

CEDAR BRIGE: On December 27, 1782, after searching for the notorious Captain John Bacon, Captain Richard Shreve of Burlington County Light Horse and Captain Edward Thomas of the Mansfield militia stopped with their men to refresh themselves at this tavern.

Bacon and his band of Loyalists surprised the Burlington militia and blocked their escape. As the militia gained the advantage, they were fired upon unexpectedly by a party of locals, who came to the aid and provided a diversion that allowed Bacon to escape. Among the Patriots, one was killed and four wounded. Four Loyalists were also wounded, including Captain Bacon.



COLTS NECK: Private Michael Field - 1st Reg. N.J. Militia. Born in Bound Brook N.J. Aug. 30, 1758. Wounded and captured in the Battle of Monmouth Court House. he was left in this area by the British in their retreat. Whether he died of his wounds or was slain by his captors is not known. Died June 28, 1778."



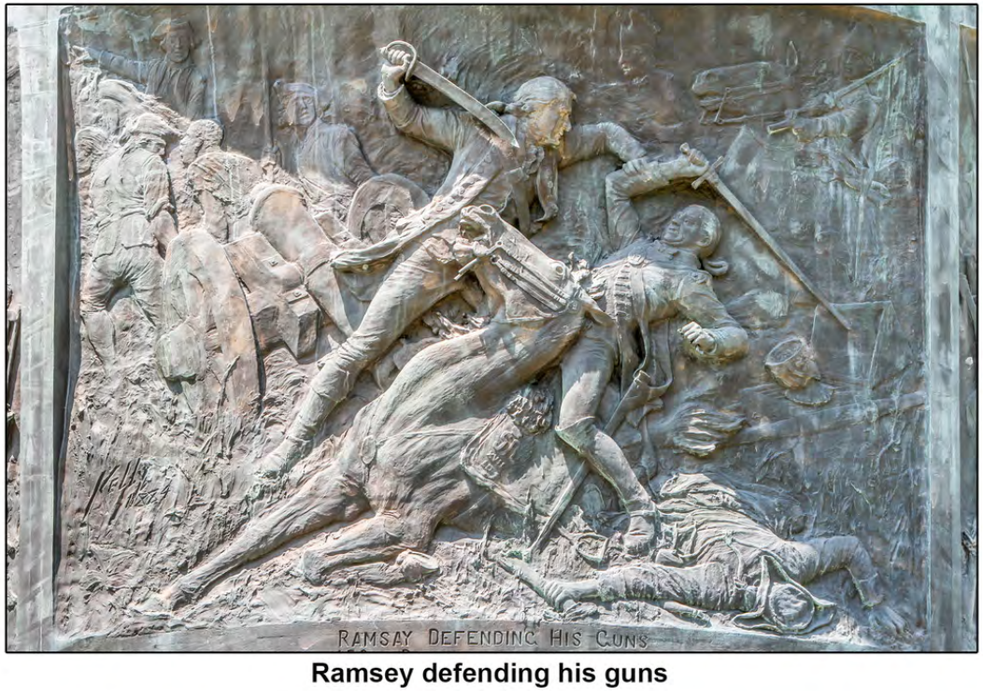
Molly Pitcher



Cannonball embedded into a tree durning the battle



Artifacts from the Battle of Monmouth



Ramsey defending his guns

FREEHOLD: The Battle of Monmouth was the longest continuous battle of the Revolutionary War. It took place on a hot summer day. Fighting began here in the morning and shifted to the west, to land on what is now Monmouth Battlefield State Park. The Monmouth County Historical Association has an assorted collection of artifacts from the Battle of Monmouth including this tree section with canon ball cut in the mid 19th century from the Battle of Monmouth grounds



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LITTLE EGG HARBOR: The largest military engagement in what is today Ocean County occurred near this site. A force of 200 British and Loyalist troops under the command of Capt. Patrick Ferguson surprised and defeated a portion of Brig. Gen. Casimir Pulaski's Legion under the command of Lt. Col. Baron De Bose. American losses numbered about 50 men.



LONG BEACH ISLAND: One of the most infamous of the Pine Robbers (Loyalists) was Captain John Bacon. Bacon's most notorious action occurred on Long Beach Island in October 1782. A British vessel ran aground near Barnegat City and was captured by patriot militiamen under Capt. Andrew Steelman. That night, while sleeping on the beach, Steelman and his men were massacred by tory raiders led by John Bacon. The public outrage against Bacon intensified after the killings at Long Beach Island and a mounted effort to capture him began. A reward of £50 was offered by the Governor William Livingston for the capture of Bacon. Two months after the killings at Long Beach Island, an attempt to capture John Bacon led to the Affair at Cedar Bridge.



