

# MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



SPONSORED BY:  
THE KIWANIS CLUB OF STROUDSBURG, PA



# THE SULLIVAN WILDERNESS TRAIL



# MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



Minsi Trails Council. BSA  
PO Box 20624  
Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-0624  
(610) 264-8551

## **HISTORIC TRAILS PROGRAM**

7/1/2023 Edition

## HISTORIC TRAILS PROGRAM

This historic trails program was developed by the Minsi Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America to provide additional outdoor program activities as well as an insight into our American heritage. Its purpose is to promote citizenship training and physical fitness. This is accomplished through an exciting hiking program that features recognition for achievement.

In order that we might understand the story of our trails we must go back in time and relive the events that shaped our nation over 250 years ago. Our trail emblem is symbolic of those events in history that played such an important role in our nations development.

Upon examining the emblem we see the profiles of three figures, each symbolic of the people that shaped our land. The Native American is a symbol of our earliest history. The Pioneer represents the hardy men who opened up the frontier and the Continental Soldier is a reminder of the sacrifices endured so that we might be free.

The Liberty Bell was housed in Allentown during the British occupation of Philadelphia and is our National symbol of freedom. The Moravian belfry is representative of the Moravian influence in this area and is symbolic of our religious heritage. The Easton flag was the first stars and stripes flag. It was flown at the reading of the Declaration of Independence in Easton, PA on July 8, 1776.

The trail segments symbolize the various aspects of our early history. The tri-cornered hat is representative of the Colonial period and as such is the symbol of the **Colonial Trail**. The Durham boat represents the extensive use of the canal system of the early nineteenth and twentieth centuries and is a symbol of the **Durham Trail**. The Paschal Lamb of the **Moravian Trail** symbolizes the Moravian influence in our valley. The Peace Pipe of the **Uncas Trail** symbolizes our Native American Heritage and the powderhorn of the **Sullivan Wilderness Trail** is symbolic of the early struggles of our country. The hammer and pick ax symbolize our industrial heritage for the **Industrial Heritage Trail**. The Moravian Star is another symbol of our Moravian cultural heritage and represents the **Nazareth Trail**. The bull's eye is the symbol of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. which owned the Lehigh and Delaware canal and represents the **Towpath Trail**. The ore car represents the **Quarries Trail**. The mountains and the river represent the Delaware Water Gap, the gateway to the Poconos and is the symbol of the **Gateway to the Poconos Trail**.

The trail medal features a bronze medallion suspended from a red, white and blue ribbon. The medallion consists of the three figures on the emblem and also a fourth, that of a Moravian woman. This latter figure is in honor of all the Colonial women and their extensive contributions to our land.

Thus, the emblem and medal are symbolic of the men and women who settled our Country and guided its destiny. We are the inheritors of their dream. As you journey along these trails, may you be inspired with the same love for and devotion to our nation as were our forebearers.

## NOTES

*Scout's Name:*

*Hike Leaders:*

*Unit:*

*Date of Hike:*

*Weather:*

*Number of participants:*

*Interesting things you saw:*

For additional information, contact: Minsi Trails Council, B.S.A.  
P.O. Box 20624  
Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-0624  
(610) 264-8551

Mr. Edward D. Riebman  
 Mr. Donald C. Rohrbach  
 Mrs. Erika N. Still  
 Mr. Ronald R. Strisofsky, Jr. *Eagle Scout BSA Troop 54, Northampton. PA*  
 Mr. Richard Szarko. *Eagle Scout. BSA Troop 14. Bethlehem. PA*  
 Mr. David Wheeler. *Eagle Scout. BSA Troop 200. Hokendauqua. PA*  
 Mr. Larry Zaccaro  
 Mrs. Oliver B. Zug, *Historic Bethlehem*  
 First United Presbyterian Church, Hokendauqua. PA  
 GFWC Nazareth Women's Club  
 Hellertown Borough & Emerson Mills, Burgess  
 Hugh Moore Park Commission, Easton  
 Frank Huth & Son, Inc.  
 Ironton Railroad & Thomas Iron Co. Museum, Coplay  
 Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center  
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 Minsi Trails Council Executive Board  
 Monroe County Historical Society, Stroudsburg, PA  
 Moravian Church of North America  
 Moravian Hall Square Museum & Craft Shop  
 Moravian Historical Society  
 Moravian Museum of Bethlehem  
 Nazareth Business and Professional Woman's Club  
 Nazareth Chamber of Commerce  
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 Nazareth Lions Club  
 Nazareth Lioness Club  
 Nazareth Rotary Club  
 Northampton County Historical Society  
 Old Freemansburg, Assoc., Freemansburg, PA  
 Pocono Mountain School District  
 Slatebelt Museum, Mount Bethel, PA  
 Urban Research & Development Corp.  
 Witachsoman Lodge 44 Order of the Arrow  
 Woman's Club of Catasauqua, PA

