

DWELLINGS OCCUPIED BY WASHINGTON IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR



WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS AT VALLEY FORGE



THE NEWBURGH HEADQUARTERS.



LONGFELLOW'S HOUSE AT CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

THE WALLACE HOUSE, MIDDLE BROOK, N.J.

THE NESHAMENY HEADQUARTERS



"STENTON", THE LOGAN MANSION, PHILADELPHIA.



THE JUMEL MANSION, NEW YORK.

THE one hundred and seventy-fourth anniversary of George Washington's birth finds still in existence many famous buildings which are identified with the historic events in which he figured.

In fact, for the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental forces merely to spend a night under a roof, may be said to have assured to the structure it covered a far longer life than otherwise would have been granted to it.

That reverence which even then was extended to the Father of his Country, has availed to save from destruction more than two score buildings which he used as headquarters during the War of the Revolution.

It is now more than 122 years since Washington laid down his arms, and retired to private citizenship after having won one of the most unevenly matched wars in history.

Yet to this day scattered through the 13 original states can be found many buildings in which he planned out his battles, sought retreat after defeats, or made the base of new operations.

There has been no organized effort to save these buildings. In many cases they have been but poorly kept, and can not go much longer without rebuilding, but private patriotism has acted where public officials have been indifferent, and one can construct a very vivid picture of the war, and revive the trials that beset the commander, merely by going from one to the other of houses in which he sheltered during the conflict.

There are so many that it would be impossible to mention them all.

In Westfield, Conn., they show the Silas Dean House, where Washington lived just after the war began, and while the operations were around Boston.

In the Longfellow Home.

Cambridge, Mass., points proudly to two houses. First Washington lived in the residence set apart for principals of Harvard College. Then he moved to the house of a fugitive Loyalist, John Vassall.

Later this became the residence of Henry W. Longfellow, the great poet, and here were written many of his most noted works.

Many other eminent men have been residents and guests of this historic mansion. Just to mention Tullyrand, Lafayette, Worcester and Everett gives a fair idea.

Washington had many houses in New York. None is more beautiful than the building now known as the Jumel Mansion.

This was his headquarters from September 16 to October 21, 1776. It is also rich in memories of Aaron Burr, who married the widow of Stephen Jumel. Jumel gained possession of the house when Roger Morris and his wife fled because their Tory sympathies threatened to get them in difficulties.

It was Mrs. Morris, who as Mary Philipse, George Washington wooed in vain.

Until the evacuation of New York, Washington lived at the Roger Morris house, Harlem Heights. The location of this building is now almost opposite the intersection of 11st street, Tenth avenue and the old Kingsbridge road. The Miller house at White Plains, is another of Washington's New York headquarters that still survives.

In Pennsylvania.

During most of the retreat through New Jersey, Washington lived in camp, but eventually he crossed the Delaware, and took up his headquarters at the home of Thomas Barclay, at Morrisville, Pa.

This fine property at the time of Washington's occupancy was only a few years old. Later it passed into the possession of Robert Morris, the noted financier of the Revolution. It is still standing, a magnificent, rambling stone mansion of the kind popular in that period. In its spacious ballroom was held a great entertainment in honor of Lafayette when he came to the United States in 1824.

Moving further inland, Washington gave the dignity of his august presence to the two-story stone dwelling that had been built by William Keith, a Governor of Pennsylvania, at Brownburg, Pa. This building has undergone no changes whatever. It is still in the Keith family, and walls, doors and even the paints remain to a large extent unchanged. Washington passed in this mansion one of the most depressing periods of the war. It was here he received the disconcerting news that General Lee had been taken a prisoner, a mishap the more irritating from the fact that the Commander-in-Chief had predicted that it would take place unless he joined the main army.

Washington left Keith's on December 30, and five days later made the never-to-be forgotten attack on Trenton that resulted in the defeat of the Hessians, and gave new hope to the Continental cause.

The Van Doren residence, still standing just outside the village of Millstone, shows where Washington had his headquarters after the battle of Princeton.

When Lafayette came.

Neshameny Creek. Here Washington held an important council of war, at which for the first time the young Marquis de Lafayette took his place as one of Washington's advisers. He had been commissioned Major-General only a few days before.

When Washington received news of the signal Continental victory at Bennington,

he broke camp and moved nearer the city. He took up his abode at Stenton, near Nicetown, about five miles from the heart of Philadelphia.

This mansion has an interesting history that goes all the way back to the days of William Penn. It has been purchased by an organization of patriotic Philadelphia women, and is preserved as a museum

for relics of Washington and other Revolutionary heroes.

