

**2025****Public Programs with Judy Anderson**

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Most are free / no R.S.V.P.**Others benefit local historical organizations (Mhd. Mus., MAA, Pickering Hs.)****Illustrated Talks at King Hooper Mansion:****Note: ‘King’ Hooper was 66, & only a moderate ‘Tory’****Sunday, May 18 1 to 2 pm*****“The Loyalist / Patriot Divide in Mhd. in 1775”*****at the King Hooper Mansion ~ 8 Hooper Street****Donations to benefit Marblehead Arts Assoc. / no RSVP**

On the eve of the Revolutionary War, Marblehead was a thriving & prosperous international Atlantic seaport, and a town of nearly 5,000 people ~ (perhaps the sixth or at least tenth most populous metropolis in British North America) ~ with about 950 families (living in about 525 houses ~ apprx. 300 of which still survive). About 90% of those 950+ families were “rebels” (Patriots). Only about a dozen heads of families can be clearly identified as Loyalists (‘Tories’)

Sunday, June 1 1 to 2 pm***“Marblehead’s Loyalists & some of their Homes”*****at the King Hooper Mansion ~ 8 Hooper Street****Donations to benefit Marblehead Arts Assoc. / no RSVP**

Town tensions came to a head in May 1775 ~ after the battle shots of April 19, 1775 ~ (and devastating economic Parliamentary sanctions that took effect in March 1775, and would have spelled ruin for Marblehead ~ as the war did). Many Loyalists were run out of town in May. But by the war’s end, nearly a decade later, most (tho not all) would return.

Also see page 3**Walking Tours: (architecture & social history) Note: Nearly 300 houses survive from before 1775*****“4 Glover Houses” ~ for Preservation Month*****Friday, May 23 noon to 1:30****Friday, May 23 5 to 6:30 pm****Saturday, May 24 4 to 5:30 pm****Monday, May 26 noon to 1:30****Homes of John Glover & his 3 brothers****Memorial Day weekend****in downtown Marblehead****mostly along Front Street****Memorial Day ~ afternoon****SIMILAR TOUR each time****Meet at Abbot Hall****End at Glover Square****(near the Town Landing)****Donations to benefit****‘Save the Glover Farmhouse’****No RSVP needed*****“Revolutionary Dwellings” ~ for M’head 250*****1st Fridays in July, Sept., Oct. noon to 1:30 p****1st Saturdays July, Sept., Oct. 4 to 5:30 pm****1st Sundays July, Sept., Oct. 4 to 5:30 pm****July, September, October ~ First weekend of the month****in downtown M’hd. Meet at Abbot Hall / end Glover Sq.****SIMILAR TOUR each time / No RSVP / No rain dates****Other times by appt. all year in 2025 & 2026 (phone or email)****Homes of prominent individuals in the Revolution, their lives, & how the town developed before & after 1775****TOURS can also be scheduled any time by appointment by individuals, organizations or groups 781-631-1762****Programs at Fort Sewall:****Note: Fort Sewall was not called that until about 1800*****“The ‘Marblehead Fort’ in 1775” ~ Before it was ‘Fort Sewall’ (... and ~ Who was Samuel Sewall?)*****Thursday, Sept. 25 5:30 to 6:30 pm****Saturday, Sept. 27 mid-afternoon****Sunday, Sept. 28 4 to 5 pm*****(times could change)*****Meet at Fort Beach on Front St.****SAME CONTENT each time / No RSVP / Donations*****(The Sunday afternoon program is after a 1-2 pm presentation******at the King Hooper Mansion about Mhd. families during & after the Rev.) (see next page)***

The Fort was enlarged to its current footprint in September 1775, the year the Revolutionary War began ~ under the direction of professional military engineers who were Continental Army officers. The earthwork “Marblehead Fort” had occupied only the very tip of the headland for more than a century after it was first built in 1644 (when the headland was called “Maverick’s Head” (then, after that, “Gale’s Head”). It had 4 renovations before 1775, all directed by professional military engineers under Crown and military orders — then U.S. Army engineers in the 1790s and 1860s. The fort was under local jurisdiction only briefly ~ in Spring & Summer 1775.

