

## Re-enactors pay tribute

Re-enactors brought the events leading up to the Battle of Trenton to life Saturday at the Battle of the Iron Works in Mount Holly.

It was December 1776 when British troops went into winter quarters, mostly in New York, but about 3,000 in New Brunswick and Princeton, 1,500 Hessians at Trenton and 2,000 Hessians and Scotsmen at Bordentown. The British had incorrectly assumed that Gen. George Washington's troops — 5,000 near Newtown, Pa., 1,500 at Bristol, Pa., and 1,000 around Philadelphia — were also in for the winter.


On Dec. 17, some 600 of Washington's troops crossed the Delaware River, went through Moorestown to Mount Holly, where they set up artillery at Iron Works Hill.

By Dec. 24, roughly 2,000 Hessians were in Mount Holly, where a daylong battle ensued with Washington's troops occupying Iron Works Hill on the far side of town, south of the Rancocas Creek.

As the Americans left that night for Moorestown, the Hessians stayed. Two days later, the Battle of Trenton was under way. It resulted in the capture of 1,000 prisoners by the American forces.

To commemorate these events from the 18th century, there were activities all day Saturday in which re-enactors showed what

it was like then and explained what happened and why. The highlight was the replaying of the Iron Works Hill battle.

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