

Benedict Arnold: Traitor Torches New London

“I daily discover so much baseness and ingratitude among mankind that I almost blush at being of the same species....”

Benedict Arnold in a letter to his wife Peggy Shippen, February 8, 1778

Start/Finish: Groton, Connecticut by Fort Griswold

Distance: 60.2 miles

Terrain: Mostly country roads, some city cycling

Difficulty: Moderate with some hills

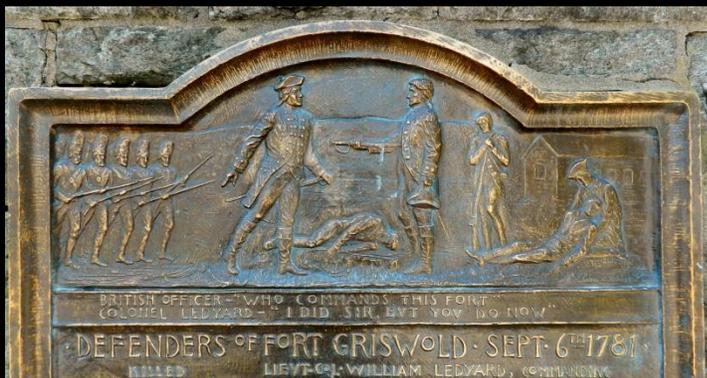
In 1777, as Benedict Arnold moved through Hartford and Middletown on his way home to New Haven, thousands came out to celebrate this Connecticut military hero. Native to Norwichtown, where he'd grown up the son of an alcoholic father who lost a lucrative trading business, Arnold just soaked up the adulation. Who could have guessed that this former indentured servant and apothecary would prove himself the best field officer in the Continental Army?

He had demonstrated time and again that even if he and his men did not win the day, he had the courage to take the fight right to the British to a degree that none expected. By 1777, Arnold had already captured Fort Ticonderoga in New York with Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys (see *Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys*). He had already marched 600 miles through wilderness in an effort to capture Quebec and control the northern front along the Canadian border, an infamous march that resulted in 40 percent of the men dying or deserting. The remaining stragglers, starved and frozen, followed Arnold through swamps, forests, and endured long marches often on less than a hundred calories a day per man. Once there, they failed to take Quebec, but surprised the British with their tenacity. As General Washington said, after hearing that Arnold had indeed gotten his men to Quebec and put up a fight, “The merit of that officer is certainly great.”

Arnold himself was severely wounded in the right leg in battle and his superior officer, General Richard Montgomery, was killed by cannon fire. Nearly every field officer was killed, wounded or taken prisoner. Yet, as the adoring crowds in Connecticut showed, most Patriots considered Montgomery and Arnold's Northern campaign a courageous and necessary undertaking.

Even more remarkably, despite the death of his first wife, his severely injured leg, bouts of gout, infighting among the military officers, charges that he mishandled money, and his own personal debt, Arnold took charge of creating America's first navy. Prior to the Revolution, he had traded extensively and

knew ships and the sea. His plan: build nimble vessels that navigate well in shallow waters along the Hudson River and Lake Champlain then lure the British ships into a narrow crossing where they would have to come at the Americans one-by-one, and thus lose the advantage of their numbers and size. Again, Arnold took the fight to the Redcoats to a degree that caught them completely unguarded as they fought near Valcour Island. The British superiority on water eventually prevailed, but not before Arnold's navy inflicted serious damage and, then, under cover of a thick fog, snuck right past British General Carleton's front line and escaped, a tremendous embarrassment for the Redcoats. Arnold's efforts delayed the British campaign a full year and earned vital time for the Continental Army.



A copper relief captures the fatal moment when Ledyard handed over his sword to surrender Fort Griswold.

Despite all of these incredible exploits, Arnold actually returned to his home in New Haven in 1777 in a dour mood; Congress had promoted five men from Brigadier to Major General and Arnold was not one of them. George Washington was not consulted about the promotions—all part of the larger plan to give Congress and the civil government more power over the military. Washington urged Arnold to be patient and promised to advocate on his behalf, but this cycle became an all too familiar pattern—politicians under-appreciated Arnold's actions in the field and he consistently alienated key figures in both politics and the military ranks.

