**FRIENDS OF MONMOUTH BATTLEFIELD**

**NEWSLETTER JUNE 2025**

**BATTLE REENACTMENT**

**TO BE HELD JUNE 28-29**

 This year’s reenactment will commemorate the 247th anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth, which was fought on June 28, 1778. It will be a “normal” sized event, which means that it will be about the same size as last year, maybe a bit bigger, but not nearly as large as the one two years ago.

 What is significant is that this year’s reenactment will take place on the actual anniversary date of the battle. In recent years we have usually been holding it earlier in the month, often on Father’s Day weekend. We were not able to do that this year because of the 250th anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Bunker Hill in Boston at that time.

The later date of the reenactment this year also means that we will not be holding the additional “battle commemoration” weekend that we have usually been having the weekend after the reenactment.

This year’s event will have around 200 reenactors and also a handful of horses and cannons. Living historian Stacy Roth will be giving her excellent presentation “Over Here Molly Pitcher!” on both days of the reenactment weekend. Other programming will include infantry and artillery drills for youngsters, and historical programming in the camps. There will also be a number of sutlers present to sell period clothing, equipment and related items.

The actual reenactments will take place in the afternoons (3:00 on Saturday and 2:00 on Sunday). Soldier camps will be open all day on both days.

 We are asking a donation of $12 per car at the gate to help defray the cost of the event. Moneys raised will all go to support Monmouth Battlefield State Park. The reenactment is our major fundraiser each year.

 A schedule of events is enclosed. Schedules are also available on our website ([www.friendsofmonmouth.org](http://www.friendsofmonmouth.org)) and will be available at the event. Food vendors will be available and also plenty of porta johns. Craig House will NOT be open on the reenactment weekend.

 If the weather is warm when you attend, please remember to bring sunscreen, water, and a head covering. The reenactment viewing area is handicap accessible, but we do not recommend that you bring any pets because of the crowd and all the noise.

**VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED AT REENACTMENT**

Once again this year we will need volunteer help to run the reenactment. Aid is especially needed in the following areas: front gate, traffic direction, parking lot supervision, and sales (snacks and shirts). If you can spare even just a couple hours on the 28th or 29th, that would help. Assistance is most needed between 11 AM and 3 PM. Contact us at this address if you can help out: friendsofmonmouth@gmail.com. Thanks to those of you who have already offered your help; we will be in touch with you to confirm.

**JULY 4 TO BE CELEBRATED AT THE PARK**

 Special programming will be held at the Park on Friday, July 4, to commemorate the 4th of July.

 At 1:00 there will be a presentation and demonstration of Revolutionary War artillery given by Mott’s Artillery. This will include cannon firing by a reproduction full sized cannon. We hope also to have an infantry unit present to demonstrate their weapons and equipment. Programming will last until about 3 PM. Over 100 visitors have attended our artillery program on the 4th of July each time for the past several years.

**TOURS AND WALKS CONTINUE TO BE SUCESSFUL**

 We continue to offer our regular schedule of tours and programs. See the full year’s list of events on our website, [www.friendsofmonmouth.org](http://www.friendsofmonmouth.org). A schedule of events for the summer months is included with this newsletter.

 A walking tour of the battlefield is offered the first Sunday of every month at 1:30. So far this year attendance has averaged around 15 people per tour. The tours are conducted by board members John Resto and David Martin. Additional walks and talks are given as scheduled on the website.

Tours alternate between the Hedgerow area, the Point of Woods, and Perrine Hill/Molly Pitcher sites. They begin with an introduction at the Visitor Center, then go by car to the designated area for the walking tour. Tours usually last about 2 hours, including introduction. They are, of course, weather dependent. If in doubt about the weather, call the park at 732-462-9616.

On June 22 there will be a special added tour, to the Battle of Monmouth monument on Court Street in downtown Freehold. The tour will leave the Park at 1:30 PM, or you can meet us at the monument at 2 PM.

 Craig House is open every Sunday from 1-4 PM. Docents are Kathy Doherty, Karen Timper, and newcomer Geeta Torno. We thank them for their time!

