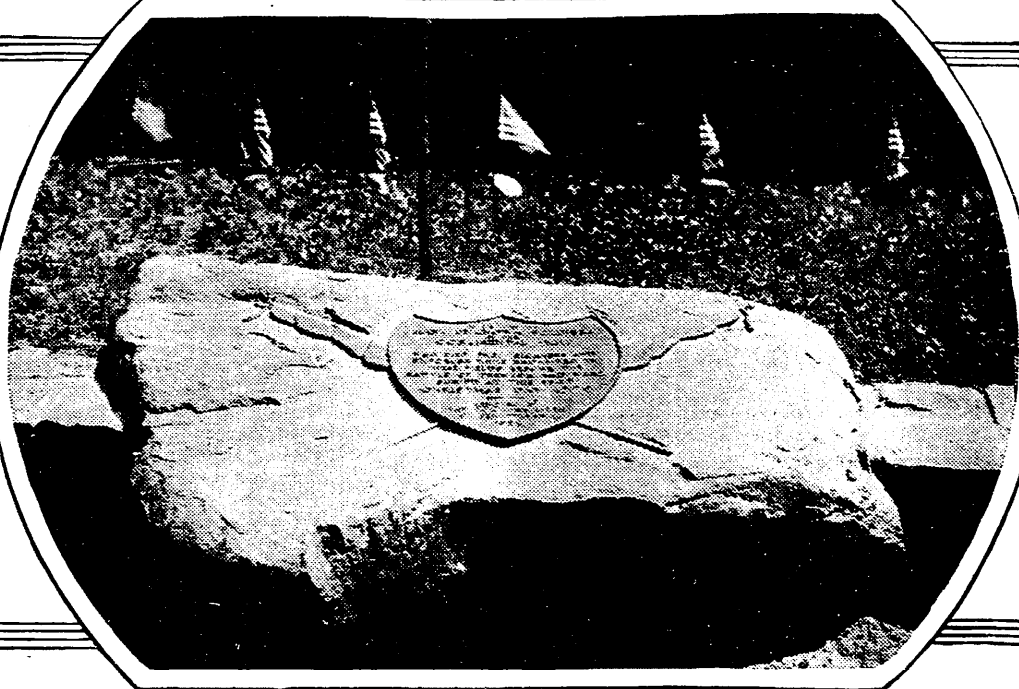


PREPARE CROSSING FOR WASHINGTON FETE

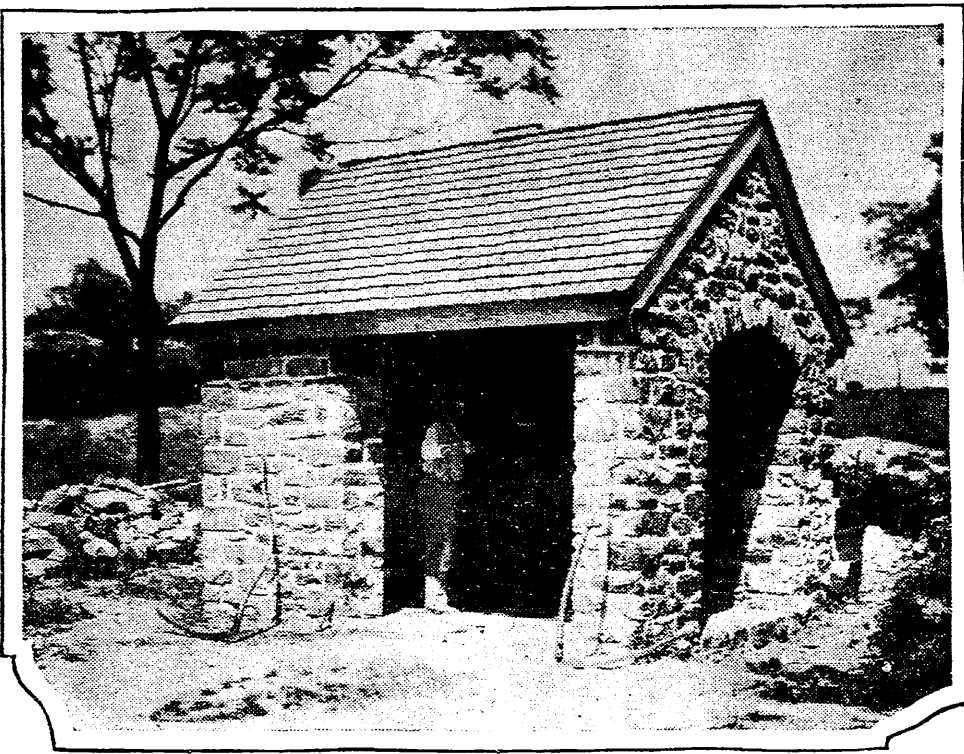
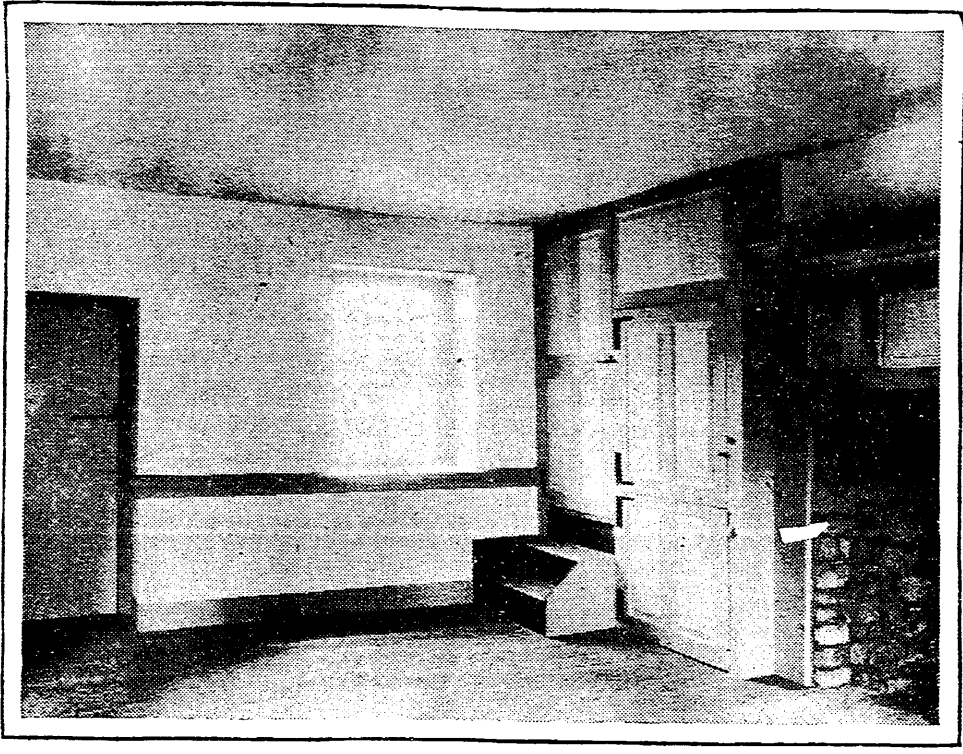
Memorial Bridge May Link Parks in Time for Bicentennial Celebration of General's Birth; Pennsylvania Is Restoring Historic Shrines



By Elma Lawson Johnston. In 1932 the bicentennial anniversary of the birth of George Washington will be celebrated throughout the United States.

Trenton, where the two famous battles were fought that turned the tide of the Revolution, will doubtless have some part in the bicentennial program.

For a number of years, the States of New Jersey and Pennsylvania have been gradually converting this historic spot into a memorial park, which shall fittingly commemorate such an epoch-making event.



gun the work now. The tiny plot containing the graves of the soldiers have been enclosed in a low stone coping, built as stone fences were built years ago.

In Memory Of Many Unknown Soldiers of the Continental Army Who died from sickness and Exposure while encamped in these fields before the Battle of Trenton and were buried at this spot Christmas Day, 1776

Eventually there will be a rather formal approach to the graves. The Commission intends to plant a grove of trees, one from each of the thirteen original States, and in front of these to sink boulders from the battlefields or other historic spots of the original States.

In time a memorial boulevard will pass near the graves, for the Commission is planning now to build a 150 foot boulevard from the Crossing to the upper end of the park at the York Road.

TO HAVE PERPETUAL LIGHT ON TOP OF BOWMAN'S HILL

The new boulevard will follow to a great extent, the lines of an old thoroughfare that was there many years ago, and on which the farms of the region fronted. These extended back to the river from that road.

As a background for the Colonial Center to be created around the Thompson house and the old mill stands Bowman's Hill. This has figured in history and legend, for it used to be said that pirates' gold was buried there and even a pirate himself.

Among the officers quartered in the house were Captain William Washington, a relative of the Commander-in-Chief, and Lieutenant James Monroe, who was years later President of the United States.

That winter had been a difficult one for all the Continental soldiers and officers and Captain Moore is one of those who paid the supreme price. A member of a wealthy and prominent New York family, he had enlisted when quite young, and was given the rank of Captain in the New York Artillery.

Although the stories of pirate gold may be myth, it is true that the hill was actually used during the war for signalling purposes. On the top of Bowman's and Jericho Hills fires used to be lighted as signals to the men who were guarding the ferries along the river.