After all the celebrations and accolades, Arnold was at home in New Haven with his children on April 26, 1777 when he heard a loud pounding on his door: 1500 Redcoats had attacked the Danbury depot. He and General David Wooster rushed to rally men for a counterattack. Again, the British successfully completed their mission, but Arnold and the other Connecticut Patriots put up a ferocious battle as the British returned to their ships. Wooster was killed, and Arnold had his horse shot out from under him. News of their bold counterattack spread through the colony and an embarrassed Congress finally granted Arnold his promotion. (See *The Danbury Raid* for a fuller account.)



At age 13, Benedict Arnold began his apprenticeship as an apothecary at this shop and residence in Norwichtown.

Three years later, when the British made another devastating attack along the Connecticut coastline at New London and Groton, Arnold was in the lead, now a traitor to the American Revolution and fighting for the King of England. Why did one of George Washington's most trusted and audacious Generals become a turncoat? It's easy to cast this complex man as a self-serving, debt-ridden American looking to line his own pockets and get back at all of the naysayers over the years who had never shown him enough gratitude for his service. Was his attack on New London, one of the most brutal of the war, just an act of pure bitterness? Did he care that the British soldiers under his command slaughtered the Americans at Fort Griswold in Groton and killed the fort's commanding officer, Lt. Colonel William Leyland, with his own sword as he tried to surrender? (See the *Lt. Colonel William Ledyard* biography) Or, as he claimed in his correspondence, did he truly feel that radicals were taking over the country and Americans once again needed the steadying hand of British rule?

As always with Arnold, there's no clear answer. At the Battle of Saratoga, for example, which proved a vital victory for the Americans, Arnold's men adored him. Again and again he distinguished himself in the field of battle. But he hated General Horatio Gates, his superior, and was actually confined to the military base when he ignored orders, joined the fight, and got so severely

wounded in his leg that he walked with a limp on the twisted limb the rest of his life. Gates considered him arrogant, was certain that Arnold had mishandled funds and owed the government money, and resented the acclaim he received in the press, from Major General Philip Schuyler and from his men. So even in the face of heroic actions on his part, and a clear victory, Arnold walked away soured by his experience.

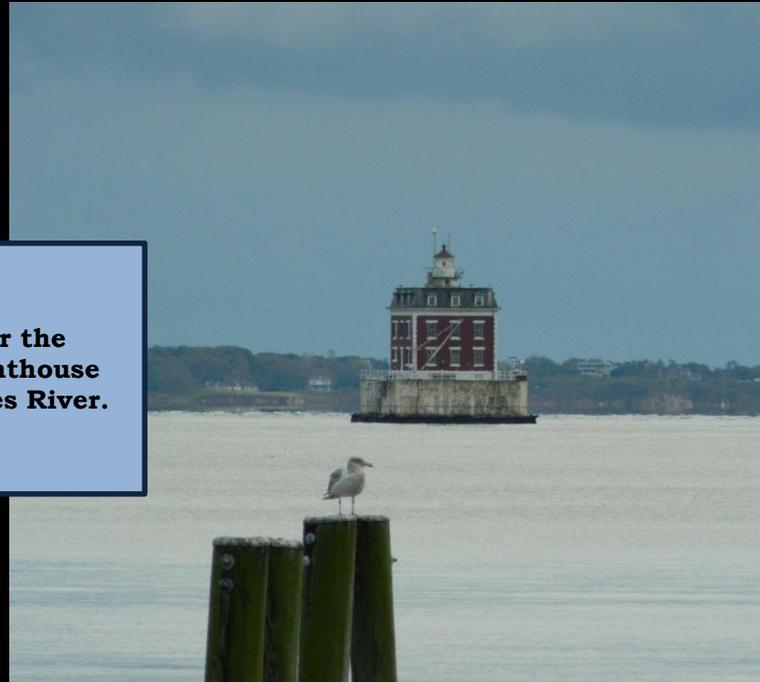


Stop by the Slater Museum in Norwich, the location of this swivel cannon, the type that Arnold manned on his ship at the Battle of Valcour Island on Lake Champlain.

