

Brigadier General Anthony Wayne



Anthony Wayne was born on January 1, 1745, in Paoli, Pennsylvania.

Wayne became rather famous during the Revolutionary War; and was often labeled "Mad" Anthony Wayne, because of his daring exploits. The reputation was more because of his temperament than recklessness. Actually, Wayne was an organizer, paying particular attention to basic military issues, such as the training of his men. Later on, when Indian warfare was somewhat diminishing on the frontier,

in August of 1777, General Anthony Wayne encountered and routed a large body of the Indians at the rapids of the Great Maumee river in Ohio. It was his last achievement as a popular hero. Certain landmarks sprang up around the country, such as the Wayne Tavern in Staunton, Virginia; a swinging sign located at the corner of Beverley and New Streets was painted with a likeness of "Mad Anthony".

His first assignment was in 1776 when he was appointed Colonel of the 4th Pennsylvania Battalion and given command at Fort Ticonderoga. During the

fall of 1777, he fought in the battles of Brandywine and Germantown. Unfortunately, he was accused of going unprepared for a night assault by the British at Paoli. He requested a court-martial to clear his name, wherein he was acquitted. Afterward, he commanded some notable battles, particularly at Stony Point in New York (1779).

When the Revolution ended and the British gave up Savannah to General Anthony Wayne, Wayne said: "The keys of the city must be handed not to myself, but to my young brother officer, Colonel James Jackson." General Wayne said that Jackson had done more than any other man to take Savannah, so the keys were handed to Jackson

After the surrender, Wayne was ordered to take troops to South Carolina and thence to Georgia to drive the British out. Brigadier General Anthony Wayne rushed to Savannah, Georgia. Ahead of him was the departure of the traitors - loyalists, mostly the Scottish population, who left behind vast estates. Wayne was to be awarded one of these confiscated estates for his military service. The stories told in Georgia relate how Anthony Wayne rode astride his horse through a destroyed and ransacked the town, his heart sank. Savannah was evacuated by the enemy on July 11, 1782. General Greene wrote to Wayne under the of July 14:

"I am very happy to hear that the enemy has left Savannah, and congratulate you most heartily on the event. I have forwarded an account thereof to Congress and the Commander-in-Chief expressive of your singular merit and exertions during your command and doubt not that it will merit their entire approbation as it does mine."

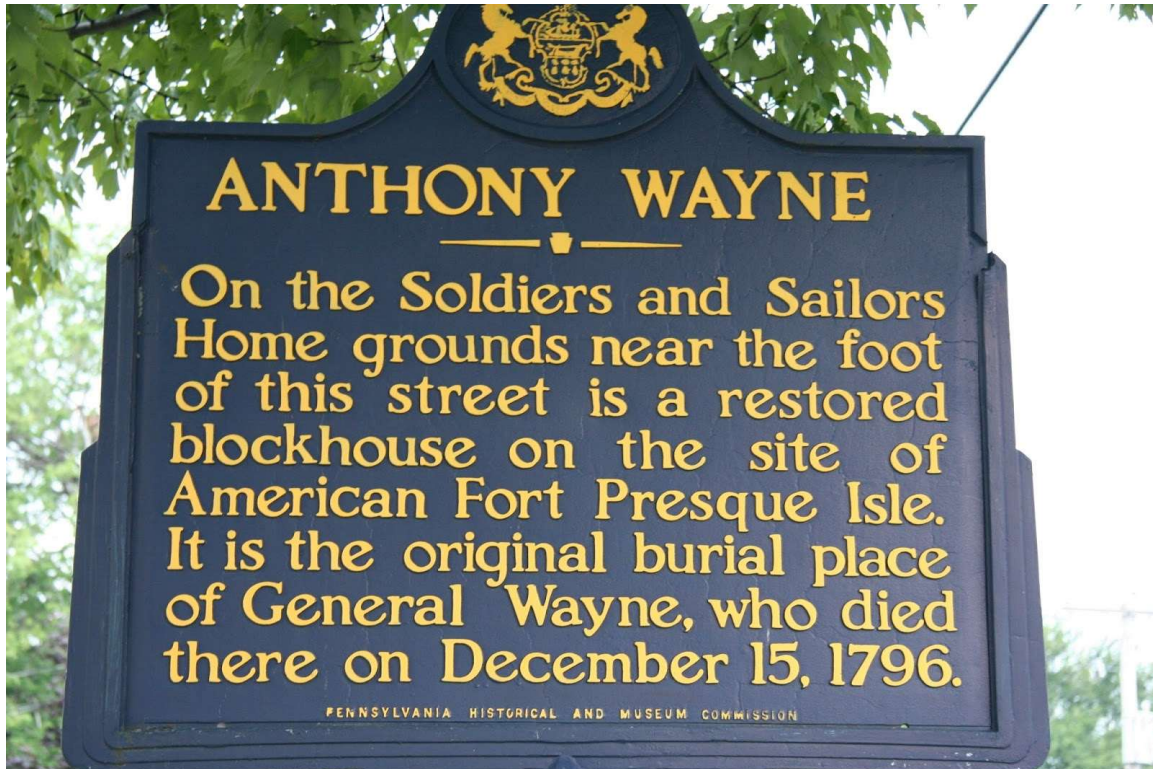
Georgia was so appreciative of his service that thirty-nine hundred guineas were appropriated to purchase an estate for Wayne. There were thousands of acres that had been confiscated from Loyalist families. (Link to Names is listed below).

In October 1783, Congress promoted Wayne to Major-General. He returned home to Waynesborough in 1783, in poor health. When he recovered, he took an active part in the Pennsylvania Assembly and was a member of the Constitutional Convention, promoted to Major General. A year later, he was sent to the Northwest Territory where his forces successfully defeated the Western Confederacy of the Indian Tribes at the Battle of Fallen

Timbers in Alabama.

Some financial difficulties led to the loss of his Georgia plantation, and he ultimately returned to Pennsylvania.

He died December 15, 1796, Fort Presque Isle, Erie, Pennsylvania.



Sources: History of the United States by Eggleston, p. 184.

<a href="<https://www.nps.gov/vafo/learn/historyculture/wayne.htm>">
Valley Forge

Makers of Georgia's Name and Fame, pp 73-75.

Link for members of 8 Genealogy Websites

<a href="<https://georgiapioneers.com/restricted/revwar/rwrecords.html>">

Names of Loyalists in Georgia and their confiscated Estates