The white brick structure that is so visually prominent now was not built until the later 1790s, due to threat of war with France, just a decade after France helped the new US win its war against France’s old enemy, England.

Sunday, September 28 1 to 2 pm

“Stories of some M’hd. Families during the Rev. time”

at the King Hooper Mansion ~ 8 Hooper Street

Donations to benefit Marblehead Arts Assoc. / no RSVP

This program with visuals will illuminate the experiences of some of Marblehead’s familiar families during the American Revolutionary period, including the Glover, Robie, and Cowell families, as well as less familiar aspects of the town’s two most prominent merchants — rebel (Patriot) Colonel Jeremiah Lee & Tory Robert ‘King’ Hooper (who was only a moderate Loyalist). Most Marbleheaders lost everything due to the war, and many lost their lives ~ including Col. Lee whose efforts to help supply and arm the war caused his death in May 1775. ‘King’ Hooper watched the collapse of so much of Mhd.’s mid-1700s prosperity (1720s to 1770) that he had been so instrumental in building for a half century. Three of his four wives and many of his grown children died before he did, and most those lived longer lost their financial resources as well — as did the Lees’ grown children and most of Marblehead. Interestingly, most of King Hooper’s offspring were Patriots (as was M’hd’s *other* principal Hooper family network, which thrived after the war and led the revival of the town’s commerce). Like so many families in town, the inter-connected Glover and Gerry families endured trauma and loss just a few years into the war. Thinking of them as human people, their stories are compelling. And in 1775, several families were expelled from the community.

➤ **Other Programs by Judy Anderson ~ TALKS & TOURS ~ in Marblehead ~ April & May:**

Illustrated Talk:

Note: Jeremiah Lee was born April 16 & died May 10

Thursday, April 10 7 to 8 pm

at the Marblehead Museum ~ 170 Washington St.

“Marblehead’s Most Enigmatic Revolutionary ~ Honoring the Life & Legacy of Colonel Jeremiah Lee”

in person or **via zoom** / \$10 members / \$15 public
Reservations ~ MarbleheadMuseum.org / Upcoming prog.

A tribute to Colonel Jeremiah Lee ~ father, husband, businessman, community leader & rebel (Patriot) leader ~ and the 12 months before the fateful day of April 19, 1775 which led to his premature & long forgotten death on May 10.

Commemorative program in Lee Mansion:

~ because Colonel Lee did far more than anyone realizes

“Col. J. Lee & His Covert Revolutionary Acts”

incl. period quotes by & about Lee & his risk-filled role in 1774 & ‘75

Friday, May 9 5 to 6:30 pm

in the Jeremiah Lee Mansion ~ 161 Washington St.

Saturday, May 10 10 to 11:30 am

SAME CONTENT (essentially) each time / \$10 mbrs. / \$15 public

Saturday, May 10 4 to 5:30 pm

Reservations online at MarbleheadMuseum.org / Upcoming progr.

➤ **Tours & Talks by Judy Anderson ~ Programs for “the Salem Alarm” (or “Leslie’s Retreat”) first ~**

Trolley Tours: Sat., Feb. 22 afternoon

2 tours: 12:30 - 2 pm & 2:30 - 4 pm both **SOLD OUT**

Trolley tour from Salem to Mhd. & back

starts & ends in Salem ~ at St. Peter’s Church in Salem

Illustrated Talks:

Sunday, February 23 11:45 to 12:30

at Old North Church, Marblehead ~ 35 Washington St.

“How the Rev. War Almost Began in Mhd. & S”

Talk is in the **main church** / Donations encouraged \$10 p/p

Sunday, March 9 11:30 (noon) to 1 pm

at the Pickering House in Salem ~ 18 Broad St., Salem

“Four Colonels & One ‘Retreat’ ~ & M’hd’s Role in the ‘Salem Alarm’ on 26 Feb. 1775”

\$25 to benefit the Col. Pickering House / P. Hs. Association
Reservations open to public Feb. 22 ~ PickeringHouse.org

Wednesday, April 23 7 pm

at Tapley Hall in Danvers ~ 13 Page Street, Danvers

“Facing Col. Alexander Leslie of Scotland”

Donations to benefit the Danvers Historical Society

Sunday, April 27 11:30 am to 12:30

at Old North Church, Marblehead ~ 35 Washington St.