**WEEKEND IN OLD MONMOUTH HELD MAY 4-5**

 Each year the Monmouth County Historical Commission sponsors “Weekend in Old Monmouth” tours and open houses. As our part, we had the historic Craig House open from 10 AM to 4 PM on May 3 and from 11 AM to 4 PM on May 4. Over 90 visitors attended. Many Thanks to Kathy Doherty, John Resto, and newcomer Geeta Torno for being our docents for the weekend this

**SUMMER PARK HOURS ANNOUNCED**

 Summer hours at Monmouth Battlefield State Park will be as follows:

 Grounds 8 AM to 8 PM

 Visitor Center 9 AM to 4 PM, Wednesday through Sunday

 Bathrooms in old Visitor Center open 8 AM to 4 PM daily.

Bathrooms on Playground area open 8 AM to 8 PM daily.

 Our gift shop in the Visitor Center is open on Sundays from 1-4 PM.

 The Craig House is open Sundays from 1-4 PM.

**“SECOND SUNDAY” LECTURE SERIES OFF TO GOOD START; “GEN. CHARLES LEE” IS NEXT**

 Our new lecture series being given by FOMB President, Dr. David Martin, is off to a great start again this year. The first four lectures were well attended, with around 40 people each, including the January lecture on Alexander Hamilton, the February lecture “Geoge Washington’s Sense of Humor,” the March lecture on “Alternate Molly Pitchers,” and the April lecture on “Abraham Lincoln’s Sense of Humor.” The May lecture, “George Washington as Field Commander,” had about 30 attendees.

 The next lecture, “The Court Martial of Major-General Charles Lee,” will focus on this controversial Revolutionary war character who was an essential part of the Battle of Monmouth.

 We are excited to announce that several of this year’s Second Sunday lectures were videoed and have been uploaded to our new YouTube channel. Thank you to the Park staff especially Matthew Melo for recording them and to our volunteer video editor Jan Zachary. You can find the Friends of Monmouth Battlefield channel at this site:

https://www.youtube.com/@FriendsofMonmouthBattlefield

 A listing of the “Second Sunday” lectures for the remainder of the year is given below. Programs are given at 2 PM in the Park Visitor Center. There is no charge for admission and reservations are not necessary. Full descriptions of each program can be found on our website, [www.friendsofmonmouth.org](http://www.friendsofmonmouth.org).

 Plans to continue this lecture series next year are in preparation; exact topics will be announced on the annual plan for 2026 to be released in November.

June 8, 2025

“The Court Martial of Major General Charles Lee”

July 13, 2025

“The 14th New Jersey Infantry at Camp Vredenburg and Beyond in the Civil War”

August 10, 2025

“British Strategy at Monmouth: What Went Wrong”

September 14, 2025

“American Artillery in Action at Monmouth”

October 12, 2025

“Treatment of Casualties and Burial of the dead at Monmouth”

November 9, 2025

“Famous British Units at Monmouth”

December 14, 2025

“The 28th New Jersey Infantry at the Battle of Fredericksburg in 1862””

**PBS TAPES EPISODES ON MONMOUTH**

 This Spring crews from New Jersey Public television visited the Park to video episodes for two different episodes on Monmouth. One will be on Molly Pitcher and other women from New Jersey in the Revolution, and the other on the battle of Monmouth itself. Tapings were done at Craig House, the Visitor Center, Covenhoven House in town (General Clinton’s headquarters), and on the battlefield itself. Interviews were done with David Martin and John Resto from FOMB, and with Michael Timpanaro, Historian at the Park. Exact titles of the episodes and their airing times are not known at the moment; we will let you know when we find them out. They are supposed to be shown in June before our reenactment, but the episodes will likely be repeated.

 **FOMB BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

 (end of term in parentheses)

Caralee Bava-Grygo (2025) Freehold, NJ

Andrew Beagle (2027) South Plainfield, NJ

 George Dawson (2025) New Brunswick, NJ

 Kathy Doherty (2025) Old Bridge, NJ

 John Fabiano (2026) Allentown, NJ

 Dr. David Martin (2027) East Windsor, NJ

 Robert McCully (2026) Philadelphia, PA

 Marilyn Miller (2027) Toms River, NJ

 Fran Raleigh (2025) Colts Neck, NJ

 David Shakespeare (2027) Colts Neck, NJ

 John Resto (2026) South Plainfield, NJ

 Karen Timper (2025) East Brunswick, NJ

 Peter Wagner (2027) Englishtown, NJ

 **OFFICERS**

 (term ends December 2025**)**

President David Martin

 Vice President John Resto

 Secretary Caralee Bava-Grygo

 Treasurer Kathleen Doherty



**Funding has been made possible in part by an operating grant (or special project) from the NewJersey Historical Commission, a Division of the Department of State, through grant funds administered**

