



16 November 2007

## Troiani Print Donated to Clarke House

The Clarke House on Princeton Battlefield has a new piece of art hanging on its walls. The image is titled, *Washington at the Battle of Princeton, 1777*. It is a print from the oil painting rendered by Don Troiani, world acclaimed artist known principally for his images depicting American warriors, from the American Revolution through WWII.



*Illustration 1: The unveiling of the Troiani print occurred at the Princeton Battlefield Society Membership Reception, October 27, 2007. The print is framed by Jerry Hurwitz and Jill Nielsen. Photo by Robert Rosetta*

“It was a wish come true,” says Jerry Hurwitz, president of Princeton Battlefield Society. “Mr. Troiani has never painted the Battle of Princeton, until now. So we are very grateful for his generous gift.”

Mr. Troiani is known for his thorough research and is considered by many to be one of the premier authorities on American uniforms. He is also painstaking in his research of a battle and the topography upon which it was fought. Before laying brush to canvas, Mr. Troiani visited the battlefield, and had pictures taken of it from every angle.

“He got the ground right,” commented Laura Crockett, a vice-president of the Society. “So many artists put snow on the ground, but even though it was January when the battle was fought, there was very little snow. Troiani put the hoar frost on the fields because that’s what was on the ground on the morning of January 3, 1777.”

The Battle of Princeton was fought between Washington’s troops, a combination of Continentals, militia and Marines, and the British troops coming out of Princeton on their way to Trenton to join General Cornwallis’ forces. While Washington’s plan to take Princeton had been planned for days, what was a surprise was that the two forces should meet up on the farms owned by the Clarke Brothers, Thomas and William. William Clarke’s house no longer stands, but Thomas Clarke’s home is now a museum on Princeton Battlefield State Park.

The signed Troiani print was not the only item donated to the Clarke House. Jill Nielsen of Nonesuch Picture Framing and Fine Arts, of Skillman, New Jersey, provided a frame and fine craftsmanship.

The print may be viewed in the Clarke House Wednesdays through Saturdays 10 AM to 4 PM, and on Sundays, 1 to 4 PM. For further information on the Clarke House, please call 609.921.0074. Jill Nielsen may be reached at 609.252.0020.