It looked as though things might take a positive turn for him when General Washington put him in charge of imposing martial law in Philadelphia, which the British had vacated in June, 1778. His orders: to smooth out tensions between the Loyalists still in residence and the Patriots. Arnold began socializing regularly with Loyalists, including Peggy Shippen, daughter of a wealthy merchant and Loyalist. He married her on April 8, 1779. (See *The Arnold Women* biography)

Once again, things became murky and complex for Arnold. Radicals started riots in the city on October 4, 1779—they wanted all of the Loyalists out—and they even surrounded Arnold's residence. He appeared at the window with loaded pistols and the mob eventually broke up. But others in the city charged him with using government wagons to pull goods for his personal business and gain. Pennsylvania wanted Congress to court martial him. He'd already been involved in court martial proceedings regarding money during his time in Quebec and Montreal; the new charges wouldn't go away. He was eventually acquitted but Congress convinced George Washington to officially reprimand Arnold for poor judgment, a devastating blow to Arnold's ego. Ever chasing power, control and a better reputation, this felt like the ultimate insult after all of his years of service.

British ships anchored near the site of this spectacular lighthouse at the mouth of the Thames River.



Washington tried to make amends by placing Arnold in charge of West Point in 1780, but Arnold's bitterness had already morphed into devastating action. He'd been communicating with the British in New York and made it plain he wanted to abandon the Patriot cause and join the Redcoats. He offered to give them West Point and, perhaps, even General George Washington, whose whereabouts he often knew.

It took 18 months and countless failed attempts to meet up with Major John Andre, a British officer who also socialized with Peggy Shippen and her circle during his own stay in Philadelphia in 1777. He was head of the British spy network, when he heard about Arnold's traitorous plans. On September 21, 1780 the two men finally met. Andre came ashore from the British ship *Vulture*. But American boats began firing at the *Vulture*, damaging its sails and rigging, so it had to pull off, leaving Andre on the American side for the evening. Arnold rushed back to West Point, fully prepared to escape, and Andre spent a nervous night in Patriot territory.

If all had gone according to plan the British would have captured West Point and General George Washington, who was headed there to meet Arnold. But a small band of Americans looking to rob Loyalists came upon Andre as he rushed towards the British line. They stripped him naked and went through all of his belongings, including his boots, which contained maps. They had caught themselves a spy--and, possibly, a cash reward.

Meanwhile Arnold, his treachery still unexposed, was preparing to meet George Washington at West Point when he heard of Andre's capture. He fled by small

boat down river to the *Vulture* anchored near Tarrytown. This marked one of the great low points of the war for General Washington and the Patriots; witnesses described Washington as rattled and enraged.



The Shaw Mansion in New London, home to a successful privateer and one of the only buildings the Redcoats didn't burn during their vicious raid on September 6, 1781.

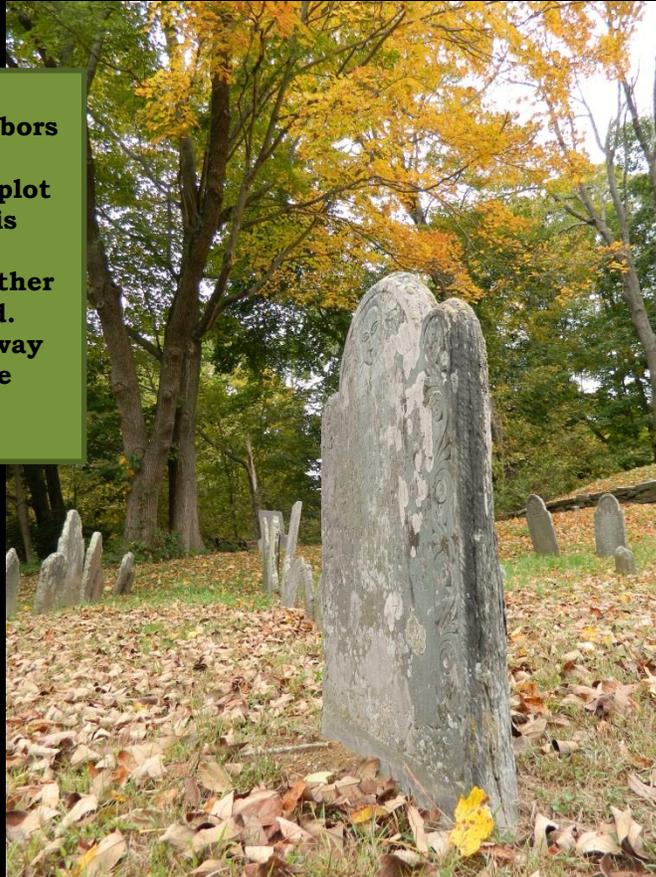
As news of his treachery spread, a mob in Norwich, Connecticut, charged into the cemetery and smashed his father's and brother's graves, leaving his mother's still standing. Today, visitors can stand in that space where Arnold's former neighbors vented their shame and rage. Towns across the state burned effigies of Arnold in the streets.