*Monroe County Architecture 1737-1979 - C. J. Klofach*  
*Portland Commemorative Book 1976, J. Loyd, E. Kline*  
*Stroudsburg Walking Tour*

## REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAIL AWARDS

1. Only current registered Scouts BSA, Venturers, Explorers, Unit Leaders, Cadette or older Girl Scouts and Leaders may receive the trail medal. For those groups traveling more than 500 miles, a national tour permit is required.
2. Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Brownies, Junior Girl Scouts and any other individuals who hike the trails may purchase the patches and segments only for which they qualify. Any three of the required five trails for a medal may be completed as a Tiger Cub, Cub Scout, Brownie, or Junior Girl Scout.
3. Awards may be purchased at the Minsi Trails Council Scout Shop. Rockers (depicted on the back cover and shaded for the hike in this pamphlet) are available for each hike. Upon completing the first hike you may also purchase the round center patch.
4. Qualifications for the trail medal is to hike, in full, any five of the Minsi Trails Council, B.S.A., Historic Trails. Trail medals may also be purchased at the Minsi Trails Council Scout Shop.

## TRAIL USE GUIDELINES

1. The Scout Oath and Scout Law apply at all times
2. Safety is a major concern. Use proper hiking methods, precautions and common sense (see Scouts BSA Handbook for additional information). Individuals need to check weather and safety conditions prior to hiking the trails. Note that some trails are in hunting areas, please check local hunting dates. Additionally, leaders should be familiar with the [Guide to Safe Scouting \(GSS\)](#) as well as course SCO\_800 Hazardous Weather Training, available at [my.scouting.org](http://my.scouting.org). The BSA also has the S.A.F.E. program which provides a concise checklist for running safe activities: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safe/>
3. No trespassing on private property. Respect the rights of others.
4. All the hikes have been prepared as day long hikes. Toilet and overnight facilities have not been provided.
5. Knowledge of basic compass, map reading and hiking procedures is necessary.
6. Scouts are encouraged to be in uniform and carry their current registration cards.
7. Two responsible adults (21 years or older) are necessary for any group of hikers younger than 21. If the group exceeds ten youths, it is recommended that there be an additional adult for every additional five youths. These adults must be current with BSA Youth Protection Training and Pennsylvania ACT 15 requirements. If female youth are hiking at least 1 female leader must be in attendance on the hike as well per BSA guidelines.
8. Trail lunches and a garbage bag to be carried out should be taken with you.
9. Most of the hikes note museums and buildings which may be visited. The hikes, due to time constraints, do not lend themselves to visitations during a hike. Should you want to visit any of the museums or buildings noted, please make arrangements with the appropriate groups prior to your visit.
10. The Historic Trails Committee has attempted to provide areas where parking should be sufficient at both the beginning and end of each trail. Be sure you have sufficient and safe transportation at both the beginning and end of the trails.

# THE SULLIVAN WILDERNESS TRAIL

(Approximately 12 miles)

The original trail (Sullivan's March) started in Easton, Pa. and ended at Genesee, NY. Since the national regulations regarding historic trails forbids any trail longer than 15 miles without facilities, this trail only covers 12 miles of the original route. There is a marker in Easton that can be visited on [The Towpath Trail](#).

The trail begins 0.2 of a mile south of the intersection of Routes 611 and 715 in Tannersville at the front of the Tannersville Scout Building located behind the Pocono Township Volunteer Fire Company along Route 611.

## START OF TRAIL

- **From the front of the Tannersville Scout Building take a reading of 340 degrees and proceed about 90 feet. Take a reading of 280 degrees and proceed for 425 feet to Alger Road. Take a reading of 350 degrees and proceed 445 feet to Old Mill Road. At this point follow a reading of 80 degrees for 605 feet to Route 611.**



This is the site of Learned's Tavern (1740). This was the endpoint of the second day of Sullivan's March and the last settlement of the frontier at that time. (Sullivan's March - 1779)

- **At this point, take a reading of 344 degrees and proceed along Route 611 for approximately 1600 feet to the American Legion Memorial (Post 425).**

