



ABOUT THE MONUMENT

The eight foot antique sandstone monument now built at the entrance to the County Park on Old Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, marks at long last a tribute to the two-county Battle of the Short Hills. It has been constructed with the volunteer help of many under the direction of Architect Charles H. Detwiller, Jr., and the Scotch Plains American Revolution Bicentennial Committee.

Over twenty mason and laborer members of the Italo-American M.B.L.S., Inc., under President Joseph Appezzato, gave of their "Old world talents" to construct the base of the monument. Many area businesses donated the materials and heavy construction equipment such as Best Block Co., Inc. of Edison, Weldon Concrete Corporation of Watchung and Ray D'Amato of Scotch Plains. The stones for the base were donated by Oscar R. Graham from the foundation of his house which stood at North Avenue and Longfellow, Scotch Plains, and once housed the horses of Revolutionary officers in its basement stable.

Mounted at eye-level on the truncated trapezoidal base are four 30 x 30 inch square plaques, etched on steel by Ben Silver, Inc. of New York City. Miss Sue Cottrell, the Westfield artist noted for her animal drawings did the sketches for two of the plaques and Mrs. J. Wilbur Patterson of Westfield, a professional mapmaker, did the map for the first plaque. Lance Booth of L&B Typo of Scotch Plains, set the type, and Lowell Schmidt of Lowell Schmidt Art Services, Inc., Mountainside, prepared the plaques for the final etching.

The copy for the plaques was prepared by Neva Sachar with the help of the newly published book by Frederic Detwiller and added assistance from George Stillman of Iselin, an active member of the Brigade of the American Revolution.

The Committee purchased a six-pounder, circa 1760s cast-iron cannon from the Champlain Cannon Works, in Glen Falls, N.Y. as a symbol of the heated contest over cannons taken and retaken throughout the fighting.