Of course, Arnold returned the insult by convincing General Clinton that the British needed to attack New London, where many privateers had snagged nearly 500 British ships full of loot (see *Privateers* in the biography section). Under his new command and colors, he had the Redcoats and Connecticut Loyalists in his ranks kill privateers, torch homes and ships and warehouses. He did not intend to completely level the city but one of the ships was packed with gunpowder and the entire town blew up. He considered it a great victory,

but General Clinton felt it came at too great a price: one in four British soldiers died. Arnold was shipped off to London.

Inadvertently, Arnold may have helped the American cause even in his darkest hour. By committing several ships to the attack on New London, it kept those British vessels out of the Battle of Virginia Capes. The Redcoats down south lost that key naval battle, which prevented General Cornwallis from securing the help and rescue he needed at Yorktown.

When Arnold's former neighbors heard of his treachery, they went to the town cemetery plot in Norwich and destroyed his father and brother's gravestones, leaving his mother Hannah's marker untouched. The cemetery sits tucked away near a stream and feels little changed from the 1770s.



In his final years, Arnold tried to establish his wife and family in New Brunswick, Canada. For seven years he ran a trading business, which eventually failed and he returned to England, where he was buried in the crypt of a small remote church. During his time in New Brunswick, one of his former American soldiers, who had made the incredible six-week journey to Quebec, saw him in the streets.

“I did not make myself known to him, but frequently I sat upon the ship's deck [to] watch the movements of my old commander who had carried us through everything, and for whose skill and courage I retained the former admiration, despite his treason. But when I thought of what he had been and the despised man he then was, tears would come.”

Route Notes

0.0 Start by Fort Griswold on Park Avenue next to the Monument House Museum.

On September 6, 1781 the British captured Fort Griswold and massacred 88 Americans. The fort's commander, Colonel William Ledyard was killed by his own sword and bayonets after surrendering.

0.1 At the stop sign turn RIGHT onto Smith Street.

0.2 Turn LEFT at the stop sign onto Allen Street.

0.3 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn RIGHT onto Mitchell Street.



The Ebenezer Avery House served as a hospital after the horrific massacre at Fort Griswold. It was originally located closer to the Thames River but later moved near the fort.

0.4 The Ledyard Cemetery is on the left. Turn RIGHT onto Ledyard Avenue.

Colonel William Ledyard is buried in the cemetery, and a sword is sculpted into his monument.

0.5 At the stop sign turn LEFT onto Smith Street.

0.6 Continue STRAIGHT at the traffic light onto Eastern Point Road.

1.4 At the traffic light turn RIGHT onto Route 349 South / Eastern Point Road.

2.2 Turn RIGHT onto Meech Avenue.

2.3 Turn LEFT onto North Prospect Street.

2.35 Turn RIGHT onto Cottage Place.

2.4 Turn RIGHT onto Hillside Avenue.

2.5 At the stop sign turn LEFT onto Meech Avenue (becomes Shore Avenue).

Look across the Thames River. Benedict Arnold and one of two British forces landed to the left / South of the site of the white lighthouse on September 6, 1781. They raided and burned New London.

3.0 At the stop sign turn LEFT onto Beach Pond Road.

This is where the other 800 British Soldiers landed to attack Fort Griswold.

3.3 Turn RIGHT onto Eastern Point Road.



Benedict Arnold split his troops and sent about 800 men to attack Fort Griswold. They landed at Avery Point in Groton (right). Arnold himself landed with his men to the west of the site of the lighthouse (left) on his way to destroying New London.