## SPONSORS

COLONIAL TRAIL - Kiwanis Club of Allentown  
DURHAM TRAIL - Hellertown Lions Club  
GATEWAY TO THE POCONOS  
INDUSTRIAL TRAIL  
MORAVIAN TRAIL - Rotary Club of Bethlehem  
NAZARETH TRAIL  
QUARRIES TRAIL  
SULLIVAN WILDERNESS TRAIL - Kiwanis Club of Stroudsburg  
TOWPATH TRAIL  
UNCAS TRAIL - Rotary Club of Easton

*We wish to thank the following individuals and organizations for their support in launching this Historic Trails Program.*

B.S.A. Troop 10, Advent Moravian Church, Bethlehem, PA  
B.S.A. Troop 14, St. Matthews Evan. Lutheran Church, Bethlehem, PA  
B.S.A. Troop 18, Rosemont Lutheran Church, Bethlehem, PA  
B.S.A. Troop 86, United Methodist Church, Stroudsburg, PA  
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Mrs. Joyce Pharo, *Director of Moravian Museum*  
Donna & Carl Raub  
Dr. Richard Richardson, Jr.  
Lynn & Ken Rogers

## 1968-1975 HISTORIC TRAILS COMMITTEE

Gerald C. Still - Trails Coordinator  
Gordon Conn - Asst. Trails Coordinator  
Charles C. Kropp - Asst. Trails Coordinator  
Frank J. Bauer  
Charles Derr  
William Hissam. Jr.  
Lance Metz  
Paul R. Davis, Jr.- Council Executive.  
Walter F. Williams - Council Chairman  
Richard C. Bennett - Program Director

The American Legion Memorial commemorates the service of men and women from the Pocono Area from all branches of the Armed Forces. The site of the original tannery (1900) for which Tannersville received its name is now the location of the Tannersville Learning Center, directly in front of you.

- **From behind the memorial take a reading of 260 degrees and proceed 145 feet across the bridge between the two ponds. Take a bearing of 351 degrees and proceed 100 feet to the corner of the Pocono Learning Center. Now take a reading of 276 degrees and proceed 190 feet to the footbridge across Pocono Creek. From the end of the footbridge take a bearing of 206 degrees and proceed to the opening at the guardrail along Route 715. Take a reading of 366 degrees and cross Route 715 onto Sullivan's Trail Road.**

On your right you will pass the Tannersville Union Cemetery and Grace United Church of Christ on the left. The church and many of the monuments date back to the revolutionary and Federal periods of our history.

- **Follow this road under Route 80 for 0.6 of a mile**

On the left side of the road are the remains one of the last of the giant linden trees that once made up the largest number of trees in this area. It was one of the largest linden trees found in the United States measuring 12 feet in circumference, 105 feet high with a 75 foot spread and was well over 300 years old.

Looking to your left toward Big Pocono Mountain, about halfway up the mountain is the old railroad bed of the Wilkes Barre and Eastern Railroad and site of the Tannersville Railroad Station.

After crossing the Pocono Creek on your left is a sign for the Pocono Forestry Association. The Pocono Forestry Association was formed in November 1902 by the Quakers of Pocono Manor, Pocono Lake Preserve, and Buck Hill as the Pocono Protective Fire Association. Its purpose was to preserve, protect, and develop forestlands of the Poconos by preventing forest fires. It was the first organization of its kind in the United States and still remains active today. The name was later changed to Pocono Forestry Association.

Special thanks to YOUR UNIT HERE, Anytown, PA/NJ for their assistance in this 2023 refresh of the Sullivan Wilderness Trail.

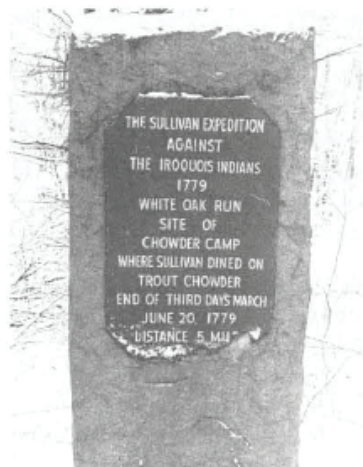


- **Proceed for another 0.5 of a mile to a Y in the road bearing right at a reading of 292 degrees.**

This area has natural clear spring water, which you can view on your left.

- **Continue for another 3.6 miles to a plaque on the left side of the road.**

This is the site of Chowder Camp where Sullivan and his men dined on fish chowder at the end of the third day's march. (June 20, 1779).



- **Follow the road past Crescent Lake Drive, Pocono Township line, and underneath the overpass to Long Pond Road.**

This is approximately 2.6 miles from Chowder Camp.

## MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL HISTORIC TRAILS COMMITTEE

### 2022-2023 HISTORIC TRAILS COMMITTEE

Matthew M. Woodruff - Trails Coordinator  
 Arnold F. Traupman - Activities Committee Chairperson  
 Darren S. Woodruff  
 Richard D. Christ - Council Executive

### 1998 -1999 HISTORIC TRAILS COMMITTEE

Gerald S. Still - Trails Coordinator  
 Harry M. Bodes  
 Barbara L. Brown  
 Nicholas N. Brown  
 Ed Erickson  
 Wayne E. Gross  
 James Haycock  
 Elwood Johnson  
 James L. Turnbach  
 John Maxwell - Council Executive

### 1975 -1993 HISTORIC TRAILS COMMITTEE

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 Harry M. Bodes - Asst. Trails Coordinator  
 W. Gordon Conn - Asst. Trails Coordinator  
 Gerard Bassett  
 Wayne Gross  
 James Haycock  
 Elwood Johnson  
 Charles C. Kropp  
 Lance Metz  
 Richard Peters  
 James L. Turnbach  
 Clement Banys - Council Executive  
 Charles Chase - Director. Support Service  
 B. Daniel Dillard - Program Director  
 Martin Walsh - Program Director





**Brinker's Mill - 1730's**



**The Brinker House - 1730's**

- **Continue straight at a bearing of 280 degrees for 1.7 miles.**

On your right is the Hungry Hill Monument where several of Sullivan's men who died enroute are buried.



- **Continue north for 0.1 of a mile bearing right to route 940.**

Along the way you may note an open area on the right through the woods. This was the Wilkes-Barre and Eastern Railroad that provided freight service to the area. The railroad is gone but the route is still discernable. In the late 1800's and early 1900's, prior to refrigeration, ice was cut into large blocks and stored in large insulated icehouses throughout the year. The railroad transported ice from the icehouses along the lakes of the Poconos to Philadelphia and New York City markets.

- **Cross route 940 with caution, take a reading of 75 degrees and proceed for 1.3 miles. Route 940 is extremely busy. Please exercise extreme caution while hiking along this road.**

You are now at the entrance of Camp Minsi. Check in with the Camp Ranger or campmaster.

- **Follow the road to your left for 0.4 of a mile to the parking lot where the trail ends.**

This area through which Sullivan’s men marched was know as “The Shades of Death”. In 1778, after the Wyoming Massacre of settlers by Tory and Indian forces, the survivors escaped through this area on their way to Fort Hamilton in the current Borough of Stroudsburg. So many lost their lives in this thickly overgrown swamp that this area has been known as the “Shades of Death” ever since.

Camp Minsi was donated by Samuel Rubel of New York City to the Boy Scouts in 1949. The 1200-acre camp is bounded by 25,000 acres of Pennsylvania State Game Lands and includes 313-acre Stillwater Lake. Ice was harvested from this lake and stored in several large icehouses prior to being shipped by the railroad. The foundations of these icehouses can be seen on the east side of the lake. The Wygadt Conference Center, located down the road to the right as you entered camp, is the original boarding house for the workers during the ice harvest. Along the lakeshore in front of the former Wygadt Conference Center are the remains of the railroad siding that was used to transport the ice.

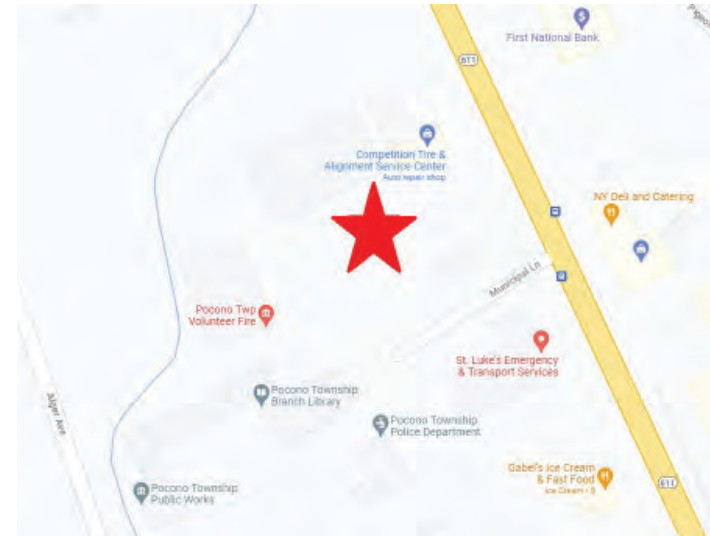
## END OF TRAIL

*In 1779 Major John Sullivan in his course to breaking the Indian Confederacy, who with the Tories and British troops had massacred about 300 people in the Wyoming Valley, began his march from Easton to Genessee, New York. This journey culminated in the battle of Newton on August 29, 1779.*

The Sullivan Trail began at the **First Reformed Church** in Easton and continued north along present day Route 115. The Sullivan Wilderness Trail begins in Tannersville at the site of **Learn’s (Learned’s) Tavern** where on June 19, 1779, General Sullivan camped, and continues on to Camp Minsi. By hiking this trail you cover a portion of the original Sullivan Trail, as well as surrounding areas where Sullivan’s army camped.