**by the Monmouth County Historical Commmission.**

**Schedule of Events for the Commemoration of the 247th**

**Anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth, June 2025**

Note: schedule subject to change. See our website for updates. www.friendsofmonmouth.org

**SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2025**

9:00 AM Camps open to the public

10:00 AM Musket firing demonstration (plaza outside Visitor Center)

11:00 AM Children’s musket drill (plaza outside Visitor Center

12:00 PM Sons of the American Revolution Memorial Service (flagpole outside

 Visitor Center)

12:15 PM “Over Here Molly Pitcher” program by historian Stacy Roth (auditorium in Visitor Center)

1:30 PM Children’s musket drill (plaza outside Visitor Center)

3:00 PM Battle reenactment (battle area on hillside below Visitor Center)

4:15 PM Children’s musket drill (plaza outside Visitor Center)

4:30 PM Colonial period music (outside Visitor Center)

5:00 PM Camps close to the public, Sutlers remain open

**SUNDAY JUNE 29, 2025**

9:00 AM Camps open to the public

11:30 AM Cannon firing demonstration (plaza outside visitor Center)

12:00 PM “Over Here Molly Pitcher” program by historian Stacy Roth (auditorium in Visitor Center)

1:15 PM Children’s m drillusket (plaza outside Visitor Center)

2:00 PM Battle reenactment (battle area on hillside below Visitor Center)

3:15 PM Children’s musket drill (plaza outside Visitor Center)

3:30 PM Colonial period music (outside Visitor Center)

4:00 PM Camps close to the public, Sutlers remain open

Note: Craig House will not open during reenactment weekend

**$12 per vehicle donation is requested to help defray costs of running the event.**

**Food vendors are located immediately west of Visitor Center (near Sutlers)**

Children’s musket drills will be held over the course of each day as posted

We give our thanks to the reenactors and living historians who help make these events possible.

**FOMB SCHEDULE OF SUMMER EVENTS**

Updates will be posted on our website, [www.friendsofmonmouth.org](http://www.friendsofmonmouth.org)

**REVOLUTIONARY WAR DAYS IN MONMOUTH COUNTY**

**FOMB Programs June 1 to July 4, 2025**

**June 1, 2025 (Sun) Walking tour of the battlefield (Hedge Row and**

**Parsonage). Meet at the Visitor Center at 1:30 PM.**

**June 8, 2025 (Sun) Second Sunday lecture by Dr. David Martin**

 **“The Court Martial of Major General Charles Lee” 2 PM at Visitor Center**

**June 22, 2025 (Sun) Driving tour to the Battle of Monmouth monument in downtown Freehold. Meet at the Park Visitor Center at 1:30 PM**

**June 28, 2025 (Sat) Annual Reenactment of the Battle of Monmouth**

 **Encampment and programs, 10 AM – 4 PM**

**June 29, 2025 (Sun) Annual Reenactment of the Batlle of Monmouth**

 **Encampment and programs, 10 AM – 3 PM**

**July 4, 2025 (Fri) Commemoration of Independence Day at the Park.**

 **Outside Visitor Center, 1 PM.**

**SCHEDULE FOR THE REST OF THE SUMMER**

**July 6, 2025 (Sun) Walking tour of the battlefield.**

 **Meet at Visitor Center at 1:30 PM.**

**July 13, 2025 (Sun) Second Sunday lecture by Dr. David Martin**

**“The 14th New Jersey Infantry at Camp Vredenburg and Beyond.” 2 PM at Visitor Center**

**August 3, 2025 (Sun) Walking tour of the battlefield.**

 **Meet at Visitor Center at 1:30 PM.**

**August 10, 2025 (Sun) Second Sunday lecture by Dr. David Martin**

 **“British Strategy at Monmouth: What Went Wrong.”**

 **2 PM at Visitor Center**

**Sept. 7, 2025 (Sun) Walking tour of the battlefield.**

 **Meet at Visitor Center at 1:30 PM**

**Sept. 14, 2025 (Sun) Second Sunday lecture by Dr. David Martin**

 **“American Artillery in Action at Monmouth”**

 **2 PM at Visitor Center**

**2025 Membership Application**

The Revolution in New Jersey had profound meaning. To help keep the past alive, we ask for your commitment in Protecting, Preserving and Historically Interpreting Monmouth Battlefield State Park, a Registered National Historic landmark, and the sites associated with the Monmouth Campaign of 1778.

**Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**City \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**State \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***CHECK ONE***

***New membership Renewal***

**CIRCLE LEVEL OF MEMBERSHIP**

**Individual $20 Family $30**

**Senior Individual $5 Senior Family $10**

**Patron $100 Lifetime $250**

***The Friends rely on membership and donations for much of our general operating budget. If you would like to make a donation above the membership dues, we would deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness. The Friends is a 501(c)(3) not-for profit organization and your donation is fully tax-deductible. Thank you.***

**Donation included in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Friends of Monmouth Battlefield**

**PO Box 122**

**Tennent, NJ 07763**

**FOMB SPONSORS ESSAY CONTEST AGAIN THIS YEAR**

*Two years ago the Friends of Monmouth Battlefield (FOMB) sponsored a new student essay contest on the battle. It was open to all Freehold Regional School District seniors. Applicants needed to submit an essay (750 -1500 words) on the following topic: “Why was the Battle of Monmouth critical to the overall success of the American Revolution”? The contest was renewed for a third time this year*

*The prize was a $500 scholarship. Entries were due by the end of March 2025, and the winner was announced on June 5. Over 60 submissions were received. Judging was done by members of the Friends of Monmouth Battlefield trustees.*

*The winning selection was written by Arnav Barkataki of Freehold, who attend Freehold Borough High School. Thanks to FOMB Board member Dave Shakespeare for making the contest arrangements.*

*Following is the text of the winning essay.*

Once, I stood in that sweltering New Jersey field on a summer day much like the one in 1778, sweat dripping down my back, and I couldn’t fathom how soldiers fought for hours in wool uniforms when I could barely stand still for ten minutes in shorts and a t-shirt.

 The Battle of Monmouth was a crucible where Washington’s army was forged into something new. But you won’t understand why unless you feel the heat, the confusion, and the transformation that happened there.

 The Battle of Monmouth wasn’t the biggest battle of the Revolution. It wasn’t even a clear-cut American victory. So why was it so critical? Because it changed everything about how Americans saw themselves as fighters and how the world saw the Continental Army.

Before Monmouth, here’s what everyone knew: the Continental Army could retreat really well. They could surprise. But stand toe-to-toe with British regulars in a conventional European-style battle? Not a chance! The Americanms would break and run every time. That’s what history had shown. That’s what even Washington feared.

But something different happened at Monmouth Court House on that blazing hot June day in 1778.

Let me walk you across that battlefield. It’s June 28th, and the temperature is climbing past 100 degrees. Men are literally dropping dead from heat exhaustion before they can even fire a shot. The British army under Sir Henry Clinton is retreating from Philadelphia to New York. Washington sees an opportunity to strike. He sends General Charles Lee forward with a vanguard to attack the British rear guard.

And then everything goes wrong.

Lee, who has no real battle plan, who doesn’t even bother to tell most of his commanders what they’re supposed to be doing, engages the British and promptly orders a retreat. His troops, confused but disciplined, fall back in good order.

This is where everything could have fallen apart, where the story could have been “Americans retreat again.” But when Washington arrives on the scene and finds his troops withdrawing, he doesn’t accept it. He confronts Lee in a rage. One soldier reported that Washington cursed until “the leaves shook on the trees.”

This is the moment that matters, Washington rallies the retreating troops. He positions artillery. He organizes fresh defensive lines. And most importantly, his men stand and fight.

**MONMOUTH CONTEST ESSAY (cont).**

For hours, in murderous heat, Continental soldiers hold their ground against British grenadiers and dragons. They don’t break. They don’t run. They trade volleys, absorb charges, and even counter-attack. When British troops storm American positions along hedgerows, there’s desperate hand-to-hand combat. Americans die where they stand rather than flee.