3.35 Turn RIGHT into the University of Connecticut Avery Point entrance. Follow the loop road to the point and lighthouse.

3.7 At the Avery Point Lighthouse, lookout to the water. Benedict Arnold's British ships were anchored near the red square lighthouse by the mouth of the Thames River and Long Island Sound. The troops rowed to both shores 800 men each 1,600 total to burn New London and capture Fort Griswold.

4.0 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn RIGHT out of the UCONN exit onto Shennecossett Road (no sign).

4.5 Turn LEFT at the stop sign and stay on Shennecossett Road.

4.9 Continue STRAIGHT at the stop sign and stay on Shennecossett Road. Follow the curves through the neighborhoods.

6.2 At the traffic light turn LEFT onto Rainville Avenue.

6.4 Turn RIGHT onto Benham Road.

6.7 At the traffic light turn LEFT onto Poquennock Road.

6.9 At the traffic light continue STRAIGHT onto Thames Street.

7.4 By Fort Street, Fort Griswold gates are to the right and a monument commemorating the American prisoners taken at Fort Griswold is to the left by the river.

7.5 The original location for the Avery House used as hospital during the battle is marked on the right. It was later moved near the fort.

8.0 Turn LEFT onto Fairview Avenue and drive under the bridge.



Nathan Hale's school house in New London, where he was working when he quit teaching and enlisted in the Continental Army.

8.3 Turn RIGHT at the traffic light onto Grove Avenue.

8.5 Turn RIGHT onto Bliven Street.

8.6 Enter the bikeway / sidewalk to cycle over the bridge at the end of Bliven Street. Drivers turn LEFT onto Riverview Avenue (becomes Walker Hill Road).

- 8.9 Continue STRAIGHT at the stop sign onto Walker Hill Road.
- 9.2 At the traffic light turn RIGHT onto Route 12.
- 9.4 Turn RIGHT onto I-95 South / Route 1 South.

Lt. Colonel William Ledyard

William Ledyard grew up in Groton and must have relished watching the construction of Fort Griswold in his hometown on a rise overlooking the Thames River and across from New London. It's hard to know if he ever imagined as a boy that he would one day be commander of that fort, but on September 6, 1781 that's precisely where he stood—in charge and determined to repel the 800-plus advancing Redcoats sent by Benedict Arnold, the Connecticut native from Norwichtown turned traitor.

The British soldiers did not expect such a ferocious counterattack from the 165 or so Americans, who killed dozens of them, including Major Montgomery and Colonel Eyre. Once Redcoats breached the walls, they went after the Patriots with a vengeance, perhaps fueled by their commanding officers' deaths. When Lt. Colonel William Ledyard signaled the fort's surrender and handed over his sword, a British officer grabbed it and ran the blade through the American, killing him on the spot. The rest of the Redcoats turned on the other Americans, massacring 88 of them. Once they had control of the fort, they piled many of the wounded in a wagon, but that lost traction on the grassy hill and smashed into a tree, adding to the men's agony.

Today, Ledyard's sword is on display in the Monument House Museum in the summer and in the Bill Memorial Library during the rest of the year, a symbol of an ignoble act.

- 11.1 Take the first exit off of the bridge, Exit 84 and turn RIGHT direction Norwich.
- 11.7 Continue bearing RIGHT, Exit 84 State Pier then turn RIGHT at the stop sign onto Williams Street (no sign).
- 11.9 For cyclists, exit the bridge at Bailey Circle, then turn RIGHT onto Williams Street.
- 12.0 Cross under the bridge.
- 12.1 Continue STRAIGHT at the traffic light.

12.6 At the traffic light turn LEFT onto Broad Street.

The Nathan Hale statue is to the right in the park.

12.9 At the traffic light turn RIGHT onto Huntington Street then a quick left at the next traffic light onto State Street.