During the Revolutionary War the idea of a campaign against the Indians was not new. Most of the Indians had sided with the British, because they realized that the land hungry American was a rival for their domain. The savages had taken the offensive and had carried out two brutal raids at Wyoming and Cherry Valley. November 1778, Washington had considered thrusts against Detroit, Niagara, and the area around Lake Erie and Ontario to curb the ravages of the Indians. A few weeks later Washington thought of the possibility of a drive into Canada along with a blow at Niagara, for an invasion into Canada would have pleased Congress. By the beginning of 1779, however, the Commander-in-Chief had fairly determined in his own mind that a drive against the Six Nations would be enough, and that a push toward Canada would overtax his strength.

## Approximately 12 miles

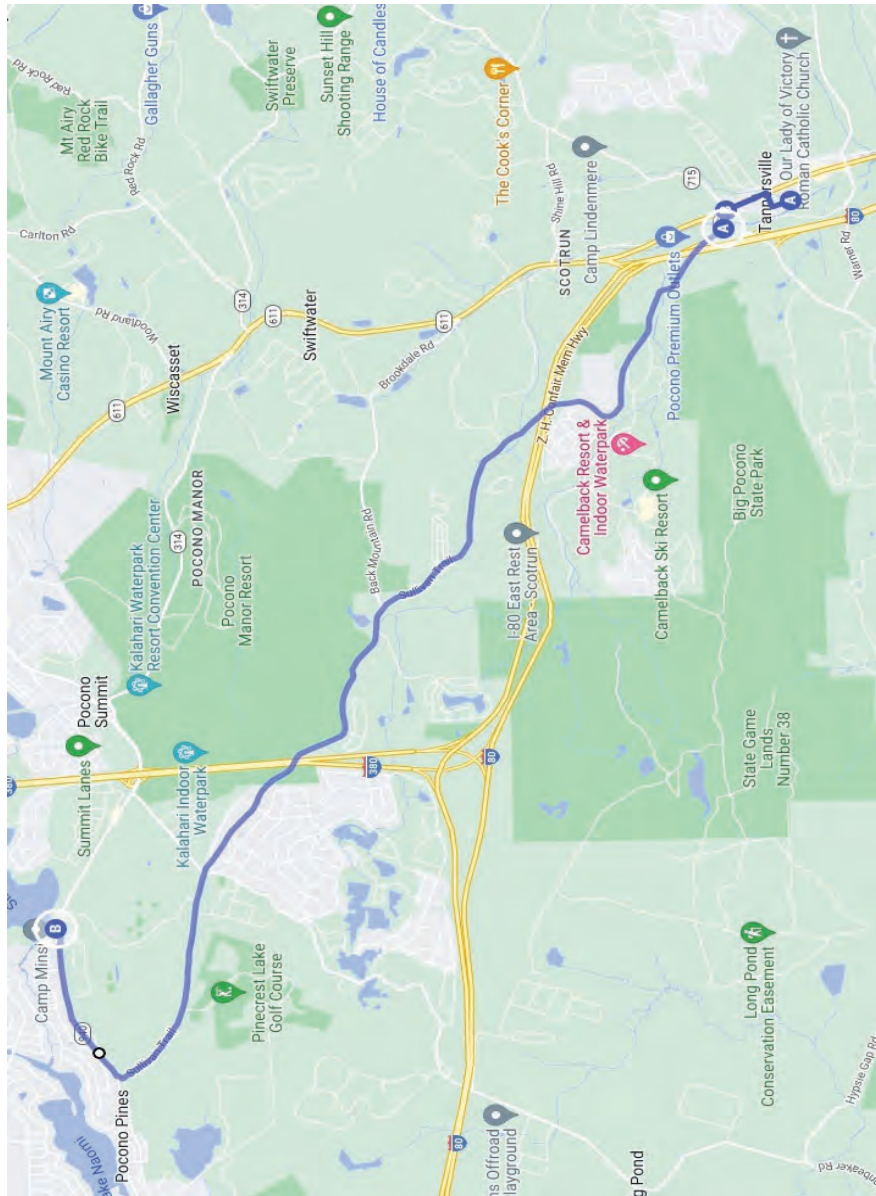


**Start of Trail - 2870 Route 611, Tannersville, PA 18372**



**End of Trail - 106 Camp Minsi Road, Pocono Summit, PA 18346**

# THE SULLIVAN WILDERNESS TRAIL



The patriots wished to quell the Indians and Loyalists under John Butler and his son Walter. They wanted to bring a welcome peace to a molested frontier. Far too often the Indian war cry had pierced the soundless night, causing the men of the eighteenth century to look upon the Indian as a savage who deserved no quarter. The immediate problems facing Washington and Sullivan were to determine which route the army would take to enter the land of the Six Nations, and the best way of moving a large army, well supplied, into a wilderness.

