

# **Prelude to Brandywine: The March of General Howe and the British Army September 8-10, 1777**

**A Talk by Walt Chiquoine**



**General Howe**

Walt Chiquoine solved a mystery that baffled scholars for almost 100 years – the location of the Daniel Nichols house, Howe’s headquarters in the days preceding the Battle of Brandywine. The primary accounts of the British march, involving over 16,000 troops, can now be understood in a new light. Walt will give some background on the Philadelphia Campaign and discuss his research. Maps, journals, and letters of the period help tell the tale of British movements in Mill Creek Hundred, their encampment along Limestone Road, and the impact the army had on the local population as it took what it needed and lived off the land.

A Hockessin DE resident and local historian, Walt was trained as a chemical engineer and later earned an MBA in Finance. He recently retired from a diverse business career, beginning at DuPont and extending to consulting, venture capital, and founding two businesses.

In the 1990s he learned his way through public archives and historical societies while working his family genealogy. About 10 years ago, he began asking questions about the 1777 march of the British army near his Delaware home. He has since documented the location of Howe’s headquarters in Mill Creek Hundred for September 8 and 9, 1777, and updated the story based on primary accounts. He continues to be involved in local Revolutionary War period research. Walt serves on the Board of Directors of the Delaware Society for the Preservation of Antiquities, is active in the Hockessin Historical Society, and recently became a civilian member of the 1st Delaware Regiment.

*This free talk will be held Thursday, September 14, 2017, at 7 PM, at the New London Academy (the New London Township building), 902 State Rd, New London, PA (1/2 mi. east of Rte. 896). Everyone is welcome; refreshments will be served afterward.*