The house of John Potts, founder of Pottstown, had the Commander-in-Chief

for a guest briefly, then he moved to Pennypacker's Mills, now known as Schwenksville. This is the home of Governor Pennypacker, of Pennsylvania.

Both the Potts house and the Pennypacker house, in which Washington had his headquarters, are still standing. The former is used as a hotel.

Between the Shippack and Morris roads, about a mile from the present village of Ambler, is another Morris house, which answered for a time as the military headquarters for the chief of the Continental forces.

From here to Valley Forge are a number of buildings that saw the commander planning how with his pitiful force he could hold back the forces of Lord Howe.

The White Marsh headquarters was a veritable baronial hall, where George Emten dispensed hospitality with a lavish hand.

Valley Forge Headquarters.

The Valley Forge headquarters of Washington is justly famed as one of the holiest shrines of American freedom. This old stone house was the residence of the founder at the time when the fortunes of the cause went to their very lowest. It is now maintained by Pennsylvania, and, being stoutly built, will undoubtedly survive for long years to come.

From the time Washington quit Valley Forge he was more or less on the move. The shifting of his forces took him to Fishkill, N. Y., and here he took quarters at the house of Colonel John Bickerhoff. The house remains as it was at that time. He also lived for a time at the home of Colonel Derrick Bickerhoff, a nephew of John. This house has also been preserved.

The Wallace house at Middlebrook, N. J., is one of the best preserved of the structures that Washington occupied. He went there in December, 1778. His fondness for the Wallace house was shown when, having been away for a time, he returned there in 1781.

Along the Hudson are a number of houses that have the fame of being put to the services of their country's maker.

West Point is very proud of its Moore's house, located in what is now called Washington's Valley, one mile above the town.

Near West Point.

Further up the river is the venerable structure that did Washington service at Newburgh. This had a military use. It was situated on a bluff that overlooked the river for eight miles to West Point. From this outlook he could watch to find if the enemies' ships had managed to make their way up the river.

This house was erected in 1750 and stands today just as it did in Washington's time. It is a plain one-story building, built of stone with walls two feet thick.

Among the other headquarters that survive may be mentioned the Jacob Ford mansion at Morristown, N. J.; the Dey mansion at Freeknass, N. J.; the Robinson house, on the opposite side of the Hudson, below West Point, which was also the headquarters of Benedict Arnold when he betrayed the cause; the Hopper house, on the road to Morristown, in New Jersey; the Van Courtlandt house, at Peekskill; the home of Joshua Hett Smith, two miles below Stony Point; the home of Chancellor Wythe, in Williamsburg, Va.; and Mount Vernon, where Washington stayed after the surrender of Cornwallis, from November 12 to 26, when he went to Philadelphia.

It is a great list and conveys a comforting thought that the birthday of the founder finds hallowed even the houses in which he slept during that time of stress.

The Old Home.

An old lane, an old gate, an old house by a tree,
A wild wood, a wild brook—they will not let me be;
In boyhood I knew them and still they call to me.

Down deep in my heart's core I hear them,
and my eyes
Through tear mists behold them, beneath the old time skies,
Mid bee hum and rose blossoms and orchard lands, arise.

I hear them; and heartick with longing to my soul
To walk there, to dream there, beneath the sky's blue bow;
Around me, within me, the weary world made whole.

To talk with the wild brook of all the long ago;
To whisper the wood wind of things yet used to know
When we were old companions, before my heart knew woe.

To walk with the morning and watch the rose unfold;
To drowse with the noontide lulled on its heart of gold;
To lie with the night time and dream the dreams of old.

To tell to the old trees, and to each listening leaf,
The longing, the yearning, as in my boyhood's grief,
The old hope, the old love, would ease my heart of grief.

The old lane, the old gate, the old house by the tree,
The wild wood, the wild brook—they will not let me be;
In boyhood I knew them, and still they call to me.

—Madison Cawein in the Criterion.

The Quiet Time.

A shadowy gleam in the golden West,
A cooling breeze in the trees;
The low farwail of a parting guest,
The ringdove's plaint in the eaves.

The whip-o-will's call from the woodland near,
The star's soft gleam in the sky;
The dusk of night that creeps without feet,
On the night wind's fragrant sign.

Across the heavens a silvery band,
That trails far o'er the blue;
And the moon looms up from shadow land,
To lighten the diamond dew.

The sable robe falls away from Care,
And Grief has ceased her toll;
Joy is absent, but Peace is there,
In the quiet time of the soul!

—A. G. in New Orleans Picayune.