Washington had given much thought to the campaign and undoubtedly explained his reasoning to the eager Sullivan. He wanted the main thrust to go along the Susquehanna by the way of Tioga, because the Mohawk route struck him as being too cautious, particularly as the Senecas to the West were to be the primary objective. This does not mean that Washington thought there should be a strike from just one direction, but instead he saw the offensive as a combined operation. One army would move from the Mohawk in conjunction with an advance from Tioga. In fact, as events unfolded, there were subsidiary moves, one against the Onondagas in New York and another into the Indian country from Fort Pitt. General James Clinton had command of the troops operating from New York, the offensive had rightly been called the Sullivan-Clinton Campaign.

Into John Sullivan's hands Washington placed all the information he had collected; detailed descriptions of the Indian country, the best routes, maps and ways of transporting troops. Sullivan studied the materials, and on April 15 sent his reply to Washington. He thought Schuyler was underestimating the strength of the enemy when he placed their numbers at 1000, and Sullivan went on to claim that a larger force would stand against the Americans because Loyalists would join the savages. If the main American attempt on them had been suspended.

The expedition would be entirely in the hands of Sullivan and Clinton. On May 4 Washington ordered Sullivan to Easton to prepare to enter the Indian country by way of Tioga. Upon his arrival in Easton, May 7, Sullivan found boats and stores were not ready at Wyoming, and that he would have to delay most of his troops at Easton. The outlook was bleak. No work had been done on the road through the swamp to Wyoming, although earlier Washington had ordered that a route be cleared.

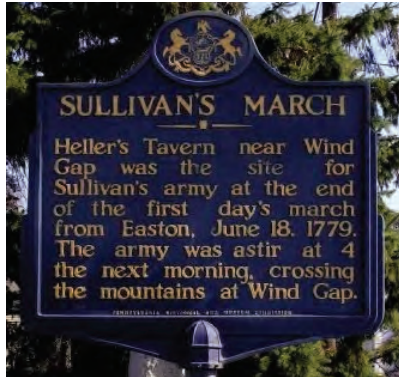
On May 29 Sullivan set out to examine the road that was being built to Wyoming and found that the road builders had pushed it to within twenty-three miles of that place. Since the Indian path could not be followed, the road had been cut through wilderness. Sullivan wrote that he had never seen such country, and that only by moving along on hands and knees could he find his

way through the laurel. Now the road was passable for a coach, he commented, and the men needed only five more days to complete the route.

Back in Easton on May 30th, he received the detailed instructions from General Washington outlining the course of the campaign. Sullivan must destroy and devastate the Indian settlements. His force would include the brigades of James Clinton, William Maxwell, Enoch Poor, and Edward Hand, in addition to whatever independent companies Pennsylvania might add. From Tioga, Sullivan was to take the direct route into the Indian country.

Only after the Indian settlements had been destroyed should Sullivan consider making peace if the Indians expressed willingness. Even then they should give evidence of their sincerity by putting Butler or the Mohawk Joseph Brandt in the American's hands, or perhaps even going to Niagara by some stratagem.

On June 11, he sent orders to James Clinton. Clinton's point of embarkation would be Lake Otsego, and since no pack horses were to be taken, only troops would be embarked. At Otsego, Clinton was to await further orders before continuing with his army. Although Sullivan still waited for more supplies, Pennsylvania companies had not yet been raised. He told Washington that he would not wait for them since he had already delayed too long. Finally, on June 18, John Sullivan ordered his men on their march to Wyoming, from where they would enter the land of the Senecas. General Sullivan held services at the **First Reformed Church in Easton** on June 18, 1779 prior to his march.



PA Historical and Museum Commission marker - Wind Gap, PA (on 512)

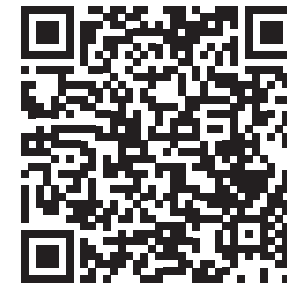
**Start of The Sullivan Wilderness Trail:** At the Tannersville Scout House. Next to 2870 Route 611, Tannersville, PA 18372. There is parking available here. Please park in the area marked inside the red box.



