



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Morristown Library Acquires Photos of Washington's Headquarters

By TAPINTO MORRISTOWN STAFF

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MORRISTOWN, NJ - After being commissioned by the Morristown National Historical Park in 2017, artist Xiomaro, created an artistic photographic collection of George Washington's Headquarters. Fifteen prints from that collection have been acquired by The Morristown & Morris Township Library for their North Jersey History and Genealogy Center.

"We're very happy to add Xio's photographs of Washington's headquarters and look forward to sharing them with everyone," said James Lewis who heads the Center. "The photos of Washington's headquarters would help a local historian or a genealogist to give them an idea of what a house in the area would look like, although Ford's house was one of the bigger ones in town. It would provide them with some context of what it would have been like to live in colonial Morris County and in the early Federal period."

The photographs document the 12-room Georgian Revival Ford Mansion, which served as Washington's headquarters during the winter of 1779 to 1780. During their encampment, Washington, his wife Martha, Alexander Hamilton, and other dignitaries braved more than 20 snowstorms described by a soldier as "cold enough to cut a man in two."

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"The photographs of the interiors are unique because the domestic aspects are easily lost in the presence of Washington, but Xio has managed to capture the mansion's essence as a home," explains curator Jude M. Pfister, the Chief of Cultural Resources at Morristown National Historical Park.

The photographs by Xiomara will be joining the many artistic works in the library's collections such as those by Thomas Nast and Arthur Burdett Frost. Nast was the preeminent political cartoonist of his time who lived in Morristown from 1872 to 1902. The library's collection includes his original sketches, drawings, paintings, engravings, and published prints. A. B. Frost was an artist who lived in Convent Station and is probably best known today for his iconic illustration of Br'er Rabbit, which was reproduced in a 2001 postage stamp issued in his honor. The library also has over 10,000 prints and glass plates by photographer Frederick Curtiss

The Morristown & Morris Township Library is located at 1 Miller Road.



