

235th Anniversary of British Invasion and American Retreat to Victory Weekend at Historic New Bridge Landing - Saturday - Sunday, November 19th and 20th

The Bergen County Historical Society will proudly commemorate the 235th Anniversary of the British invasion of New Jersey with a weekend of living history and scholarly presentations at the site of the Bridge that saved a Nation.

On November 20th, 1776, 5,000 British, Hessian and Loyalist troops under the command of Lt. Gen. Lord Cornwallis ascended the Palisades at the lower Closter Dock and commenced their march to capture Fort Lee, the principal remaining fortification on the Hudson of the fledgling United States. After receiving a warning from an alert officer that the British were crossing the river, Major General Nathanael Greene quickly evacuated the fort and quickly made for the only escape route available to him, New Bridge. Reaching the bridge ahead of the British enabled Washington's Army to secure their retreat across New Jersey and live to fight another day.

At 7:00 PM on Saturday Night in the Steuben House

Todd W. Braisted, a Bergen County Historical Society Past President, will present a lecture on new research of the British invasion, including the identities of the British guides up the Palisades, the discovery of the actual person who warned the garrison, and the pitched battle that nearly occurred between the British and Americans that night. Afterwards, visitors may enjoy light refreshments at the Campbell-Christie House, along with living history members portraying the soldiers and followers who took part in the Revolutionary struggle from that time.



On Sunday, between 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM, members of various living history groups representing both sides of the conflict performing military demonstrations during the course of the day, showing the life and times of the common soldier of the American Revolution. Cooking and Baking demonstrations will likewise take place in the Out-kitchen behind the Campbell Christie House, and visitors may tour the historic homes on the site. At 1:00 PM in the Steuben House, Todd Braisted will speak on the raising and history of the **4th Battalion, New Jersey Volunteers, Bergen County's Loyalist unit**, actually formed at New Bridge in the days immediately following the British Invasion. Some of the Society's treasure of Revolutionary War artifacts will likewise be on display over the weekend.



This event is being sponsored by the **Bergen County Historical Society** along with the **3rd New Jersey Regiment (2nd photo)** and **4th Battalion, New Jersey Volunteers** reenactment groups.

Historic New Bridge Landing, 1201-1209 Main Street, River Edge, NJ, 07661. Suggested donation: \$7 adult, \$5 children, BCHS members free. Ticket covers both days.

The Bergen County Historical Society is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) volunteer organization, founded in 1902 to preserve important evidence

of the past and to promote historical literacy through interesting programs and publications.

We don't receive public operating support or grants, but rely entirely upon private donations, membership dues and volunteer contributions of time and talent. We are presently trying to raise \$350,000 to construct a first-rate historical museum building and library for Bergen County on the Society's property at Historic New Bridge Landing, 1201 Main Street, River Edge, NJ 07661.