

Washington's Encampment

AT SKIPPACK



*A Living History Event Presented by
the Skippack Historical Society*

Saturday, September 27
10am to 5pm

&

Sunday, September 28
11am to 4pm

Historic Indenhofen Farmstead

Skippack Pike & Evansburg Road
Evansburg State Park

610-584-1166

www.skippack.org

The Skippack Historical Society wishes to acknowledge and thank the following sponsor for their support.

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Welcome

You are standing where Washington's Troops stood 231 years ago!

In 1777 a few structures, including the historic Indenhofen house and farm, were already here in Skippack when George Washington and his Continental Army positioned themselves in the region before and after the important Battle of Germantown.

Just about two years after forming a new army and one year after Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence George Washington led the Continental Army through Skippack on the way to the Battle of Germantown and in retreat just after losing the battle to the British.



In 1777 this Historic House was already more than 60 years old!

This house was the first house built in the village of Skippack and the Indenhofen family was the first family to live in the village. In fact the farm predates the village by at least 100 years. The house was built shortly after 1706, when the Indenhofen brothers bought the property. They purchased 440 acres which extended from Evansburg Rd. & Forty Foot Rd. all the way to what we know today as Route 113 and from Township Line Rd. to Hallman Rd.. These 440 acres included all of what is today the village of Skippack.




This property is listed on the
National Historic List
and designated as an historic site.

Seventy years after the Indenhofen or DeHaven farm was established Washington's Continental Army would march through and camp on and around the farm in the fall of 1777.

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Did you know by 1779, there were more Americans fighting with the British than with Washington?

There were no less than 21 regiments (estimated to total 6,500 to 8,000 men) of loyalists in the British army. Washington reported a field army of 3,468. About a third of Americans opposed the Revolution.



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“ We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately. ” - Benjamin Franklin at the signing of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776

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Did you know that there were women in the Continental Army, even a few who saw combat ?

Probably the best known is Mary Ludwig Hays, nicknamed "Molly Pitcher." She replaced her wounded husband at his cannon during the Battle of Monmouth in 1778. Another wife of an artilleryman, Margaret Corbin, was badly wounded serving in her husband's gun crew at the Battle of Harlem Heights in 1776. Thousands of other women served in Washington's army as cooks and nurses.



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General Washington's Camp at Skippack

Saturday and Sunday



❖ **1st New Jersey Regiment - Revolutionary troops** will arrive to set up camp. Talk to the soldiers, see their equipment and learn about their duties. Get a sense of the life of a soldier at the actual encampment here in the Skippack village area, Sept. 29th to October 2, 1777.

- ❖ **Revolutionary War Fife and Drum Corps**
- ❖ **Revolutionary Artifacts** - See the artifact collection of a local researcher, actually found in the area.
- ❖ **Dowser** - Walk along as he searches the farm for underground water.
- ❖ **Colonial Toys** - Kids can try a few!
- ❖ **Apple butter** - See the old fashioned vat and long stirrer used to make apple butter. Apple butter and cider available for purchase.
- ❖ **Spinning Wheel** - Flax to cloth demonstration
- ❖ **Farmhouse Tours** – Noon to 3pm
- ❖ Kids are welcome to participate in a **Musket Drill** !



Saturday - September 27th

10 am to 5pm

- ❖ **Martha Washington** in the Barn from **1 to 2 pm**. Come ask questions!
- ❖ **Germantown Attack & Retreat** – Presentation at **3pm** in the Barn covering the Troop movements through the Skippack Valley before and after the Germantown Battle.



