Arts/Creative



Old Dutch Parsonage

In the winter of 1778, General **George Washington's Continental Army encamped** at Middlebrook in the Watchung Mountains, just 3 miles from Hope Farm. Washington chose the area because it was a defensible one, with a good network of roads, plenty of timber for the soldiers' huts, and a sympathetic populace.

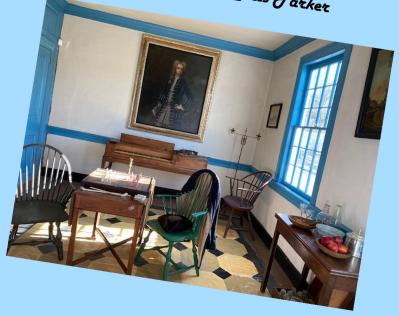
The area had few houses, however, suitable for officers' quarters. Because John Wallace owned one of the largest homes in the area, he was asked to share his home with Washington and his staff. He agreed and the Wallace house became Washington's headquarters for that winter. After spending 11 days at his new headquarters, Washington left for Philadelphia to attend Congress for 6 weeks.

When he returned to the **Wallace House in February** 1779, his wife, Martha, aides and servants accompanied him. The General and his staff kept busy by hosting foreign dignitaries, preparing dinner parties, and planning strategies for the upcoming spring military campaign.

Camp broke on June 3, 1779, and Washington, upon his departure, paid John Wallace \$1,000 for the use of his house and furniture.



A truly worthwhile visit. We all even got to sit in the war room where Washington ran his campaign in the winter of 1778/79. - Chris Parker



November 21, 2019 - Tour of NJ State historic site in Somerville of the Wallace House and the Old Dutch Parsonage



for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihit ople at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and Concurred to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing it Migrations hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.