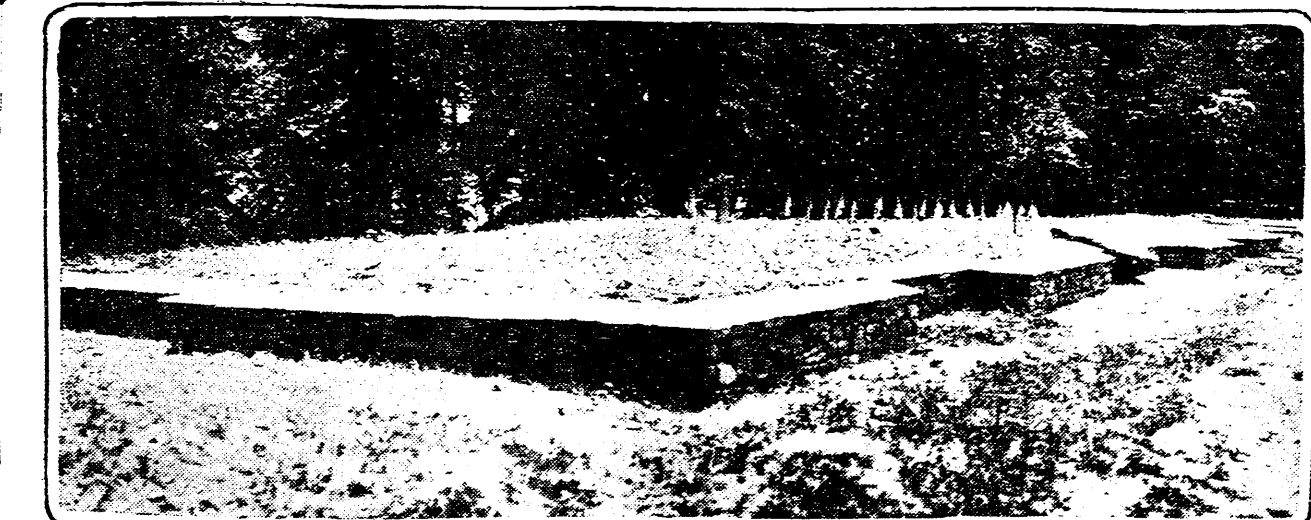
quarters for the officers. Since the park project has been undertaken some of these houses have been bought by the State and are being admirably restored.

One of the best bits of restoration that the Pennsylvania Washington Crossing Commission has undertaken is now nearing completion at the Thompson House. This is an old mansion, typical of Bucks County, and built of the native stone.

Of recent years the house has been empty and when the Pennsylvania Washington Crossing Park Commission acquired it, it was in a dilapidated state.

INTERIOR RECONSTRUCTED ALONG ITS ORIGINAL LINES

Last Fall the Park Commission began the restoration of the old house. Its thick walls were in quite good condition, and its heavy timbers have resisted both vandals and decay.



The old Thompson House, used as headquarters for officers of the Continental Army during the Revolution and just before the crossing of the Delaware, is pictured in the upper left. This house has just been restored by the Pennsylvania Washington Crossing Park Commission.

has been put in condition and the woodwork has been painted.

Inside a deal more work had to be done, because the interior of the building was in much worse shape than the outside. Wherever possible the original floors of wide pine boards have been kept.

The room that one enters from the door in the center portion of the house is doubtless the most interesting. That original building apparently had a few rooms, and this one probably served as kitchen, dining and living room.

kitchen, and snuggly tucked away there the turkeys, ducks and other goodies of many a Thanksgiving dinner doubtless cooked to a tempting juiciness.

There is an old wooden door in this kitchen that gives evidence of the fact that even in those times houses were safely locked against unwelcome intruders.

As one approaches the Thompson house from the road that leads through the covered bridge and on to New Hope, one may see a well house that harmonizes with the mansion.

from William Penn's manor house below Morrisville.

On the side of the house nearest the river, the Commission has replaced a shed which doubtless stood there in Revolutionary days.

As one approaches the Thompson house from the road that leads through the covered bridge and on to New Hope, one may see a well house that harmonizes with the mansion.

horse-oaten drinking trough, hollowed out of a solid log.

Just a bit farther along the New Hope road may be seen the ruins of old barns. The Commissioners have discovered that one side of the barn walls was something before the Revolution, part of an old fort.

COMMISSION WILL RETAIN COVERED SPAN OVER CREEK

The Thompson house and the old mills across the road are to be made into a Colonial Center, which will give to future generations an excellent idea of what an early American farm home was like in the era before the War of Independence.