an outspoken for to British tyranny...was imprisoned for a time in the notorious Jersey Prison Ship...[and] his sons were in the Continental army, so that the farm and the old homestead were open to the ravages of the predatory parties of the enemy.” After the theft of the family Bible and a brindle cow, his daughter, Eunice, in company with another girl, rowed to Staten Island, appealed to the British commander, secured the return of both the Bible and the cow and was given an escort of British soldiers for the return home.
Tabitha FitzRandolph Cutter

“Tabitha Cutter, Stephen’s wife, was no friend to the British, especially after a visit some of them made, when they damaged her furniture and took the dinner-pot from the fire and spread the contents over the floor. She regarded this as unpardonable and what woman would not.” (Dally)
Mary Jones Dally

“Mary Dally, wife of Samuel, was part of the time left at home with one...but the little ones for Jeremiah had gone to war, contrary to the wishes of his parents. In one instance, Mary narrowly escaped death, while alone with her children. She was leaning out of an upper window, watching with great anxiety the progress of a skirmish near the house.
1777. Grace Lacky was passing an evacuated house in Woodbridge, saw through the window a drunken Hessian soldier, who had straggled from his party. There being no men within less than a mile of town, she went home, dressed in man’s apparel, and, armed with an old firelock, return to the house, entered it and took the Hessian prisoner whom she soon stripped of his arms and was leading him off, when she fell in with a patrole guard of a New Jersey regiment, stationed near Woodbridge, to whom she delivered her prisoner.
“A shrewd lady was Grace Lacky. While Woodbridge was infested with Hessians they impudently entered the houses of the inhabitants and carried off anything on which they could lay their hands. Grace did not fancy such visitations and accordingly devised a plan to prevent them.” She inscribed in large letters on her door the word “Small-pox!” It is hardly necessary to say that when the import of the dreadful term was made known to the redoubtable sons of the Hesse they deserted that part of the village with commendable speed.” (Dally)
Mrs. Moores was very sarcastic in her conversations with the Tory neighbors and sometimes openly hostile to them. One of these, Isaac Dunham, would drop over to see the Moores occasionally, and appeared covertly pleased with the evidence of misfortune he saw at the old homestead. He always seemed to know when a raid had been made and availed himself of the first opportunity to call on the afflicted household to rejoice in its sorrows.

An empathetic protest by Mrs. Moores, on one occasion, accompanied by vigorous demonstrations with various loose article near at hand, caused Isaac to put his long legs in rapid motion...as he was kindly informed that if he came to the Moores’ place after this his head and its appurtenances would be laid under contribution by a well-directed broomstick or some other effective appliance. (Dally)
Elizabeth (Ilsley) Inslee

“Elizabeth Inslee...once came near being mutilated for life by the brutality of a British soldier...Coming unceremoniously into [her] house one day, a soldier spied a valuable ring on one of Elizabeth’s fingers. He strode toward her and was about to cut off her finger to obtain the piece of jewelry when an officer suddenly appeared, sharply rebuked the inhuman fellow and sent him back to camp.” (Dally)
Grace Moore Inslee

Jonathan Inslee...was taken prisoner by the Royalists and conveyed to New Brunswick to be lodged in jail. He was compelled to wade through the river at a ford; and then, all wet and shivering, was thrust into a cold room without being permitted to dry his clothing or exchange it for more comfort.
Capt. Nathaniel Fitz Randolph

Born in Woodbridge, 1747, Capt. Nathaniel “Natty” Fitz Randolph’s exploits were the stuff of legends and tales of his extraordinary courage and daring were recounted for decades after the War. Fitz Randolph served as Captain in the Middlesex Militia and refused a Colonel's commission because its acceptance would separate him from his men.

One incident of renown demonstrated his character and strength. While leading a detachment of militia, “they were surrounded by a superior British force. Instead of surrendering the brave fellows stood at bay and fought under the inspiring example of their leader until every one of them had fallen...and Natty, alone, with blood streaming from his own wounds, stood among his slain companions brandishing a musket with astonishing effect...The officer then begged him to surrender, arguing that it was a pity for such a brave man to die. (Dally) Fitz Randolph, weakened by his wounds, surrendered and was exchanged after a month although later he suffered through a longer imprisonment after a second capture.

Fitz Randolph died at age 32 in 1780, as a result of wounds received at the Battle of Springfield a month earlier.
Experience Ilsley FitzRandolph


Middlesex County Orphans Court

"Petition of Experience Coddington late Experience FitzRandolph, widow of Nathaniel FitzRandolph, deceased, that a guardian be appointed for the children of her late husband, Agnes FitzRandolph and Nathaniel FitzRandolph both minors under 14 years of age. The Court appointed Benjamin Manning guardian May 15, 1788."
“1777...New Jersey Council of Safety...ordered the wives and children (under age) of John Heard, Ellis Barron, Wm. Smith, Isaac Freeman and Saml. Moore, late inhabitants of the Township of Woodbridge, but now with the Enemy, be immediately apprehended and sent over to Staten Island; and that Cal. Fredk. Frelinghuysen be directed to carry this order into execution.” (Dally)
The mission of the Woodbridge Township Historic Preservation Commission is to inform, educate, advise and unite public officials and the community at large as an advocate for the preservation of the rich history of Woodbridge Township.
HEY WOODBRIDGE...
ARE YOU READY TO CELEBRATE?

SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 1 2019 NOON

Woodsbridge Township
350th Sesquicentennial
Anniversary Celebration and Festival

Merrill Park (Iselin)

Enjoy a Day-Long Festival & 5 Concerts
Featuring:
Old-Time Baseball Game & Activities... Food Trucks...
Surprise Events

The Tom Chapin Group at Noon.
The Nerds at 2:00.
The Jazz Lobster Band at 4:00.
Wanted DOA Bon Jovi Tribute Band at 6:00.
Max Weinberg Jukebox Trio at 8:00

Mayor John E. McCormac