“How the Rev. War Could Have Begun in M or S”

Talk is in the **main church** / Donations encouraged \$10 p/p

Marblehead and the Revolution ~ Loyalists & Patriots

and the war’s impact on the town ~ short essay next page

Marblehead and the Revolution ~ Loyalists & Patriots

On the eve of the American Revolution, Marblehead was a thriving and prosperous international Atlantic seaport with nearly **5,000 residents** — perhaps **the sixth most populous metropolis in British North America** in the mid-1700s, with about **950 families** living in about **525 houses**. About **300** of those still survive. **In 1790**, it was still the **tenth** most populous town in the new U.S.

Out of nearly a thousand families in 1775, only about a dozen can be clearly identified as Loyalists (“Tories”). The rest of the community ~ around 90 % ~ were **“rebels” (“Patriots”).**

Tensions came to a head in May 1775, after the battle shots of April 19, 1775, and most Loyalists were run out of town. Half would return, but others never did.

The huge proportion of rebels is largely because devastating economic sanctions by Parliament that took effect in March 1775 (called “Coercive Acts” and “Intolerable Acts”) spelled ruin for Marblehead.

As a result, nearly 600 men and boys, most of whom were already or soon to be without employment, signed up to fight — first in resistance, then for independence.

Starting in January 1775, most ‘Headers served first in the town militia under **Col. Jeremiah Lee**, until his death on May 10, 1775. (In January 1775, the Loyalist *New-York Gazette* jeeringly reported that “the madmen of Marblehead are preparing for an early campaign against His Majesty’s troops”). Then, in June 1775, those nearly 600 ‘Headers formed a full regiment commanded by **Col. Lee’s successor, Lt. Col. John Glover**, who was promoted to full Colonel after Colonel Lee’s death.

The men of “Glover’s regiment” were not just fishermen and seamen, but also tradesmen (coopers, block-makers, sail-makers, riggers, and heavy laborers) and craftsmen (including the town silversmith, a captain of a company, with his teenage son and apprentice as the company’s drummer boy) — as well as merchants’ sons (including Colonel Jeremiah Lee’s and Colonel John Glover’s eldest sons, whose lives would be shortened (Capt. Joseph Lee) and lost (Capt. John Glover) due to their service).

Starting in September 1775, several hundred switched to privateer vessels (as others from other coastal towns did as well) on behalf of independence. After 1776, nearly every Marblehead seaman left Colonel Glover’s regiment and General Washington’s Army to join their fellow ‘Headers at sea.

(Many would be wounded or lost in sea battles or taken prisoner and died on prison ships (as with Capt. Glover), while their families suffered at home as well. For Marblehead, most loss of life in the war was due to privateering. At first, they sailed on boats owned and outfitted by local owners. Later, as Marblehead ships were lost as well, without sufficient revenue generated to replace them, most ‘Headers crewed ships out of Salem — once more making that town wealthy, as this town’s fishermen had done in the 1600s as well, creating the “codfish aristocracy” of both Boston & Salem.)

The 8-year war devastated Marblehead’s economy and caused great suffering and loss in town.

By the end of the eight-year war in 1783, it’s estimated that perhaps **1,400 or more men and boys** would serve the cause — mostly on privateer vessels after the Delaware River Crossing in Dec. 1776.

But their and their town’s sacrifice helped to earn independence for the new nation.

After the war, the few former Loyalists and the many former Patriots worked diligently to rebuild their trades and businesses, and the town’s fishing industry and commerce, well into the 1850s.

And their hardship through the next two generations indirectly preserved the pre-Revolutionary homes that still survive downtown today. **Broadly speaking**, it was Marblehead’s prosperity in the 1700s, up to 1775 and the war, then again in the mid-1800s (from shoe-making then, until the second of two major fires (in 1877 and 1888), both in the same 19th-century shoe-making area) which created Marblehead’s very rare and unique historic district that so many residents and visitors find so captivating.