13.2 At the traffic light turn LEFT by the Civil War Monument and Harbor onto Water Street (no sign).

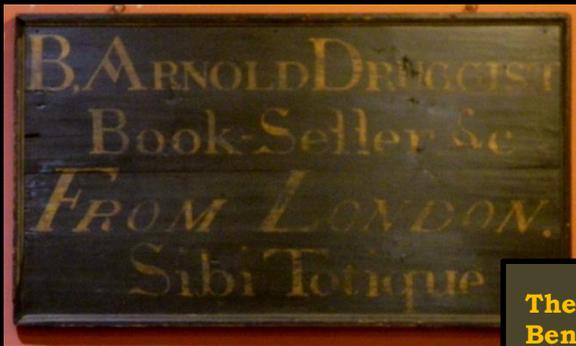
The Nathan Hale Schoolhouse is on the left.

13.4 Turn LEFT at the traffic light onto Governor Winthrop Street.

13.5 Turn LEFT onto Eugene O'Neill Street (becomes Green Street).

13.9 At the traffic light and T-intersection turn LEFT onto Tilley Street.

14.0 Turn RIGHT at the traffic light onto Bank Street.



The sign that hung outside Benedict Arnold's apothecary shop in New Haven.

The Shaw Mansion on the right, one of the few buildings Benedict Arnold and the British failed to burn on September 6, 1781.

14.2 Turn LEFT at the traffic light onto Howard Street.

14.7 Turn LEFT onto Walbach Street.

14.9 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn RIGHT onto East Street (no sign).

Fort Trumbull on the left, the British also destroyed Fort Trumbull on September 6, 1781.

The Arnold Women

A mother, married to an alcoholic, has eleven children but loses nine, then finds a way to put her remaining son through school until age 13, before she must accept her limited means and have him apprentice at a relative's apothecary shop in town.

A quiet, moody young wife endures her husband's long absences and raises their three children essentially alone while he travels the seas for trade; he writes home but she rarely replies. While he is away on the famous six week trek through the wilderness to capture Quebec, the wife dies at age 30, leaving him with three young children under 10, a struggling business, and a Revolution to fight.

An unwed sister sees her brother's plight after the death of his wife and steps into the breach and takes up house in New Haven with his children. While he is away making himself world famous as the greatest field officer of the American Revolution, she raises his children, continues to run his merchant business and keeps his affairs in better order than he did himself. Indeed, even as his debts mount and Arnold's political enemies charge him with misuse of government funds, his sister consistently finds a way to send him much needed cash, because of her own wise investments.

When her widowed brother marries a Loyalist who aids and abets his treachery, the sister, a Patriot, continues to raise his children, though she hates his in-laws and his new wife. After he escapes to London and spends seven years in New Brunswick, Canada, he demands the sister bring his children to Canada. She complies.

These portraits of his mother Hannah Arnold, his first wife Margaret Mansfield and his sister Hannah offer a window into the complex world that women lived in during the American Revolution, when they had their own battles to fight on the home front. Many of the men left behind farms and/or businesses and huge families that the women had to sustain, often with little to no money. Their story goes largely untold, and yet many of the men threatened to desert the Continental Army, not because they feared for their lives in battle, but because they feared for the survival of their families and farms/businesses back home. Every planting season, General Washington lost a huge percentage of his enlisted men.

Of course no portrait of the Arnold women is complete without the tale of Peggy Shippen, his second wife, the daughter of a wealthy merchant and Loyalist. She socialized with both sides during her heyday as a single woman in Philadelphia. When the British controlled the city, Major John Andre and other top officers flocked to her social circle. When the Americans came in, Arnold came calling. She linked the two ill-fated men.

Unlike Margaret, Arnold's first wife, Peggy was stylish, outgoing and assertive. Most historians agree that she played a role in convincing Arnold to abandon the Patriot cause and join the British side in exchange for money, a high military rank, land, housing and a future position in the administration in America after the Redcoats won the war. Of course, things didn't work out as Peggy planned, but she still found a way to convince the Americans to let her join her husband after his escape to the *Vulture*. The couple never regained any social footing in the world and wandered from social group to social group in Canada and England as shunned outsiders.

15.0 Turn RIGHT onto Trumbull Street (no sign).

15.2 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn LEFT then at the traffic circle follow Pequot Avenue. Do not drive under the bridge.