**End of The Sullivan Wilderness Trail:** At Camp Minsi, 106 Camp Minsi Road, Pocono Summit, PA 18346. Please contact the camp ranger or camp-master prior to the hike to let them know you'll be on the property. Parking is available in the parking lot.

To view an online version of the map on the following page please [click here](#).

You may also open the online map using this QR Code:



*Please note: There are some limitations with Google maps. While the online map is fairly accurate, it only can trace roads / mapped walking paths. Use it as a guide, but it's not 100% accurate.*

Newton near Elmira, New York on August 29, 1779. The Tories and Indians under "Indian" Butler and Mohawk Chief, Joseph Brant, were routed by the combined forces of General John Sullivan and General James Clinton. In retaliation for the Wyoming massacre, Sullivan's army burned forty native villages and destroyed vast amounts of vegetables and grain. General Sullivan reported "I am well persuaded that, except one town situated near the Alleghana River, about fifty miles from Chinesse, there is not a single town left in the country of the Five Nations."

This destruction of the food supplies in the Indian country was a serious blow to the British. The victory also lifted the morale in the American fight for independence. On October 17, 1779, General Sullivan returned to Easton and again held services at the First Reformed Church. The campaign had taken 122 days. Just what did the Sullivan campaign accomplish. It possibly broke the power of the Indian confederacy. It did increase American morale, but possibly the greatest part of the fruition took place when after the war veterans of Sullivan's army poured into the rich areas of the same countryside they had marched in 1779. They opened up this land for the youthful nation.

*The following daily log was carried on by Rev. William Rogers, D.D.:*

**Friday, June 18th.** All the troops in town prepared for marching. By five or six o'clock they left the village with all the pack horses, stores, etc. The army reaching the foot of the Blue Mountains twelve miles from Easton, encamped for the day. Dr. Kirkland, Dr. Evans and myself passed the mountains at a place called Wind Gap. We rode on seven miles from the camp to Brinker's Mill, now known as Sullivan's stores, upon account of a large house built here and a great quantity of provisions being stored therein for the use of the Captain Luke Broadhead, who with Captain Patterson attends at this post. On the road from Easton to Sullivan's store nothing is to be seen, but hills, stones, trees and brush, excepting here and there a scattered house and a lake near the mountain, half a mile in length and one-fourth of a mile in breadth, wherein abound a variety of fish.

**Saturday, June 19th.** At 7 A.M. the troops reached Sullivan's stores. Halted and drew four days' provisions. Doctor Kirkland, Evans, Hunter and myself rode forward about nine miles to a place called Pokono, lower Smithfield township, and put up for the night at the house of Mr. Savage, which exclusive of one is the last house from Easton to Wyoming, the remainder of the way (thirty odd miles) being uninhabited, except by wild beasts and roving animals. On a mountain between Sullivan's stores and Pokono, we had a fine prospect of nature's works. We discovered the water gap of the Blue Mountains and hill upon hill surrounding us. The Troops encamped at Leam's tavern Pokono point, Pokono lies from Easton north, about two points to the west.

**Sunday, June 20th.** Marched this morning in the following order: General Maxwell's brigade in front. Next Colonel Proctor's regiment; then Poor's brigade, afterwards the baggage. Halted at Rum Bridge for the night, six miles from the last inhabited house towards Wyoming. The camp is called Chowder camp, from the commander-in-chief dining this day on chowder as I understand, a good meal of them. Owing to Pokono mountain and other eminences, found this day's march very fatiguing to the horses belonging to the artillery. Passed a quantity of pine, poplar and oak timber, also a quantity of the largest laurel; the ground universally covered with brush by the name of ground oak. No preaching today on account of the fatigue of the troops.

**Monday, June 21, 1779.** This day we marched through the Great Swamp and Bear Swamp. The Great Swamp, which is eleven or twelve miles through, contains what is called in our maps the "shades of death", by reason of its darkness; both swamps contain trees of amazing heights, viz., hemlock, birch, sugar maple, ash, locust etc. The roads in some places are tolerable, but in other places exceedingly bad, by reason of which, and a long through necessary march, three of our wagons and the carriages of two field pieces were broken

down. This day we proceeded twenty miles and encamped late in the evening at a spot which the commander named Camp Fatigue. The troops were tired and hungry. The road through the Swamps is entirely new, being fitted for the passage of our wagons by Colonels Courtlandt and Spencer at the instance of the commander-in-chief; the way leading to Wyoming, being before a blind narrow path. The new road does its projectors great credit and may in a future day be of essential service to the inhabitants of Wyoming and Easton. In the Great Swamp is Locust Hill which we discovered evident marks of a destroyed Indian village. Tobyhanna and Middle Creeks empty into the Tunkhanunk; the Tunkhanunk empties in the lead branch of the Lehigh, which at Easton empties into the Delaware. The Moosick mountain, through a gap of which we passed in the Great Swamp, is the dividing ridge which separates the Delaware from the Susquehanna.