By day’s end, the battle is technically a draw, Clinton continues his retreat to New York. Washington remains on the field. But something fundamental has changed.

Here’s why Monmouth matters more than the numbers suggest.

First. It proved the Continental Army could fight conventionally. The Americans suffered fewer casualties than the British – approximately 500 to Britain’s estimated 1000. They stood their ground. They maneuvered under fire. They showed unit cohesion that was previously unthinkable, Von Steuben’s training at Valley Forge had worked. The transformation from militia to professional army was real.

Second. Monmouth happened at precisely the right moment. France had just entered the war as America’s ally. French officers and diplomats needed proof that the Americans were worth supporting – that they wouldn’t cut and run when fighting got serious. Monmouth provided that proof. When news of the battle reached Paris, it validated the French decision to support the American cause.

Fourth. Monmouth exposed critical flaws in British strategy. Clinton’s retreat from Philadelphia to New York marked the effective end of British efforts to control the northern colonies. After Monmouth, the British shifted their attention southward, hoping to find more success there. This strategic pivot gave Washington breathing room and changed the entire theater of the war.

Fifth. Washington himself was transformed at Monmouth. His furious confrontation with Lee became legendary. When he rallied treating troops personally, riding between the lines, he displayed a leadership that transcended than just being a mere general. His ability to turn retreat into resistance earned him renewed respect from his men and officers.

Monmouth didn’t end the war. Five more years of bloody conflict followed, But it marked the moment when the Continental Army proved it could fight on British terms and survive. It was the battle that showed what Valley Forge had accomplished – transforming a collection of colonial militias into a professional fighting force capable of standing against Europe’s best.

Clinton knew it. That’s why he spun the battle as a British victory in his reports, claiming that he had repulsed an American attack rather than acknowledging the reality: his rearguard had been fought to a standstill by troops that were suppose dto break and run.

Washington knew it, too. Though he had hoped for a decisive victory, he recognized what his army had accomplished. “From every account,” he wrote afterward, “the enemy’s loss is considerable.”

The Battle of Monmouth was about proving something: that Americans could stand and fight, that the Continental Army was a real army, and that the evolution had produced not just ideas and declarations, but fighters capable of defending them.

When the last shots faded and Clinton slipped away in the night, the war was still far from over. But the Continental Army that marched away from Monmouth Court House was fundamentally different from the one that had marched in. They knew

**MONMOUTH CONTEST ESSAY (cont.)**

something about themselves they hadn’t known before, and in a war that was as much about will and perception as about territory and resources, that knowledge made all the difference.

Monmouth wasn’t the battle that won American independence. But it was the battle that proved Americans could win it. And in that transformation – from hopeful rebels to soldiers who could stand their ground – we find Monmouth’s true significance in the long struggle for American independence.

 **OUR FRIENDS AT THE VILLAGE INN**

 *The historic Village Inn in Englishtown played a role in the Monmouth Campaign both before and after the battle. It is owned and interpreted today by the Battleground Historical Society. The following text is from their membership brochure and is used with their permission.*

*To join them, visit their website at info@thebattlegroundhistoricalsociety.org.*

The Village Inn was originally erected circa 1726-1732 for Robert Newell to be used as his tailor shop and residence. The shop was sold circa 1749 to Thomas Davis and at this time the building was enlarged to accommodate his family. By 1766, he turned the building into a tavern along with his tailor shop. Moses joined the local militia and became a casualty of the Revolutionary War.

The next owner of the tavern was Daniel Herbert, a tanner, fellow militia man and customer of Moses Davis’ tavern. He purchased the Inn on April 18, 1777. Although no tavern licenses exist for the war years, Daniel Herbert was taxed for the tavern and a tan yard in 1779. The next owner was Henry I. Perrine, son-in-law of Daniel Herbert, who added an addition to the Inn. In 1827, after the death of Henry I. Perrine, there were other owners of the Inn and additional remodeling of the building until the Society acquired it in 1978.

From 1879 to 1972, three generations of the same family were owners of the tavern. Circa 1923 during the ownership of the last private owners, Grace Hazel Fleming Applegate and her husband James T. Applegate, the tavern name was changed and became known as the Village Inn. The building is still in its original location.

