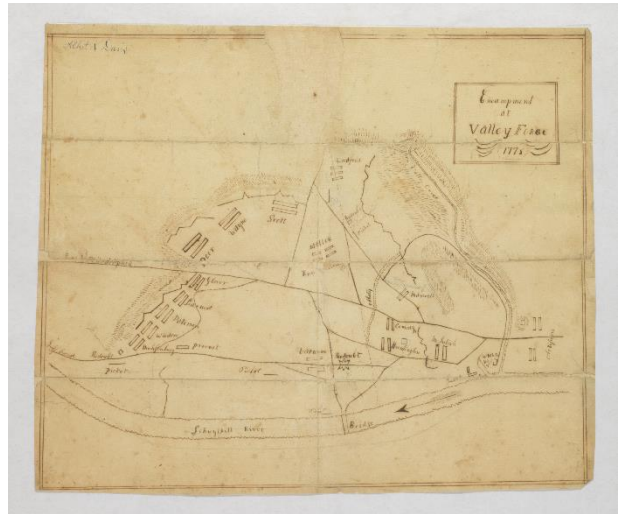


## The Winter of Valley Forge: Triumph and Tragedy in the Continental Army

On December 19, 1777 the Continental Army entered winter camp at Valley Forge. Under General George Washington, the army set up camp only 20 miles from British-occupied Philadelphia. By the time the army marched into Valley Forge, they were suffering not only from cold, hunger, and fatigue, but from low morale after suffering major defeats against the British at the battles of Brandywine and Germantown. Washington's army was ill-prepared for the encampment that would last six months. The army consisted of as many as 15,500 Continentals as well as smaller numbers of African American and Native American soldiers. The army's supply of basic necessities, like food and clothing, ran short and diseases ran rampant through the camp.



Valley Forge Camp Ground

### Primary sources

- ❖ Valley Forge Photographs. [Am.2376]
- ❖ Valley Forge Court Martial Records. [Am.6315]
- ❖ The Encampment at Valley (photographs) [Am.2375]
- ❖ Nicola, Lewis 1717-1807. Lewis Nicola Maps and Plans of the Revolution. [Am.602folio]
- ❖ John Nice family papers [Collection 0451]
- ❖ Robert Blackwell baptism and marriage register: [Am.733]
- ❖ Washington at Valley Forge [electronic resource]
- ❖ Encampment at Valley Forge map, 1778 [electronic resource]
- ❖ Winter Camp at Valley Forge [electronic resource]

### Secondary sources

- ❖ Bill, Alfred Hoyt. *Valley Forge: The Making of an Army*. [1st ed.]. New York: Harper, 1952. [Sa .5828]
- ❖ Taylor, Frank Hamilton. *Valley Forge: A Chronicle of American Heroism*. 2d and rev. ed. Philadelphia: J.W. Nagle, 1911. [UPA E 234.T39 1911]

### Other Sources of Information:

Valley Forge National Historical Park (U.S. National Park Service) - <https://www.nps.gov/vafo/index.htm>