

Contact Us!

Bayside History Museum
4025 4th Street
North Beach, MD 20714
410-610-5970

www.baysidehistorymuseum.org

Mailing Address: PO Box 348
North Beach, MD 20714

Hours of operation
Wednesday- 9:00am-12:00pm
Thursday- 9:00am-12:00pm
Friday- 9:00am-12:00pm
Saturday- 9:00am-12:00pm
Sunday- 9:00am-12:00pm

See our website for extended
summer hours

America's 250th Anniversary

The Bayside History Museum is excited to celebrate the 250th anniversary of American independence. Some of the items featured this year are:

- The Maryland 400
- Rousby Hall
- The Battle of St. George's Island Lego Exhibit
- The Totness
- American Revolutionary Clothing
- A Powder Horn used during the American Revolution and the War of 1812
- USS Constitution 1797
- The Don Shomette Naval & American Revolution Library
- Women of the American Revolution
- Revolutionary War Trivia Contest

Women of the American Revolution

The unsung heroes
of the Revolutionary
War



Sybil Ludington's Midnight Ride

Sybil's midnight ride is a contested story amongst historians, as evidence from this time period is hard to find.

Nonetheless the inspiring story of a young girl riding throughout the night inspired many others. The story goes like this:

Sybil was the daughter of Henry Ludington, a New York militia officer, later an aide to Gen. George Washington. On April 26, 1777, a messenger with news of Gov. William Tryon's attack on Danbury, Connecticut, reached the Ludington house. This attack would be approximately 15 miles to the southeast, where the munitions and stores for the militia of the entire region were stored. Colonel Ludington began immediately to organize the local militia. Sybil shouted the order for muster throughout countryside. Her father "*bade her to take a horse, ride for the men, and tell them to be at his house by daybreak.*" The 16-year-old girl rode her horse nearly 40 miles on unfamiliar roads around Putnam County, spreading the alarm. Ludington became a symbol for colonial women's often veiled role in American life.

The Man Herself

Robert Shurtleff joined the Fourth Massachusetts Regiment at West Point, New York in 1782 and was assigned to Captain George Webb's Company of Light Infantry. In June of 1782, Shurtleff and two sergeants led about 30 infantrymen on an expedition that ended with a confrontation. Shurtleff led a raid on a Tory home that resulted in the capture of 15 men. Shurtleff served in the continental army for a year and a half before being honorably discharged after an injury, returning to Massachusetts.

But Robert Shurtleff never existed, Deborah Sampson did. Deborah had a difficult life. At age 10, she was bound out as an indentured servant. At age 18, with her indenture completed, she worked as a teacher during summer sessions, and as a weaver in winter. She disguised herself as a man, serving honorably beside those who would sooner cast her aside than call her a brother in arms. Deborah went on to marry and have children, living out the rest of her life fulfilling typical women's roles, funded by a full military pension.

"Oh, if I only had the king of England here, with what satisfaction I could cut his body in pieces, tear out his heart, dissect it, put it upon these coals, and consume it"

-The Baroness de Riedesel heard a girl exclaim.

The Duality of Woman

Women had occupied many different positions during the American Revolution, camp followers assuming the roles of washerwomen, seamstresses, nurses, and cooks. Women were considered non-combatants, but that did not stop them from bearing arms. Margaret Corbin was the wife of an artilleryman, John Corbin and accompanied the Continental Army. John was killed at the Battle of Fort Mifflin on the 26th of September 1776. Margaret took his place and continued to fire his cannon until she herself was incapacitated by several wounds. She survived the battle and would go on to become the first woman to receive a US military pension.