Upon the death of the last owner of the Village Inn as a tavern, the Battleground Historical Society learned that the property was for sale and possible demolition. With the help of the Borough of Englishtown and community development funds, the Society was able to purchase the Inn in 1978. After restoring the Inn, the building was opened to the public in 1993 and is now a museum and the headquarters of the Battleground Historical Society.

The Battleground Historical Society was organized in 1969 as a non-profit 501©3 exempt organization by a group of residents interested in identifying and preserving the heritage of the Boroughs of Freehold and Englishtown and the Townships pf Freehold, Manalapan, Marlboro and Millstone. The name of Battleground was chosen because of our proximity to the area of the Battle of Monmouth.

Taverns were an essential part of every community. All communities were required by law to have a tavern or “ordinary” to provide food and lodging for travelers.

**VILLAGE INN (cont.)**

To establish a tavern, one had to apply for a renewable yearly license, provide two sureties, have two beds and food and shelter for horses. Taverns served many purposes – to serve as a meeting place, to exchange news, to serve as a place to hold court, to collect taxes, and to vote.

The Village Inn is situated in the center of Englishtown on the northwest corner of Main and Water Streets at the junction of NJ Routes 527 and 522. It is the headquarters of the Battleground Historical Society and is open for tours and events throughout the year, We hold our meetings there at 7:00 P.M. on the fourth Thursday of every month except the month of December

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**NEW FRIENDS GROUP BEING FORMED
FOR OLD TENNENT CEMETERY**

FOMB Treasurer Kathy Doherty informs us that a new group is being formed called “The Friends of Old Tennent Cemetery.” The cemetery is located adjacent to historic Old Tennent Church and contains burials from the Battle of Monmouth, including the grave and marker of Lt. Col. Henry Monckton, the highest British officer killed in the battle.

Here is the text of the entry for the cemetery in Wikipedia: *The Old Tennent Cemetery is a non-denominational community*[*cemetery*](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=3a3ecb3f4050e162d304c0d47a7eb98e1d2b8f2a38125e59e2678614f7df4f7bJmltdHM9MTc0Nzc4NTYwMA&ptn=3&ver=2&hsh=4&fclid=277aba8d-a9bb-6ac4-184c-ae2fadbb6473&u=a1L3NlYXJjaD9xPUNlbWV0ZXJ5JTIwd2lraXBlZGlhJmZvcm09V0lLSVJF&ntb=1)*adjacent to the*[*Old Tennent Church*](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=1fdba2f17717fb753bcf5592139cc5148576bcc091e6bd1830b289bed028bcfdJmltdHM9MTc0Nzc4NTYwMA&ptn=3&ver=2&hsh=4&fclid=277aba8d-a9bb-6ac4-184c-ae2fadbb6473&u=a1L3NlYXJjaD9xPU9sZCUyMFRlbm5lbnQlMjBDaHVyY2glMjB3aWtpcGVkaWEmZm9ybT1XSUtJUkU&ntb=1)*in*[*Manalapan, New Jersey*](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=94e7dfaabc5df1f44daa84e8d994b7cdb3ad730de1f3292bafb42ca8c028ea1bJmltdHM9MTc0Nzc4NTYwMA&ptn=3&ver=2&hsh=4&fclid=277aba8d-a9bb-6ac4-184c-ae2fadbb6473&u=a1L3NlYXJjaD9xPU1hbmFsYXBhbiUyQyUyME5ldyUyMEplcnNleSUyMHdpa2lwZWRpYSZmb3JtPVdJS0lSRQ&ntb=1)*, with which it was affiliated until 1910. The cemetery was established in 1731, when the congregation moved from its location in nearby [Wickatunk, New Jersey](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=4f57afe51652d240abd18797c727e1f2779182ccd61100f791547191029995fbJmltdHM9MTc0Nzc4NTYwMA&ptn=3&ver=2&hsh=4&fclid=277aba8d-a9bb-6ac4-184c-ae2fadbb6473&u=a1L3NlYXJjaD9xPVdpY2thdHVuayUyQyUyME5ldyUyMEplcnNleSUyMHdpa2lwZWRpYSZmb3JtPVdJS0lSRQ&ntb=1" \t "_blank). The cemetery replaced what is known as the*[*Old Scots Burying Ground*](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=f22cc99019e63280dcc513dc3bdb9e43cae094c99a17551e4f744a59f4c8629fJmltdHM9MTc0Nzc4NTYwMA&ptn=3&ver=2&hsh=4&fclid=277aba8d-a9bb-6ac4-184c-ae2fadbb6473&u=a1L3NlYXJjaD9xPU9sZCUyMFNjb3RzJTIwQnVyeWluZyUyMEdyb3VuZCUyMHdpa2lwZWRpYSZmb3JtPVdJS0lSRQ&ntb=1)*.*