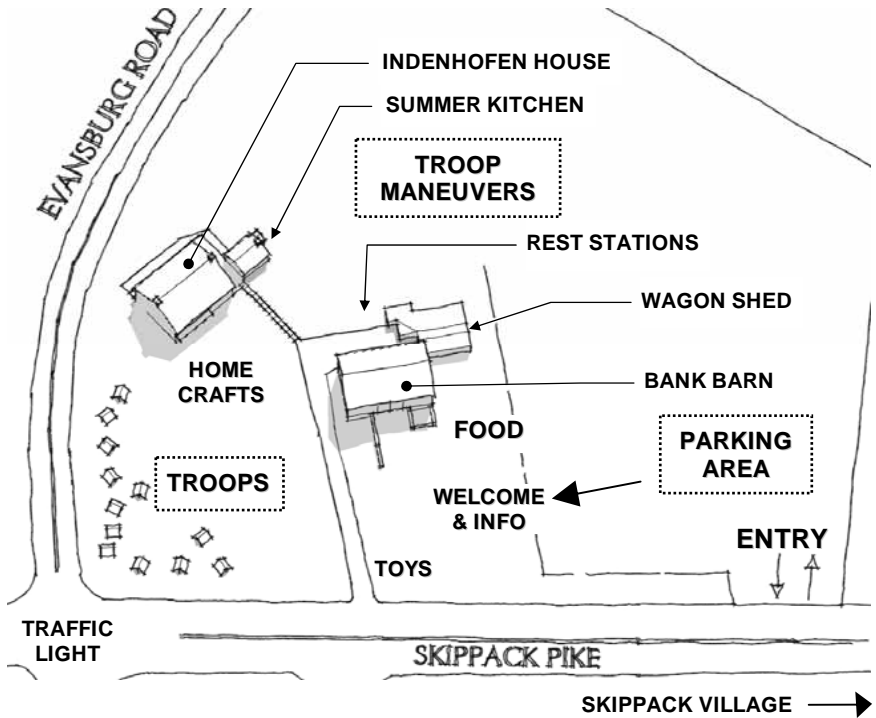
Sunday - September 28th

11 am to 4 pm

- ❖ Visit with **Betsy Ross**, see her making a flag.
- ❖ Watch a **Basket-weaver** at work.
- ❖ Learn about methods of **Butter Churning**.
- ❖ Explore the craft of **Tin Punching** in the barn.



* Listed participants are subject to change.



We rely completely on volunteers and private donations.

The Skippack Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed in 1967 for the purpose of researching and documenting the many historical sites and rich history of the Skippack Valley.


The historic Indenhofen Farmstead takes a lot of money and labor to maintain and continue its preservation and restoration. We rely completely on volunteers and private donations.

Consider the importance of this farm's history and its beauty as you stroll around the farm today and as you enter Skippack traveling Route 73 in the days, months, and years to come. Please consider helping us to keep this historic property here and open to the public for ours and future generations.

Please consider a donation to the Skippack Historical Society in support of this event and the Historical Society.

The Skippack Historical Society currently meets throughout the year at the Indenhofen Farmstead or the Skippack Township Building on Heckler Road. All welcome!

The Skippack Historical Society wishes to acknowledge and thank the following sponsors for their support.



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Did you know Independence Day Should Be July 2?

The Continental Congress actually voted for independence on July 2, 1776.

“ I am apt to believe it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. ... It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward for ever more. ”

- John Adams in a letter to his wife, Abigail, about celebrating Independence Day.



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“ Liberty, when it begins to take root, is a plant of rapid growth. ” - George Washington, letter to James Madison, March 2, 1788

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Did you Know Washington Lost More Battles than He Won?

Turns out that the father of our country wasn't the greatest battlefield tactician. He lost so many important battles one right after another that some wanted him replaced.

Lucky for him, and us, his overall strategy of avoiding decisive battles, engaging in guerrilla warfare and protracting the war led the Americans to victory.



Nonni D's



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Sue & Caesar Gorski

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Did you know ?

Even though Cornwallis surrendered to the Americans at Yorktown in 1781, the fighting lasted for two more years until the Treaty of Paris was signed in 1783.

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On the defeat at Germantown

“ If the uncommon fogginess of the morning and the Smoke had not hindered us from seeing our advantage, I am convinced it would have ended in a complete Victory.”

(Gen. Washington in a letter to Thomas McKean on October 10, 1777 while at camp near Skippack.)

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Henry M. Muhlenberg Journal Entries

Muhlenberg was a Lutheran pastor living in Trappe.

September 30, 1777

Since yesterday the main American army is said to have advanced on the Skippack Road, and to be only twenty-three miles from Philadelphia. In our vicinity the militia are stationed, which is ruin to the farms in wood, hay, straw, and grain. ...

October 3, 1777

There is a report that at daylight tomorrow the British outposts at Barren Hill and Germantown will be attacked.

SKIP'S GARAGE

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\$10 OFF INSPECTION & EMISSIONS

Revolutionary War Pistols

Pistols were mostly used by officers and the cavalry, and were only good at very close range. Most were smoothbore, meaning that, like with the musket, there were no grooves on the inside of the barrel to help with accuracy. Many had decorations carved into the trigger housing and the stock.



Skippack Historical Society

Box 9, Skippack, Pennsylvania 19474
Skippack Pike and Evansburg Road
610-584-1166

We invite you to become a member of the Skippack Historical Society helping us to strengthen Skippack's cultural and architectural heritage. Your membership and support will help us in restoring the Gerhardt Indenhofen Farmstead and other historic structures.

Visit our web site to learn more about the Society and the history of Skippack Valley.

www.skippack.org