**Tuesday, June 22.** The Army continued at Camp Fatigue until two o'clock, P.M on their great march the preceding day, many of the wagons of the rear guard not getting in until midnight. A bear and wolf were seen by a New Hampshire settler and several deer by a scouting party, but some were shot. In the forenoon a person appeared who in the month of April last had been taken prisoner near Minisink by two Senecas, two Tuscaroras and seven Delawares. This poor fellow, after being carried through a long tract of country, and experiencing the severest usage in being cruelly tied and bound or otherwise ill treated, had the good fortune when getting within one day's march of Chemtung, to make his escape at night when the Indians were asleep; he was obliged, however to leave his only son and two other boys behind. In relating this circumstance he was greatly affected. For forty days he was almost destitute of provisions and eighteen or twenty days without seeing a fire. Rattlesnakes and a few small fish were his support till he reached Wyoming. He seemed very sensible of his providences, deliverances, and in relating the matter gave that the praise.

**Wednesday, June 23.** The troops prepared themselves for Wyoming, from which we were now distant only seven miles. This day we marched with regularity, and at a distance of three miles came to the place where Captain Davis and Lieutenant Jones with a corporal and four privates were scalped, tomahawked, and speared by the savages, fifteen or twenty in number; two boards are fixed at the spot where Davis and Jones fell, with their names on each. Jones' being besmeared with his own blood. In passing this melancholy vale, an universal gloom appeared on the countenances of both officers and men without distinction, and from the eyes of many, as by a sudden impulse, dropt the sympathizing tears. Colonel Proctor, out of respect to the deceased, ordered the music to play the tune of Roslin Castle, the soft and moving notes

which, together with what so forcibly struck the eye, tended greatly to fill our breasts with pity, and to renew our grief for our worthy departed friends and brothers.

Getting within two miles of Wyoming, we had from a fine eminence an excellent view of the settlement. It is founded on each side of the eastern branch of the Susquehanna, which with the western branch unites at Northumberland, from which place Wilkes-Barre, the county town, is distant sixty-five miles. It lies in a beautiful valley, surrounded by very high ground, the people inhabit up and down the banks of the river and very little back. There were in the settlement last summer a courthouse, a jail, and many dwelling houses, all of which excepting a few scattered ones were burnt by the savages after the battle of July 3, 1778, which took place near Forty Fort. At present there are a few log houses newly built, a fort, one or two stockaded redoubts and a row of barracks; the settlement consists of six or more small townships. At the battle before spoken of about two hundred and twenty were massacred within the space of an hour and a half, more than one hundred of whom were married men; their widows afterwards had all their property taken from them and several of them with their children were made prisoners. It is said Queen Esther, of the Six Nations, who was with the enemy, scalped and tomahawked with her own hands in cold blood eight or ten persons. The Indian women in general were guilty of the greatest barbarities. Since this dreadful stroke they have visited the settlement, each time killing, or rather torturing to death, more or less. Many of their bones continue yet unburied where the main action happened. Wyoming is by Connecticut, styled Westmoreland county, and has for a long time been under the jurisdiction of that state. How the matter will be settled by them and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, must be determined by those who are better acquainted with the dispute than I am.

**Thursday, June 24.** Was introduced to Colonel Zebulon Butler, the gentleman of whom much has been said on account of his persevering conduct in opposing the savages. Had an interview with Mr. Ludwigg, baker-in-chief for the army, who was sent on from Easton to this post, to prepare bread for the troops; owing his activity, a bake-house was built in eleven days, and a large quantity of bread was in readiness for delivery on our arrival. An inhabitant showed me an Indian weapon called a death mall. The handle was unwieldly, the ball about the bigness of a three pounder, curiously cut out of a maple knot. The use of this instrument is to knock people on the scull with, when overtaken in a chase.

The troops stayed five weeks in Wyoming due to lack of expected supplies. Leaving Wyoming, Sullivan led his men through rugged mountains ... and swamps of the Susquehanna River. In August they reached Tioga and burned the Indian town of Chemung. The march culminated in the battle of