

Constitution

The backstory

Sybil Ludington (1761-1839)



Sybil Ludington was born in Kent, New York on April 5, 1761 to Colonel Henry Ludington and his wife Abigail. Colonel Ludington was the commander of the 7th Regiment of the Dutchess County Militia during the Revolutionary War. He also became General George Washington's aide later on.

On April 27, 1777, the town of Danbury, Connecticut was raided by British troops. Danbury housed much of the Continental Army's supplies. When a messenger was sent to

Colonel Ludington's home to notify him of the raid, Sybil took action. At around 9:00pm, she began her approximately 40 mile ride. She rode through Carmel, New York, Mahpoc, Kent Cliffs and on to Farmers Mill to gather her father's troops. When she arrived home around dawn, nearly 400 soldiers were there, ready to fight. Sybil was barely 16 when she went on her famous ride and afterwards was considered a hero of the American Revolution War.

After the war, in 1784, Sybil married Edmond Ogden, an innkeeper and farmer, and they settled down in Unadilla, New York. They had one son, his name was Henry. Sybil died at the age of 77, on February 26, 1839. She was buried near her father in Patterson, New York.

Posthumous Recognition

- In 1935, markers were set along Ludington's approximate ride route.
- In 1961, Anna Hyatt Huntington created a sculpture to commemorate Ludington's ride
- In 1975, Ludington was honored on a "Contributor's to the Cause" postage stamp celebrating the bicentennial
- Since 1979 a 50km run has taken place along the approximate ride route, starting in Carmel, New York and ending near her statue at Lake Gleneida, Carmel, New York

If you were faced with the opportunity to do something heroic at such a young age like Sybil Ludington did, would you take it?

Final Lesson April 22