

Proposed 1776 Marker Text
Lee - Sullivan March to the Delaware

Marker Title
New England Army: December 1776

1. Ringwood:

On Friday Dec. 6, 1776 three brigades of the New England army, totaling about 3,000 men, under Gen. Charles Lee arrived here in response to a call for reinforcements by Gen. Washington after his defeat at Fort Lee. It was observed by Gen. William Heath, when they crossed over the Hudson River: "That Lee took with him into the Jerseys some as good troops as are any in the service, but many of them were so destitute of shoes that the blood left on the rugged frozen ground, in many places, marked the route they had taken." They camped here overnight and left for Pompton the next day; Saturday Dec. 7.

Application #: 0561446

2. Pompton:

Three brigades of the New England army, of about 3,000 men, under command of Gen. Charles Lee passed through Pompton on their way, ultimately, to Morristown on Saturday, Dec. 7, 1776. The brigades were: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY) marching in that order, with the wagons between Glover and Sargent. Glover's 14th Continental Regiment was also known as the Marblehead or Amphibious Regiment. They were largely fishermen. It was these men who would row Washington's army across the ice choked Delaware River on Christmas night, 1776.

Application #: 6995010

3. Morristown:

Three brigades of the New England army, numbering about 3,000 men, reached Morristown on Sunday, December 8, 1776. The brigades were: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY). Glover's 14th Continental Regiment was also known as the Marblehead or Amphibious Regiment. It was these men who would row Washington's army across the ice choked Delaware River on Christmas night, 1776. Lee left 300 sick and those no longer able to walk in the military hospital here. They left for Vealtown (Bernardsville) on Dec. 12th. Gen. Lee also departed for the widow White's tavern in Basking Ridge.

Application #: 2370681

4. Vealtown:

Three brigades of the New England Army: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY), about 2700 men, under command of Gen. Charles Lee, arrived here on Thursday, Dec. 12, 1776 on their way to join Gen. Washington's army in Pennsylvania. Having marched all spring and summer, shoes were worn out. Because of this, many soldiers had their feet wrapped in rags, others wore the untanned hides of freshly killed cattle and some marched barefoot. They left a bloody trail in the snow and frozen ground. And yet, they persisted. They left, along this road, for Pluckemin on Friday, Dec. 13th.

Application #: 6365334

5. Bedminster:

Three brigades of the New England Army: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY), about 2700 men, arrived here on Friday, Dec. 13, 1776 on their way to join Gen. Washington's army in Pennsylvania. It was here that they heard of Gen. Lee's capture by British Dragoons at the widow White's tavern in Basking Ridge. Gen. John Sullivan assumed command. Scouts also brought word of British troops ahead in Bound Brook. To avoid contact, Sullivan altered course to Germantown (Oldwick).

Application #: 0277513

6. Lamington:

About mid day Friday, Dec. 13, 1776 three brigades of the New England army: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY), about 2700 men, under command of Gen. John Sullivan turned here to cross the bridge into Germantown (Oldwick). Imagine yourself a farmer. You have labored all year; harvested your crops, gathered hay for your animals and firewood to heat your house for the winter. Then, one evening, 2700 hungry men and their animals appear on your doorstep looking for dinner. The residents of Germantown were about to find out.

Application #: 5380141

7. Germantown:

Late Friday, Dec. 13, 1776 three brigades of the New England army: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY), about 2700 men, under command of Gen. John Sullivan arrived. They were attempting to join Gen. Washington in Pennsylvania. Having marched all spring and summer, shoes were worn out. Because of this, many soldiers had their feet wrapped in rags, others wore the untanned hides of freshly killed cattle and some marched barefoot. They left a bloody trail in the snow and frozen ground. They left, along this road, for Potterstown on Saturday, Dec. 14th.

Application #: 5299023

8. Potterstown:

On Saturday, Dec. 14, 1776 three brigades of the New England army: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY), about 2700 men, under command of Gen. John Sullivan arrived. They were attempting to join Gen. Washington. Potterstown was a stop on the New Brunswick - Easton Road; the main east/west road across New Jersey. They set up camp, but at 5 AM an alarm was received that they were about to be surrounded. They dumped the broth they had been making for breakfast, broke camp and moved off in haste towards the bridge at Hunt's Mill (Clinton). The alarm proved false.

Application #: 1924396

9. Lebanon:

Early Sunday Dec. 15, 1776 three brigades of the New England army: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY), about 2700 men, under command of Gen. John Sullivan,

passed through in haste heading towards the bridge at Hunt's Mill (Clinton). They were attempting to join Gen. Washington, but had been roused by a false alarm at Potterstown. The 14th Continental Regiment, also known as the Marblehead or Amphibious Regiment, in Glover's brigade, were the men who would row Washington's army across the ice choked Delaware on Christmas night, 1776. This was to be their longest day.

Application #: 9127205

10. Hunt's Mill:

During the morning of Sunday Dec. 15, 1776 three brigades of the New England army: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY), about 2700 men, under command of Gen. John Sullivan, passed over this bridge attempting to join Gen. Washington's army. Having marched all spring and summer, shoes were worn out. Because of this, many soldiers had their feet wrapped in rags, others wore the untanned hides of freshly killed cattle and some marched barefoot. They left a bloody trail in the snow and frozen ground. They continued, without stopping, along the Easton Road towards Pittstown.

Application #: 3000368

11. Pittstown:

About mid-day Sunday Dec. 15, 1776, three brigades of the New England army: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY), about 2700 men, under command of Gen. John Sullivan, reached Pittstown attempting to join Gen. Washington's army in Pennsylvania. Washington had instructed them to march to Alexandria (Frenchtown) where he would have boats waiting. Because of the threat of attack by British troops in Penny Town (Pennington), Sullivan opted to remain on the New Brunswick - Easton Road (Rt 579) and cross at Phillipsburg. They continued without stopping.

Application #: 5673025

12. Bloomsbury:

During the late afternoon of Sunday Dec. 15, 1776 three brigades of the New England army: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY), about 2700 men, under command of Gen. John Sullivan, passed over this bridge attempting to join Gen. Washington's army. Having marched all spring and summer, shoes were worn out. Because of this, many soldiers had their feet wrapped in rags, others wore the untanned hides of freshly killed cattle and some marched barefoot. They left a bloody trail in the snow and frozen ground. They continued, along the Easton Road (Rt 173) towards Phillipsburg.

Application #: 8593964

13. Greenwich:

During the evening of Sunday Dec. 15, 1776, three brigades of the New England army: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY), about 2700 men, under command of Gen. John Sullivan, passed this way to join Washington's army. Here they passed a column of 500 British prisoners marching to New York to be exchanged. They had been captured the year before at St. John's in Quebec. The 14th Continental Regiment, also known

as the Marblehead or Amphibious Regiment, in Glover's brigade, were the men who would row Washington's army across the ice choked Delaware on Christmas night, 1776.

Application #: 1890987

14. Phillipsburg:

The night of Sunday Dec. 15, 1776, three brigades of the New England army: Hitchcock's (RI), Glover's (Mass/CT) and Sargent's (Mass/NY), about 2700 men, under command of Gen. John Sullivan arrived. The ferrymen labored through the night and next days to get the army over. Once over, they marched to the Moravian hospital in Bethlehem, where they left some 700 sick and those unable to walk. They then joined the main army. The 14th Continental Regiment, also known as the Marblehead Regiment, in Glover's brigade, would row Washington's army across the ice choked Delaware on Christmas night, 1776.

Application #: 0440730

Revised: August 24, 2025
Spencer Peck
Lebanon, NJ