17.4 Benedict Arnold and British landed on the beach to the left after the lighthouse.

17.7 Continue STRAIGHT at the stop sign onto Mott Avenue.

17.8 At the stop sign turn LEFT and continue on Mott Avenue around the neighborhood.

18.1 Continue STRAIGHT at the traffic light onto Ocean Avenue.

18.6 Turn RIGHT at the traffic light onto Glenwood Avenue.

19.1 At the stop sign turn LEFT onto Montauk Avenue (no sign and bike lanes).

21.2 At the traffic light and T-intersection turn LEFT onto Route 1 then take a quick RIGHT onto Jefferson Avenue.

21.3 Turn RIGHT onto West Coit Street.

21.5 Turn LEFT onto Connecticut Avenue (no sign).

22.3 At the stop sign continue STRAIGHT Connecticut Avenue (becomes Fitch Avenue).

22.5 Turn LEFT onto Norwood Avenue.

22.7 Turn RIGHT onto Briggs Street then cross over the highway.

22.9 Turn LEFT onto Bayonet Street after the highway.

23.3 At the traffic light continue STRAIGHT onto Bayonet Street (becomes Bloomingdale Road).

24.1 Turn RIGHT onto Gallows Lane.

24.7 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn LEFT onto Williams Street (no sign) becomes Old Norwich Road.

26.4 Turn LEFT onto Colchester Road.

31.4 At the stop sign turn RIGHT onto Chesterfield Road.

31.9 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn LEFT onto Oakdale Road.



When he passed through Norwich, General George Washington dined at the Leffingwell Tavern.

32.1 At the red blinking light continue STRAIGHT onto Meeting House Lane.

32.6 Turn RIGHT onto Simpson Lane.

33.6 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn RIGHT onto Raymond Hill Road (no sign).

33.8 Turn LEFT onto Fitch Hill Road.

36.2 Merge RIGHT onto Leffingwell Road.

36.3 Turn LEFT onto Old Fitch Hill Road (becomes Segal Bank Road).

36.6 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn LEFT onto New London Turnpike.

Privateers

The British sailed a lot of supplies and goods across Long Island Sound to New York, which made New London an ideal port for privateers looking to capture enemy loot. The state of Connecticut actually officially sanctioned the seizures, all part of adjusting to a superior enemy that boasted the world's greatest navy. In peacetime, such attacks on trading vessels would be considered piracy, but during the Revolution they caused a real problem for the Redcoats, who lost as many as 600 ships, some of which were docked in New London when Arnold came calling in 1780 with his torches.

Most historians estimate that about 55,000 men served as privateers during the war. It was a dangerous job and the promise of a payback was limited, since they often had to pay financial backers as well as themselves. In a wonderful twist of irony, the largest vessel taken by privateers in the Revolution was called *Hannah*, the same name as Arnold's mother and sister.

37.8 Continue STRAIGHT at the traffic light and cross Route 82.

38.0 Turn LEFT onto Old Salem Road.

38.1 At the stop sign turn RIGHT onto Gifford Street.

39.2 At the stop sign turn LEFT onto Dudley Street.

40.3 At the stop sign turn LEFT onto New London Turnpike Road (no sign) then cross under highway.

40.7 At the second traffic light turn LEFT onto Town Street.

The Norwichtown Green is straight ahead one of the best preserved eighteenth century greens with surrounding buildings in the state. One of the entrances to the Old Burying ground is across the street. A number of Lafayette's French Soldiers, Benedict Arnold's family, and Declaration of Independence Signer Samuel Huntington are buried in this ancient cemetery.

40.9 Turn RIGHT onto East Town Street.

41.1 Samuel Huntington's House is on the right.

41.3 Turn RIGHT onto Scotland Road.



Samuel Huntington, signer of the Declaration of Independence, is buried in the Old Burying Ground behind the house.

41.5 Benedict Arnold apprenticed at his relatives apothecary practice. The shop was to the left at the house and garage, and the residence Latham's house was on the right; now a Bed and Breakfast.

41.6 Turn LEFT onto Washington Road.

The Leffingwell House is straight ahead. General Washington stopped by here during his travels.

42.0 Arnold Place to the left, birthplace of Benedict Arnold.

42.2 At the traffic light bear RIGHT at the fork onto Washington Street.

42.3 Turn LEFT onto Williams Street.

42.6 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn LEFT onto Lafayette Street.

42.8 Turn LEFT onto Sherman Street (no sign).

42.9 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn LEFT onto Yantic Street.