For information, contact Kathy at: dohertyk@optimum.net.

**STATUS OF THE PROPOSED WAREHOUSE**

 We have nothing new to report on the status of the new warehouse proposed for construction across the road from the entrance to Monmouth Battlefield State Park. The archaeological survey that was ordered by the Manalapan Township Planning Board should have been completed by now. We will hopefully have a report in time for the next newsletter.

**HOW TO REACH US**

Our mailing address is:

Friends of Monmouth Battlefield, PO Box 122, Tennent, NJ 07763

Our website is: http://www.friendsofmonmouth.org

Email us at: friendsofmonmouth@gmail.com

Visit us on facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofmonmouthbattlefieldsp>

**SUMMARY OF DR. MARTIN’S LECTURE**

**ON WASHINGTON AS A FIELD COMMANDER**

Here is a summary of Dr. Martin’s most recent “Second Sunday” lecture, given on May 18, on the topic “Washington as a Field Commander.”

He began by pointing out the difference between STRATEGIC command, which is operational strategy on the grand or campaign scale, and FIELD of tactical command, which is control of troops on the battlefield. According to Dr. Martin, Washington was a better strategic commander than tactical commander.

He showed his strategic skill twice. In the Trenton/Princeton campaign, he grasped the significance of how separated the British winter posts were at Trenton, Princeton and New Brunswick. He then crossed the Delaware aggressively not once but twice, the first to surprise the Hessian garrison at Trenton, the second to march around the British forces to win the battle of Princeton. In the Yorktown campaign, he disguised his intentions at New York and marched quickly with the French forces to Virginia to catch Cornwallis before the British force could be saved or evacuated by sea.

Washington had difficulty with battlefield tactics both as an attacker and as a defender. To be sure, some of his difficulties were caused by that fact that he simply had fewer and less reliable troops than the British did. But the simple fact was, he was often just plain out-generaled by the British.

At the battle of Brooklyn (Long Island), which was Washington’s first big field battle, he failed to guard all the roads on his critical right flank, and then did not react well to the British flank attack. The same thing happened at the battle of Brandywine, where the British successfully held Washington’s attention on his front while they sent a large flanking force to get into the American rear.

In between, Washington failed to hold on to Manhattan. He was persuaded by some of his generals to try to hold on to Fort Washington, which the British captured in one of the greatest American defeats of the war. Likewise, his troops were not able to hold on to Fort Lee, either, and once that post was lost, he had to abandon all of New Jersey.

These were all defensive losses. His most complex offensive battle was the attack at Germantown, which went awry for several reasons: in the foggy day some American troops got lost and others shot at each other; and he made the decision to stop to attack the Chew house rather than press what little advantage he had from the attack.

Monmouth was the only campaign and battle where he showed skill in both strategy and tactics. His campaign strategy was successful because he elected not to follow the British closely as they marched across New Jersey from Camden to Monmouth Court House (Freehold). Instead, he shadowed them from the side, crossing the Delaware farther north and then marching through Hopewell, Cranbury and Englishtown to intercept the British army at Monmouth. The key point of the campaign was when Washington posted most of his army at Gravel Hill in Monroe Township two days before the battle. There he had an excellent position to defend if the British attacked him, or to use as a base if he was able to amount an attack on the British. His tactical plan to attack the British rear guard as they withdrew from Monmouth Court House might have worked if General Charles Lee had not messed it up (for which he was court martialed after the battle). Washington’s critical decision was about 12:30 PM when he decided to keep his army on the field. His tactical maneuvers in the afternoon saved the day and helped him win a draw in the battle.