MANAHAWKIN: One of the most infamous of the Pine Robbers was Captain John Bacon. Bacon was active in Monmouth County until near the end of the war. At the very end of 1781, two months after Yorktown, Bacon and a band of Loyalists came through Manahawkin on one of their raiding missions, resulting in a skirmish near the Manahawkin Baptist Church. Before the militiamen could properly organize, Bacon's men opened fire on them, killing one - Lines Pangborn, and wounding another - Sylvester Tilton. There were about thirty or forty in Bacon's raiding party, which was twice the militia's strength. The outnumbered militiamen were forced to retreat.



MANALAPAN: The Battle of Monmouth was a political triumph for the Continental Army and General Washington. The Continental Army met the British in open field, held their own and forced them to retreat. It was their first victory in two years.

On June 28,1778 at about 10am the first shots were fired in Freehold, two miles to the east. At noon, American forces pulled back and reorganized under General Washington. From about 1 pm to about 6 pm, the fighting was continuous, and took place mainly on the grounds of what is now the park. The battle raged across these field in temperatures around 100°. After the fighting ended for the day, Washington planned to resume the battle In the morning, but the British forces silently withdrew during the night, continuing their march towards New York City. They marched through Middletown, where they awaited transportation by boats from Sandy Hook to New York City



MIDDLETOWN: After the Battle of Monmouth, British troops under General Henry Clinton retreated toward Sandy Hook, from where they were transported by ships to British-occupied New York City on July 5, 1778.
This series of signs marks the retreat route of the British through Middletown on June 29, 1778, the day after the Battle of Monmouth. It begins on Church Street and then heads east on Kings Highway.



PORT REPUBLIC: The Battle of Chestnut Neck - Privateers were private individuals who received a government commission to attack and seize enemy ships.They would bring their captured British vessels to Chestnut Neck, where some of the goods would be taken to be used by the Continental Army, and the rest would be sold. Some of the captured vessels would be converted into additional privateer boats.

On October 6, 1778, nine British ships with 400 British soldiers attacked the fort at Chestnut Creek. They destroyed the Privateer ships and as well as the houses in the village.

American forces under the command of General Casimir Pulaski arrived in the area on October 8, too late to defend the village of Chestnut Neck. They made camp about five miles northeast from here, in what is now Little Egg Harbor Township. On October 15, two hundred British troops came ashore and made a surprise attack on a group of Pulaski's troops, in what is known as the Affair at Little Egg Harbor.



RUMSON: Huddy's Leap - On September 1,1780 Captain Joshua Huddy was captured at Colts Nect by a band of Tories. While being conveyed across the river to what is now Sea Bright, the boat was fired upon by Colonial Forces. Although wounded, Captain Huddy escaped by jumping from the boat and swimming to the western shore. Subsequently he was captured by the British and hanged on April 12, 1782



SHREWSBURY: During the War this church was known as the Anglican or "Church of England." It was a symbol of the British Crown and in protest, the American soldiers fired musket rounds into the church's pulpit, the steeple and its orb. It was occupied by the American soldiers and used as barracks. The adjoining church cemetery has the remains of thirteen Revolutionary War veterans.



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MANALAPAN: The Old Tennent Church and Cemetery - During the Battle of Monmouth this church was hit by cannon balls and later used as a hospital and some of the pews still bear the marks of blood and surgeon's saws. The cemetery contains the graves of over seventy known Revolutionary War veterans, as well as a common grave of American soldiers who died at the Battle of Monmouth. There is a stone for the remains of militia captain Joshua Huddy, where he is buried in the graveyard is unknown.



TENNENT: The Old Tennent Church's cemetery contains the graves of over seventy known Revolutionary War veterans, as well as a common grave of American soldiers who died at the Battle of Monmouth June 28, 1778. The number and identities of the men buried in the common grave are unknown, "Known Only To God."



TOMS RIVER: Huddy Park - The nearby Blockhouse, manned by Patriot Capt. Joshua Huddy's New Jersey State Artillery of twenty-five men, was besieged by a force of five times its size. Area commander Maj. John Cook, six militiamen and two loyalist officers were killed. Huddy and thirteen men were taken prisoner. The Village of Toms River was torched and completely destroyed except for two houses saved for civilian refuge. The unlawful execution of Capt. Huddy led to stalled peace treaty negotiations in Paris following this overwhelming loyalist attack on the privateer base and salt warehouses at Toms River.



TUCKERTON: Ebenezer Tucker, a patriot of the Revolution, who served under Washington, sharing the Battle of Long Island and other engagements, and held several important posts during that event period. He was a member of the 19th and 20th Congress from the state of New Jersey. Tucker was a privateer and captain of the ship, "Kitty." He is buried in this cemetry in Tuckerton.