The walkway across the Yantic River and Indian Leap are on the right.

43.1 At the stop sign and T-intersection, turn RIGHT onto Sachem Street.

43.4 At the traffic light continue STRAIGHT and stay on Sachem Street.

43.5 At the traffic continue STRAIGHT onto Chelsea Parade.



Just over the rise from the destroyed Arnold family plot, visitors can see a memorial surrounded by small French flags, which commemorates the French soldiers who died from disease while stationed in the town.

A statue of George Washington and swivel cannon like the one Benedict Arnold fired at the Battle of Valcour Island are on display at the Slater Memorial Museum across the street.

43.6 From Crescent Street turn RIGHT at the stop onto Rockwell Street.

The Faith Trumbull Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter and Museum is to the left.

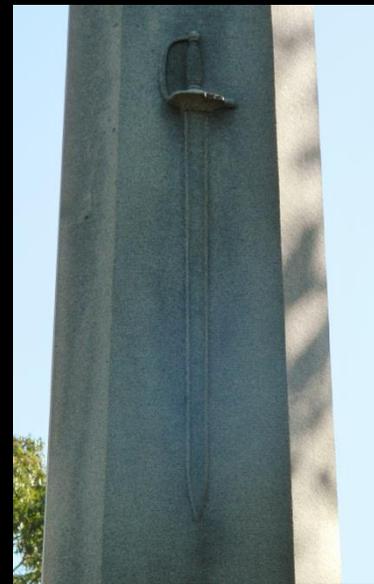
43.7 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn LEFT onto Broadway.

44.0 Becomes Union Street.

44.3 Turn RIGHT at the fork by the traffic light.

44.5 At the traffic and T-intersection turn LEFT onto Main Street.

44.7 Turn RIGHT at the traffic light over the bridge Route 2 East Viaduct.



Lt. Colonel William Ledyard's gravesite. The British killed him with his own sword after he tried to surrender. The sword itself is often on display at the Bill Memorial Library.

44.9 At the traffic light after the bridge turn LEFT onto Talman Street.

45.4 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn RIGHT onto Route 2 East.

45.7 At the traffic light and fork bear RIGHT on Route 2 East.

46.1 Bear RIGHT at the fork onto Palmer Street Extension.

48.8 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn LEFT onto Route 2A East Poquetanuck Road.

49.0 Turn RIGHT onto Cider Mill Road (becomes Avery Hill Road).

51.5 Continue STRAIGHT onto Avery Hill Road Extension.

52.1 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn LEFT onto Whalehead Road (no sign).

52.4 Turn RIGHT onto Vinegar Hill Road.

53.9 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn RIGHT onto Long Cove Road.

54.1 Bear LEFT at the fork and stay on Long Cove Road.

55.7 Turn LEFT onto Baldwin Hill Road before the traffic light.

56.6 At the stop sign continue STRAIGHT (becomes Pleasant Valley Road North).

57.6 Turn RIGHT onto Gungywamp Road.

57.8 At the traffic light turn LEFT onto Route 12 South.

57.9 Turn RIGHT onto Pleasant Valley Road South.

58.4 Turn RIGHT onto Lestertown Road.

58.8 At the stop sign turn LEFT onto Starr Hill Road.

59.2 At the traffic light continue STRAIGHT onto Fairview Avenue under the bridge.

59.5 At the stop sign and T-intersection turn LEFT onto Bridge Street.

59.7 Turn RIGHT onto Monument Street (steep hill).

60.0 Colonel Ledyard's sword is housed at Bill Memorial Library on the left.

60.2 Finish at Fort Griswold.

SUGGESTED READING

Desjardin, Thomas A., *Through a Howling Wilderness*, St. Martins Press, 2006

Martin, James Kirby, *Benedict Arnold: Revolution Hero, an American Warrior Reconsidered*, New York University Press, 1997

Nelson, James L., *Benedict Arnold's Navy*, McGraw-Hill, 2006

Palmer, Dave R., *George Washington and Benedict Arnold: A Tale of Two Patriots*, Regnery Publishing, 2006

Randall, Willard Sterne, *Benedict Arnold: Patriot and Traitor*, Barnes and Noble Books, 1990

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